

Casper Star Tribune 1995 – Current

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Date	Article Name	
12.29.02	Kimmell case, domestic attacks top crime news http://trib.com/news/local/article_55584515-1dcf-5705-be93-967d76fecbd1.html	PDF
03.06.03	No charges in homicide http://trib.com/news/local/article_33fed200-47e1-5e1f-ae5f-75d65ba73be8.html	PDF
04.04.03	Kimmells anxiously await solace http://trib.com/news/local/article_d237e413-79f9-50c8-9e8c-88fa8a73de27.html	PDF
04.04.03	Eaton extradited to Casper http://trib.com/news/local/article_3c4c6b01-d66e-5ca8-9e11-c94b256cda69.html	PDF
04.18.03	Murder charge filed in 'Lil Miss' killing http://trib.com/news/article_36c7b01e-e7b3-5a0d-b4d7-2a6055022755.html	PDF
04.19.03	Eaton murder charges stir interest, emotions http://trib.com/news/local/article_e3940fab-68c7-57e1-bec2-409959aef43c.html	PDF
04.22.03	Accused killer, rapist denied bond http://trib.com/news/local/article_83da3375-34e2-598f-b4c3-e344d6ef958b.html	PDF
04.30.03	Casper Briefs B http://trib.com/news/local/article_e52e3f5e-47ef-55bf-88ff-2345f5aeb816.html	PDF
05.05.03	Serial killer may have murdered Kimmell (appeared in "News" section) http://trib.com/news/article_f8ba5e0e-eb96-5f30-b003-40d655a98ba9.html	PDF
05.05.03	Serial killer may have murdered Kimmell B (appeared in "Local" section) http://trib.com/news/local/article_90248616-d10b-522f-8393-0b727068fb13.html	PDF
05.08.03	Media battles to keep hearing open http://trib.com/news/local/article_ba3ff1f2-511a-5ce7-b4e4-c1aef18179be.html	PDF
05.09.03	Press allowed to cover Kimmell case http://trib.com/news/article_decdd049-a880-5f8c-909c-5d544f128296.html	PDF
05.09.03	Eaton hearing should be open to public http://trib.com/news/opinion/editorial/article_4fad168e-e891-524b-9a05-3df8ad65fd6f.html	PDF
05.16.03	Kimmell's mom may file lawsuit http://trib.com/news/local/article_9a71bfd3-a582-59ec-8d4b-76895d1b2496.html	PDF
05.17.03	Kimmells sue Eaton in killing http://trib.com/news/local/article_84209241-a453-5c05-a781-27cc60038af0.html	PDF
05.18.03	Lil Miss: The crime scene http://trib.com/news/article_0bc3f390-cc47-53ff-a0b9-8a059477ee8c.html	PDF
05.19.03	Lil Miss: False leads, dead ends http://trib.com/news/local/article_7fbb67fb-a634-568f-8bbe-9d7df514e1ee.html	PDF
05.20.03	Lil Miss: The break http://trib.com/news/local/article_15d8604d-d041-5c32-b86a-e3990768e0cb.html	PDF
05.21.03	Casper Briefs http://trib.com/news/local/article_498b7c41-7711-59a4-a3f3-e6096f6f64db.html	PDF

05.30.03	Meenan promises effective D.A. office http://trib.com/news/article_eac6ec57-3195-5067-9a7e-9597d93d64a1.html	PDF
06.05.03	D.A. seeks death penalty for Eaton http://trib.com/news/article_9243bcba-bbf6-574d-8055-58333af70ca5.html	PDF
06.07.03	Eaton pleads innocent http://trib.com/news/local/article_48f93cc0-157d-5f37-b9c4-f43dca263bc8.html	PDF
06.11.03	County budget hearings begin http://trib.com/news/local/article_a4c1082f-f05a-52a9-90ed-e154b4e62fbe.html	PDF
07.08.03	Eaton trial set here Feb. 23 http://trib.com/news/local/article_0a62afe7-6a37-5bbb-ba69-e397d48bc91d.html	PDF
07.26.03	LABEL: Lil' Miss killing HED: Lawyers want hearings closed http://trib.com/news/local/article_f418a7ca-8afa-514f-b99d-fc95e6477206.html	PDF
08.03.03	Most pretrial motion hearings should be open http://trib.com/news/opinion/editorial/article_2b43a909-91d6-5036-9c0d-ad40460059cc.html	PDF
08.05.03	Meenan off Kimmell murder case http://trib.com/news/local/meenan-off-kimmell-murder-case/article_6a0c61c7-6d0d-5e7b-bb3f-fdb1aa78533c.html	PDF
08.06.03	Newspaper's motion to be heard http://trib.com/news/local/article_a73127e9-2a44-5b29-9deb-1667ed3f0327.html	PDF
08.07.03	Meenan right to step aside http://trib.com/news/opinion/editorial/article_43fc57fc-38a5-5429-89f5-691e1ca9e932.html	PDF
08.09.03	In Brief D http://trib.com/news/local/article_6de740a7-8552-57c7-8ddb-9c87a42be78b.html	PDF
10.23.03	Eaton defense wants death penalty stricken http://trib.com/news/local/article_7a082fa2-49b2-5076-942c-5eb700e0d8db.html	PDF
11.07.03	Blonigen: Eaton's past would justify death penalty http://trib.com/news/article_69d13703-36a1-583e-ba13-ac530171e5f7.html	PDF
11.13.03	In Brief http://trib.com/news/local/article_ca3db03c-9b0b-54a8-82d1-4f44f5efcbe9.html	PDF
11.15.03	Judge allows search, DNA evidence at Eaton trial http://trib.com/news/article_e4b986e6-7fe6-5e54-88b2-fa981b2e5013.html	PDF
12.13.03	Eaton trial to stay in Casper http://trib.com/news/article_de5ffa98-2d4f-5a7d-bf4d-62977ded0000.html	PDF
12.16.03	Meenan Timeline http://trib.com/news/local/article_57616a2b-a6e7-5096-b2bf-29c60a0998e9.html	PDF
12.27.03	Homicides, resignation top 2003 crime stories http://trib.com/news/local/article_db2c2aff-49c3-5abc-9f9a-c73ca2601a2f.html	PDF

01.01.04	Iraq war toll voted top story of 2003 http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/article_77f8d1f2-bebc-5c5f-83b9-004f37910714.html	PDF
01.08.04	Tight security outlined for Eaton trial http://trib.com/news/local/article_f15d9063-3be8-538f-aecd-160e29434aea.html	PDF
01.15.04	Defense objects to leg shackles http://trib.com/news/local/article_3cb10a56-73da-5bca-a3d7-8f7335a0961d.html	PDF
01.21.04	Judge to decide on closed hearing http://trib.com/news/local/article_f041eb50-7bd5-5a70-b390-44132d97321d.html	PDF
01.24.04	Eaton hearing closed to public http://trib.com/news/local/article_f81d75ac-d85f-5548-ab70-ae44f219fc3d.html	PDF
02.09.04	Federal inmates, kidnap victims to testify at Eaton trial http://trib.com/news/local/article_633bf911-c177-5b6c-82eb-69553cdf8dce.html	PDF
02.12.04	Judge mulls Eaton motions http://trib.com/news/local/article_66e3efa7-bb8a-5260-b924-1a385e254362.html	PDF
02.13.04	New town crier items for Friday Feb. 13 http://trib.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/article_873b8315-f622-5416-8f70-9c4931486d81.html	PDF
02.15.04	Sufficient jury pool gathered for trial http://trib.com/news/local/article_979d8bfd-7a23-52da-9e81-854ca8043df5.html	PDF
02.15.04	Jury consultant: Eaton case difficult for defense http://trib.com/news/local/article_1f5f9856-4266-5bd4-a106-e580cddc6491.html	PDF
02.15.04	Casper Feb. 15 http://trib.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/article_360a2622-a2a8-5f38-ba44-10248ea2bc60.html	PDF
02.18.04	Casper Calendar, February 19 http://trib.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/article_619daac9-a235-5582-990d-56cb1e28ee3f.html	PDF
02.19.04	Casper Calendar http://trib.com/features/calendar/article_aa7ab931-9fe7-5ea4-8520-568553842165.html	PDF
02.20.04	Casper Friday Feb. 20 http://trib.com/features/calendar/article_2529f631-c82b-5c16-a5a5-d1265111b6c5.html	PDF
02.22.04	Jury selection begins Monday in Eaton trial http://trib.com/news/local/article_6912c1d8-c8d1-5d38-a722-e6070c3e1ff0.html	PDF
02.23.04	Kimmells share pain of child loss to help others http://trib.com/news/article_4d4c845e-4efd-5bd6-8870-c883fd8527eb.html	PDF
02.23.04	Jury selection begins in Eaton trial http://trib.com/news/local/article_6c752d90-88d9-5872-8f1d-e3ed66d1c298.html	PDF
02.24.04	Acused Killer, Rapist Denied Bond http://trib.com/news/local/article_83da3375-34e2-598f-b4c3-e344d6ef958b.html	PDF
02.24.04	Jury questioning begins in Eaton case	PDF

	http://trib.com/news/article_29427e9e-c2f7-5fa4-8a45-cc3f37c79e71.html?print=1	
02.24.04	Defender questions noose photo http://trib.com/news/local/article_e6a1197d-46b8-57ed-9c05-d103fc9bd915.html	PDF
02.25.04	Lawyers seek jury panels' opinions http://trib.com/news/local/article_30075135-2d3a-5648-a817-e4077f903070.html	PDF
02.26.04	Lynch comforts crime victims http://trib.com/news/local/article_1bebff17-ecc7-5814-81a7-379edb78555f.html	PDF
02.26.04	Eaton jury selection continues http://trib.com/news/local/article_435c1555-99b9-527e-b8cf-b4c9da5d3c2c.html	PDF
02.27.04	Park scolds unwilling jury panelist http://trib.com/news/local/article_9b27cb4e-b716-57fe-9633-548b55eecc4.html	PDF
02.28.04	CS-T moves to unseal some Eaton filings http://trib.com/news/local/article_41f1af38-0b78-554b-bde4-abb52d3967a9.html	PDF
02.28.04	Eaton trial may begin mid-week http://trib.com/news/local/article_47348013-2353-5376-a3d5-52cb20cc47f0.html	PDF
03.02.04	Still no jury in Eaton case http://trib.com/news/local/article_e9e76828-1c3c-5f01-ba63-8eec55f026b2.html	PDF
03.02.04	Eaton trial begins Wednesday http://trib.com/news/local/article_c0f03695-9c9a-5e5c-a78e-87ad8df491d8.html	PDF
03.02.04	Casper and Wyoming briefs http://trib.com/news/local/article_5f80aa05-49bc-5be0-80f0-bfb4445694a3.html	PDF
03.03.04	Some trial documents unsealed http://trib.com/news/local/article_a63c7166-90d7-5b92-ac87-86169c262ef7.html	PDF
03.03.04	Trial phase begins today http://trib.com/news/local/article_312f2d33-13ec-577b-aa1c-619fbd6f90ac.html	PDF
03.03.04	Opening statements in Eaton trial http://trib.com/news/local/article_f9eec7d4-e191-5e9d-be71-2a09e1f15501.html	PDF
03.04.04	Victim's voice fills courtroom http://trib.com/news/article_f4bf82f4-d4dd-5ac8-af4d-a07d5e347c70.html	PDF
03.04.04	Jury impaneled in Eaton case http://trib.com/news/local/article_f5c4106d-4802-56e4-8683-a495b59d9e57.html	PDF
03.04.04	Observers pack courtroom http://trib.com/news/local/article_55624e67-813a-5a22-9a80-2f1fb977b082.html	PDF
03.05.04	Time of Kimmell's death unknown http://trib.com/news/local/article_859798c4-fc5d-58bb-ba96-3b9c3b6acf4b.html	PDF
03.06.04	Pathologist: Kimmell was bound http://trib.com/news/local/article_bf10068c-60bd-54e5-9a7f-7075673ef8dd.html	PDF
03.06.04	Eaton jury sees unearthed Honda http://trib.com/news/local/article_d82ddf61-3008-594f-9379-af68f112e248.html	PDF
03.07.04	Judge Park comes through http://trib.com/news/opinion/editorial/article_ddf07df4-90b8-5cd8-af4b-41ec5d5d012e.html	PDF
03.09.04	Experts: Eaton's DNA a match	PDF

	http://trib.com/news/local/article_1c736c4c-207e-5550-a19a-6da005841197.html	
03.10.04	Eaton's son testifies http://trib.com/news/local/article_74977f24-5055-5897-9146-dd459ba98653.html	PDF
03.10.04	Inmate: Eaton confessed http://trib.com/news/article_b06f5ad3-336d-5ffe-803d-6cfc769c9f.html	PDF
03.11.04	Grave note tied to Eaton http://trib.com/news/local/article_54e97be8-13aa-5d0d-985c-cc64671dc7ad.html	PDF
03.11.04	State rests in Eaton trial http://trib.com/news/article_5bf51dd9-78ed-5750-91be-6b7e7f838872.html	PDF
03.11.04	Eaton's defense to begin Friday http://trib.com/news/local/article_4df94410-c421-5c07-bece-5d52aa8c24b8.html	PDF
03.12.04	Eaton trial resumes today http://trib.com/news/local/article_2db53a92-657b-5653-8f6c-599265011f15.html	PDF
03.13.04	Doctor disputes Kimmell was tied http://trib.com/news/article_28f50c55-c9b5-5284-9700-abb529cfb297.html	PDF
03.13.04	Lawyer: Fight access battles early http://trib.com/news/local/article_5db4fd87-86fe-5b88-ae8-9291097e5dbb.html	PDF
03.15.04	Eaton case goes to jury http://trib.com/news/local/article_6d44c9f2-8750-59ed-a038-e692211d23c5.html	PDF
03.16.04	Skaggs: Eaton did it http://trib.com/news/article_3584590e-78bf-5606-9aeb-40fe9d904545.html	PDF
03.16.04	Jury begins deliberation http://trib.com/news/local/article_e4b73a86-7853-5279-91d2-95b019c00231.html	PDF
03.16.04	Eaton deliberations start over http://trib.com/news/article_7642a990-6209-5c06-b963-bed6a0877604.html	PDF
03.17.04	Eaton jury still out http://trib.com/news/local/article_cfa2bbf4-b245-54d9-bf33-7f7f0ee3541a.html	PDF
03.17.04	Eaton juror excused during deliberation http://trib.com/news/local/article_9640ea21-1ecb-5098-b04b-8b6fc1ef6341.html	PDF
03.17.04	Eaton guilty in Kimmell murder case http://trib.com/news/article_3c2b9624-3fac-5740-9a59-6e6eaed16e91.html	PDF
03.18.04	Eaton found guilty http://trib.com/news/article_95c3e67f-60aa-56f9-bed6-e6a271c09b78.html	PDF
03.18.04	Prosecutor pushes for death in Eaton case http://trib.com/news/local/article_931f5560-f002-503e-ac31-1a22525f62fc.html	PDF
03.18.04	"He tried to kill us" http://trib.com/news/local/article_c2ec5d5f-ca01-5d76-bb33-d3031a6c6bf5.html	PDF
03.19.04	Doctor details Kimmell's ordeal http://trib.com/news/article_44fa2f78-412a-5d4e-891a-c71022b667ba.html	PDF
03.19.04	Arguments made for, against death penalty http://trib.com/news/local/article_d76bff21-7cdc-5683-823e-bfb1d0305aa3.html	PDF
03.19.04	Judge limits victim's testimony against Eaton http://trib.com/news/local/article_d94a90e3-f1f9-5859-a4ab-a288c4f7508c.html	PDF

03.20.04	Expert: Eaton's depression severe http://trib.com/news/article_53f9ca74-fd74-5282-8967-5064e61e172b.html	PDF
03.20.04	Eaton gets death http://trib.com/news/article_7a7e02bc-d913-556a-bc3f-4c7739872dc3.html	PDF
03.20.04	Capital cases hard to defend http://trib.com/news/local/article_01300422-1989-59c7-9d00-1c023ca794c8.html	PDF
03.21.04	Eaton gets death A http://trib.com/news/article_5a74a4c9-7c48-5f58-870b-5255293286a8.html	PDF
03.21.04	Investigators relieved case is finished http://trib.com/news/local/article_cbbe29e3-a083-5c14-9e4f-1c2f8b222db4.html	PDF
03.22.04	Kimmells: Verdict Just http://trib.com/news/article_a5206020-dba3-57ba-94cf-4b97f167c91b.html	PDF
03.22.04	Kimmells, D.A. offer thanks http://trib.com/news/local/article_5cf47f03-1bee-5d56-a8b5-58e588e76167.html	PDF
03.28.04	Death sentence http://trib.com/news/opinion/editorial/article_de702f1c-f32c-5f62-9b19-8adba81d143b.html	PDF
03.24.04	Split on life or death http://trib.com/news/local/article_51706f64-51f6-5898-8688-6293ffc0e7cb.html	PDF
03.28.04	Debating the death penalty http://trib.com/news/opinion/editorial/article_9a8f62b4-ce0c-5ae7-a1ea-3335e9914102.html	PDF

04.08.04	Kimmells get \$5 million judgment http://trib.com/news/local/kimmells-get-million-judgment/article_e894fcc4-414f-5f25-b032-56fdb0a80659.html	PDF
04.09.04	Kimmells granted multimillion dollar judgment http://trib.com/news/local/kimmells-granted-multi-million-dollar-judgment/article_737ddaee-88e3-50e2-8a4c-12b857685792.html	PDF
04.10.04	District Court doings A http://trib.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/district-court-doings/article_dc9edc45-e426-5bd9-b9e9-333a5ee7928f.html	PDF
04.17.04	Moser's mother renews plea http://trib.com/news/local/moser-s-mother-renews-plea/article_0aa92d5e-9f90-5d2f-a641-51bd5256fbaf.html	PDF
05.14.04	Eaton sentencing next week http://trib.com/news/local/eaton-sentencing-next-week/article_457a6077-eb36-5ca0-96d9-9a535a6d1260.html	PDF
05.18.04	Victim impact ruling angers Kimmell family http://trib.com/news/local/victim-impact-ruling-angers-kimmell-family/article_6b7c5515-f77d-5e63-b7f6-8817f0139360.html	PDF
05.18.04	Eaton denied new penalty trial http://trib.com/news/eaton-denied-new-penalty-trial/article_50fd9a4d-305d-52b2-	PDF

	b3d0-f85a81d81404.html	
05.21.04	Judge signs death warrant for Eaton http://trib.com/news/judge-signs-death-warrant-for-eaton/article_7c9d92cd-f098-59a8-9747-0e04dde56e40.html	PDF
05.21.04	Eaton's sister sets record straight http://trib.com/news/local/eaton-s-sister-sets-record-straight/article_7b707e73-30e3-5467-b6a9-2eacb22236fe.html	PDF
05.24.04	Waiting for the call http://trib.com/news/waiting-for-the-call/article_4d22b5ad-2ef9-5921-8d0f-7773dac32d54.html	PDF
05.24.04	The rumor mill http://trib.com/news/local/the-rumor-mill/article_a1749bf6-b1a4-593a-ac80-0ea48c8cd079.html	PDF
06.02.04	"We miss you so much" http://trib.com/news/local/we-miss-you-so-much/article_0ca3e0df-10e6-5b73-adf0-45e717b33fc2.html	PDF
06.04.04	District Court doings http://trib.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/district-court-doings/article_3bd1043f-1968-5bbe-8691-376c4e11e69e.html	PDF
06.06.04	There are no "buts" in love http://trib.com/news/opinion/mailbag/there-are-no-buts-in-love/article_9c2deee2-2628-50c9-83e8-5f6322d04f58.html	PDF
06.25.04	In brief http://trib.com/news/local/in-brief/article_ef460b11-e380-57d9-9b59-1722cc4a6913.html	PDF
10.05.04	Casper briefs http://trib.com/news/local/casper-briefs/article_8ad31202-8f94-515f-bbd1-79a6b9b0ecaa.html	PDF
12.28.04	Murder, manslaughter and meth http://trib.com/news/local/murder-manslaughter-and-meth/article_35a0adb2-8f25-58ad-8839-1f1aa103083b.html	PDF
02.15.05	Give Harlow death, not appeal http://trib.com/news/opinion/mailbag/give-harlow-death-not-appeal/article_e7b817cd-8b21-59b2-8718-04a0e2e46a6c.html	PDF
04.11.05	Kimmells honor helpers of crime victims http://trib.com/news/local/kimmells-honor-helpers-of-crime-victims/article_9e078867-b10a-5612-9664-b6f187ff8625.html	PDF
04.12.05	Casper judge takes Fremont murder case http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/casper-judge-takes-fremont-murder-case/article_e230669f-ff13-53e4-b521-b4835ee4a84f.html	PDF
04.16.05	Eaton's appeal goes forward http://trib.com/news/local/eaton-s-appeal-goes-forward/article_21f36eb5-3bec-5a95-a447-c00f55f55b17.html	PDF

05.19.05	Judge asks for arguments on Eaton's appeal http://trib.com/news/local/judge-asks-for-arguments-on-eaton-s-appeal/article_43df2aed-b3c8-5426-966a-031fb90edfc0.html	PDF
06.02.05	Judge orders Eaton to attend hearing http://trib.com/news/local/judge-orders-eaton-to-attend-hearing/article_b40b9465-7064-5e8e-9a32-86e072ab541c.html	PDF
06.07.05	Skaggs defends his defense of Eaton http://trib.com/news/local/skaggs-defends-his-defense-of-eaton/article_5008021e-57d3-5b59-92e7-93996fc3ddd3.html	PDF
06.09.05	Three testify in Eaton hearing http://trib.com/news/local/three-testify-in-eaton-hearing/article_4a327e2d-7355-5af0-bbed-073024bf9027.html	PDF
06.11.05	Hearing on competence of Eaton's defense ends http://trib.com/news/local/hearing-on-competence-of-eaton-s-defense-ends/article_46fb4902-3fe4-5354-9437-1c09250910e0.html	PDF
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08.20.09	Mike Blonigen 2 http://trib.com/words_of_wisdom/mike-blonigen/image_9ac66858-85be-532c-840e-f6df1e280ec7.html "Few of us learn until later in life that we are each responsible for the consequences of the decisions we make. In a very real sense, we 'own' our decisions. When we realize that essential fact, our decision gives us an opportunity to consider our choices and the impact of those decisions on others. When we make bad decisions it is always easier to rationalize them, rather than to take responsibility for them. We can blame them on others - like our friends - or we can make other excuses. Once we accept our personal responsibility, we reflect on our choices before we make them, we are far more likely to do the right thing. We act reasonably rather than rashly. A person who takes responsibility for their own decisions is also entitled to the satisfaction that comes from making the right decisions. You learn that you suffer from far less regret and remorse. Once you accept personal responsibility for the things you do, you will find yourself much more at peace with the decisions you have made in life."	PDF
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Kimmell case, domestic attacks top crime news

DECEMBER 29, 2002 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Local law enforcement agencies this year returned to the trail of the 14-year-old homicide of Lisa Marie Kimmell and obtained convictions in two high-profile domestic violence cases, including that of a Glenrock police officer.

The year began with the trial of Rehan Bhutto, who stood accused of shooting his 25-year-old girlfriend Valerie McCarthy in the head in April 2001 with a semi-automatic pistol while she lay asleep in the bedroom of their Willow Street apartment.

In January, a 7th District Court jury convicted him of first-degree murder. In May, Bhutto was sentenced to life in prison with no possibility of parole.

Spring also saw an all-out manhunt for now-fired Glenrock policeman Jim Watters, after his family in April discovered digital images on his home computer of him engaged in sex acts with his 22-year-old developmentally disabled foster daughter.

His foster daughter functions at the intellectual level of a 6- or 7-year-old.

Days later, the foster daughter told her family that Watters had forced her to have sex with him during a visit to her group home in Casper.

Watters turned himself in to Casper police April 26 following an extensive search for him by officers of both the Casper and Glenrock police departments.

He faced first-degree sexual assault charges in both Natrona and Converse counties in connection with the photographs and the rape.

He was jailed in October after a five-man, seven-woman jury in 7th District Court found him guilty of first-degree sexual assault for the Casper rape.

After the trial, Watters pleaded guilty in Converse County to two counts of first-degree sexual assault.

He has not been sentenced in either county, though a sentencing in Natrona County is now scheduled for Jan. 9 in 7th District Court.

Also this year, Natrona County Sheriff's Office investigators last summer announced a major break in the case of homicide victim Lisa Marie Kimmell, when her Honda CRX was discovered.

In July, the car was unearthed in Moneta, about 70 miles west of Casper on land owned by Colorado federal prisoner Dale Wayne Eaton, 57.

He has been labeled "a person of interest" to authorities investigating Kimmell's murder.

The top of Kimmell's mangled car was reportedly buried some six feet underground.

Authorities have still not formally charged Eaton with any crime related to her case, which is now in the hands of District Attorney Kevin Meenan.

Kimmell's body was discovered in the North Platte River west of Casper in April 1988.

The 18-year-old was last seen in her black Honda CRX Si, which bore Montana plates that read "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. That was March 25, 1988.

Her body was found April 2, 1988, near Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from the bridge.

In September, news of assault charges filed against Steve Harshman, head coach for the Natrona County High School football team, raised a few eyebrows.

Harshman, who was elected in November to represent House District 37, was criminally charged in a Sept. 2 incident in which NCHS senior Austin Santiago reportedly shouted an obscene greeting to friends practicing on the high school football field.

This action, for which the 18-year-old was charged with disturbing the peace, apparently incited Harshman, 39, to chase Santiago down and allegedly assault him.

The charges against both men were dismissed the following month after the two agreed to shake hands and apologize to one another in the office of NCHS Principal Byron Moore.

Also in September, a former Catholic youth minister was arrested in Eagle River, Alaska, in connection with an allegation that he'd had sex with a 16-year-old female parishioner during his tenure at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Casper.

Kyle Elliott, 26, was extradited to Wyoming.

At the time of his arrest, Elliot had still been working as a youth minister.

The suspect's tenure at St. Patrick's Church began in 1998. He resigned from the church here in August 2001, according to church officials, who reportedly became aware of the alleged abuse in April, when the victim and her family came forward.

Elliott has pleaded not guilty to a charge of taking indecent liberties with a minor.

And in November, a man accused of beating his mother to death at their Fenway Street home will likely go to trial next year on a first-degree murder charge.

William Crook, 45, allegedly kicked and punched his 66-year-old mother, Kathleen Keeney, to death during an argument in which Keeney inquired about her son's drug use.

Crook has been jailed on \$500,000 bond since his arrest Nov. 11.



No charges in homicide

MARCH 06, 2003 12:00 AM

Nineteen weeks after the Natrona County Sheriff's Office presented the District Attorney's Office with its investigation into the 1988 homicide of Lisa Marie Kimmell, charges have yet to be filed.

District Attorney Kevin Meenan said Tuesday that he had not yet charged the man authorities have long called a "person of interest" in the killing.

Dale Wayne Eaton, currently incarcerated in a federal prison on unrelated charges, was questioned about his involvement in the homicide of 18-year-old Kimmell after her missing car was found buried at his Moneta property in July.

Eaton is scheduled to be released from prison in June, according to information from the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Kimmell's body was found in April 1988. Investigators said she was sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from the Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper.

Pet dies in camper fire

An unattended space heater is to blame for a fire that broke out in a camper trailer parked behind a residence in the 2200 block of Richard Street about 9 p.m. Monday, killing a dog inside, Casper Fire Department officials say.

The fire caused about \$5,000 damage, said fire department spokesman Jason Parks.

The trailer was reportedly inhabited, though no one, except a dog, was inside when the fire started.

Fire officials say the trailer was a total loss. The home the trailer was parked behind sustained only heat damage to the eaves.

Two nominated for lifesaving award

Two city employees credited with bringing a man back to life will be nominated by the Casper Police Department for lifesaving awards, Lt. Jack Branson said Wednesday.

The efforts of Karen Tate, director of the Public Safety Communications Center, and Officer Shawn Jenkins saved the life of a 63-year-old man who suffered a heart attack at his home in the 4000 block of Grizzly on Tuesday afternoon, Branson said.

Tate reportedly instructed the man's wife on how to give her husband CPR before help arrived.

When Officer Jenkins got to the home, Branson said the man had no pulse and was not breathing.

Jenkins assisted with CPR until fire rescue workers got there.

The victim was alive when he reached the Wyoming Medical Center, Branson said.

The man reportedly remained in the hospital's intensive care unit Wednesday morning.

Felony drug charge filed

A man allegedly caught shoplifting a bottle of cologne at an Eastridge Mall department store Tuesday was also charged with felony drug possession after the man's parole officer ordered a search of the man and his car, Natrona County Circuit Court documents state.

In addition to drug paraphernalia, authorities allegedly found more than five grams combined of methamphetamine, cocaine and prescription painkillers in a vehicle being driven by John E. Minsaas.

The prescription drugs were allegedly not dispensed to Minsaas, the report said.



Kimmells anxiously await solace

APRIL 04, 2003 12:00 AM

On the 15th anniversary of her daughter's homicide, Sheila Kimmell says she and her family still struggle to find a balance between emotion and logic.

Wednesday marked 15 years to the day that investigators found the body of Lisa Marie Kimmell in the North Platte River west of Casper.

The 18-year-old had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Hwy. 220.

Real headway had not been made in the investigation until last summer, when Kimmell's black Honda CRX Si was unearthed by Natrona County Sheriff's Office officials on a property at Moneta west of Casper owned by Dale Wayne Eaton.

Since then, investigators have labeled Eaton not as a suspect but a "person of interest" in the case. Eaton is serving out the tail end of a federal prison sentence in Colorado.

Lisa Kimmell was last seen March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of the black Honda that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. The teen had been traveling from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Sheriff Mark Benton has never revealed what information prompted the search of Eaton's property, but it took only days to unearth the crushed, muddy Honda. The personalized plates were not attached.

The case was turned over to District Attorney Kevin Meenan late last year. No one has been charged in connection with Kimmell's homicide.

"I'm definitely frustrated by that, and that's the emotional side of me," acknowledges Sheila Kimmell, who lives in Denver. "But then, I try to go ahead and capture the other aspect of, 'OK, what's the relevance of time?' It's cruel and it's kind."

In a telephone interview Wednesday, Meenan said he has his reasons for waiting to discuss any possible prosecution.

"Of course, a lot is going on behind the scenes that cannot be commented on publicly at this time," he said.

Having had the opportunity to meet with and talk to Meenan on a number of occasions, Sheila Kimmell said she understands that logic.

"I may not like the answers he gives me, but then, there's the reality that he has a job to do and he has to do it right," she said. Furthermore, she reasons, if the family has waited 15 years, what is another five weeks or five months?

Emotionally, however, Kimmell said that even if a suspect had been arrested 15 years ago, it wouldn't have been soon enough.

"Sometimes the emotional side takes over and it gets very hard to deal with," she says. "What happened to Lisa was a very evil deed. This was not an accident; this was evil."

Sheila Kimmell says she balances her anger over what happened to her daughter by remembering all the good deeds that have involved several communities throughout the years.

"This is not just a Ron and Sheila Kimmell thing - yes, we're all anxious - but this is not just about us. This is about community and people who have supported us - the community that wants the answers, too," Sheila Kimmell explained. "And I do know it will come to fruition, I'm not concerned about that."



Eaton extradited to Casper

APRIL 04, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Dale Wayne Eaton, the man authorities are now calling a suspect in the slaying of Lisa Marie Kimmell, was extradited to Natrona County exactly 15 years after authorities found the woman's body in the North Platte River.

Eaton was extradited from Colorado to face charges unrelated to Kimmell's murder. He is charged in connection with an outstanding warrant for a 1998 escape from Community Alternatives of Casper, where he was finishing a prison sentence for an aggravated assault that occurred in Sweetwater County, according to Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton.

At an initial court appearance Thursday, Natrona County Circuit Court Judge H. Steven Brown set bond for Eaton at \$100,000.

Eaton, 58, arrived in Casper on Wednesday from a federal prison in Florence, Colo., where he was serving time on a charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

He was set for release from the federal prison in June. His time here will count as time served in the federal facility, according to Meenan, who declined to offer a time line as to when charges might be filed in connection with Kimmell's murder.

"I can't speculate on that. As you know, Mr. Eaton is a suspect in the Lisa Marie Kimmell case. He is now in our jurisdiction and, I would say, those answers will be forthcoming in pretty short order," said Meenan.

Sheriff's officials, who led the investigation into Kimmell's death, personally brought Eaton back to Casper. Benton said the fact the prisoner returned on April 2 was a coincidence because they wanted to bring Eaton back last week.

"The case has never been closed, but we were able to bring it back to life, revive it, if you will," said Benton in an interview. "We were able to put together a substantial amount of information in reference to her death and the possible connection of Mr. Eaton to that death."

"Having only charges in reference to an escape from CAC, you have to keep that in check. But it is good, I feel, to have him in our custody," he added.

The 18-year-old Kimmell was last seen driving her black Honda CRX Si, which bore Montana plates that read "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas on March 25, 1988.

Her body was found six days later in the North Platte River near Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220, west of Casper. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit

in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from the bridge.

Benton has never said what information led investigators to Eaton's property, where it took only days to unearth the Honda, which was, by all accounts, crushed and covered with mud.

The top of the car was reportedly buried six to eight feet below ground.

Eaton had an opportunity to object to being transferred back to Casper but he didn't, Benton said.

Sheila Kimmell, Lisa Marie's mother, declined to comment on Eaton's transfer to Casper.

Meenan said Eaton was charged only with escape at this point because "he's had the escape charge pending here for some time, and we had placed what's called a detainer on him for the escape charge.

"As you know, he is currently serving a federal sentence and we had to go through legal proceedings to get him here under the federal detainer law," which has very strict requirements, he said.



Murder charge filed in 'Lil Miss' killing

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Friday, April 18, 2003 12:00 am

More than 15 years after the body of Lisa Marie Kimmell was pulled from the North Platte River west of Casper, authorities believe they have solved the mystery of her slaying and charged Dale Wayne Eaton with her murder.

District Attorney Kevin Meenan on Thursday filed eight charges against Eaton in connection with the 1988 rape and slaying of the blonde Montana teen. Court documents revealed that Eaton was allegedly linked to Kimmell's murder by a DNA match.

The announcement of the charges brought some satisfaction to former sheriff Dave Dovala, whose office was haunted by an inability to solve the case.

"I had hoped it would (happen). I was delighted when I found out last July about it," Dovala said, referring to the month last year when a single lead renewed investigators' hopes.

Two anglers discovered the body of 18-year-old Kimmell on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

Eaton, who was recently extradited from a Colorado prison to face charges unrelated to the homicide, is now also charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault, court documents state.

Three additional counts of first-degree felony murder were also charged. Each were allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes, those being sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping, Meenan said.

"In times past, we probably would've charged that as one or maybe two counts (of murder) and just alleged each of the alternative basis for it," explained Meenan. "But, in light of the recent Wyoming Supreme Court opinions, we separated them out into separate counts."

There have been a series of cases, he said, in which the court has directed that charges be separated with specificity and given to the jury separately. A number of death penalty cases have also required a distinction between the premeditated and felony murder charges, he added.

Sheila Kimmell, Lisa Marie's mother, could not be reached for comment on the action at her Denver home Thursday.

The latest court documents include autopsy findings of County Coroner James Thorpen, which describe the severity of Kimmell's injuries.

Among those findings, Thorpen concluded that the blow to Kimmell's head was severe enough to cause her to suffer skull fractures, bleeding and swelling of the brain.

Furthermore, he said, "Kimmell had suffered six separate stab wounds: Five of which were arranged in a circle in the chest of Lisa Kimmell with a sixth inflicted in the mid-upper abdomen."

Each wound was inflicted to avoid striking the rib, the report says. Thorpen concluded each stab could have been fatal because each penetrated vital organs.

No real headway had been made in bringing charges in the case until last summer, when Kimmell's black Honda CRX Si was unearthed by sheriff's officials on a property at Moneta west of Casper owned by Eaton.

Investigators began searching the property after being notified by the Wyoming State Crime Lab on July 16, 2002 that a blood sample drawn from Eaton at the Rawlins state prison in 1998 matched a sample recovered from Kimmell's body after her death that had been

on file at the FBI laboratory, court documents say.

It took only days to unearth the Honda. The personalized plates were not attached, though the latest report says a portion of the plate was found near the car.

Lisa Kimmell was last seen March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of the black Honda that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. The teen had been traveling from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Eaton's initial Circuit Court hearing is set for Monday at 2 p.m. It wasn't known Thursday if the Kimmell family will be present for the proceedings.



Eaton murder charges stir interest, emotions

APRIL 19, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

A former Moneta man charged in the 1988 rape and homicide of Lisa Marie Kimmell is still on the minds of Fremont County investigators, who continue to review that county's unsolved homicides, Sheriff Skip Hornecker said Friday.

Hornecker said he is interested in exploring whether there may be a link between those cases and Dale Eaton. "It's still ongoing, it's progressing," he said.

One unsolved Fremont County case involves the 1997 disappearance of Amy Wroe Bechtel of Lander.

Eight charges, including first-degree premeditated murder, were brought against Eaton on Thursday. Eaton was allegedly linked to the Montana teen's murder through a DNA match.

After making the official filing, District Attorney Kevin Meenan faxed copies of the latest court documents to Lisa Kimmell's parents in Denver.

"There were still a few things that hit us like a ton of bricks," said Sheila Kimmell of some additional details contained in the documents.

"We are very glad this day has finally come, yet we try to caution ourselves," said Kimmell, trying to keep the latest developments in perspective. "Mr. Eaton is entitled to a fair trial."

Recently extradited from a Colorado prison to face charges unrelated to the homicide, Eaton is now charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault, court documents state.

Three additional counts of first-degree felony murder were also charged. Each were allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes, those being sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping, Meenan said.

Lisa Kimmell was last seen March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si, which bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas.

Her body was found six days later in the North Platte River near Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from the bridge.

Investigators began searching Eaton's Moneta property last summer after being notified by the Wyoming State Crime Lab on July 16, 2002 that a blood sample drawn from Eaton at the

Rawlins state prison in 1998 matched a sample recovered from Kimmell's body after her death.

It took only days to unearth the Honda. Kimmell's personalized plates were not attached, though the latest report says a portion of the plate was found near the car.

On Friday, retired Wyoming Highway Patrolman Al Lesko said that after so many years, he was relieved to hear someone had been charged with Kimmell's murder. Lesko, who made the speeding stop, had been the last person to see Kimmell before she vanished.

"It's a step forward and I'm glad for the Kimmells so they can start getting some closure," said Lesko from his new job at the port of entry station at Lusk.

Eaton's initial Circuit Court hearing is set for Monday at 2 p.m.

Sheila Kimmell said she and her family plan to attend the preliminary hearing, after which a judge will determine whether there's enough evidence to bound the case over for trial. That hearing has not been set yet.

"We want to be there, even though we know it's going to be very difficult to really know what actually happened," she said. "I don't wanna know, but I have to know."

At Waltman, some 30 miles east of Eaton's property in Moneta, Shirley Widmer, who runs the store, watched the evening news Thursday and said she couldn't believe what she'd heard.

Everybody in the sparsely populated area knows Eaton to be a decent guy, said Widmer.

"I was shocked," she said. "I just can't believe it, my husband can't either - most the people who live around here can't believe it."

"I just find it hard to believe, but I guess it's possible," Widmer said of the man she's known for more than 20 years. "He was good to us."



Accused killer, rapist denied bond

APRIL 22, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

A young female prisoner winced and shook her head during arraignment proceedings Monday as Circuit Court Judge Steve Brown read aloud eight charges brought against Lisa Marie Kimmell's accused killer, Dale Wayne Eaton.

The day was a long time coming for investigators, who spent the last 15 years hoping for a break in the rape and killing of the 18-year-old Montana teen.

Kimmell was last seen alive March 25, 1988, traveling from Denver through Wyoming on her way to Billings, Mont. Two fishermen discovered her partially nude body six days later in the North Platte River near Government Bridge west of Casper.

Investigators said Kimmell had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed six times before being thrown from the bridge.

Court documents don't say where exactly Kimmell and Eaton's paths crossed.

But those documents revealed additional evidence authorities have developed since they discovered her car buried at Eaton's property at Moneta last summer. The documents say Kimmell's car had been stripped of valuable parts. It was missing all four tires, its aluminum wheels, the front bucket seats, the stereo and gearshift knob.

Eaton allegedly sold the wheels to a Mills recycling company, an affidavit said.

Investigators say Eaton helped install the stereo and seats in a 1963 Ford pickup, which the sheriff's office later tracked down.

Items that were never recovered in the search include Kimmell's clothes, her purse, driver's license, some of her jewelry and money she withdrew from an ATM, investigators say.

Seated in a far corner of the courtroom Monday afternoon, Eaton was advised of the charges filed against him in connection with Kimmell's murder.

He is being held without bond on charges of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault.

Three additional counts of first-degree felony murder were also brought. Each were allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping, documents state.

Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton and several of his investigators were an imposing

presence in the courtroom. County Coroner James Thorpen, who performed Kimmell's autopsy, was seated beside District Attorney Kevin Meenan at the prosecution table.

Meenan has yet to announce if he will seek the death penalty against Eaton.

The charges were filed about nine months after sheriff's investigators began searching Eaton's Moneta property, located 70 miles west of Casper in Fremont County.

Last July the Wyoming State Crime Lab reportedly advised sheriff's officials that a blood sample drawn from Eaton during his incarceration at the Wyoming State Penitentiary in 1998 matched a sample taken from Kimmell's body after her death.

Eaton was reportedly not known to the Kimmell family or any of their acquaintances, reports say.

During their search of Eaton's property, authorities say they unearthed the black Honda that Kimmell was reportedly driving when she disappeared.

At the time of her disappearance, Kimmell's car bore personalized Montana plates that read "LIL MISS." Court documents say only a portion of one plate was dug up.

Her mother, Sheila Kimmell of Denver, said last week that she and her family plan to attend Eaton's preliminary hearing. But Eaton's court-appointed attorneys, Fred Dethlefson and Wyatt Skaggs, say they may waive the hearing.

Because of the apparent calculation involved in Kimmell's killing, Fremont County investigators are revisiting their unsolved homicide cases to see if Eaton might be connected to any of those, Sheriff Skip Hornecker said Friday.



Casper Briefs

Posted: Wednesday, April 30, 2003 12:00 am

Eaton hearing in May

District Attorney Kevin Meenan said Monday that Dale Wayne Eaton's preliminary hearing in Natrona County Circuit Court is set for May 8 at 10 a.m. But lawyers for Eaton said last week that Eaton may waive the hearing.

Eaton, formerly of Moneta, is charged in the 1988 kidnapping, rape and killing of Lisa Marie Kimmell, who disappeared March 25, 1988.

He was extradited early this month from a Colorado prison to face charges unrelated to Kimmell's homicide.

Kimmell's body was found April 2 in the North Platte River near Government Bridge west of Casper. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from the bridge.

Man charged in stabbing

A Casper man was arrested Thursday after he allegedly stabbed an 18-year-old man in the shoulder with a six-inch, fixed-blade knife, according to documents filed in Natrona County Circuit Court.

Thomas Shakespeare, 20, was reportedly intoxicated and passed out at the victim's home on CY Avenue.

Police say the victim, Cordell Potter, summoned another man to take Shakespeare home and rode along.

When the driver pulled up to Shakespeare's residence on South Walnut Street, witnesses allege that Shakespeare suddenly stabbed Potter in the upper left shoulder without provocation, the report said.

Shakespeare reportedly jumped out of the car and left the scene. He was found by police on CY Avenue.

Potter, whose wound was two to three inches deep, received treatment and was released from the Wyoming Medical Center.

Shakespeare's bond was set at \$25,000, a Circuit Court official said.

CAC escapee sought

The sheriff's office is looking for a man who reportedly escaped from Community Alternatives of Casper on Saturday.

Patrick Carpenter, 19, was reportedly discovered missing from his bed around 3:30 a.m.

Carpenter reportedly has been a resident at CAC since April 22. He was ordered to complete the felony program at the halfway house in connection with a separate escape charge, sheriff's officials said.

Carpenter is described as blonde with blue eyes. He is six-foot-one and weighs 185 pounds, the report said.

Police: Barber robbery unique

No arrests have been made yet in connection with the recent armed robbery of the Hilltop Barber Shop, Police Sgt. Larry Baker said Monday.

Resolving the case has become a top priority for the department because of its uniqueness, he said, referring to reports that all three robbers were armed with guns when they stormed into the barber shop last Wednesday around 10 a.m.

Police say the three teenaged boys, masked and hooded, ordered the shop owner into a back room while they robbed the place.

An undisclosed amount of cash was taken by the trio before they fled, leaving the shop owner unharmed, police said.

The types of weapons used in the robbery were not released.

Police are asking anyone with information that might help solve the case to call Crime Stoppers at 577-TIPS .



Serial killer may have murdered Kimmell

MAY 05, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Criminal profilers have said the slaying of Lisa Marie Kimmell appears to be the work of a serial killer, though that theory has yet to be proven.

In the 15 years since her homicide, experts close to the case have said the degree of criminal sophistication the killer displayed in disposing of Kimmell's body and in the removal of evidence - such as ligatures - raised that possibility.

Kimmell, 18, left Denver on March 25, 1988, in her black Honda CRX Si to drive to Cody. She never arrived.

Her body was found nine days later in the North Platte River off Wyoming Highway 220 about 25 miles south of Casper. The teen had been sexually assaulted, struck in the head and stabbed several times in the chest before her attacker threw her off Government Bridge.

A coroner's examination of Kimmell concluded that she "had suffered six separate stab wounds: Five of which were arranged in a circle in the chest of Lisa Kimmell with a sixth inflicted in the mid-upper abdomen." Each wound, the coroner said, could have been fatal, and each avoided striking a rib.

Another twist is that Kimmell's car was not recovered until 14 years after her slaying, when Natrona County sheriff's investigators unearthed it during a search of a Moneta property owned by 58-year-old Dale Wayne Eaton. Last month Eaton was charged with the first-degree murder, aggravated kidnapping and sexual assault of Kimmell.

Burial of the car but not the body baffles Robert Keppel, Ph.D, who led the investigation into serial killer Ted Bundy. Keppel has written several books on serial killings.

"Why did he even dump her over that bridge," Keppel wonders. "Why wouldn't he just bury her in the car?"

Greg Cooper, a former FBI profiler who investigated Kimmell's murder in association with a series of other murders from 1983 to 1997 in the Great Basin region of Nevada, Utah, Idaho and Wyoming, said last year that Kimmell was probably murdered by "a very organized serial killer."

But Keppel said his limited access to crime scene evidence in Kimmell's case makes it hard for him to say if the teen's homicide was the work of a serial killer.

From what he knows about the homicide, however, Keppel says he thinks Kimmell's killer displayed sophistication on a few levels.

"You can't generalize about a topic that's very difficult to generalize about. Serial killers are different," explained Keppel. "Some serial killers know their victim but the victim doesn't know the offender. Some serial killers know their victims and the victims know them."

FBI documents analyzing Kimmell's killing and profiling her slayer 10 years before authorities got a break in the case alluded often to the meticulousness of the killer.

An eight-page confidential analysis, prepared by FBI Supervisory Special Agent Ronald P. Walker at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va., also lent itself to speculation that Kimmell's attacker was a serial killer.

Based on information given to the FBI by the Natrona County Sheriff's Office, the medical examiner's report and a victimology describing Kimmell's personality, Walker concluded that "it is significant that the assailant removed (a) ligature prior to disposing of the victim's body; this assailant is sufficiently sophisticated to realize the evidentiary value of such items."

"Lisa Marie Kimmell fell victim to an assailant who acted methodically and with purpose," the FBI reported. "She was a randomly selected victim whose path crossed with her assailant's by chance."

Walker's analysis - written 10 years prior to the July 2002 unearthing of Kimmell's car on Eaton's Moneta property - gives a chilling account of what her last days may have been like. It also suggests the possibility that more than one person was involved in her homicide.

Keppel, having examined Walker's analysis of the crime, said he realizes there may have been additional information leading the profiler to such a conclusion but he, nevertheless, tends to disagree with the theory of more than one killer.

"One of the things I disagree with in that profile is that the profiler kept referring to the possibility of a co-conspirator. I don't think that happened at all," Keppel said. "I think that's leading you down the wrong trail."

Walker, now a retired FBI consultant, was not available last week for an interview due to prior engagements, he said.

The property on which Kimmell's car was found is located just beyond the Fremont County border. Fremont County law enforcement officials who aided Natrona County in the search said recently that investigators in Fremont County are still in the process of revisiting unsolved case files for any possible connection to Eaton.

Keppel says investigators who suspect a person might be responsible for other murders are likely to begin piecing together a detailed timeline, or chronology, of the person's activities around the time each murder occurred. Information about every person who was associated with the alleged killer during those times would also be diligently explored.

"Trace his whereabouts and go back in time and try and place him near their crime scenes, because that is one avenue that you would have to pursue. And then you would pursue the avenue, too, that this may be his only victim," he explained.

Keppel said it's possible that Kimmell's killer was angry at a woman in his life around the time of the killing and that he just lashed out. It's likely that only similar circumstances would provoke the person to kill again, he added.

Typical serial killers are often portrayed as having a tendency to take souvenirs as proof of their deed. They clip news articles, take the victim's drivers licenses, or keep a lock of hair.

In Kimmell's case, investigators have yet to recover Kimmell's purse or driver's license, the clothes she was wearing when she left her job in Denver and a few pieces of her jewelry, court documents say.

Keppel said that in general, "some cases are obvious, because you find posing and sexual insertion of foreign objects and things like that, and you know that this guy has either killed before or he's gonna kill again."

But that's not always the case. Plus no one can really nail down what traits make one person more likely than another to become a serial killer.

It is suspected that Kimmell's abductor held her against her will for days after she disappeared, according to the confidential FBI report.

In his analysis, Cooper also said last year that he believed Kimmell's killer had killed before and had likely killed after.

He said the killer's abduction and sexual assault of Kimmell, the concealment of her vehicle and the "controlled and organized" knife wounds administered were consistent with an experienced killer.



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Media battles to keep hearing open

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Thursday, May 8, 2003 12:00 am

Defense attorneys for Dale Wayne Eaton, the man recently charged in the 1988 murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, reportedly want to bar the public from Eaton's preliminary hearing scheduled at 10 a.m. today in Natrona County Circuit Court.

Local media outlets teamed up Wednesday to keep the hearing open.

Casper attorney Mike Krampner filed motions Wednesday afternoon on behalf of Lee Enterprises, owner of the Casper Star-Tribune; Clear Channel Communications, Inc., owner of several Casper radio stations; and KTWO Television.

In his motion, which was hand-delivered to the public defender's office and the district attorney, Krampner asked the court to be heard regarding the possible attempt to close the hearing.

"Applicant believes the fairness of a trial will not be jeopardized in this case by an open hearing, and that there are, or may be, other methods of dealing with specific potential problems, which do not require closing the preliminary hearing," Krampner's motion states.

Standards for closing a preliminary hearing, Krampner said, were addressed in the 1979 case of Williams v. Stafford. In that case, media members sued a Sweetwater County justice of the peace for access to discussions conducted at a closed bail hearing regarding murder suspect Edward Cantrell.

The state Supreme Court ultimately ruled that the proceedings, or a record of them, should be open to the public.

"That case law adopted the ABA (American Bar Association) Standards for Criminal Justice approach to closed hearings," Krampner said.

"Since 1979, the ABA standards have changed," and standards are now even less favorable to closed hearings, he added.

That case law was filed with Krampner's motion.

Eaton's Circuit Court file was suddenly sealed, leaving reporters unable to confirm with certainty that a motion to close the hearing had been filed.

Eaton, who is being represented by court-appointed attorneys Fred Dethlefsen and Wyatt Skaggs, is being held in the county jail without bond on charges related to the murder of 18-year-old Kimmell.

Reached by phone at his Casper office, Dethlefsen declined comment on the case. Skaggs could not be reached Wednesday.

Several other motions regarding the case will be heard at today's hearing, which is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m., said District Attorney Kevin Meenan, the prosecutor in the case.

Meenan did not have an explanation as to why Eaton's file had been sealed from public view.

Kimmell's body was found April 2, 1988, in the North Platte River near Government Bridge, west of Casper. She had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from the bridge.

Eaton faces charges of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault.

Three additional counts of first-degree felony murder were brought last month. Each was allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping, court documents state.

Eaton also faces an unrelated escape charge, to which he pleaded not guilty Wednesday morning at a 7th District Court arraignment.



Press allowed to cover Kimmell case

MAY 09, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Circuit Court Judge Michael Patchen shot down a defense attorney's attempt to bar the media from Thursday's preliminary hearing and all future court proceedings in the prosecution of Dale Wayne Eaton, charged in connection with the 1988 slaying of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Defense attorneys Wyatt Skaggs and Fred Dethlefsen ultimately waived Eaton's preliminary hearing, and the case has been bound over for trial in 7th District Court.

The request that local media be barred from the proceedings was made after an article about the case was published in Sunday's Star-Tribune, Skaggs said in court Thursday. He said the article was prejudicial to his client.

The article included comments from investigators once close to the Kimmell case who had, even before Eaton was charged, surmised that the 18-year-old's homicide may have been committed by a serial killer.

Skaggs said he was particularly put off by the inclusion of an eight-page, confidential analysis prepared 10 years ago by FBI Supervisory Special Agent Ronald P. Walker at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va.

"We don't have a copy of it. We have never had a copy of it," Skaggs told Patchen, later alluding to the possibility that the document was acquired by the Star-Tribune through a leak. Furthermore, Skaggs said he may consider filing a subpoena to find out how the newspaper obtained the document.

Patchen said that issued could be "fleshed out later in District Court."

The article, according to Skaggs, "severely impacted" his client's right to a fair trial "here or anywhere," leading him to ask that the case in its entirety be closed to the public.

After hearing Wednesday that a motion might have been filed in an attempt to close the proceedings, local media outlets teamed up and hired Casper attorney Mike Krampner.

Krampner was granted an opportunity to speak at the hearing Thursday and argued that Supreme Court case law favors open hearings. He also told the court that high public interest in the case does not necessarily mean his client's right to a fair trial will be jeopardized.

District Attorney Kevin Meenan, who will prosecute the case, said in court that in all his years as an attorney, he has never seen such a criminal proceeding closed. And constitutionally, it affects the media's rights if they are not allowed to attend, he added.

In addition to trying to keep reporters out of the courtroom, Skaggs argued three other

motions, each time referring to the FBI documents that he contends were used to "bootstrap" his client as a serial killer.

Eaton, who faces eight counts including first-degree murder, is being held in the county jail without bond.

Kimmell's body was found in the North Platte River west of Casper on April 2, 1988. She had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper.

Eaton, who was not present at Thursday's hearing, was charged with Kimmell's murder after a DNA sample he'd given in prison years ago reportedly matched one taken from the body. Kimmell's black Honda CRX was also found buried on his property last summer.

Before waiving Eaton's preliminary hearing altogether, Skaggs asked for a continuance, saying he wanted Patchen to order the state to produce the evidence it was going to present at his client's hearing.

"This is clearly a death-penalty case," he said. "And one of the most important cases probably in our lifetime."

Skaggs said he therefore needs to have access to as much information about the case as possible to properly defend his client.

While the death penalty is a possibility, Meenan was quick to point out that he has not yet formally made that decision.

In response to Skaggs' request to see the state's evidence, Meenan said state is not required at this point to produce any evidence and that discovery is only granted after the case reaches District Court.

A preliminary hearing decides only if the state has sufficient evidence to take the case to trial, he said.

Patchen agreed and denied Skaggs' motion.

Skaggs also asked Patchen to issue a gag order preventing Natrona County sheriff's officials, the coroner's office and the district attorney from talking to the media on any aspect of the case. He also reportedly heard Sheriff Mark Benton give a radio interview recently in regard to the DNA database.

Meenan pointed out that officials had from the start honored the rules of proceedings and have not spoken to the media about any aspect directly relating to the case against Eaton. In the Star-Tribune article to which Skaggs so often referred, Meenan said, no comments were attributed to him or sheriff's officials.

Finally, Skaggs asked the court to dismiss the charges against Eaton altogether on the grounds that he'd been prejudiced by media coverage.

Patchen, who did not allow cameras at Thursday's hearing, denied all of the motions.



Eaton hearing should be open to public

MAY 09, 2003 12:00 AM

Wyatt Skaggs, defense attorney for accused murderer Dale Wayne Eaton, argued passionately at a Casper Circuit Court hearing Thursday that the rights of his client to a fair trial have been irrevocably compromised by pretrial publicity appearing in the Casper Star-Tribune.

So much so, Mr. Skaggs insisted, that the case should be dismissed, "gag orders" should be directed against the sheriff, coroner and the prosecuting attorney, and in the event the state's case does go forward against Mr. Eaton, that the trial should be closed to the public. Mr. Eaton is charged with multiple felonies in the murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, who died in 1988.

Mr. Skaggs' position is not unique. Defense attorneys frequently argue, and courts sometimes have held, that the weight and overwhelming prejudicial nature of pretrial publicity has indeed been such that a defendant's right to a "fair trial" within a particular jurisdiction has been irreversibly lost, or that due to the high profile nature of a case, some limits on speech should be imposed.

We feel the coverage in the instance has been neither overwhelming nor prejudicial. And closing, or heavily censoring, the trial and the attendant legal proceedings due to the purported negative effects of pretrial media publicity is an unconvincing way to protect Mr. Eaton's rights.

Indeed, it is precisely defendants such as Mr. Eaton who benefit most by open proceedings and public trials. The alternative is a system of kangaroo courts and secret deliberations - more the province of totalitarian regimes than free societies.

The abhorrence of the Founding Fathers for just such arrangements is explicit in the Sixth Amendment: "In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed ..."

While it is true Fifth and Sixth Amendment protections for the accused and the First Amendment guarantees related to freedom of speech and of the press sometimes are at odds, we feel the court has sufficient remedies available, if necessary, to protect Mr. Eaton as a criminal defendant short of ignoring the Constitution. The first comes during jury selection, and careful questioning by Mr. Skaggs and his colleagues to ensure that jurors can render a fair and impartial verdict. A second remedy available to the court would be to move the trial to another community where press coverage has not been as complete.

There is, it seems to us, every reason to believe Mr. Eaton can receive a fair trial without the draconian and unconstitutional steps demanded by his attorney.



Kimmell's mom may file lawsuit

MAY 16, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The mother of a woman murdered 15 years ago can now pursue a wrongful death lawsuit in civil court on her daughter's behalf, according to 7th District Court documents filed Wednesday.

Lisa Marie Kimmell's mother, Sheila Kimmell, hired Casper attorney Mark Gifford, who sought permission from 7th District Court Judge David Park to "resolve any and all wrongful death claims."

Sheila Kimmell and Casper attorney Wes Reeves were recently appointed as co-administrators of Lisa Marie Kimmell's estate. That allows either of them to sign the necessary documents on Lisa Kimmell's behalf.

Each state has its own "statute of limitation," which sets the time frame during which a lawsuit must be filed. The time most often starts from the day of the victim's death, although some states will allow a lawsuit to proceed if the act that caused the death was not discovered until later.

Gifford said Thursday that in cases such as Kimmell's, the statutory limits can't be applied until a suspect is charged.

"If the person who committed the killing hides himself away, the statute doesn't start to run until you can find him," he said.

Lisa Kimmell, 18, left Denver on March 25, 1988, in her black Honda CRX Si to drive to Cody, but she never arrived.

Her body was found days later in the North Platte River off Wyoming Highway 220 about 25 miles south of Casper. The teen's attacker had sexually assaulted her, struck her in the head and stabbed her several times in the chest before throwing her body off Government Bridge.

It was only last month that the District Attorney's Office filed formal charges in connection with her homicide.

After waiving his preliminary hearing, Dale Wayne Eaton was recently bound over for trial in 7th District Court on eight charges, including premeditated murder.

Eaton, who was allegedly linked to the murder through a DNA match, is being held without bond.

Gifford said a person can file a wrongful death lawsuit against someone who has not yet been convicted because liability in criminal and civil cases are decided according to different criteria.

"The criminal cases have to be proven beyond a reasonable doubt and civil cases have to be proven by a preponderance of the evidence, which is a lower standard," Gifford explained. "So, we would just have to go forward in our trial and prove by a preponderance of the evidence that he's the person that took her life, which we would have to do anyway, regardless of the criminal action."



Kimmells sue Eaton in killing

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Saturday, May 17, 2003 12:00 am

A Littleton, Colo., woman on Thursday filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the man accused of killing her teen-age daughter 15 years ago, according to documents filed in 7th District Court.

The action came one day after 7th District Court Judge David Park issued an order granting the family permission to file such a lawsuit.

Lisa Marie Kimmell's mother, Sheila Kimmell, filed the lawsuit against Dale Wayne Eaton, 59, who prosecutors recently charged in connection with the 18-year-old's murder in 1988.

Kimmell was last seen alive March 25 of that year, traveling from Denver through Wyoming on her way to Billings, Mont. Two fisherman discovered her partially nude body April 2, 1988, in the North Platte River near Government Bridge west of Casper.

Investigators said Kimmell had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed six times before being thrown from the bridge.

Eaton, who was reportedly linked to her murder through a DNA match, is currently jailed in Casper on charges related to Lisa Kimmell's homicide - including premeditated murder.

Sheila Kimmell's two-page complaint asserts that Eaton is "the perpetrator of the murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell and the other acts alleged herein," but that the lawsuit could not be brought "until recently, when criminal charges were filed" in connection with her death.

The Kimmells are asking for an undetermined amount in damages for the pain and suffering inflicted on Lisa Marie Kimmell by Eaton, whose conduct, the family says, was "willful and wanton."

District Attorney Kevin Meenan has not yet announced if he will pursue the death penalty against Eaton, who will answer to the eight charges filed against him at his District Court arraignment on June 6 at 8:30 a.m.

Casper attorney Mark Gifford was hired by the Kimmells to file the civil complaint.

Gifford said Thursday that a wrongful death lawsuit can be filed against someone who has not yet been convicted of the crime because liability in criminal and civil cases are decided on different criteria.

"The criminal cases have to be proven beyond a reasonable doubt and civil cases have to be proven by a preponderance of the evidence, which is a lower standard," he said.

Gifford was unavailable Friday for further comment.



Lil Miss: The crime scene

GREG TUTTLE Billings Gazette staff writer | Posted: Sunday, May 18, 2003 12:00 am

Don Flickinger is standing on an old trestle bridge over the North Platte River west of Casper, on the spot where Lisa Marie Kimmell was murdered 15 years ago. A weathered, plastic wreath left by an unknown mourner has been placed where the young Billings woman was stabbed repeatedly and thrown off the bridge.

It's been many years since Flickinger, a 64-year-old retired federal agent from Billings, last visited the bridge. He's uncomfortable here. The bridge is at the center of the ugly things that Flickinger knows about this crime. Until recently, those things were shared only among a small number of investigators.

Flickinger has seen the evidence that the young woman was bound and repeatedly raped, probably over a period of days, before she was killed. Flickinger has studied the medical examiner's reports of the head injury and the knife wounds arranged in a circle on her chest.

He knows the horrible details of how Lisa Kimmell was killed.

This bridge over the North Platte was on his mind during the years he spent trying to catch Lisa's killer. For six years, Flickinger devoted most of his time to solving this crime. He investigated members of a cult, took dozens of blood samples for DNA analysis, traveled to Texas, Las Vegas and Alaska and even met with psychics. At one point, the investigation led him to consider other cops as suspects.

Flickinger reached mandatory retirement age in 1995, ending his official role in Lisa's murder investigation. But he remained connected to the case, and talks frequently with Lisa's parents.

It was the greatest disappointment of his career that he was unable to track down Lisa's killer.

As the years passed after he retired, Flickinger remained confident that the killer would be caught. He told himself that the foreign DNA found with Lisa's body would one day be used to identify a suspect.

That day came last July. After years of looking for a match, authorities got a hit on a DNA sample from a man named Dale Wayne Eaton, who was being held in a Colorado prison.

The DNA match led investigators to Eaton's property near Moneta, 75 miles northwest of Casper. There they found Lisa's car buried near a ramshackle trailer and metal shed.

Last month, the 58-year-old divorced drifter was charged with Lisa's kidnapping, rape and murder.

Eaton's arrest and arraignment brought some relief to Flickinger. But questions linger. If Eaton is guilty, how did he abduct Lisa? Did her car break down on that desolate highway? Did the killer find Lisa stranded, or was her sports car run off the two-lane highway? Did the killer act alone? Why was Lisa stabbed in such a bizarre way and her body dumped where the killer knew she would be found? At the bridge, Flickinger recalls how police found a pool of Lisa's blood where she was stabbed. He remembers the pictures of her body in the river, face down in a tangle of weeds. And he thinks about the years he spent hoping, every day, for her killer to be caught.

"With what I know, for me this is a haunted place," Flickinger said.

Move to Montana

In the spring of 1988, Flickinger was an agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in Billings. Three years earlier, while working in Minneapolis, he was offered a chance to return to his home state to open a bureau office. The offer meant Flickinger could finish his career in Montana and be close to his parents, who still lived where he grew up in Conrad.

The new assignment was a change of pace. In Minneapolis for 15 years, Flickinger worked mob cases, went undercover on illegal gun deals and investigated deadly arson fires. He was on a team of federal agents who assisted the Secret Service during presidential campaigns and visits by foreign dignitaries.

From the Billings office, Flickinger investigated illegal firearms and arson cases in sparsely populated eastern Montana. He didn't mind the lower-profile work, or the reduced stress that came with it. With retirement approaching, he was content to finish his career away from the big time.

The move to Montana also meant Flickinger could spend more time with his family and cultivate his interest in the Little Bighorn Battlefield. The Last Stand had fascinated Flickinger since childhood, and now he had the chance to explore the ground firsthand.

Then Lisa Marie Kimmell disappeared.

On March 25, 1988, Lisa left Denver in her new sports car, a black Honda CRX. She was working temporarily in Denver, managing an Arby's restaurant, and planned to pick up her boyfriend in Cody then visit her family in Billings. She couldn't wait to introduce her new friend to her parents.

Lisa never arrived in Cody. Her parents reported her missing and began a frantic search. Her father chartered a small plane and flew over the route Lisa was to drive, hoping to spot her black sports car from the air. He also drove the route from Denver, through Cody and on to Billings. Lisa was nowhere to be found.

Police said the best witness account of Lisa's last known whereabouts came from a state patrol officer, who stopped her for speeding on the night of March 25 near Douglas, Wyo. Other witnesses placed Lisa in Casper later that evening.

On April 2, a fisherman from Billings found Lisa's body about a quarter-mile downstream from the old river crossing known as Government Bridge. Her car had vanished.

Billings connections

Flickinger's youngest daughter knew Lisa Kimmell. The girls were two years apart and grew up in the same Heights neighborhood. Lisa graduated from Senior High School in 1987.

Lisa was Ron and Sheila Kimmell's first child. She was named by her grandmother, who often called her "my little miss Lisa Marie." To family and friends, she was Lil Miss.

The murder was widely reported at the time, making national news when Wyoming investigators asked for the public's help in locating Lisa's black Honda with its personalized Montana license plates LILMISS.

Reported sightings of the car came in from around the country. At the Natrona County Sheriff's Office in Casper, the lead agency on the case, detectives Dan Tholson and Jim Broz were assigned to the investigation.

"In the first few weeks we had a thousand phone calls with different tips, a lot of them from Montana," said Tholson, who now works as a juvenile officer for Natrona County. "We really didn't have anybody up there to do the work."

Flickinger was the only ATF agent working in eastern Montana at the time and he was familiar with the area's known outlaws. A few weeks after Lisa's death, Flickinger met a man who said he had information about the Lil Miss murder. Flickinger spoke with him, wrote a report and passed it on to the Natrona County Sheriff's Office in Casper.

The tip didn't amount to anything, but it opened the door for Flickinger to become further involved in the murder investigation.

Flickinger's report caught the attention of the Wyoming detectives. Tholson called the ATF agent to ask for help following another lead. A man from Miles City had shown up unexpectedly at the Kimmells' house and said he knew something about Lisa's murder. Tholson asked Flickinger if he would talk to the man the next time he was in Miles City. Flickinger agreed.

Flickinger didn't have much experience with homicides, but he wanted to help.

"At that point, we weren't officially in the investigation," Flickinger said. "It was just something I did as a favor." When more reports of Lisa's black Honda and names of possible suspects in Montana came in, Tholson and Broz turned again to Flickinger. He became officially involved in the case in June 1989, when federal authorities were asked to assist the Natrona County Sheriff's Office. The request was made after Ron and Sheila Kimmell expressed frustration with the pace of the investigation.

It was an unusual development in what was otherwise a local homicide case. And as Flickinger would find out, it resulted in tension between the Natrona County Sheriff's Office and federal agencies, especially when he began investigating the sheriff as a suspect in Lisa's murder.

Tomorrow: False leads, dead ends.



Lil Miss: False leads, dead ends

GREG TUTTLE Billings Gazette staff writer | Posted: Monday, May 19, 2003 12:00 am

FOR MONDAY

Part 2 of 3 parts

On July 3, 1989, Don Flickinger boarded a plane in Billings and flew to Portland, Ore., for his first official interview in the Lisa Marie Kimmell murder investigation.

It had been 15 months since the 18-year-old Billings woman was bludgeoned, stabbed and thrown off a bridge in Wyoming.

When the agent from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms landed, he met Dan Tholson, one of the lead investigators on the case for Natrona County, where Lisa's body was found in the North Platte River. Flickinger and Tholson had spoken many times on the phone, but it was the first time the two men met. They were in Oregon to speak with a county jail inmate who had been calling Kimmell's parents in Billings.

The interview was a bust. As Flickinger would find later, it was the first of many dead-end leads and disappointments in a case he spent six years on.

Some of the leads would take Flickinger as far away as Alaska and Texas. Others would have him questioning fellow law enforcement officers. He interviewed members of a cult, listened to psychics and sorted through thousands of tips from across the country after the case aired on prime-time television.

Flickinger followed every lead as far as it would go. Other cops called him "the vampire" because he took so many blood samples from potential suspects or people he wanted to rule out.

"Don was on a mission," said Sheila Kimmell, Lisa's mother.

"He was passionate about this case, and tenacious. He wouldn't give up."

Oregon rainout

The inmate in Oregon was doing time for a petty crime. In several collect calls from the county jail, he told Ron and Sheila Kimmell he had information about Lisa's murder. He wanted to make a deal with the cops before he would say more.

Flickinger and Tholson were hopeful. After more than a year, the murder investigation had stalled and now federal authorities were involved. Flickinger was officially assigned to assist the Natrona County Sheriff's Office a month before the trip to Oregon.

Flickinger and Tholson quickly determined the Oregon convict didn't have a clue about Lisa's murder.

"We flew all the way out there, went in and talked to him and were there maybe 20 minutes," Tholson said. "He didn't know a thing. He was looking for a deal. But that was typical."

Flickinger and Tholson stayed up late that evening at a Portland hotel talking about evidence and possible suspects. The investigators found they shared a common focus, and they agreed not to let interagency politics derail their efforts to catch Lisa's killer.

"There was a lot of ill feelings at the top between the federal agencies and the sheriff," Flickinger said. "It was never at our level."

Occultism

Shortly after joining the investigation full time, Flickinger met two FBI agents who gained some fame on the case of Arthur

Shawcross, a serial killer who preyed on New York prostitutes. The agents were in Billings to give a seminar, and Flickinger cornered them for advice on the Lil Miss murder.

The FBI agents said the unusual knife wounds - five in a pentagram pattern on the chest and a sixth under the sternum - indicated a possible cult connection. The agents had seen ritualistic murders before, and told Flickinger not to ignore the occult.

Flickinger was willing to turn over any rock to catch the killer. During the next six months he interviewed about 20 people in the Casper area who said they were members of a cult. Some wore robes with a symbol similar to the pattern of knife wounds found on Lisa's body.

The cult members, including professionals and housewives, said they held meetings outside of town where unusual rock formations jutted up from the central Wyoming plains.

Rumors of the bizarre stab wounds on Lisa's body had spread. The story changed and grew with each telling.

"The biggest rumor was that her heart was cut out," Tholson said. "I don't think we could ever track how that started, but it just went all over, to everybody. We got phone calls and tips on that all the time."

Jack the dealer

Another crowd was spreading a different story about Lisa's murder, and they were more than willing to share their theory with investigators.

Flickinger and the Natrona County detectives received tips that a drug dealer named Jack was connected to Lisa's murder. Flickinger learned that Jack was in the Casper area when Lisa disappeared.

When he found Jack, the man told a story that had Flickinger wondering if the tips were true.

Jack said he was in Casper at the time to pick up a stolen snowmobile and haul it back to Montana. Jack said he met several people at a remote cabin and noticed a suitcase and two stuffed animals among their belongings.

Jack's description of the items matched what Lisa was known to have with her when she left Denver for the drive to Billings.

After numerous interviews, polygraphs and DNA analysis, Jack and several of his pals were cleared of having any part in Lisa's death. Flickinger learned later that the description of Lisa's belongings had been leaked outside the circle of investigators. Jack was telling a long story based on a few specific details.

Flickinger believes Jack was fingered by rivals who saw an opportunity to hurt the competition. Jack responded by implicating other drug dealers. The false leads occupied investigators for months, and came to nothing.

Vegas CRX

Rumors were plentiful, but solid suspects were hard to come by. So Flickinger wasted no time tracking down people whose names came up in connection to Lisa's murder.

When Ron and Sheila Kimmell received a strange letter from a Las Vegas man they didn't know, they gave it to Flickinger. The unsigned letter lamented Lisa's death, and included a return address on the envelope.

Flickinger called the ATF office in Las Vegas, and agents there agreed to drive by the address. The next day, a breathless agent called Flickinger and said there was a black Honda CRX parked in the driveway. It was the same model year as Lisa's car, and had the same sun roof.

Flickinger asked the agent to check the car's identification number and find the owner. Then he called Tholson with the news. Tholson alerted the crime lab team and arranged a flight.

But before they could board the plane, the federal agent in Las Vegas called back. The vehicle identification number didn't match. It wasn't Lisa's car.

Flickinger flew to Las Vegas anyway. The man who wrote the letter told Flickinger that he used to live in Cody and often went to Billings. He met Lisa at the fast-food restaurant in the Heights where she worked. He had a crush on her but never got up the nerve to ask her for a date.

Smitten, he bought a car just like hers.

The man was embarrassed, but he was no murderer, Flickinger said. Flickinger made sure by taking a blood sample. DNA from the man with a crush on Lisa Kimmell did not match the foreign DNA found with her body.

The sheriff

Other names were not as easy to rule out, or even to investigate.

There was a police officer in Texas who used to drive a taxi in Casper. The man's name was added to the suspect list when several people said he had acted strangely with women fares, sometimes taking a long route so he had more time with them in the cab. He was living in Casper when Lisa was killed.

Flickinger flew to Houston and met with the officer. Aghast to be suspected, the man quickly agreed to give a blood sample. The DNA comparison ruled him out.

Ron Ketchum was not as cooperative.

A powerful political figure in Casper, Ketchum had served as the county sheriff from 1987 to 1991. After leaving the sheriff's office, Ketchum taught criminal justice at the University of Wyoming and worked as a polygraph examiner.

He was elected to the Natrona County Board of Commissioners in 1999, and the next year was named chairman. Ketchum had made it clear from the start that he resented Flickinger's involvement in the case. Later, his resentment boiled into outrage when Flickinger asked him to account for his whereabouts the night Lisa disappeared.

Flickinger had reason to ask. A credible witness reported seeing Ketchum in a sheriff's patrol car on the night of March 25, 1988. The witness said Ketchum had a small black car with a young woman driver pulled over at the side of the road. Ketchum denied working that night, but dispatch records showed that he was.

No one in Wyoming law enforcement would criticize Ketchum publicly, but in private many cops told Flickinger of their gut feeling that the sheriff should be investigated.

Some of the speculation was tied to Ketchum's attempted suicide on the two-year anniversary of Lisa's disappearance.

In March 1990, Ketchum was found unconscious in his home from a drug overdose. He returned to work three weeks later and said he was being treated for depression. He left the sheriff's office the next year.

The timing of the suicide attempt, along with the other information, raised Flickinger's interest in Ketchum. He asked Ketchum for a blood sample and was met with a hostile rebuke. The investigation became mired in a political battle, which ended only after two other top officials in the sheriff's office volunteered to provide blood samples.

All three, including Ketchum, were ruled out as suspects.

In May of 2000, Ketchum drove to a remote area outside Casper and shot himself in the chest.

"Unsolved Mysteries"

One year after Lisa's body was found, the Wyoming murder case went on national television when "Unsolved Mysteries" aired a segment on the Lil Miss murder. The show received what was then a record number of calls from viewers, and the segment was rebroadcast several times in the years that followed.

Most callers reported seeing Lisa's black Honda with its Montana personalized license plates LILMISS. The calls came in from

across the country, and a few from Canada.

"They flooded us, literally flooded us with thousands of phone calls," Tholson said.

Investigators spent weeks looking for solid clues from among the many reports, but only a few seemed worth following. There wasn't enough manpower or money to check on every sighting of a black sports car with personalized plates.

"We just tried to sort them out and somehow pick the ones that were most likely," Flickinger said.

Tholson believes that most of the callers really thought they had seen Lisa's car, or were so horrified by the story they were desperate to help.

Even police officers called. Flickinger flew to Anchorage, Alaska, to check out a cop's sighting of Lisa's black Honda. When he got there, the officer said he was sure at the time that he saw the car, but was probably mistaken. No one else there had reported seeing the missing car.

Flickinger caught the next plane back to Billings.

"They were legitimately nice people trying to help," Tholson said. "But I don't have a lot of faith in eyewitnesses any more. Virtually none."

The psychics

One of Flickinger's last attempts to crack the case came in 1994, when sisters from Great Falls who worked as psychics were brought in by the Kimmell family.

Flickinger and Tholson met the psychic sisters at the scene of the murder on Government Bridge.

The investigators were skeptical, but open to anything that could help. It had been six years since Lisa's death, and they were no closer to an arrest now than when her body was found in the North Platte below.

"At that point, I think we were looking at anything we could try," Tholson said.

The sisters walked around on the bridge, one holding a glass of water, the other a crucifix that had been given to Lisa by her father. They said they received images of a rural setting, and something about the number 2. They had a sense of something buried, but could offer nothing more.

Flickinger reached mandatory retirement age the next year.

Ron and Sheila Kimmell, who had since moved to Littleton, Colo., came to his retirement party. Flickinger and his wife, Linda, had grown close to the Kimmells, sharing the ups and downs of the investigation and the painful knowledge that Lisa's killer was out there somewhere.

Flickinger tried to share some hope. The foreign DNA found with Lisa's body could one day point to her killer. He urged the Kimmells to have faith and patience.

Tomorrow: The break in the case



Lil Miss: The break

GREG TUTTLE Billings Gazette staff writer | Posted: Tuesday, May 20, 2003 12:00 am

Editor's note: This story is the last in a three-part series about ATF Agent Don Flickinger's role investigating the 1988 homicide of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

After working for six years on the Lisa Kimmell murder case, Don Flickinger couldn't help but feel he had left business unfinished when he retired from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. As he feared, the federal role in the murder investigation dropped to almost nothing when he left the case.

For a while after retiring in 1995, Flickinger stayed in touch with the detectives in Casper. But as the years passed without an arrest, the contacts became less frequent. Detective Dan Tholson transferred to another job in the Natrona County Sheriff's Office. Tholson's partner, Jim Broz, moved to Colorado.

Flickinger thought about Lisa every day.

He stayed in touch with Lisa's parents, Ron and Sheila Kimmell, who left Billings for Colorado the year after their daughter's killing. Flickinger and his wife had grown close to the Kimmells, and the friendship continued after Flickinger was no longer officially involved in the investigation.

When his mind turned to the case, which it often did, Flickinger reread the interviews he took before he retired.

He scoured his notes and the evidence collected at the old bridge. Was there something he missed? Could he have done something differently? Who killed Lisa Kimmell?

"I just couldn't walk away," he said.

But there wasn't much he could do. Flickinger filled his days with golf and with research at the Little Bighorn Battlefield. Summers, he spends time with his family at Lake McDonald in Glacier Park.

More recently, Flickinger took a job driving cars for Big Sky Auto Auction three days a week.

He was working at the car lot last July when he was called to the office for a phone call. It was Dan Tholson. He asked if Flickinger was sitting down.

"We got our man," Tholson said flatly.

Flickinger sat down. Tholson said a DNA match had been made with a federal prison inmate in Colorado named Dale Wayne Eaton. The 57-year-old man was doing time on a firearms charge and he owned property in Moneta, about 75 miles northwest of Casper.

"Well Dan, I never heard of this guy," Flickinger told Tholson.

"We didn't either," Tholson replied.

Tholson explained how a routine DNA database search connected Eaton to Lisa's death. The match came from DNA taken from Eaton while he was incarcerated at the Wyoming State Prison in 1998. At that time, Eaton was in prison for a roadside assault. He later walked away from a halfway house.

Flickinger listened. When Tholson was done and they hung up, Flickinger lowered his head and wept.

The dig

News of the DNA match in Lisa's murder was kept from the public while investigators learned all they could about Eaton. The pieces fell together quickly. Investigators found Eaton's property and started digging where a neighbor said something large had been buried many years ago. The neighbor recalled Eaton saying he was putting in a septic tank.

After more than a decade of searching, Lisa's Honda was unearthed. A piece of the LILMISS personalized license plates was found with the car.

Last month, Natrona County prosecutors charged Eaton with Lisa's kidnapping, rape and murder. Officials haven't said whether they'll seek the death penalty.

Investigators are now looking at Eaton as a possible serial killer. Natrona County investigators remain quiet on that possibility, but several experts have said publicly that the circumstances of Lisa's murder suggest a methodical, organized killer.

Flickinger believes in the serial killer theory.

Going back

A few weeks ago, Flickinger returned to the old trestle bridge outside Casper where Lisa was stabbed to death and thrown into the river. It had been nine years since he was last here, when two psychics from Great Falls tried to imagine Lisa's last moments.

And for the first time, Flickinger visited the home of the man he had tried to find for 15 years.

Eaton's property is on a desolate swath of low rolling hills covered with cracked earth and thirsty sagebrush.

A decrepit trailer house sits about 100 yards off the highway. Vermin have moved in and made the place an awful mess. Yellow crime scene tape remains tied to where the front door used to be. The tape was left last summer after investigators finished their search of the property.

A large metal shed is the only other structure. The earth floor has been dug up and dirt is piled where investigators searched for other evidence. Her car may have been hidden in this shed before it was buried.

Around the shed, car parts and oil drilling equipment are strewn across the ground. A spare tire that looks unused but weathered lies in the rubble.

Flickinger walks around, quietly observing, taking in the little pieces of the puzzle and trying to see in his mind the whole ghastly picture.

Inside the trailer he picks through a stack of old newspapers and envelopes. He looks into a back bedroom littered with old clothes and garbage covered in rat and bird droppings. The bathroom is a shambles, with debris and feces covering every inch of the room.

"This is a house of horrors," Flickinger says just above a whisper. "I can't even imagine what took place in here." Flickinger knows that Lisa was alive for several days after she was abducted and before she was killed. He also knows that within days of her disappearance, searchers traced her route from Denver to Billings trying to spot her car from a small plane. Was Lisa still alive when the plane flew over 15 years ago? It's one of the questions that haunt Don Flickinger.



Casper Briefs

From staff and wire reports | Posted: Wednesday, May 21, 2003 12:00 am

Businesses report property damage

Property damage reports are stacking up again.

Casper police say a number of businesses reported Monday that their windows had been shot by a vandal or vandals using a BB gun.

Windows of at least six businesses and one residence were reportedly hit overnight Sunday, according to reports.

One of those businesses, Automotive Specialties on East "F" Street, reported that 22 of its windows had been shot. One had 23 BB holes.

Sgt. Larry Baker said Tuesday that the damage is estimated to be in the thousands of dollars.

Last month, the Department of Family Services sent out a notice to people whose windows were shot out in November in a separate rash of vandalism.

Three juvenile males were charged in February with breaking about 50 vehicle windows on the west side of Casper on Nov. 6.

The 7th Judicial District Court ordered the agency to contact victims to determine the amount of restitution the teens would have to pay for breaking the windows.

Alleged burglar caught on tape

A warrant was requested Friday for the arrest of a man police say was caught in the act the last time he burglarized his former employer, Natrona County Circuit Court documents say.

Casper police Det. R.C. Tuma says the 21-year-old man robbed his former employer, Houston Supply, four times and was seen on camera May 1 going through drawers inside the business.

The affidavit says the warrant is for a charge of simple burglary.

Police say the business was burglarized a couple of times and that the owner decided to install a camera.

The man, in prior burglaries, allegedly took cash, padlocks and broke into a pop machine. He also damaged a window to get into the business, the report says.

Man arrested for family violence

A 20-year-old Casper man was arrested for allegedly assaulting his mother Monday morning at her home in the 5300 block of South Elm Street.

The man's 44-year-old mother reportedly told police that her son pushed her into a shelf and tried to take the phone away from her when she tried to call for help, the report said.

The woman, who showed officers a cut on her elbow, said she only wanted her son to leave the home and that she did not want him arrested.

Officers agreed but were called back to the house about an hour later because the man was allegedly trying to force his way in, the affidavit says.

The man was jailed on a charge of simple assault and battery.

Kimmells give Billings scholarship

It started 15 years ago as a reward for the capture of their daughter's killer. It turned into a scholarship to keep their daughter's memory alive.

Ron and Sheila Kimmell returned to Billings Monday to award the Lisa Marie Kimmell Memorial Scholarship at Billings Senior High School.

"We wanted to shift the focus of the tragic loss of Lisa and focus more on the good, the good kids and the good people of this community," said Sheila Kimmell, who traveled with her husband from their home in Littleton, Colo.

Lisa Kimmell graduated from Senior High in 1987.

The \$500 scholarship is given to a graduate who displays both academic and personal achievement. Sheila Kimmell said the money is intended to help with the cost of a college education.

The 2003 recipient, Bobbi Snider, plans to attend the University of Oklahoma and work toward a business degree.



Meenan promises effective D.A. office

TOM MORTON Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Friday, May 30, 2003 12:00 am

The state criminal charges facing District Attorney Kevin Meenan will not affect his office's operations, the confidence that the public should have in it, and its ability to prosecute cases, Meenan said Thursday.

"The case against me is an entirely separate matter; I anticipate no change in the way we run our office," Meenan said.

"This is a very hardworking, professional staff, and they're just going to go about their business the way they always have," he said.

Even so, Meenan will have a hard time of doing business as usual because of the public perception of a district attorney who is charged with crimes such as forgery and official misconduct, said Leonard Munker, former Wyoming Public Attorney.

Lawyers routinely challenge the credibility of witnesses in trials, Munker said, but the criminal charges facing Meenan will open the door for defense attorneys to question his own credibility as a prosecutor.

Meenan of Natrona County's 7th Judicial District was charged May 23 in Circuit Court with 11 criminal counts: five counts of forgery, and one count each of larceny by bailee, official misconduct, unauthorized use of personal identifying information, making false written statement to obtain credit, obtaining property by false pretenses, and unlawful use of a credit card. All of the counts are felonies except the charge of official misconduct, which is a misdemeanor.

The charges, in part, were filed in connection with Meenan's alleged mishandling of a \$55,000 personal injury settlement his stepdaughter Micah Kahler received in 1999. He allegedly spent the money without her consent.

Meenan is also accused of forging the names of his stepdaughter and stepson Ryan Kahler to obtain credit cards, then illegally obtaining money by writing checks against one of the cards.

The 47-year-old district attorney, son of former House Speaker Patrick Meenan, is chairman of the Natrona County Republican Party and former president of the National District Attorneys Association. Meenan was first elected in 1986, and was re-elected in 1990, 1994, 1998, and 2002.

Meenan is not stepping down while the charges are pending and the district attorney's office will operate on a "business as usual" basis, his attorney Greg Goddard of Buffalo said at a news conference Wednesday.

The Natrona County District Attorney's is funded almost entirely through the Legislature, which appropriated \$2.3 million for the 2003-2004 biennium, or \$1.15 million a year, Meenan said.

It employs 10 attorneys, including himself, and 14 or 15 other full- and part-time employees, he said.

The office handles about one-third of all criminal cases in Wyoming, and the office will continue to maintain that work load, Meenan said Thursday.

The vigorous prosecution and consistency of the office's philosophy apply to pursuing cases involving forgery or charges similar to those he faces, he said.

"Whatever the category (of cases), we're going to handle them the way we always have," Meenan said. "There's no change in philosophy, there's no change in procedure."

Lawyers and staff of the district attorney's office have meetings throughout the day in juvenile, circuit and district courts, plus a variety of other duties, he said.

While Meenan would not divulge details about any specific case, they include the high-profile 1988 rape and homicide of Lisa Marie

Kimmell, and the subsequent murder charges filed against Dale Eaton, he said.

"I think my reputation and past performance speaks for itself, and nothing is going to change up here in the way we handle our cases and our work," Meenan said. "The matter involving me personally is going to be handled in the normal course, and is entirely separate from the work that is in this office."

Meenan will continue to speak for the district attorney's office, and will not defer comments to his attorney or other office staff, he added. "Our cases are public cases, and we'll make comments like we always have."



D.A. seeks death penalty for Eaton

JUNE 05, 2003 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

District Attorney Kevin Meenan will seek the death penalty for Dale Wayne Eaton, who is accused in the 1998 homicide of Lisa Marie Kimmell, according to Meenan.

The nature of the crime against the 18-year-old girl, Eaton's criminal past, and the other crimes committed during the killing are among the aggravating circumstances that make him eligible for the death penalty, according to Meenan's formal notice to seek the death penalty, which was filed Tuesday in 7th District Court.

Meenan would not comment on specific aspects of his request, he said Wednesday.

Eaton's defense attorney Wyatt Skaggs of Laramie said he did not have any comment on the D.A.'s intent to seek the death penalty.

Eaton's arraignment is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Friday in 7th District Court.

The district attorney listed these aggravating circumstances that warrant the death penalty:

- Eaton was previously convicted of a felony involving the use or threat of violence.
- The killing was especially atrocious or cruel.
- Eaton poses a substantial and continuing threat in the future, or is likely to commit continued acts of criminal violence.
- Eaton killed with premeditated malice and while engaged in committing robbery, sexual assault, and kidnapping.

The state may add more aggravating circumstances, according to Meenan's document.

Last month, Meenan filed eight charges against Eaton, who was recently extradited from a federal prison in Colorado to face charges unrelated to the homicide, in connection with the 1988 rape and slaying of the blonde Montana teen.

Meenan charged Eaton with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault, court documents state.

Meenan also charged three additional counts of first-degree felony murder allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes: sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping, he said last month.

Kimmell was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of the black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. She had been traveling from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Two anglers discovered Kimmell's body on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

No real headway had been made in bringing charges in the case until last summer, when sheriff's officials unearthed Kimmell's car on a property owned by Eaton at Moneta 75 miles west of Casper.

Investigators began searching the property after being notified by the Wyoming State Crime Lab on July 16, 2002, that a blood sample drawn from Eaton at the Rawlins state prison in 1998 matched a sample recovered from Kimmell's body after her death, court documents say.

It took only days to unearth the Honda. The personalized plates were not attached, though the latest report says a portion of the plate was found near the car.

Sheila Kimmell of Littleton, Colo., Lisa Marie's mother, could not be reached for comment.

Prior requests

Meenan has sought the death penalty on two occasions that resulted in full court hearings, he said.

The first was the case of Roy Lee Engberg, who killed Wells Fargo guard Vernon Rogers in 1981 in Casper. A Douglas jury convicted Engberg and sentenced him to death in 1982.

But the Wyoming Supreme Court later vacated the sentence and remanded it to district court for a new capital sentencing proceeding.

Meenan unsuccessfully sought the death penalty for Engberg in 1992.

The second case involved Justin Sincock, who was convicted of first-degree murder in 1999 for the July 28, 1998, slaying of Rebecca Horkan in Paradise Valley. Sincock's life was spared when one juror could not vote for the death penalty.

Meenan has sought the death penalty in a few other cases, such as the case of Leslie Wayne Potter, who pleaded guilty in February 1998 to the first-degree premeditated murder of his wife Rebecca Potter in 1997. Under the terms of a plea agreement, Meenan dropped his intention to seek the death penalty in the case, and Potter was sentenced to life in prison.



Eaton pleads innocent

JUNE 07, 2003 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Dale Wayne Eaton, through his attorney Wyatt Skaggs, pleaded not guilty Friday morning at his arraignment in 7th District Court to the eight counts he faces in the 1988 murder case of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

District Attorney Kevin Meenan filed the charges in April against Eaton in the kidnapping, robbery, rape and slaying of the blonde Montana teen.

Earlier this week, Meenan filed a formal intent to seek the death penalty for Eaton because of the aggravating circumstances of the crimes.

Eaton was extradited from a federal prison in Colorado in April to face charges unrelated to the homicide, and has been detained at the Natrona County Jail.

Friday morning, Eaton appeared pale and haggard, wore a green shirt over his orange prisoner uniform, and the multiple restraints hindered his ability to walk to the podium to face 7th District Judge David Park.

Skaggs told Park that Eaton sufficiently understands the possible pleas he could enter: guilty, not guilty, not guilty by reason of mental deficiency, and in some cases no contest.

But Eaton also has undergone a mental evaluation, and Skaggs said that he and the other defense attorney, Fred Dethlefsen, are waiting for the results.

Park then outlined each of the eight counts: first-degree premeditated murder, first-degree murder during a kidnapping, first-degree murder during a robbery, first-degree murder during a sexual assault, kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault.

Park also outlined the possible penalties, with possible sentences for the first four crimes being death, or life imprisonment without parole, or life imprisonment "according to law," he said.

However, Skaggs noted that a different sentencing scheme existed in 1988 when the sentence of life without parole was not on the books.

Meenan responded that the sentencing issue could be dealt with later.

Park finally outlined Eaton's rights, including a speedy trial within 180 days.

Skaggs then entered a not guilty plea for all eight counts, but added that the plea later may be not guilty by reason of mental deficiency.

After the preliminary hearing, Skaggs, Meenan and Assistant District Attorney Mike Blonigen talked in the hall outside the courtroom.

Neither Meenan nor Skaggs would comment.

Sheila Kimmell of Littleton, Colo., Lisa Marie's mother, said she did not have any comment on Eaton's plea at the preliminary hearing.

History of crime

The preliminary hearing marked the latest step in the 15-year-old case that began when Kimmell was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of the black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. She had been traveling from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Two anglers discovered Kimmell's body on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

No real headway had been made in bringing charges in the case until last summer, when sheriff's officials unearthed Kimmell's car on a property owned by Eaton at Moneta 75 miles west of Casper.

Investigators began searching the property after being notified by the Wyoming State Crime Lab on July 16, 2002, that a blood sample drawn from Eaton at the Rawlins state prison in 1998 matched a sample recovered from Kimmell's body after her death, court documents say.

It took only days to unearth the Honda. The personalized plates were not attached, though the latest report states that a portion of the plate was found near the car.



County budget hearings begin

JUNE 11, 2003 12:00 AM • [MATTHEW VAN DUSEN STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

One interpretation of the Natrona County budgeting process has county commissioners distributing \$23.4 million to all the grateful department heads and elected officials who are asking for at least \$22.5 million of it.

In another, the commissioners parse the requests, looking to excise budgetary fat, while officials simmer in anger.

It's a question of perspective.

On Monday afternoon the commission began meeting with officials to hear their pleas for cash. The current fiscal year ends June 30 and the commission will meet in the coming weeks to decide on the budget.

The Natrona County Public Library, the board of which presented their case Monday, has asked for about \$1.2 million this year, an increase of \$300,000 over the \$900,000 it received last year.

If the commission does not grant the increases, library Director Bill Nelson said he will not wait until June 2004 to reduce his budget.

"We would not wait until next spring to reduce our staff," through not replacing those of his 40 full- and part-time workers who leave the library, Nelson said.

Nelson is looking to increase the library's budget to make up for \$225,000 from the Natrona County School District's recreation mill levy that expires in June 2004.

Fortunately, the county coffers are not in as dire a condition as a state Consensus Revenue Estimating Group (CREG) report indicated earlier this year.

Increasing sales tax revenue has almost offset falling property tax revenue. County Treasurer Tom Doyle told commissioners they have the same amount to spend as last year, which also amounted to a \$23.4 million budget.

The total includes \$3.2 million the county departments did not spend last year and will be carried over.

The cost of running the county, however, continues to increase.

Commission Chairman Jon Campbell sent out a letter to officials in April telling them to keep their budgets static except for a 3 percent raise for the county's 280 employees.

Many departments and offices in the county have ignored Campbell's letter when writing their requests.

Clerk of District Court Gen Tuma, who also presented her request Tuesday, has asked for two new employees to help file paperwork.

Tuma also asked for increases in her public defender and jury expenses budget because of the pending capital murder case against Dale Wayne Eaton, who is being held for the 1988 homicide of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Commissioners also heard budget requests from Natrona County Coroner Dr. James Thorpen; the Child Support Enforcement division; and Natrona County International Airport Manager Dan Mann.

The budget hearings continue today at 1:15 p.m. and Thursday 4 p.m.



Eaton trial set here Feb. 23

JULY 08, 2003 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Dale Eaton's first-degree murder trial for his alleged killing of Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988 will begin Feb. 23, and could take as long as five weeks, 7th District Judge David Park said Monday.

"Death is different," Park said of the complexity of an eight-count, first-degree murder case and trial that could result in a death sentence for Eaton.

Park held a scheduling hearing in District Court to set the trial date and deadlines for motions, and to discuss jury instructions, trial security, and the possibility that the trial may be moved from Natrona County.

Eaton himself was present in the courtroom, and he was represented by public defenders Wyatt Skaggs of Laramie and Fred Dethlefsen of Casper.

The state was represented by District Attorney Kevin Meenan and Assistant District Attorneys Stephanie Sprecher and Michael Blonigen.

Park set the trial to begin Monday, Feb. 23.

Jury selection is expected to take two weeks, the trial itself is expected to take two weeks, and if Eaton is convicted of first-degree murder, the death-sentencing phase could take an additional week.

Meenan filed the charges in April against Eaton in the kidnapping, robbery, rape and slaying of the Montana teen. He will seek the death penalty.

Kimmell was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of the black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas.

Two anglers discovered Kimmell's body on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper.

Sheriff's officials unearthed Kimmell's car on a property owned by Eaton at Moneta 75 miles west of Casper. Investigators began searching the property after being notified by the Wyoming State Crime Lab on July 16, 2002, that a blood sample drawn from Eaton at the Wyoming State Penitentiary in 1998 matched a sample recovered from Kimmell's body after her death, according to court documents.

Meenan charged Eaton with first-degree premeditated murder, first-degree murder during a kidnapping, first-degree murder during a robbery, first-degree murder during a sexual assault,

kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault.

At his arraignment June 6, Eaton pleaded not guilty to the charges, setting the course for the trial.

Monday, Park said the Feb. 23 trial date depended on Eaton signing a waiver of his right to a speedy trial, which must occur within 180 days of his arraignment.

He told Eaton that Skaggs and Dethlefsen need time to prepare for such a complex case.

However, Eaton should not sign the waiver under any threats or promises, Park said.

In other scheduling matters, Park set the final pre-trial conference for Jan. 9.

Park set hearings for motions on Aug. 8, Nov. 7, and Dec. 12, along with the deadlines for the attorneys to file those motions.

He also set down strict procedures for filing those motions and the timing for hearing those motions, he said, adding, "After all, Mr. Eaton's life is at stake."

Park demanded that each motion have a supporting memorandum, and asked that the motions not be general, he said.

For example, Skaggs filed a motion asking for a fair trial, Park said.

"I'm hardly not going to deny a motion for a fair trial," he said, adding that Skaggs can offer something more specific to that if he wants.

One of his earlier motions, however, will require a lot of consideration, Skaggs said.

In 1988, when Eaton allegedly killed Kimmell, the current sentence of life without parole was not on the books, Skaggs said at the arraignment.

Skaggs also asked Park how he will deal with the pre-trial publicity, which could affect jury selection.

Park responded that he would not rule out some kind of motion on the matter.

Jury selection will be difficult, and Park said he will be careful about considering potential jurors' requests to be released from their duty.

Park also will wait for Meenan and Skaggs to discuss the trial security they want with Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton.

The judge also left open the possibility that the trial may be moved from the county, because he said that Meenan and Skaggs may need to talk to another sheriff besides Benton.



LABEL: Lil' Miss killing HED: Lawyers want hearings closed

JULY 26, 2003 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Closing pretrial motion hearings to the public and media will protect Dale Wayne Eaton's ability to receive a fair trial in the Lisa Marie Kimmell first-degree murder case, his attorney Wyatt Skaggs wrote in documents filed in 7th District Court.

But if the court grants this motion, it will undermine public trust in the judicial process, an attorney for the Wyoming Press Association said of the high-profile case.

Eaton faces eight counts, and District Attorney Kevin Meenan is seeking the death penalty because of the aggravating circumstances of the crimes.

The counts are first-degree premeditated murder; first-degree murder during a kidnapping; first-degree murder during a robbery; first-degree murder during a sexual assault; kidnapping; aggravated robbery; first-degree sexual assault; and second-degree sexual assault.

Because Eaton could face the death penalty, the court has that much greater a duty to close the pretrial hearings, including the portion that determines whether the hearings should be closed, Skaggs wrote in the motion he filed in June and the supporting legal memorandum he filed Thursday.

Likewise, the court needs to change the venue of the trial because of the publicity that has been and will continue to be generated by this case, Skaggs wrote.

"The nature and the extent of publicity generated by the matter at hand is simply overwhelming," he wrote in the motion filed June 24.

"Much of the press coverage regarding Mr. Eaton has been horribly prejudicial and inflammatory. Furthermore, the press has been in and around Casper, Wyoming, for each and every court appearance that the defendant has made. The press has set up 'camp' in Casper on these occasions and has gone about town seeking interviews with virtually anybody who will talk about the matter. The difficulty in selecting a jury in this community with all of the press 'hoopla' that has been generated, cannot be underplayed," Skaggs wrote.

Courts usually wait until jury selection to decide whether to determine a change of venue, but this trial will require five weeks and will not be easily moved, Skaggs wrote in the accompanying memorandum filed Thursday.

"The extreme nature of the publicity generated in this case as well as the costs and time associated with moving the case after jury selection begins demands that this case be moved prior to its beginning," he wrote.

The motion to close some or all of the pretrial proceedings to the public is among more than 100 motions Skaggs intends to file to preserve Eaton's right to a fair trial and a fair penalty, he wrote.

Other motions will deal with suppression of statements, exclusion of evidence, motions to exclude irrelevant and prejudicial material, change of venue and the constitutionality of the death penalty, Skaggs wrote.

But Bruce Moats, attorney for the Wyoming Press Association, said Friday that Skaggs' request is too broad. "There's no reason to close all pretrial proceedings."

Skaggs' request in this and other motions may warrant the association filing its own motions to intervene regarding access to the case, Moats said.

Moats agreed that closing some pretrial proceedings, such as motions to suppress certain evidence, have a basis in law, he said.

But closing everything to the public and the media undermines trust in the judicial system, Moats said. "By closing all that, it's going to close off to the public (the process) of the prosecution of the case."

Moats had a similar response to Skaggs' request to change the location of the trial itself so Eaton can receive a fair trial in both determining guilt and sentencing.

The murder trials of the defendants in the Matthew Shepard case in Laramie showed that people can judge fairly even in cases that drew international publicity, Moats said.

"It's almost impossible to find people who haven't heard anything about a case," he said.

Skaggs, however, wrote that people, especially in Casper, have heard and read way too much about Dale Eaton and the 1988 killing of Kimmell.



Most pretrial motion hearings should be open

Posted: Sunday, August 3, 2003 12:00 am

Dale Wayne Eaton's defense attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, has requested that the 7th District Court close most if not all pretrial motion hearings. Skaggs argues the intense press coverage of the case has prejudiced the public against his client and closing pretrial motion hearings would help protect Eaton's right to a fair trial.

Nevertheless, closed hearings are rarely a good idea. The defense's request is too sweeping. Closing most pretrial motion hearings would undermine the public's trust in the judicial system. It would leave open the question of whether the public's interest in justice was well represented and whether the judicial process had been fair.

Eaton faces four murder charges in the 1988 death of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell: first-degree premeditated murder, first-degree murder during a kidnapping, first-degree murder during a robbery and first-degree murder during a sexual assault. He also faces four felony counts: kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault and second-degree sexual assault. District Attorney Kevin Meenan is seeking the death penalty in the case.

Certainly, a pretrial hearing to suppress evidence unlawfully obtained by the prosecution might be closed to the public. If a court rules that certain evidence cannot be used, then a closed hearing justifiably keeps tainted evidence under wraps so it cannot be considered by a jury - as it shouldn't be.

The law recognizes that some hearings to exclude evidence should be closed, but that is a far cry from what Skaggs has asked of the court.



Meenan off Kimmell murder case

AUGUST 05, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

District Attorney Kevin Meenan on Monday said he will step down as lead prosecutor in the high-profile murder case of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

The decision is a reversal from Friday, when Meenan said he had no intention of removing himself as lead prosecutor, despite the fact that Kimmell's parents had publicly asked him to do so.

The murder case, set to go to trial in February, will now be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Mike Blonigen, Meenan said in a prepared statement. Blonigen has worked as an assistant D.A. since 1987.

Meenan said his decision was made "to reassure Sheila and Ron Kimmell and allay their concerns raised in their press release" issued late Friday.

In that release, the Kimmells, of Littleton, Colo., argued that Meenan's legal problems, which include multiple felony-level criminal charges, had prevented him from fully focusing on their daughter's case.

Sheila Kimmell, reached Monday, hadn't heard the news yet.

"I can't believe it," she exclaimed, expressing great relief that she wouldn't have to fight the issue "to the bitter end."

It was her intention, she said, to appeal to government officials that Meenan not try Dale Wayne Eaton, 59, the man accused of killed her 18-year-old daughter in 1988.

The Kimmells said they have urged Meenan's removal privately for months to no avail.

"I'm glad that he has stepped up to the plate and done the right thing," Kimmell said. "I didn't want it to come down to this level, but time is of the essence, as far as I'm concerned."

Lisa Kimmell was last seen alive March 25, 1988, as she traveled from Denver through Wyoming on her way to Billings, Mont.

Two fisherman discovered her partially nude body April 2, 1988, in the North Platte River near Government Bridge west of Casper.

Investigators said Kimmell had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed six times before being thrown from the bridge.

Eaton, who lived in Moneta, west of Casper on Wyoming Highway 20-26, was reportedly linked

to her murder through a DNA match and is currently jailed in Casper on charges related to Kimmell's homicide - including premeditated murder.

The D.A.'s office announced it will seek the death penalty against Eaton, who investigators allege buried the victim's car on his Moneta property.

The Honda CRX was unearthed there last summer.

The Kimmells on Friday pleaded with Meenan to hand the case over to one of his assistants, although they said they harbored no animosity toward Meenan personally.

"Given the personal complicities that Mr. Meenan is dealing with at the time, we hope that he will step aside as the lead prosecutor in our daughter's case and reassign it.

"We are concerned that these issues may jeopardize the effective prosecution of our daughter's case," they said.

In response, Meenan said he had no intention of relinquishing his position as lead counsel.

He did not elaborate on his reasons for the decision change Monday.

Meenan was charged May 23 with 10 felonies and one misdemeanor.

He pleaded not guilty in June to five counts of forgery, and one count each of larceny by bailee, official misconduct, unauthorized use of personal identifying information, making a false written statement to obtain credit, obtaining property by false pretenses, and unlawful use of a credit card. All the counts are felonies except the charge of official misconduct, which is a misdemeanor.

The charges, which carry a combined maximum penalty of 95 years in prison and a \$100,000 fine, were filed, in part, in connection with Meenan's alleged mishandling of a \$55,000 personal-injury settlement his stepdaughter received in 1999. He allegedly spent the money without her consent.

Meenan is also accused of forging the names of his stepdaughter and stepson to obtain credit cards, then illegally obtaining money by writing checks against one of the cards.

Meenan's trial is scheduled to begin Dec. 15.



Newspaper's motion to be heard

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Wednesday, August 6, 2003 12:00 am

Closing pretrial hearings is against the law and would damage public trust in the judicial process, said an attorney representing the Casper Star-Tribune and the Wyoming Press Association.

Bruce Moats made the arguments in two motions filed in 7th District Court late Tuesday. The motions came in response to a request last month by attorneys for Dale Wayne Eaton, who is charged with the 1988 killing of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Eaton's attorneys asked the court to limit publicity of future pretrial proceedings related to the high-profile case.

Moats, a WPA attorney, cited the public's First Amendment right of access to the proceedings in urging the court to allow the newspaper and the press association to be heard on the matter.

"The public has a strong and legitimate interest in the workings of government, including the judiciary branch, and in the prosecution and conduct of this particular matter, as the gravest of all crimes, murder, and the gravest of all punishments, death, are at issue," he wrote.

Open proceedings are in the interest of the accused, Moats argued, citing a U.S. Supreme Court digest of the public policy reasoning.

"The public may see he is fairly dealt with and not unjustly condemned and that the presence of interested spectators may keep his triers keenly alive to a sense of their responsibility and to the importance of their functions," he wrote.

Furthermore, "a public trial encourages witnesses and discourages perjury" and the openness discourages outright abuse of judicial power, Moats continued.

Reached at his Laramie office, Eaton's public defender, Wyatt Skaggs, said, "Our position has never been to close off all the hearings. We just want a couple of them closed. Even then, I don't know what they would be because we haven't decided yet."

Eaton, 59, is accused of the kidnapping, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, whose body was found April 2, 1988, in the North Platte River near Government Bridge west of Casper.

Investigators said Kimmell had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed six times before being thrown from the bridge.

Eaton was allegedly linked to her murder through a DNA match and is currently jailed in Casper on charges related to the homicide.

He faces eight counts - first-degree premeditated murder; first-degree murder during a kidnapping; first-degree murder during a robbery; first-degree murder during a sexual assault; kidnapping; aggravated robbery; first-degree sexual assault; and second-degree sexual assault.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton due to the aggravating circumstances of the crimes.

Because of that, the court has a much greater duty to close the pretrial hearings, Skaggs wrote in a motion he filed in June and his supporting legal memorandum filed last month in 7th District Court.

Skaggs contends it is necessary to close some pretrial proceedings in Eaton's case - like hearings on evidence suppression and those regarding irrelevant and prejudicial material - in order to preserve Eaton's ability to receive a fair trial.

Moats said he agreed that closing some pretrial proceedings, such as motions to suppress certain evidence, have a basis in law but that he could not agree with a blanket closure.

In addition to closing hearings in the Eaton case, Skaggs wants the court to consider changing the venue of the trial because of the

publicity that has been and will continue to be generated by the case.

"Much of the press coverage regarding Mr. Eaton has been horribly prejudicial and inflammatory. Furthermore, the press has been in and around Casper, Wyoming, for each and every court appearance that the defendant has made. The press has set up 'camp' in Casper on these occasions and has gone about town seeking interviews with virtually anybody who will talk about the matter. The difficulty in selecting a jury in this community with all of the press 'hoopla' that has been generated, cannot be underplayed," he stated in the motion filed June 24.

In the latest motions, Moats cited case law that supports the argument that the public should only be barred from court proceedings where there is no other alternative.

He argued that a judge may close a pretrial proceeding and may seal a record only if dissemination of the information and any record would create "a clear and present danger to the fairness of the trial and the prejudicial effect cannot be avoided by any reasonable, alternative means."

Skaggs, in his motion, argued the same, saying he felt there was no other alternative.

Eaton's trial has been set to begin Feb. 23, court documents state.



Meenan right to step aside

AUGUST 07, 2003 12:00 AM

District Attorney Kevin Meenan made the right decision on Monday when he changed his mind and decided to step aside as lead prosecutor in the Lisa Marie Kimmell murder case.

Kimmell's parents had publicly asked Meenan to remove himself as lead prosecutor. Their concern was that Meenan's complex legal problems - which include multiple felony charges - could jeopardize the effective prosecution of their daughter's case. Meenan's trial is scheduled for Dec. 15; the Kimmell murder case is set to go to trial in February.

Assistant District Attorney Mike Blonigen will now prosecute the Kimmell case. Blonigen has been an assistant D.A. since 1987.



In Brief

From staff reports | Posted: Saturday, August 9, 2003 12:00 am

State objects to Eaton trial extension

The February trial scheduled for Dale Eaton, accused of murdering Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988, should not be continued past that date, according to Assistant District Attorney Michael Blonigen.

Eaton's attorney Wyatt Skaggs wanted the trial to be continued because Eaton has not yet been convicted of a charge of escape from a federal prison, according to court records.

"Whether the defendant is convicted of escape or not, the fact that the escape occurred would be admissible in his trial for murder if a penalty phase portion of that trial is conducted," Blonigen wrote in the response filed Wednesday in 7th District Court.

Nic hosts Music and Poetry Series

The Nicolaysen Art Museum will continue hosting the Music and Poetry Series, co-sponsored by ARTCORE, at 7:30 p.m. Mondays. Admission is \$7 per program.

On Monday, Little Luke and the Loose Cannon Band, "a countrifunkified rhythm and blues from the great state of Wyoming," will perform, and First Amendment scholar, national columnist and Casper Star-Tribune editorial page editor and former Wyoming poet laureate Charles Levendosky will read selections from his newly published book, "The Peeping Tom Poems."

On Aug. 18, Casper mime Brenda De Cock will perform and there will also be an open microphone session for writers.

For more information, call 235-5247.

True Oil faces IRS woes

WASHINGTON - With other tax disputes just a memory, True Oil Co. finds itself in a new squabble with the Internal Revenue Service.

The Casper-based company and the IRS have locked horns over the agency's disallowance of a \$147,619 fuel tax credit for extracting natural gas from tight sands.

The firm filed a petition asking the U.S. Tax Court here to reverse the IRS ruling that adjusted True's 1999 tax return. If allowed to stand, the adjustment could increase the company's tax by an undetermined amount.

The petition noted that the Bureau of Land Management has determined that various Hay Reservoir, Stead Canyon and County Line wells qualify as tight-sands production sites, and is expected to add other Hay Reservoir, True State, Split River and Federal wells to the list.

The IRS notice of deficiency was issued in April, and the agency has 60 days to file an answer to True Oil's July 10 petition. If the two sides fail to negotiate a settlement, the case could go to trial before a tax court judge.

Casper man charged with growing pot

Casper police busted a man for growing marijuana at his Casper home Thursday night, according to police reports.

Police went to the home of Rick Howell after getting a tip that he was growing marijuana in his yard, the report states. Police spotted a garden at Howell's home and saw a 3-foot-high plant they suspected was marijuana.

Police photographed, then pulled the plant from the ground and tested a small leafy portion of the plant. The test came back positive for marijuana.

Police took Howell to jail.

Police investigate infant's death

Casper police are investigating the suspicious death of a 6-month-old in Casper.

The father told police the child was fine at 9 p.m. Wednesday night. The child was found dead on a futon bed at 7 a.m. the next morning, police said.

A spokesman said the police do not yet know the cause of death. The Natrona County coroner is investigating the case.



Eaton defense wants death penalty stricken

OCTOBER 23, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Attorneys for accused killer Dale Wayne Eaton say the death penalty is unconstitutional and want 7th District Court Judge David Park to remove it as a sentencing option.

The death sentence has been carried out only once in Wyoming since 1967. If he is convicted of the rape and murder in 1988 of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, putting Eaton to death would constitute cruel and unusual punishment, Eaton's attorneys wrote in a motion filed Tuesday.

"When the death penalty is infrequently applied it becomes cruel and unusual punishment," wrote Vaughn H. Neubauer, one of Eaton's attorneys.

Furthermore, he said, because the death penalty is handed down so infrequently, "Eaton's death would not deter people from committing capital crimes in Wyoming."

The Wyoming Constitution states that the penal code should be framed on the humane principles of rehabilitation and prevention, the lawyers argue.

"While prevention may be a goal achieved by the death penalty, rehabilitation is not," Neubauer wrote.

Neubauer referred comment on the motion to public defender Wyatt Skaggs, Eaton's primary attorney.

"The motion is directed towards the statute," said Skaggs, who declined further comment.

District Attorney Kevin Meenan is seeking capital punishment in the case. He argues that the nature of the crime against the 18-year-old Kimmell, Eaton's criminal past, and the other crimes committed during the killing are among aggravating circumstances that make Eaton eligible for the death penalty.

Eaton is charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault.

He also faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder because crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping were allegedly committed during the course of Kimmell's killing, court documents said.

Kimmell was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of the black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates "LIL MISS." She was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas, on her way from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Two anglers discovered Kimmell's body on April 2, 1988, west of Casper. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

Meenan, who charged Eaton with Kimmell's murder in May and announced he would seek the death penalty in June, said he could not comment on the motion or the defense argument Wednesday.

The next motion hearing in the case is set for 1:30 p.m. Nov. 7 in 7th District Court, documents state.



Blonigen: Eaton's past would justify death penalty

NOVEMBER 07, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Prosecutors in the case against accused killer Dale Wayne Eaton say that if he is convicted, the death penalty will be the only appropriate sentence, considering the defendant's violent past.

Eaton's lawyers said in court papers last month that the death penalty would be unconstitutional and cruel and unusual punishment because the sentence is so infrequently applied in Wyoming. Only one execution has taken place here since 1965. The defense attorneys have asked District Judge David Park to remove the death penalty as a sentencing option.

Assistant District Attorney Mike Blonigen says aggravating circumstances exist that under Wyoming law justify capital punishment. He said the defense assertion about the unconstitutionality of the sentence is baseless.

Eaton is accused of the rape and murder in 1988 of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, whose car was unearthed on Eaton's property in Moneta west of Casper in the summer of 2002.

In documents filed Monday, Blonigen includes a long list of previous violent offenses allegedly committed by Eaton since he was 17. The acts were allegedly committed against strangers, co-workers and members of Eaton's own family, Blonigen argues.

"At age 17, Eaton stabbed a woman after she complained about a watermelon he delivered. A month later, he confronted a woman during a break-in with a knife. There followed a series of grand theft and other convictions and a string of revoked probations and paroles," Blonigen wrote.

In 1997, Blonigen says, Eaton abducted a young couple and their infant child and forced them at gunpoint onto a dirt road in Sweetwater County. "Only the determined resistance of the victims saved them," the assistant D.A. wrote.

For that offense, Eaton was convicted of aggravated assault and sentenced to the Community Alternatives of Casper, which he escaped from in 1998. Eaton was found and arrested for being a felon in possession of a firearm. He was sent to the state penitentiary and subsequently transferred to a Colorado prison.

"Eaton did not mellow with age," said Blonigen. "Twice in 1999, he was written up at the Wyoming State Penitentiary for assault on inmates. In 2002, Eaton killed his cellmate at Englewood Correctional facility (in Colorado) after the cellmate entered while Eaton was using the toilet."

A jury later acquitted Eaton on a charge of involuntary manslaughter, which was filed in

connection with the cellmate's death.

"Since being incarcerated in Casper, Eaton has stated he would assault any cellmate placed with him," wrote Blonigen.

Therefore, Blonigen argued, it is safe to say Eaton would probably be dangerous in the future.

The death penalty seeks to eliminate the possibility of "future dangerousness," he said.

"Eaton obviously does not want his future dangerousness considered," Blonigen wrote.

As for the defense's argument that the state's death penalty statute is unconstitutional, Blonigen concluded that, "The claim is specious, frivolous and not supported by any cogent argument. This is but one example of the abusive motions practice that has become a normal course of practice in death penalty cases."

The state charged Eaton with Kimmell's murder in May and announced in June that the death penalty would be sought.

Eaton faces one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault and second-degree sexual assault.

He also faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder because crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping were allegedly committed during the course of Kimmell's killing, court documents said.

Kimmell was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of a black Honda CRX Si bearing the personalized Montana plates "LIL MISS." She was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas, on her way from her job in Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Two fishermen discovered Kimmell's body on April 2, 1988, west of Casper. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

The next motion hearing in 7th District Court was scheduled for today at 1:30 p.m. However, a District Court official said Thursday it appears the hearing has been moved to Nov. 14.

Wyatt Skaggs, Eaton's primary attorney, could not be reached to confirm the date of the hearing.



In Brief

From Staff Reports | Posted: Thursday, November 13, 2003 12:00 am

Alcohol contributed to death

Sheriff's officials said a 20-year-old man whose body was found on the face of Casper Mountain just below Look Out Point on Monday afternoon was identified as Brandon William Allen.

Allen died early Sunday morning from positional asphyxia and hypothermia due to alcohol intoxication, said Natrona County Coroner James Thorpen.

The sheriff's office said Allen had gone up to the mountain with a group of friends Sunday but that he didn't return to town with the others.

According to Thorpen, the friends became concerned when Allen didn't show up for work Monday.

Allen's body was found between 4 and 5 p.m. that evening, officials said.

Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton said his office is still investigating Allen's death.

Eaton sentenced for escape

Dale Wayne Eaton, the man authorities have charged in the 15-year-old slaying of Lisa Marie Kimmell, received a 7 to 10 year prison sentence for an unrelated escape from Community Alternatives in Casper in 1998, District Attorney Kevin Meenan said Wednesday.

Before he escaped the facility in June of that year, Eaton was finishing a prison sentence for an aggravated assault he committed in Sweetwater County, according to court documents.

Natrona County authorities in April had Eaton extradited back to Casper from a federal prison in Florence, Colo., where he was serving time on a charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Seventh District Court Judge David Park sentenced Eaton at a hearing Wednesday morning.

Eaton is tentatively scheduled to go to trial in February for Kimmell's murder.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton in that case.

The results of a study on Wyoming's passenger airline service will be presented at a public forum in Casper on Nov. 13 at the Parkway Plaza from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., according to a University of Wyoming College of Business press release.

The presentation called "Paths Toward Improving Wyoming Passenger Airline Service" will cover commuter airfares, passenger enplanements, passengers leakage to hub airports, prices and quality of service and statewide proposals to improve service and increase enplanements.

Wyoming's lack of passenger airline service was the focus of the study, which was conducted by UW Professors Owen Phillips, Larry Weatherford and Professor Emeritus Kenyon Griffin. The Casper forum is the second in a series of statewide public discussions of the study which was completed in August.

A reception will follow the program from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. For reservations or information, call Kara Enyeart at (307) 766-5505 or kenyeart@uwyo.edu.

Documentary screening set at college

A free screening of a PBS video documentary, "Watergate Plus 30:Shadow of History," will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Casper College's Leik Auditorium, according to a prepared statement.

The screening of the documentary on the Watergate years and its aftermath is being sponsored by the Democratic Women's Forum.

"Thirty years after the nation's most infamous break-in helped pull down President Richard documentary shows, all the facts are still not in, according to producers of the film," said Forum spokeswoman Mariko Miller. "But as this compelling documentary shows, Watergate remains a nearly unbelievable tale of ordinary men corrupted by power - and their desire to retain it."

A discussion period following the 120-minute presentation will be moderated by Jon Brady, a former political science instructor at Casper College.

For more information, please call 234-2317.



Judge allows search, DNA evidence at Eaton trial

NOVEMBER 15, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Evidence recovered in an underground search of a Moneta property owned by Dale Wayne Eaton - which prosecutors say connects him to the 1988 rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell - will be presented to jurors, 7th District Court Judge Dave Park ruled Friday.

The judge has yet to decide if Eaton's February trial will stay in Natrona County, and if Eaton will be prosecuted according to a 1988 death penalty law or the current version.

A shackled Eaton, seated with his court-appointed attorneys, Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn H. Neubauer, appeared unmoved by Park's denial of many motions his lawyers filed in his case.

One of the motions centered on the legality of Wyoming's amended death penalty law and another questioned whether Eaton should be prosecuted in accordance with current law or law that existed in 1988, the year the crime was committed.

Skaggs argued in court that amendments made after 1988 to the state's death penalty law involved changes to the criteria required to seek the death penalty.

The amendments "changed the name of the game in the area of aggravating factors" and which crimes made a person eligible for the death sentence, he argued in court.

"If the new statute is applied, it would work to Mr. Eaton's disadvantage," Skaggs said.

Eaton is charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault, court documents state.

He faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes: sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

In Eaton's case, the state in June noted aggravated circumstances involved in his alleged crime are many: His previous conviction of a felony involving the use or threat of violence; the especially atrocious or cruel nature of the crime; Eaton's potential for future dangerousness; and his alleged malicious premeditation of the robbery, sexual assault and kidnapping he allegedly committed in the course of the killing.

Assistant 7th Judicial District Attorney Mike Blonigen disputed Skaggs' claims regarding the law.

"The reason why Wyoming has a death penalty statute is to avoid releasing those who would likely kill again," he argued.

And, it would clearly be to Eaton's benefit to apply the current rules because the state bears a greater burden in proving its case now, he said.

Park took that motion under advisement but denied additional motions by Eaton's attorneys that argued the current death penalty statute is unconstitutional and that the new language is vague at best.

DNA evidence, Moneta search contested

Park shot down a defense request to suppress DNA evidence collected from Eaton in 1998. The sample, which also allegedly links the defendant to the victim, was taken from Eaton during his incarceration at the Wyoming State Penitentiary five years ago.

Skaggs argued that the blood draw Eaton was forced to submit at prison violated his Fourth Amendment right and qualified as an unreasonable search and seizure.

The rights of prisoners are clearly "diminished" when they become wards of the state, Park rebutted in his denial of the motion.

In addition to the alleged DNA match, investigators were given information by Eaton's son Billy Eaton, who told them he'd seen Honda parts on the property around the time Kimmell was killed.

Kimmell was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of the black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. She had been traveling from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Her body was found but the car didn't surface until a chain of information led to its discovery last summer.

The state alleges the car didn't turn up because Eaton buried it, along with some of Kimmell's other belongings, in a hole on his property.

The car was buried eight to 10 feet deep in a hole that had reportedly been disguised to look like a septic tank, according to court testimony.

Disputing the legality of the search, Skaggs on Friday asked the judge to suppress evidence from the search because investigators did not have enough probable cause, they went beyond the scope of the warrant when they dug up the property, and they had been overdue in serving Eaton with the warrant.

Ultimately the judge ruled the search was handled properly and that the evidence would be used at trial. Park ruled the sheriff's office did not exceed the time limit allowed to serve Eaton and that the information, both the tip and the DNA, was enough to serve as probable cause.

Before the ruling, Skaggs questioned the lead investigator in the case, Deputy Dan Tholson, who told Eaton's attorneys that investigators didn't know they were looking for a buried car when they obtained the warrant and that's why they didn't specify the dig.

Skaggs also complained to Park that police caused unnecessary damage to the property and the trailer in its search.

Park rebutted, "If (police) go to a house and tear out a wall, do they have to specify or get permission to tear out the wall?"

The only reason sheriff's officials dug holes on the property was because they saw areas where the ground appeared to have been dug up before, Blonigen argued. And the investigators' holes were later filled, he said.

"If you have enough reason to dig, you can dig up the whole place," he said.



Eaton trial to stay in Casper

Jury won't hear impact testimony from Kimmell family

DECEMBER 13, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Dale Wayne Eaton, the man charged in the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, will be tried in Casper but Kimmell's family will not be allowed to testify to the jury how her murder has impacted them, 7th District Court Judge David Park ruled at a motion hearing Friday.

Eaton's court-appointed attorneys, Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn H. Neubauer, told Park they had no objection to the family being in the courtroom throughout the trial but that they did want to keep the family from testifying to a jury at sentencing regarding the impact the killing has had on their lives, should Eaton be convicted.

Skaggs, citing case law, argued that the Kimmells' testimony would have a "tremendous impact on the jury."

Park sided with the defense on that matter, though the family will be given an opportunity to testify about the impact in front of a judge, Assistant District Attorney Mike Blonigen said after the hearing.

Eaton is being held without bond on charges of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault.

Three additional counts of first-degree felony murder were also brought. Each were allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping, documents state.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton. Still undecided is whether Eaton will be tried according to death penalty law at the time of the murder or according to the current statute.

Not all of the charges against Eaton are capital offenses and every count has to be addressed, according to Blonigen.

If Eaton is found guilty of the murder, the jury will decide on the death penalty and the decision has to be unanimous, he said. The judge will decide on the remaining charges and that's when the Kimmells will be allowed to testify to impact.

Arguing a motion for a change of venue Friday, Skaggs told Park that he no longer felt it was necessary to move the trial because "50 to 60 percent" of potential jurors already questioned about the case said they had no opinion as to Eaton's guilt or innocence.

He preferred a trial in Laramie, he said, but there is no court time available there. Additionally, he said, most of the people in Laramie have been exposed to Star-Tribune articles on the case because the paper is circulated statewide.

When Skaggs filed the motion for a change of venue, he did so because he said he felt the press coverage on the case was too excessive and hindered his client's ability to receive a fair trial.

In other motions considered Friday, Park ruled that the Kimmell family will not be excluded from the courtroom during the trial, even though they are expected to testify to some extent.

The Kimmells will testify in regard to Lisa Kimmell's departure from Denver the day she disappeared, her general personal habits and they will identify personal effects of hers allegedly found last summer inside her unearched car, Blonigen told the court.

Park ruled that most of Eaton's family will also be allowed in the courtroom throughout the trial and that they may ask the jury for mercy.

The exception will be Eaton's son, Bill Eaton, who allegedly told investigators that he'd seen Honda parts on his father's property around the time Kimmell was killed.

It was that information and an alleged DNA match that linked Eaton to Kimmell's murder, investigators say.

If Eaton is convicted, Park said, his attorneys will be given at least one working day between the end of the trial and the sentencing to prepare for the hearing.

Kimmell was last seen March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas.

Her body was discovered April 2, 1988. Kimmell had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper, investigators said.

The woman's car, however, was missing until last summer when sheriff's investigators initiated an underground search of Eaton's Moneta property, located 75 miles west of Casper.

The car was found buried under six to eight feet of soil, authorities said.

A final pretrial conference is scheduled for Jan. 9 in 7th District Court.

The trial is set to begin Feb. 23.



Meenan Timeline

Posted: Tuesday, December 16, 2003 12:00 am

1995

Aug. 29 - 16-year-old Micah Kahler, stepdaughter of 40-year-old Kevin Meenan, is injured in an auto accident. He tells her that he will act as her attorney for the settlement negotiations, but not charge a fee.

1999

Meenan demands a settlement from State Farm Insurance of \$60,000 for past and future damages, but receives and endorses with his and his stepdaughter's names a check for \$55,000. He tells his stepdaughter the settlement was for \$20,000.

2001

Elected president of the National District Attorneys Association, Meenan in July applies for a credit card through Chase Manhattan Credit Card Co. for his stepson Ryan Kahler, 19, without permission, and forges separate checks on the credit card account for \$900 and \$400 and deposits the money into his checking account.

2002

Nov. 5 - Meenan re-elected to fifth term as 7th district attorney.

December - Ryan Kahler receives notices about delinquent credit card account.

Date unknown - Meenan tells Chase Manhattan Credit Card Co. that he intends to pay balance on credit card, but cannot because of his financial situation.

2003

February - Micah Kahler also learns of charges made on a credit card in her name. Meenan tells DCI agents that he has obtained credit cards for all of his children to build their financial credit.

April 15 - Ryan Kahler again writes to DCI Special Agent Forrest Williams asking him to drop the charges.

April 25 - Attorney General Pat Crank, with the approval of Gov. Dave Freudenthal, appoints Casper lawyer Frank Chapman as Special Assistant Attorney General to prosecute the case.

May 23 - Chapman files an 11-count criminal information document - 10 felonies and one misdemeanor.

May 28 - Meenan's attorney Greg Goddard of Buffalo says that his client's actions should remain a "private family matter." Goddard later was replaced by Terry Mackey of Cheyenne.

June 18 - 7th District Judge Thomas Sullins transfers case to 8th District Judge Keith Kautz of Torrington.

June 27 - Meenan pleads not guilty before Kautz at his arraignment in 7th District Court. Kautz sets a trial date for Dec. 15.

Aug. 4 - Meenan steps down as lead prosecutor of Dale Eaton, who is accused of the 1988 murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Sept. 10 - Meenan resigns as chairman of the Natrona County Republican Party.

Dec. 9 - Meenan resigns as district attorney, effective Dec. 12.

Dec. 15 - Meenan pleads guilty to two of the felony counts and the misdemeanor and awaits sentencing.



Homicides, resignation top 2003 crime stories

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Saturday, December 27, 2003 12:00 am

Homicides, both new and long unsolved, and guilty pleas by the local district attorney grabbed the headlines in Casper crime news during 2003.

Charges were filed in the 1988 rape and slaying of a Montana teen, Natrona County's District Attorney resigned and then was found guilty of two felonies, and local law enforcement agencies investigated five murders, all committed between June and September.

It had been more than 15 years since the body of Lisa Marie Kimmell was pulled from the North Platte River west of Casper when authorities announced in April they had charged Dale Wayne Eaton with her murder.

Eaton, who was allegedly linked to Kimmell's murder through a DNA match, is being held without bond on charges of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault and second-degree sexual assault.

Three additional counts of first-degree felony murder were also filed against Eaton. The felony murder charges were filed because he allegedly killed Kimmell during the course of separate felony crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping, documents state.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton, whose trial is scheduled Feb. 23.

One month after Eaton was charged with the Kimmell murder, Special Prosecutor Frank Chapman filed charges against Eaton's lead prosecutor, Natrona County District Attorney Kevin Meenan.

Meenan was criminally charged with 10 felonies and a misdemeanor, in part because of his alleged mishandling of a \$55,000 personal-injury settlement his stepdaughter received in 1999, all of which he spent without her consent. Meenan was also accused of obtaining credit cards in both his stepdaughter's and stepson's names without their knowledge, court papers say.

News of the criminal charges filed against Meenan resulted in an effort by Kimmell's parents to have Meenan removed from their daughter's case.

Meenan withdrew in August and handed the case to Assistant District Attorney Mike Blonigen, who was later chosen by the Natrona County Commission to serve until January 2005 as interim district attorney. Blonigen plans to stand for election to the office in the Republican primary next summer.

Meenan resigned from office Dec. 13, three days prior to entering guilty pleas to two felonies - forgery and identity theft - and a misdemeanor charge of official misconduct.

Meenan has not been sentenced, but a proposed plea agreement asks that he receive two years supervised probation.

Amid the Meenan scandal and Eaton's high-profile capital murder trial, the county's D.A. office prepared to prosecute five homicides committed in Casper and Evansville during the year. Two of the victims were children.

The first homicide took place June 13, when 32-year-old James Paschal was shot three times outside his residence on Boxelder. Robert Dix is charged in that homicide and is undergoing a mental evaluation at the Wyoming State Hospital.

Five days after Paschal's death, police were called to investigate the stabbing death of John DiIorio, who was found lying in the parking lot at The Lounge bar at 737 E. Second St. Brandon Butcher, 32, stands accused in his killing.

At an Evansville mobile home on July 7, a 17-month-old boy died allegedly at the hands of his caretaker, Steven Sanchez, 30.

In August, a 6-month-old boy died from a blow to the head. His father, Jose Mendoza, 24, is charged with first-degree murder and child abuse in connection his death.

And in September, Timothy Martinez was charged with killing his wife, Melissa Martinez, by bludgeoning her with a shotgun at their home on East 23rd Street.

With the exception of Eaton, prosecutors have not announced whether they will seek the death penalty for any of the other five accused killers.

Lost 'rock hunter'

Another interesting case last year involved a full-scale search near Powder River for missing Mills resident Ross Humbracht, who allegedly had gotten lost.

Humbracht purportedly went rock hunting with a companion north of Powder River in July and was lost for a week on the prairie.

The Natrona County Sheriff's Office conducted a massive, four-day manhunt with sheriff's deputies, search dogs and airplanes. Humbracht was found after seven days. He told investigators that he'd survived by eating bugs and drinking water from streams, according to court records.

But sheriff's officials later alleged that Humbracht and his friend had driven to Powder River to hunt for antiques and oil field equipment they intended to steal by burglarizing buildings, according to court records.

Humbracht, his wife and their friend Gary Neske all face burglary-related charges.



Iraq war toll voted top Wyo story of 2003

ROBERT W. BLACK Associated Press writer | Posted: Thursday, January 1, 2004 12:00 am

CHEYENNE (AP) - The Iraq war's toll on Wyoming soldiers was voted the top state story of 2003 in a poll of Associated Press member newspaper editors and broadcasters.

Five soldiers and Marines with Wyoming ties were killed in Iraq, a story that was named on all but one ballot.

The arrest of a man in a 15-year-old murder, forgery charges against a prosecutor, the state's wolf management plan and discovery of brucellosis in a cattle herd were also among the biggest stories of the year.

The top 10:

1. IRAQ DEATHS. Compared to the rest of the nation, the war in Iraq took a disproportionate number of lives from Wyoming.

Among the servicemen killed in the line of duty were Army Capt. Leif E. Nott, 24, whose father lives in Cheyenne; Army Spc. Michael R. Deuel, 21, of Cheyenne; Army Pfc. Joseph Mayek, 20, of Rock Springs; Marine Sgt. Brendon Reiss, 23, of Casper; and Marine 1st Lt. Therrel Shane Childers, 30, whose parents live in Powell.

2. LISA KIMMELL. More than 15 years after the body of Lisa Marie Kimmell was pulled from the North Platte River, Dale Wayne Eaton was charged in her murder.

There were few leads until Kimmell's car was allegedly unearthed on Eaton's property in Moneta in 2002. Criminologists also allegedly matched Eaton's DNA with a sample recovered from Kimmell's body.

3. PROSECUTOR PROSECUTED. A 17-year career ended for Natrona County District Attorney Kevin Meenan, who resigned in December just days before pleading guilty to forgery and identity theft for financial dealings involving his stepchildren.

4 (tie) BRUCELLOSIS. A Sublette County cattle herd tested positive for brucellosis in early December, throwing a scare into the state's ranching industry. Testing continued as the year ended to determine whether any other herds had the disease.

4 (tie) WOLVES. Legislators and wildlife officials crafted a plan to manage wolves if the federal government removes the predator from the Endangered Species List. The controversial plan passed muster from a group of biologists and must now be approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

6. SURPLUS. Higher natural gas prices left the state with a \$1 billion surplus for the upcoming two-year budget period. Gov. Dave Freudenthal wanted to spend a major portion on school buildings and prisons.

7. SNOWMOBILES. The on-again, off-again legal battle over snowmobiling in Yellowstone National Park took a turn against the machines in December when a federal judge ordered that a Clinton-era phase-out be reinstated. The state appealed.

8. WEST NILE. The second year of the West Nile virus in Wyoming resulted in at least nine deaths, and another 393 people fell sick. Thousands of horses and birds were also infected.

9. MARTIN'S COVE. Congress passed and President Bush signed a bill allowing The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to lease an historic emigrant site known as Martin's Cove from the Bureau of Land Management. The church had initially tried to purchase the land but ran into strong public opposition.

10 (tie) DROUGHT. The fourth straight year of drought in the state wasn't as pronounced as previous years, but it still led to wildfires, water restrictions and rancher losses.

10 (tie) FIREFIGHTER KILLED. In May, 16-year-old volunteer firefighter Anndee Huber of Newcastle was killed in a rollover on

her way to a fire. The driver, Ronald J. Caillier, was accused of drunken driving and sentenced to 14 to 18 years in prison.

Stories that just missed the top 10 included a fire that closed Yellowstone's east entrance for two weeks; a Kansas pastor's attempts to erect anti-gay monuments; Freudenthal's budget; Fremont County's reaction to a racist church's move to Riverton; rising medical malpractice costs; and Game and Fish Director Brent Manning's resignation.



D.A. wants Eaton shackled

Tight security outlined for Eaton trial

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Thursday, January 8, 2004 12:00 am

He's no Hannibal Lecter, but Dale Wayne Eaton's unpredictable and violent past has county officials urging the court to consider extreme security measures for his upcoming capital murder trial.

Eaton is accused in the kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, an 18-year-old Montana woman abducted in 1988 as she traveled from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton, who will be prosecuted according to the law in effect the year Kimmell was killed.

In court documents, District Attorney Mike Blonigen stated that Eaton's past escape from the Community Alternatives of Casper, his documented history of violence and the seriousness of the current charges against him all justify heightened security inside and outside the courtroom.

"The defendant has suffered from violent outbursts during his recent incarceration, including an assault in federal prison which led to the death of another prisoner, as well as write-ups for assault twice in the Wyoming State Penitentiary and one violent outburst which was documented in the Natrona County Detention Center," Blonigen wrote in his 7th District Court motion to establish security conditions.

Eaton in 1997 abducted a young couple and their infant child and forced them at gunpoint onto a dirt road in Sweetwater County, Blonigen said in prior court documents.

For that offense, Eaton was convicted of aggravated assault and sentenced to the Community Alternatives of Casper, which he escaped from in 1998. Eaton was found and arrested for being a felon in possession of a firearm and was sent to the state penitentiary and subsequently was transferred to a Colorado prison where the cellmate's death occurred.

Attached to the motion filed last week is a letter Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton wrote to Blonigen in November describing the security plan.

Benton said Eaton will be escorted from the county jail and taken through a side entrance of the courtroom by two deputies, one of them armed.

Eaton will be in full shackles during his transport, but his handcuffs will be removed before he is seated in the courtroom, according to Benton's plan. However, Benton did request that Eaton's legs remain shackled inside the courtroom.

Efforts to reach Wyatt Skaggs, Eaton's public defender, for comment about the proposed security measures were unsuccessful Wednesday.

A Wyoming Supreme Court ruling issued Feb. 6, 2003, said that defendants could no longer be shackled during a jury trial unless the state could justify the need for such restraint.

The opinion, issued in connection with the appeal of a drug conviction in Natrona County, added that "defendants shall not be shackled or otherwise physically restrained in the courtroom during a jury trial, nor shall other exceptional security measures be utilized" unless the state files a motion with the court. The court must allow the defendant a chance to respond and must state on the record the compelling reasons for the restraints or other measures, the opinion said.

Benton said the unarmed deputy would be the person assigned to unshackle Eaton and escort him into the courtroom before the jury is seated. The second armed deputy will be nearby, he said.

Benton asked that Eaton and his legal team be situated as far away from the public as possible and near the courtroom door through which he and the security deputies will come and go. It is the table where the prosecution and lead investigators are usually seated.

At the back of the courtroom, Benton wants to place one plain-clothed, armed deputy, though the deputy's gun will not be in plain sight, he said.

Outside the courtroom, an armed deputy will also be posted in the public area and will serve as back-up to the deputies inside the court and as general security, Benton wrote.

"The measures of security outlined in the letter do not exceed those that a jury would normally expect in a case of this severity and magnitude," Blonigen wrote in his motion to the court.

Jury selection for Eaton's trial begins Feb. 23.

He faces one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault and second-degree sexual assault.

Eaton is charged with three additional counts of first-degree felony murder because crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping were allegedly committed during the course of Kimmell's killing, court documents said.

Kimmell was last seen March 25, 1988, by a Wyoming Highway Patrolman who stopped her for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. She was behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si, which bore the personalized Montana plates "LIL MISS."

The woman's body was found dumped west of Casper on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.



Attorney proposes Eaton be fitted with 'shock belt'

Defense objects to leg shackles

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Thursday, January 15, 2004 12:00 am

Attorneys for Dale Wayne Eaton - the man charged with the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of a young Billings woman - voiced his objection to a prosecution request that Eaton's legs remain shackled throughout his upcoming trial.

Instead, Eaton's court-appointed attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, wants his client to be fitted with a "shock belt," he said.

The objection to the shackling and other security proposals was filed in 7th District Court on Friday. It was done in response to the county sheriff's request that Eaton remain in leg shackles throughout his capital murder trial, which begins next month. The shackles would only be removed if Eaton were to testify, the sheriff proposed.

The shock belt proposed by Skaggs is a battery-operated device that fits around a prisoner's waist. At the touch of a button, a guard sends an eight-second, 50,000- to 70,000-volt surge through the prisoner. Such a jolt incapacitates the recipient.

Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton and District Attorney Mike Blonigen, in court papers, say it is Eaton's violent criminal history that prompted the request for extreme security measures.

Eaton is accused in the kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, an 18-year-old woman abducted in 1988 as she traveled from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton.

In addition to the shackling, Blonigen and Benton requested that armed deputies be placed inside the courtroom. Skaggs objected to that, too, he said.

In his motion, he asked that no armed deputies be allowed inside the courtroom. Any security officers should be unarmed, he said.

Reached at his office Wednesday, Skaggs offered no comment on his objection to shackling Eaton or his reasons for wanting his client to wear a shock belt during his trial.

Casper Star-Tribune attorney Bruce Moats speculated it was because the belt would be less visible by a jury and, therefore, less prejudicial to the defendant.

Shock belts are reportedly used in 30 state prisons and all federal trial courts, despite allegations that the devices are inhumane.

Amnesty International called the devices "cruel, inhumane and degrading" in a report it issued last November, and urged governments worldwide to strictly regulate use of the device.

In other articles published on the topic, the organization reported that the immediate effects of a shock from the belt vary but include severe pain, loss of muscle control, nausea, convulsions, fainting, and involuntary defecation and urination. Muscle stiffness and long-term damage to teeth and hair have been documented, as well as devastating mental scars which can lead to severe depression and impotence, the organization said.

The United Nations Committee Against Torture has also objected to the belts' use, saying the device may violate the Geneva Convention.

In other documents recently filed in Eaton's case, the prosecution spelled out for the defense what evidence it will present to back its theories on what happened to Kimmell and the crime's connection to Eaton.

In papers filed Monday, Blonigen, the prosecutor, said that while the precise locale and time each alleged offense was committed against Kimmell is not known, the totality of evidence will show Eaton took part in those offenses.

Circumstantial evidence, he said, will indicate that Kimmell was abducted and confined through deception, physical restraint or force.

"The defendant is known to use force to abduct others," Blonigen wrote.

Additionally, a spent .30-.30 calibre cartridge was found with Kimmell's vehicle, he said.

In an order issued Friday, 7th District Court Judge David Park allowed Eaton's attorneys to file under seal some motions to be made in the case, stating that good cause had been shown.

The state's responses to those motions have also been sealed, as was a "notice of intent to use evidence."

Kimmell was last seen March 25, 1988, by a Wyoming Highway Patrol officer who stopped her for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. She was behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si, which bore the personalized Montana plates "LIL MISS."

The woman's body was found dumped west of Casper on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

Her car was unearthed by sheriff's officials in July 2002 during a search of a Moneta property west of Casper.

The property was owned by Eaton, according to investigators, who said they began searching the property after being notified by the Wyoming State Crime Lab on July 16, 2002, that a blood sample drawn from Eaton at the Rawlins state prison in 1998 matched a sample recovered from Kimmell's body after her death.

Eaton is charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault and second-degree sexual assault.

Eaton faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder because crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping were allegedly committed during the course of Kimmell's killing, court documents said.

Jury selection for the trial is set to begin Feb. 23. The final pretrial conference in the case is scheduled for Jan. 23 at 1:30 p.m.



Judge to decide on closed hearing

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Wednesday, January 21, 2004 12:00 am

The Casper Star-Tribune has asked the court to weigh carefully the public's interest when it decides whether portions of Dale Wayne Eaton's final pretrial hearing Friday should be closed.

In a Jan. 17 letter to 7th District Court Judge David Park, the newspaper asked the court "to take care in closing only those portions of the hearing, if any, where the fair trial rights of the defendant cannot otherwise be protected."

Eaton is charged with the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, a Billings, Mont., woman who vanished while driving from Denver to Cody to visit her boyfriend in March of that year.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton in a trial set to begin before Park in late February.

The newspaper's attorney, Bruce Moats, of Cheyenne, also told Park that the Star-Tribune won't object to the sealing of documents related to evidence that has, or will be, deemed inadmissible at Eaton's trial.

Star-Tribune Editor Dan Neal said he believes the newspaper is taking the right approach to ensure the court is aware of concerns about closing Friday's hearing.

"We have confidence that the court will respect both its obligations to provide a fair trial and to be certain that the public can understand what is going on," he said. "I hope the judge recognizes the faith we're putting in him."

Moats said it is not unusual for courts to close hearings where the admissibility of certain evidence at trial is debated.

Neal agreed there may be legitimate reason to close the hearing in this case.

"We don't intervene to stir up trouble," Neal added. "We intervene when we really are afraid that the court, or some other official body, is going down the wrong road."

Moats said Eaton's court-appointed attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, of Laramie, asked Park to hear four of the defense motions "in camera," or behind closed doors.

The motions reportedly relate to arguments regarding the admissibility of evidence at Eaton's trial.

Skaggs forwarded Moats those motions and the state's responses, both of which have been filed under seal. Neither the motions nor the responses have been shared with the newspaper, Moats assured Park.

"The press and the public have a qualified right of access to suppression motions and hearings. However, the public has no constitutional right of access to inadmissible evidence," Moats wrote in the letter.

In his review of the pleadings, Moats said, there is indication that much of the discussion will require reference to the specific evidence at issue. There are areas, however, where it appears the arguments could be made without reference to the content of the evidence, he wrote.

"Again, we ask that the Court close only those portions of the hearing where the balancing of the defendant's fair trial rights and the rights of the public to know the workings of the judicial system warrants such a closure," said Moats.

Should the court rule that any portion of the evidence discussed Friday will be allowed at trial, Moats asked that the court unseal those related court documents.

Park issued an order Jan. 9 that allowed Eaton's attorneys to file under seal motions to be made in the case Friday. He said good cause

had been shown.

It isn't known if Friday's hearing will focus entirely on the sealed motions. Moats said it's possible that other last-minute issues will be discussed.

Eaton is charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault and second-degree sexual assault.

Eaton faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder because crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping were allegedly committed during the course of Kimmell's killing, court documents said.

Jury selection for the trial is set to begin Feb. 23. The final pretrial conference in the case is scheduled for Friday at 1:30 p.m in 7th District Court.

Kimmell, Eaton's alleged victim, was last seen March 25, 1988, by a Wyoming Highway Patrol officer who stopped her for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. She was behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si, which bore the personalized Montana plates "LIL MISS."

The woman's body was found dumped west of Casper on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

Her car was unearthed by sheriff's officials in July 2002 during a search of a Moneta property west of Casper.

The property was owned by Eaton, according to investigators, who said they began searching the property after being notified by the Wyoming State Crime Lab on July 16, 2002, that a blood sample drawn from Eaton at the Rawlins state prison in 1998 matched a sample recovered from Kimmell's body after her death.



Eaton hearing closed to public

JANUARY 24, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

A pretrial motion hearing held Friday afternoon in the capital murder case of Dale Wayne Eaton was closed to the public.

Seventh District Court Judge David Park asked members of the press to leave the courtroom because he said it was decided that the hearing would only consist of arguments on sealed motions.

Eaton is charged with the 1988 kidnapping, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, a Billings, Mont., woman who vanished while driving from Denver to Cody to visit her boyfriend in March of that year.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton in a trial set to begin before Park in late February.

Before Friday's hearing, the Casper Star-Tribune, through its attorney, asked the court to carefully weigh the public's interest when it decides if portions of Friday's hearing should be closed.

The newspaper's attorney, Bruce Moats, of Cheyenne, also did not object to the sealing of documents related to evidence that has, or could be, deemed inadmissible at Eaton's trial.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen, who is prosecuting the case, said he couldn't talk about what was discussed at the hearing, including any decision on security measures.

"The results of those are all sealed," he said.

Kimmell, Eaton's alleged victim, was last seen March 25, 1988, when she was stopped for speeding by a Wyoming Highway Patrol officer on Interstate 25 near Douglas. She was behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si, which bore the personalized Montana plates "LIL MISS."

The woman's body was found dumped west of Casper on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge west of Casper off Wyoming Highway 220.

Kimmell's car was unearthed by sheriff's officials in July 2002 during a search of a Moneta property along Wyoming Highway 20-26 near the border of Natrona and Fremont counties.

The property was owned by Eaton, according to investigators. A search of the property took place after the Wyoming State Crime Lab on July 16, 2002, notified investigators that a blood sample drawn from Eaton at the Wyoming Penitentiary in 1998 matched a DNA sample recovered from Kimmell's body after her death.

Eaton is charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault and second-degree sexual assault.

Eaton faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder because crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping were allegedly committed during the course of Kimmell's killing, court documents said.

Jury selection for Eaton's trial is set to begin Feb. 23.



Federal inmates, kidnap victims to testify at Eaton trial

FEBRUARY 09, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Prosecutors in the case against Dale Wayne Eaton - the man charged in the slaying of Lisa Marie Kimmell 15 years ago - want to call two federal prisoners to testify at Eaton's upcoming capital murder trial.

Papers filed last week by District Attorney Mike Blonigen did not disclose what testimony will be offered by the two men, Joseph Dax, a prisoner at the Oxford Federal Correctional Center in Oxford, Wis., and Brett Allen Hudson, a Florence, Colo., federal prisoner.

Additionally, Blonigen informed the court that he intends to call to the stand a couple Eaton abducted at gunpoint in 1997, separate document stated.

Blonigen said in a separate document filed Wednesday that he planned to call the couple in the sentencing phase, should Eaton be convicted of Kimmell's killing.

In 1997, Eaton abducted Shannon and Scott Breeden and their infant child and forced them at gunpoint onto a dirt road in Sweetwater County, earlier court documents state.

For that offense, Eaton was convicted of aggravated assault and was finishing out a prison sentence at Community Alternatives of Casper when he escaped from that facility in June 1998.

Natrona County authorities in April 2003 had Eaton extradited back to Casper from a federal prison in Florence, Colo., where he was serving time on a charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm, records state. He was brought back on a felony escape charge and numerous counts related to Kimmell's death.

Last November, Eaton received a seven- to 10-year prison sentence for escaping. Jury selection for his murder trial in Casper is set to begin Feb. 23.

Along with the Breedens, Blonigen told the judge he wants Natrona County Coroner James Thorpen, M.D., to testify to the severity of Kimmell's injuries. Thorpen conducted the autopsy on Kimmell after her death in 1988.

Kimmell was last seen March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of the black Honda that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. The teen had been traveling from her job in Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Two anglers discovered Kimmell's partially nude body on April 2, 1988. The 18-year-old had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from

Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

Thorpen concluded that the blow to Kimmell's head was severe enough to cause her to suffer skull fractures, bleeding and swelling of the brain, court documents state.

Furthermore, Thorpen's findings said, "Kimmell had suffered six separate stab wounds: Five of which were arranged in a circle in the chest of Lisa Kimmell with a sixth inflicted in the mid-upper abdomen."

Each wound was inflicted to avoid striking the rib, according to the report, and Thorpen concluded that each stab could have been fatal because each penetrated vital organs.

Both the Breedens and Thorpen are needed in the sentencing phase to establish aggravating factors, which qualify Eaton for the death penalty, Blonigen said.

Eaton, who once lived in Moneta, west of Casper on Wyoming Highway 20-26, was reportedly linked to Kimmell's murder through a DNA match and is currently jailed in Casper on charges related to Kimmell's homicide - including premeditated murder.

The D.A.'s Office is seeking the death penalty for Eaton, who investigators allege buried the victim's car on his Moneta property.

The Honda CRX was unearthed there in the summer of 2002. It had been stripped of valuable parts. It was missing all four tires, its aluminum wheels, the front bucket seats, the stereo and gearshift knob.

Eaton allegedly sold the wheels to a Mills recycling company, an affidavit said.

Investigators say Eaton helped install the stereo and seats in a 1963 Ford pickup, which the sheriff's office later tracked down.

It isn't known exactly where Eaton's and Kimmell's paths crossed, though prosecutors say their theory is that Kimmell was abducted somewhere along the highway between Glenrock and Casper and was forcibly taken to Moneta, court papers said.

Prosecutors allege that Kimmell probably died on the way to Government bridge or was killed on the bridge itself.



Final hearing held in death penalty case

Judge mulls Eaton motions

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Thursday, February 12, 2004 12:00 am

CASPER - Last-minute "housekeeping" was done Wednesday for the upcoming trial of accused killer Dale Wayne Eaton, with attorneys arguing still-unsettled points.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton, who is charged with the kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell nearly 16 years ago.

Seventh District Court Judge David Park did not immediately rule on two motions discussed Wednesday, both having to do with aggravating factors in the case.

Eight charges, including first-degree premeditated murder, were brought against Eaton in April of last year. Eaton was allegedly linked to the Montana teen's murder through a DNA match.

Charges filed against Eaton include one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault, court documents state.

Three additional counts of first-degree felony murder were also charged. Each was allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes, those being sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

Attorneys argued Wednesday over whether a woman whose family was abducted at gunpoint by Eaton in 1997 should be allowed to testify during the sentencing phase of Eaton's trial, if he is convicted.

Her family's abduction, of which Eaton was convicted, is to be considered an aggravating factor that supports a death sentence, District Attorney Mike Blonigen said.

The defense told Park that the law states that court papers disclosing a judgment and sentence are sufficient evidence to prove a prior violent crime was committed.

But Blonigen argued that jurors can't be expected to fully understand the circumstances surrounding the crime by simply looking at pieces of paper.

Referring to the three additional counts of felony murder filed by prosecutors which separately attach aggravating factors of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping, defense attorneys Vaughn H. Neubauer and Wyatt Skaggs argued the separation should not be allowed.

Eaton's attorneys said state statute lists all three as being a single aggravating factor. Prosecutors also intend to introduce the same evidence to prove all three, they said.

Park did not rule on either issue Wednesday.

He did approve a defense request to fit Eaton with eyeglasses at the county's expense so the defendant will be able to read documents presented at the trial.

Eaton's alleged victim, Lisa Kimmell, was last seen March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si, which bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas.

Her body was found six days later in the North Platte River near Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from the bridge.

Jury selection for Eaton's trial begins Feb. 23. Blonigen said that portion of the trial is expected to last about a week.



New town crier items for friday feb 13

Posted: Friday, February 13, 2004 12:00 am

Today's events

Musical valentines

Members of the Natrona County High School Symphonic Band will present their popular "Musical Valentines" today and Saturday. For \$25, anyone may send the one they love a long-stemmed flower in tissue, a balloon bouquet, a Valentine card, {M3AND a musical rendition of an old favorite love song performed by one of several talented NCHS band quartets. {M3To order your special Valentine today, call 259-7374 or 259-7101. These are cell phones manned by Band Support Group members in the NC Band room waiting to take your order! If lines are busy, keep trying! Valentines will be delivered during daytime hours beginning at 7:30 a.m. today and 9 a.m. Saturday, continuing until 5 p.m. each day. {M3For guaranteed choice of delivery time, place your order as soon as possible! The annual event raises funds to send the band to competitions & musical performances and it buys new instruments, band music, and other musical necessities not covered entirely by the school district.

MH Hennagin - 266-5613

Rec Sports

Derby results

Results from the 15th Hawg Ice Fishing Derby, held Feb. 7-8 at Pathfinder.

Hawg fish: 1., Scott Bancrft, 4.60 Brown; 2., Brad Cadwell, 3.38 Brown; 3., Mark Klein.

\$25,000 chance on largest trout: Scott Bancroft, his number was 60, the magic number was 51.

Largest walleye: Dallas Conderalo, 2.40 . His number in the chance for the \$25,000 was 40, the magic number was 04.

The ice augers were won by Kimberly Gross and Pat Murry.

The ice house was won by Sherry Lesko.

Hourly winners were, Felix Martinez, Paul Roberts, Rick Juday, Brank Schoenleber, Scott Bancroft, Robert Page, Riely Franzen, Benny Roberts, Tersa Brown, Dallas Conderalo, Steve Nickson, Dakota Hinkley, Ted Thompson, Nate Johnson Terry Dangart, Larry Webb, D Osman, Harvey Rudy, Tom Brown, Joe Bustos, Kai Ginest, Mike Bloem, Ron Lesko, Terry Schuler, Brad Cadwell, Mark Klein, Marvin McMurry, Lawson Sims, Mark Blakly, Barry Carpinter, Brandon Bustos, Dave Wurtz, Robert Bustos, Daniel Minor, Glenn Miller, Arron Hoffman.

The Pathfinder Boat and Fishing Club would like to thank all of our sponsors for their support. Also a big thanks to all the fishermen that made this a big success. Hope to see everyone next year. Happy fishing.

Service

Young Fathers meet

Young Fathers Initiative is a round table discussion held Monday nights Feb. 23, March 1 and March 8 at 6:30 pm to 8 p.m. Fathers will be paid \$20 to attend. Fathers will discuss difficult issues in a safe non-threatening environment. Learning tools for developing healthier responsible behavior, positive parent choices, and caring role models. Young Fathers Initiative will be held at the North Casper Boys and Girls Club, 239 E. H St., Casper, please call 235-9125 for details.

Connie Miller

Diabetes 101

The Community Health Center of Central Wyoming (CHCCW) is offering Diabetes 101, an eight-session group diabetes education program for the community. At each session, a guest speaker addresses a different aspect of diabetes care. Sessions are held every

other Friday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m. The next series begins on Feb. 20, 2004.

Diabetes 101 is held in the CHCCW auditorium. All sessions are free and open to the public, but lab work fees apply at the first session for those who want lab work done. For more information, call Gina Alexander at 233-6039.

Parents of Murdered Children

The February meeting of POMC will be held on Saturday, Feb. 21. at Casper College in the Student Center, room 207, from 4 to 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Sheila Kimmel. POMC is a support group for those who have lost a loved one by homicide. We give support through the grieving process, no matter what is needed emotionally. If you need help understanding the justice system or if you need someone to go to court hearings with you or even if you just need a shoulder to cry on, we will be there. For more information, call Suzanne at 237-5230 or email larrypaschal@aol.com.

All-age vision screening

We all take our vision for granted. Yet we all dread the thought of losing our sight. Many eye diseases progress so gradually that we don't notice that anything is changing. Everyone should have their eyes checked at least every two years. Those under 20 and over 50 should be evaluated yearly. One out of every four children in the United States has an undiagnosed vision problem. Dr. Clark Jensen is holding a vision screening for all ages on Wednesday, Feb. 25, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Call 265-7008 to reserve your spot at this no-cost, no-obligation vision screening.

Schools

DMJH chili bingo

Dean Morgan Chili Bingo Night is Thursday, Feb. 19, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in the cafeteria. \$1 for chili, 25 cents per bingo card. Great prizes and cash. Sponsored by the DMJH PTA. More info: 577-4440.

Nonprofit

Puppy Love Ball

Bring a pet and have a ball at the SSCCW/Dogs Unlimited and Casper Humane Society Puppy Love Ball at the Casper Humane Society activity room, 849 E. E St., from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Saturday. Events include photos taken with your pet, the celebrity smooch-a-pooch competition, dog tricks competition, a 50/50 raffle drawing and the presentation of the Rhea Regan lifetime achievement award presentation.

Admission is free.

Tickets for the raffle drawing are on sale at the Casper Humane Society and Laundramutt.

Advisory committee

Big Brothers Big Sisters is introducing our advisory committee! Bernie Strand is a Clinical Social Worker in private practice here in Casper. She was a Big Sister for many years and saw positive results for both the littles and herself. She said, "I had great fun with my littles and look forward to offering whatever I can to keep this program and to keep future matches going and growing!" Her goal over the next year is to help create a positive, strong presence for BBBS in our community. She wants everyone, including children, to experience the benefits that the Casper community offers. When asked what she liked most about our program, she replied, "It gave me an excuse to go out and enjoy some of the fun activities available in our community. I felt like a big kid at times, ice skating, riding bikes, playing at the park, exploring the lake or mountain. I was surprised how cheaply one can be entertained in our town." We are thrilled to have Bernie as a part of our team and

look forward to working with her to turn "Little Moments" into "Big Magic" over the coming year. If you are interested in joining the advisory committee or would like information on joining our team of Bigs and Littles please call us at 265-2227.



Sufficient jury pool gathered for trial

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Sunday, February 15, 2004 12:00 am

Seventh District Court officials say they have a sufficient jury pool for the upcoming capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton, charged with the 1988 rape and slaying of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Last October court officials sent out 750 seven-page questionnaires to selected Natrona County residents, asking them various questions regarding their feelings and knowledge of the Eaton case. The trial begins with jury selection Feb. 23.

"I have all the questionnaires back - as many of them as I'm going to get," Clerk of District Court Gen Tuma said. "You never get every questionnaire back."

"We tried very hard to go out and get them. In fact, the sheriff went out and collected several," she said.

The judge and the attorneys in the case are satisfied with the number that came back and feel there will be a sufficient pool to empanel a jury, she said.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen is seeking the death penalty for Eaton, whose trial is expected to last four to five weeks. Jury selection alone will last about five days, he said.

The questionnaires were sent in an attempt to shorten the jury selection portion of the trial and aid the court in finding the most unbiased jury possible.

"We had very, very few problem questionnaires," said Blonigen. "I was amazed - it went very smooth."

Not all of those who returned the questionnaires will qualify as jurors, court officials say.

The court will begin to call potential jurors Feb. 23 in "panels" to 7th District Court, where attorneys will question them further. The panels will consist of about 30 to 35 people.

"The best way to do it is by panels until we have enough qualified to seat our jury," Blonigen said.

The current pool will be narrowed down to 12 jurors, plus an alternate, within the first week and then the trial will commence.



Jury consultant : Eaton case difficult for defense

FEBRUARY 15, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Attorneys defending clients who are facing the death penalty want to seat jurors they think would have a propensity to feel that life imprisonment would be adequate punishment, according to Seattle jury consultant and psychologist Dr. Alan Cohen.

Cohen, a communication psychologist, has worked on hundreds of court cases, including the defense of Gary Ridgway, the notorious "Green River killer" who last year confessed to 48 counts of aggravated first-degree murder in order to avoid the death penalty.

He says choosing jurors in death penalty cases is, for obviously reasons, more complicated than in trials involving life sentences or less.

Cohen is against the death penalty and is in the business of helping defense attorneys - often those who are court-appointed - decide what to look for in a potential juror.

The death penalty exists for the safety of the general public so, more often than not, a defendant who hasn't been a threat in jail will probably not be put to death, Cohen said.

For a defendant to be sentenced to death, every single juror has to agree it is the only appropriate punishment, but if just one juror thinks a life sentence will suffice, the death penalty cannot be given.

In the case of Dale Eaton - a man Wyoming hopes to execute in connection with the death of Montana teen Lisa Marie Kimmell nearly 16 years ago - Cohen said convincing a jury that life imprisonment would be sufficient punishment for him will prove more difficult, if he is convicted.

Prosecutors allege that Eaton presents a danger, not only to the public, but to his cellmates as well. He has repeatedly threatened to attack former cellmates and was charged with involuntary manslaughter in the death of a Colorado cellmate, though a jury acquitted him.

"That is a difficult one to overcome because the self-defense issue is, I think, one of the more important issues from people's point of view as jurors," said Cohen. "If the person is dangerous and you cannot guarantee that other people will not be killed and there's no safe way to warehouse that person, then people are very inclined to give the death penalty."

Death penalty cases by nature are high profile, and heavy media coverage often presents more problems for defense attorneys who hope to find an open-minded juror, he said.

"Sometimes the media has released information that may be inadmissible in an actual trial, so sometimes there is a presumption of guilt and it's hard to overcome," said Cohen.

Jury consultants are hired for that reason. They do extensive research to see whether there's prejudice surrounding a particular case and help devise a strategy for the jury selection process, Cohen said.

The goal is to gather a death-qualified jury.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen said, as the prosecutor in Eaton's case, he has not sought a jury consultant.

Cohen said that's not unusual because prosecutors are consulting with an array of people throughout the case.

Wyatt Skaggs, Eaton's primary court-appointed attorney, said Friday that he has sought consultation in death penalty cases in the past, but he wouldn't say if he has for Eaton.

In looking for a juror, neither the defense nor the prosecution would want a person who says they would give the death penalty all of the time, without considering anything else in the penalty phase. Likewise, people who say they would never consider the death penalty would not be chosen for the jury.

"From the prosecutor's point of view, they need everyone to agree on death," Cohen said. "The prosecutor cannot afford to be wrong."

What the defense is looking for in capital cases, according to Cohen, is that one person who they believe would significantly weigh the defendant's upbringing or any redeeming qualities that person might have.

"A judge might instruct the jury that mercy is an OK reason to give someone life," Cohen said.

Cohen said demographics - like gender, age and occupation - play a very small role, if any, in choosing a death-qualified jury.

"No one who is familiar with the process chooses jurors on the basis of demographic variables," he said. "You have to follow up on every demographic issue, or intuition, with a series of questions that allow the person to express themselves and you have to do that within the guidelines that the court allows."

Cohen said some states have publicly funded programs that pay jury consultants to work with court-appointed attorneys in death penalty cases.

Cohen is often hired that way, he said.

Neither Blonigen nor Skaggs have ever heard of a program like that in Wyoming.

"I've never heard of the issue coming up in Wyoming," Blonigen said. "It's pretty expensive."

Jury selection for Eaton's trial begins Feb. 23.

He is charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual

assault, court documents state.

He also faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes: sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

His alleged victim, Lisa Marie Kimmell, was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas.

Two anglers discovered Kimmell's body on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.



Casper Feb. 15

Posted: Sunday, February 15, 2004 12:00 am

3rd Sunday

'THROUGH WITH CHEW' WEEK

The Wyoming Department of Health has proclaimed today through Feb. 21 as "Through With Chew" Week. The campaign, which is endorsed by the Wyoming Dental and Dental Hygienists associations and Wyoming Dental Program, urges people to quit using chew tobacco. A free telephone quitline, (800) WYO-QUIT, is provided. Info: Well-Being of Wyoming, 472-5991.

PLATTE RIVER PARKWAY TRUST

Reservations are required by Feb. 16 for the annual meeting of the Platte River Parkway Trust, from noon-1:30 p.m. Feb. 18 at the Holiday Inn. The public is invited. A sandwich and salad bar luncheon will be \$12. Info: 577-1206.

STRUCTURED TEACHING SEMINAR FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

Registration deadline is Feb. 16 for a seminar Feb. 25-27, hosted by Casper Autism Society and featuring local experts in the autism field. All professionals and parents of children and students with autism are invited. Info: 472-3769.

FRIENDS OF THE BLUE ENVELOPE HEALTH COUNCIL

Reservations are required by Feb. 17 for the annual luncheon and report to the community, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 19 at the Petroleum Club. Guest speaker: Rick Fisher, BE Well state director and health promotion specialist. Cost is \$12 per person, including tax and gratuity. Info: 237-8649.

RED HAT SOCIETY MARDI GRAS BALL

Reservation deadline is Feb. 19 for the event, hosted by the Queen Bee and Top Hat chapters, at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at Club Dance West, 225 N. Wolcott. All Red Hat chapter members and guests are invited. Buffet dinner is \$20 per person. Masks are optional. Info: Margaret K Fashions, 235-6091.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE WORKSHOP

Registration deadline is Feb. 20 for an in-depth training seminar, sponsored by Health Education and Consulting Services, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Hampton Inn. Instructor is Linda Bowman, a geriatric nurse whose lecture has been approved by the Alzheimer's Educator, Alzheimer's Association in Cheyenne and Alzheimer's Affiliation of Wyoming in Casper. Info: (866) 226-7606.

GLENROCK EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

The center is offering a free screening to children ages birth to 5 years in speech and language, motor skills, cognitive skills (thinking and reasoning), vision, hearing, and physical assessment. Results are available immediately after screening, which takes from 1-2 hours. For appointment information, call 436-5357.

CASPER RECREATION DIVISION

Rec Center, 1801 E. Fourth St. Hours: 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, 1-7

p.m. Sunday. Lunch Hour Basketball continues from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday. Participants are asked to bring an extra pair of non-marking court shoes. Admission is a Rec Center pass or \$2 daily admission fee. Info: 235-8383. Ice Arena: 235-8484.

*Today and Feb. 16, Cowboy State Games' Hockey and Figure Skating schedule: Today, midnight to 2:30 a.m. and 7 a.m.-9:45 p.m., adult hockey. Public skating is cancelled today. Monday, 8 a.m.-3:15 p.m., youth hockey for ages 4-8.

*The Rec Center gymnasium will be closed to drop-in use today for Cowboy State Games' 3-on-3 Basketball. Admission is free for spectators.

*Through March 18, Drop-In Open Gyms for basketball and volleyball continue in area schools. Organized team practices are not allowed. Participants must bring clean non-marking shoes to wear while playing. Everyone must register and present a privilege card to participate. High School and Adult Volleyball, 7-10 p.m.: Monday, Southridge; Thursday, Westwood. Basketball, 6:30-7:30 p.m., grades 4-6; 7:30-8:30 p.m., junior-high students; 8:30-10 p.m., high school/adults: Monday, Sagewood; Tuesday, McKinley & Manor Heights; Wednesday, Sagewood & Crest Hill; Thursday, McKinley.

*Please note: No Drop-In Basketball on Feb. 16 at Sagewood; Open Gym Volleyball at Southridge will be held.

*Water Exercise classes are offered from 7-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday in Natrona County High School pool. Registration is ongoing at the Rec Center.

*"Kids' Peak PE," a new group physical education program for ages 8-14, will be offered from 4-5 p.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays at the Rec Center. Fee charged. Children may try one class for free. Instructor is Kari Williams, an exercise physiologist with a degree in exercise and sport science.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CENTRAL WYO

Memberships are \$10 per year. Membership fees are waived for military families.

*Glenrock: 412 S. Fourth St. Info: 436-7588. Hours Monday-Friday: 6:30-8 a.m. Breakfast Program; 2:45-6 p.m.; daily Project Learn, homework help and tutoring. SMART Moves, Fitness Authority and Torch Club offered.

*Main Club: 353 W. A St., Casper. Info: 235-5694. Hours: 3-7 p.m. Monday-Friday; busing rides are available for \$1.50 per ride; daily homework help and tutoring, 3-6 p.m.; Technology Center, 4-7 p.m. Monday-Friday; SMART Moves weekly; Archery Program Monday & Friday; Teen Night, 3-10 p.m. Friday.

*North Casper: 239 E. H St. Info: 235-9125. Hours: 3-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; daily homework help and tutoring, 3:30-4:30 p.m.; Reading Help, 4:30-5:30 p.m.; Goals for Growth, 4-5 p.m. Monday; Club Tech, 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; Fitness Authority, 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday; Gamesroom Tournament, 4:30-6 p.m. Wednesday; SMART Moves, 4-5 p.m. Thursday; Torch Club, 5 p.m. Thursday; Keystone Club, third Friday of each month; ZOOM Club, 4:30 p.m. Friday; Teen Night Program, 6-10 p.m. Friday; Jam Session Basketball 2-4 p.m. Sunday at the Main Club.

*Feb. 23, March 1 & March 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m., North Casper Boys & Girls Club, 239 E. H St. Young Fathers Initiative is a roundtable discussion; fathers will be paid \$20 to attend. Fathers will discuss difficult issues in a safe, non-threatening environment. Info: 235-9125.

AT CASPER COLLEGE

125 College Drive. To register, call 268-2100 or toll-free (800) 442-2963.

*Adult Basic Education/GED at CC is located in Werner Technical Center Room 115. Hours: 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday; 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday; 1-8 p.m. Wednesday; 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday; and 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. At the Casper Employment Center/Department of Family Services, 851 Werner Court, Suite 121: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-noon Friday. Services are free and open to the public, ages 16 and older. A mandatory new student orientation will be held every Tuesday from 8-10 a.m., 1-3 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at the ABE/GED Center. English as a Second Language is available only at North Casper Elementary School, 1014 Glenarm, from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Tuesday & Thursday; and 1-3 p.m. Monday & Wednesday. Child care is available from 1-3 and 6-8 p.m. Monday and 1-3 p.m. Wednesday. Info: 268-2230.

*Goodstein Foundation Library is open to students and the public from 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; and 2-10 p.m. Sunday. It also is home to a special collection of noncirculating materials on Wyoming and the West. Info: 268-2269.

*Goodstein Art Gallery, located in the Visual Arts Center, is open to the public from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Admission is free.

*Tate Geological Museum, at the south end of campus, is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free. Museum tours are available with advance notice. Info: 268-2447 or toll-free (800) 472-2963, ext. 2447.

*CC Greenhouse, on the west side of Loftin Life Science Center, is open from noon-3 p.m. Monday-Friday and features a variety of plants and wildlife. Admission is free. Private tours are available by calling greenhouse director and biology instructor Evert Brown, 268-2407.

*Werner Wildlife Museum, 405 E. 15th St., is open from 1-5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday & Friday. Free admission. Private tours are available by calling 235-2108.

*Fifty free GED tests will be offered during February by CC Adult Basic Education/GED Center. Registration and successful completion of the Test of ABE is required. Those interested in taking the test should go to Werner Technical Center Room 115 on campus; or Casper Workforce Center, 851 Werner Court, Suite 121. Other rules apply. Info: 268-2230.

*Remaining sessions for "Communication for Professional Success," led by speaking professional Margaret Benson: Feb. 23-March 31 and April 5-May 5. The courses are one credit each.

FORT CASPAR MUSEUM & HISTORIC SITE

4001 Fort Caspar Road. Hours through May 1: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Closed Saturdays. Fort buildings are closed for the season. Admission is \$1 for adults, 50 cents for students ages 6-17 and free to children 5 and under. Membership in the Fort Caspar Museum Association includes free admission for the season and a discount in the gift shop. Info: 235-8462.

N.C. AMERICAN RED CROSS

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday, 1432 E. Second St. Pre-registration is required for all classes; fees charged. Info: 237-8436.

*Feb. 17 & 19, 6-10 p.m. or Feb. 25, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Standard First Aid with AED and Adult, Child & Infant CPR.

*Feb. 18, 8 a.m. Review class for Standard First Aid with AED and Adult Child & Infant CPR will last from one to three hours.

NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS INTERPRETIVE CENTER

1501 N. Poplar. Hours through March 31: 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Admission is \$6 for adults; \$4 for students ages 18 and older; \$3 for youth ages 6-17; \$1 for children ages 3-5; and free for infants under age 3. Federal recreation fee passports are honored. Info: 261-7700. For group tour information, call 261-7787.

GLENROCK PALEONTOLOGICAL MUSEUM

506 W. Birch, Glenrock. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Admission is free. Info: 436-2667.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF WYO CASPER CLINIC

1945 Westwood Hill. Hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday; and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. the second & fourth Saturdays of each month. Closed Tuesday & Thursday. For appointments, call 234-1669.

UNITED BLOOD SERVICES

167 S. Conwell. Hours: 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday & Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday & Thursday and 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Friday. Blood supplies are at a critical low. Volunteer blood donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. Info: 237-2328.

SALT CREEK MUSEUM

The museum is open every day and is located at 531-1/2 Peak Street next to City Park in Midwest. The history of Midwest from 1924 to the present is documented, including thousands of vintage photographs. To visit, call 437-6633 or 437-6513.

HOGADON SKI AREA

Casper Mountain. Open Wednesdays-Sundays and all holidays. Info: 235-8499.

*Limited openings are Morning Dew, Park Avenue and Boomerang Terrain Park. Lift ticket prices are \$24 full-day and \$22 half-day for adults and students and \$16 full- or half-day for children.

*Today, Cowboy State Games' Alpine Skiing. Entry fee is \$20 and racers must purchase their own lift tickets. Info: CSG office, 577-1125.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

Bring all W-2s, 1099s and any other documents necessary for preparing returns; Social Security cards for all family members; a voided check for direct deposit of refunds or a voided deposit slip for savings accounts; and a copy of last year's return. Info: 261-6370, ext. 223.

*Casper College, 125 College Drive, Thorson Business Building Room 404: Through April 9, 10 a.m.-noon Fridays; through April 10, 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays; through April 15, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays.

*Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St.: Through April 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Mondays.

WYOMING SCIENCE ADVENTURE CENTER

Third floor of the Nicolaysen Art Museum, 400 E. Collins. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday & Monday. Admission: \$2 adults, \$1 children 12 and under. Members are admitted free. Info: 261-6130.

*Continuing through April, the new interactive "Mystery" exhibit features forensic science projects to solve make-believe crimes. Special demonstrations by law-enforcement professionals will be presented.

NICOLAYSEN ART MUSEUM & DISCOVERY CENTER

400 E. Collins Drive. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. Info: 235-5247.

*Exhibits: Through March 14, "Four Directions" by Crow Indian artist Kevin Red Star; and "Concepts with Contrast" by the Watercolor Co., featuring six Casper artists - Holly Bishop, Jim Gatheir, Barbara Kuxhausen, Skip Larcom, Michele McDonald and Joan Melius.

NATRONA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

307 E. Second St. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday & Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday, September-May. Bob Goff Memorial/Mills Branch Library hours: 1-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 1-5 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday, September-May. Mark J. Davis/Edgerton Branch Library hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday; 1-7 p.m. Wednesday; 2-6 p.m. Thursday, September-May; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday. Info: 237-4935.

*Storytime: 10:30 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday.

*Feb. 16, libraries closed for Presidents' Day.

*Feb. 21, 3:30 p.m., Metro Coffee Co. Saturday Afternoon Book Club.

*Feb. 23, 7 p.m. Mystery Book Discussion.

GLENROCK BRANCH LIBRARY

518 S. Fourth St., Glenrock. Hours: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday & Friday and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday. Info: (307) 436-2573.

CASPER ARTIST'S GUILD

Hours: Noon-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th St. Admission is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required for all workshops. Info: 265-2655.

*Open Studio in any medium is offered from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays. All artists are welcome.

*Life drawing sessions are offered from 7-10 p.m. Tuesdays. Fee charged. Info: Bob Odell, 235-5408.

*Portrait classes are offered from 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays. Fee charged. Info: Ariane Demos, 259-5708.

*Through Feb. 29, Decorative Arts Show features china painting, tole art, quilting, embroidery, painting and basketry.

*Feb. 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Dick Sorenson acrylic and oil color workshop. Lunch will be served. Fees are \$30 for members and \$40 for nonmembers; call for supply list. Info: 265-2655 or 472-5857.

WYO VETERANS' MEMORIAL MUSEUM

3740 Jourgensen, in the former Casper Army Air Base Servicemen's Club, east of Natrona County International Airport. Hours: Noon-5 p.m. Thursday-Sunday. Admission is free; donations are appreciated. The museum features artifacts from all branches of military services from the Indian Wars-present. Info: 472-1857; Wyoming Veterans' Affairs Commission, 265-7372; toll-free outside of Casper, (800) 833-5987. For groups of 10 or more or tours arranged at different times, call the commission.

WAGON WHEEL ROLLER SKATING RINK

305 Van Horn Ave., Mills. Fees vary for own skates, regular, and inline/speed skate rentals. Call for weekly schedule. Info: 265-4214.

*Today, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Feb. 16, noon-2 p.m. and 2-4 p.m. School's Out sessions.

CASPER EVENTS CENTER

Tickets are on sale at the box office and usual statewide outlets. Info: 577-3030 or (800) 442-2256.

*Today, 7:30 p.m. The Best of Broadway Series continues with "Fame: The Musical." Reserved tickets are \$27.50, \$32.50 and \$37.50.

clubs & meetings

SELF HELP CENTER HOTLINE

The Self Help Center has a 24-hour confidential hotline, 262-9675, available to help educate potentially abusive men and provide available resources. The Self Help office number is 235-2814.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Info: 266-9578.

* 8:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m., 136 W. Eighth St. Open book study meetings.

*10:15 a.m., 200 N. Wolcott, Room 113. Open spiritual meeting; 904 N. Durbin. Spiritual home group open meeting.

* 7 p.m., 1514 E. 12th St., Dome Building. Open young people's meeting.

* 8 p.m., 917 N. Beech. Open meeting.

ALL MOTORCYCLE RIDERS

9 a.m., Dori Lou's, Hat Six Truck Stop. Breakfast meeting. All riders welcome. Info: 235-1667 or 577-9160.

STUCKENHOFF SPORT SHOOTERS' COMPLEX

Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m.-dusk. Day fee is \$4. Info: 265-2535.

CASPER SHOOTERS CLUB

Holds matches at 9 a.m., Stuckenhoff Shooting Complex, near the Casper municipal landfill. Cost: \$3 for non-members. Info: 265-2535.

12-24 CLUB

9 a.m.-9 p.m., 136 W. Eighth St. Club is open to family and friends who are having trouble with alcohol and/or drugs. Info: 237-8035.

PLATTE VALLEY MUZZLE LOADERS

Shoot and meeting the third Sunday of every month at Stuckenhoff Shooting Complex muzzle-loading range:

11:30 a.m., pistols; noon, long rifles. Guests and shooters welcome. Info: S.C. Ross, 473-7643.

NAR-ANON FAMILY GROUP

Noon, 12-24 Club, 136 W. Eighth St. Info: 234-4203.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Info: 266-7154.

* Noon, 200 N. Wolcott, office building basement; 7 p.m., 837 East C St. facility. Open topic and discussion meetings.

* 8:10 p.m., 200 N. Wolcott, office building basement. Closed topic/discussion.

SOLOS CLUB

1 p.m., Christ United Methodist Church, 1868 S. Poplar. Potluck. Open to all singles ages 50 and older.

VFW POST NO. 9439 BINGO

1 p.m., 1800 Bryan Stock Trail.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN GUN CLUB

Open for public trap shooting at 1 p.m. Fee: \$3 for targets. The range is east of Casper at 6100 Cole Creek Road, six miles north of the river. Info: 235-8067.

WYO CENTRAL ABATE

1 p.m., American Legion, 4200 Legion Lane. Info: 266-1548.

SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM

2 p.m., Mike Sedar Park. Anyone interested in the history, crafts, fighting arts or customs of the Middle Ages is invited to attend. Info: 237-2128 or 577-5759.

EATING DISORDERS ANONYMOUS

5 p.m., 12-24 Club, 136 W. Eighth St. Anyone having difficulty with food is welcome. Info: 235-2939, 235-8116 or 265-8627.

LOST ARROW ARCHERY CLUB

Sunday and Monday, 6 p.m., Stuckenhoff Sport Shooters' Complex. Info: 265-2535.

MARIJUANA ANONYMOUS

6 p.m., 136 W. Eighth St. Info: 237-8035.

NAACP, CASPER BRANCH NO. 4113

7 p.m., Parkway Plaza Tiffany Room, 123 W. E St. Meets third Sunday of the month. Visitors and new memberships welcomed. Info: 265-3397.

Upcoming

CASPER ROTARY CLUB

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are from noon-1:30 p.m. Mondays in the Parkway Plaza back ballroom.

*Feb. 16, no meeting for President's Day.

*Feb. 23, Jim Lightner on "U.S. Energy and the Role of Rocky Mountain Natural Gas."

CASPER FINE ARTS CLUB

Unless otherwise noted, meetings begin at 1:30 p.m. at Casper Clubhouse, 136 E. Sixth St.

*Feb. 16, "Dolls! Dolls! Dolls!" by Betty Phillipi.

CASPER MOUNTAIN STEERING COMMITTEE

Mondays, 5 p.m., County Annex Building second floor, 120 W. First St. Open to the public. Info: County Development Department, 235-9435.

'NEW HOPE' OF DUAL RECOVERY ANONYMOUS

A new 12-Step meeting for people seeking recovery from psychiatric and emotional disorders, along with drug and/or alcohol dependency, is held from 6-7 p.m. Mondays at the 12-24 Club, 136 W. Eighth St. Info: Faye, 472-1858.

OUTDOOR WOMEN

Feb. 16, 7 p.m. Izaak Walton Club House, 4205 Fort Caspar Road. Meetings are the third Monday of the month. All women interested in the outdoors and outdoor activities are welcome.

CIVIL AIR PATROL CADETS

Meetings are 7-9 p.m. Mondays at Star Lane Center, west of Poplar on First Street. Boys and girls ages 12-18 participate in search and rescue activities, aerospace education, leadership training, and preparation for U.S. Air Force service as part of the mission of the Civil Air Patrol, the Air Force volunteer auxiliary. Those ages 18-21 may continue as cadets or may become senior CAP members. Web site: (www.manicaltitude.net/cap)

CASPER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITTEES

Regular business hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. The office is closed on holidays. Reservations are required for all meetings/events by calling 234-5311.

*Feb. 17, 11:30 a.m. Petroleum Club. Business Retention & Expansion. Speaker will be a staff member from the ACT Center at Casper College.

*Feb. 17, 4 p.m. Chamber Board meets.

*Feb. 18, noon, Petroleum Club. Sports & Attractions.

*Feb. 19, 5-7 p.m., Sidelines Sports Bar/Banjo Bob's. Business After Hours' "A Picnic in February." Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. Non-perishable food drive to benefit Central Wyoming Rescue Mission, Self Help Center and Seton House. Reservations are required by noon Feb. 19.

CASPER CHESS CLUB

Tuesdays, 6:30-10 p.m., St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 400 Country Club Road. Open to all. Info: 234-3797.

MAN-TO-MAN PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Feb. 17, 7-8 p.m., Highland Park Community Church (east entrance), 411 S. Walsh. Info: American Cancer Society, 577-4892.

NCHS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OPEN AUDITIONS

Feb. 17, 7-10 p.m., Natrona County High School band room 158. Open auditions will be held for the 2004-2005 school year. All seats are open; any current member of the Chamber Orchestra wishing to remain in the group must re-audition. Required literature: One scale of the candidate's choosing; one movement of a solo work (no orchestral pieces); sight-reading. Other rules apply. To schedule an audition, e-mail: Jim_Mothersbaugh@ncsd.k12.wy.us

ADULT DANCES

Feb. 17, 7-10 p.m., Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St. Country-Western music by Bob and Friends. Admission is \$3 per person; no smoking or alcohol.

TELEPHONE PIONEERS

Feb. 18, 11:30 a.m., Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St. Appreciation Day, followed by business meeting. All members and/or partners are welcome. Bring non-perishables for Holy Cross Center. Info: 234-2575.

P.E.O. SISTERHOOD, CHAPTER Y

Meetings are at 12:45 p.m.

*Note change: Feb. 18, home of Bobby Jane Waldram, 1764 S. Conwell St.

VERN & RITA DAVIS

Feb. 18, 7-10 p.m., Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St. Admission to the dance is \$3. No smoking or alcohol.

LYMPHEDEMA SUPPORT GROUP

Feb. 19, noon, Rocky Mountain Therapy, 111 S. Jefferson, Suite 100. A Casper pharmacist will talk about diuretics; a question-and-answer period on medications will follow. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month. Reservations are requested by calling 577-5204.

'SOLVING THE ESTATE PLANNING PUZZLE' WORKSHOP

Registration will be taken at the door for a workshop, sponsored by Women in Ag, at 1 p.m. Feb. 19 in the Agricultural Resource and Learning Center, 2011 Fairgrounds Road. Speakers are John A. Warnick and Dr. Bob Fetsch. Cost is \$10 each or \$15 per couple. Info: 235-9400 or (307) 339-3040.

DMJHS CHILI BINGO NIGHT

Feb. 19, 5:30-8 p.m., Dean Morgan Junior High School cafeteria. DMJHS Parent-Teacher Organization sponsors the public event, featuring chili for \$1 and bingo cards for 25 cents. Cash and prizes offered. Info: 577-4440.

P.E.O. SISTERHOOD, CHAPTER AC

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are at 12:30 p.m.

*Feb. 19, 6:30 p.m., home of Carolyn Rhodes, 2024 Manor Drive.

N.C. GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Feb. 19, 7 p.m., Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St. Program: "Climbing Your Family Tree in Your Pajamas" by Kay McCullough. Info: 234-4216 or 234-3211.

'DIABETES 101' CLASSES

Beginning Feb. 20, the Community Health Center of Central Wyoming presents a free series, "CHCCW and You: Improving Diabetes Care Together." Unless otherwise noted, all classes are from 2-4 p.m. at 1522 E. A St. Lab work fees apply on Feb. 20 & June 11. Info: 233-6039.

*Feb. 20, Session 1: "The ABCs of Diabetes," with Jeff McCollum, M.D., CHCCW medical director; and registered dietitian Jennifer Sesley, MS, RD, CDE.

ARTCORE PRESENTS THE PERSUASIONS

A capella group, The Persuasions, will perform in concert at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20 in Natrona County High School's John F. Welsh Auditorium. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$11 for senior citizens, \$6 for school teachers and students and \$4 for ages 12 and under. They are available at Flower Gallery, Friends & Co. Espresso, Hill Music, The Shade Tree and Sonic Rainbow in Casper; and Mullinix & Co. in Douglas. The group will offer a free clinic at 4 p.m. at NCHS. Info: ARTCORE, 265-1564.

WYO TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

Info: 234-1579.

*Feb. 21, 9 a.m., Little America Hotel, Cheyenne. WTA Board of Directors meet.

PARENTS OF MURDERED CHILDREN

Feb. 21, 4-7 p.m., Casper College Center Room 207. Guest speaker: Sheila Kimmel. Info: Suzanne, 237-5230.

CASPER PLANETARIUM

904 N. Poplar St. Doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Admission is \$2.50 per person per program, unless otherwise noted. Most programs are not suitable for children under age 6. Group rates are available: \$25 for 25 or fewer and \$1 per person for 26 or more; reservations are required. Info: 577-0310.

*Feb. 21 & 28, 7 p.m. "Images of the Infinite" by the Hubble Space Telescope, features a detailed look at nebula, star clusters and distant galaxies.



Casper Calendar, February 19

From Staff Reports | Posted: Wednesday, February 18, 2004 12:00 am

3rd Wednesday

'THROUGH WITH CHEW' WEEK

The Wyoming Department of Health has proclaimed this is "Through With Chew" Week, through Feb. 21. The campaign, which is endorsed by the Wyoming Dental and Dental Hygienists associations and Wyoming Dental Program, urges people to quit using chew tobacco. A free telephone quitline, (800) WYO-QUIT, is provided. Info: Well-Being of Wyoming, 472-5991.

'ANCIENT ROOTS' MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE SOCIETY

Membership is free and open to women with or without previous experience in Middle Eastern dance. Monthly "haflas" (meeting and potluck) will be scheduled. Info: 473-8845.

RED HAT SOCIETY MARDI GRAS BALL

Reservation deadline is Feb. 19 for the event, hosted by the Queen Bee and Top Hat chapters, at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at Club Dance West, 225 N. Wolcott. All Red Hat chapter members and guests are invited. Buffet dinner is \$20 per person. Masks are optional. Info: Margaret K Fashions, 235-6091.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE WORKSHOP

Registration deadline is Feb. 20 for an in-depth training seminar, sponsored by Health Education and Consulting Services, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Hampton Inn. Instructor is Linda Bowman, a geriatric nurse whose lecture has been approved by the Alzheimer's Educator, Alzheimer's Association in Cheyenne and Alzheimer's Affiliation of Wyoming in Casper. Info: (866) 226-7606.

WYO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Unless otherwise noted, classes are held in the Wyoming Small Business Development Center conference room, 300 S. Wolcott, Suite 300. Info: 234-6683.

*Registration deadline is Feb. 24 for "Managing Your Employees for Corporate Success," from 8 a.m.-noon March 2. Fee is \$25. A panel of local experts from the Society for Human Resource Management will participate.

LADIES OF THE PETROLEUM CLUB

Reservations are required for a luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Feb. 24. Program: Martha Rakestraw of Kitchens Etc., with the latest in remodeling ideas. Info: 235-6446.

'HANDS TO THE SANDS' SUPPORT GROUP AUCTION

"Hands to the Sands" Support Group hopes to build a memorial in Veterans Park to honor the men and women of Wyoming serving in the armed forces during 9-11 and Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, with special tribute to the Wyoming citizens who lost their lives. Donations of quality items - antiques, art, glassware, furniture, sporting goods, services, tools, collectibles - are needed to be auctioned on Feb. 28. Info: 267-0058 or 234-4746. Monetary donations may be sent to "Hands to the Sands," P.O. Box 815, Casper, WY 82602-0815.

FREE COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE TREES

Through Feb. 29, those who join the National Arbor Day Foundation will receive 10 free Colorado blue spruce trees, as part of the nonprofit organization's Trees for America campaign. The trees are guaranteed to grow and will be shipped with instructions at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31. To join, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Colorado Blue Spruce Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, Neb. 68410.

GLENROCK EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

The center is offering a free screening to children ages birth to 5 years in speech and language, motor skills, cognitive skills (thinking and reasoning), vision, hearing, and physical assessment. Results are available immediately after screening, which takes from 1-2 hours. For appointment information, call 436-5357.

RUMMAGE/BAKE/CRAFT SALE

Gateway Social Services is planning the event March 4-6; proceeds will benefit Gateway's food pantry and delivery of commodities of Casper Senior Center. Usable donations are requested. Pick-up may be available. Info: 265-8336.

DAFFODIL DAYS

Order deadline is March 5 for The American Cancer Society's 15th annual Daffodil Days. Volunteers will begin delivering orders, with a minimum of five bouquets, starting the week of March 22. Individual bouquets may be picked up at the ACS office during that week. Bouquets of 10 fresh-cut blooms are \$7 each, \$30 for five and \$10 for 10. Commemorative vases are \$4 each. Proceeds support research, educational programs of early detection and prevention, and numerous patient services for cancer patients and their families. Fax orders to 234-0926, Attn: Jerre Jones. Telephone orders may be left at 577-4962, 234-8625, or 577-4892.

CASPER RECREATION DIVISION

Rec Center, 1801 E. Fourth St. Hours: 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, 1-7 p.m. Sunday. Lunch Hour Basketball continues from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday. Participants are asked to bring an extra pair of non-marking court shoes. Admission is a Rec Center pass or \$2 daily admission fee. Info: 235-8383. Ice Arena: 235-8484.

*Through March 18, Drop-In Open Gyms for basketball and volleyball continue in area schools. Organized team practices are not allowed. Participants must bring clean non-marking shoes to wear while playing. Everyone must register and present a privilege card to participate. High School and Adult Volleyball, 7-10 p.m.: Monday, Southridge; Thursday, Westwood. Basketball, 6:30-7:30 p.m., grades 4-6; 7:30-8:30 p.m., junior-high students; 8:30-10 p.m., high school/adults: Monday, Sagewood; Tuesday, McKinley & Manor Heights; Wednesday, Sagewood & Crest Hill; Thursday, McKinley.

*Through May, "Wellness Wednesday" will be offered from 10 a.m.-noon at the Rec Center: 1st Wednesday of the month, certified personal trainer Patty Kempf will help set up training programs using the weight room and cardiovascular equipment; 2nd Wednesday, 3-on-3 basketball will be played; 3rd Wednesday, Kempf will have a circuit training course prepared; and 4th Wednesday, racquetball and volleyball will be offered. Wellness points may be earned for prizes, including workout clothing; T-shirts, and discounts.

*Registration is ongoing for Spring Learn-To-Skate classes, in the Ice Arena. Classes are offered in basic skills, figure and adult skating, home-school, beginning hockey, 3-on-3 hockey, and off-ice training. New classes begin the week of Feb. 21.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CENTRAL WYO

Memberships are \$10 per year. Membership fees are waived for military families.

*Glenrock: 412 S. Fourth St. Info: 436-7588. Hours Monday-Friday: 6:30-8 a.m. Breakfast Program; 2:45-6 p.m.; daily Project Learn, homework help and tutoring. SMART Moves, Fitness Authority and Torch Club offered.

*Main Club: 353 W. A St., Casper. Info: 235-5694. Hours: 3-7 p.m. Monday-Friday; busing rides are available for \$1.50 per ride; daily homework help and tutoring, 3-6 p.m.; Technology Center, 4-7 p.m. Monday-Friday; SMART Moves weekly; Archery Program Monday & Friday; Teen Night, 3-10 p.m. Friday.

*North Casper: 239 E. H St. Info: 235-9125. Hours: 3-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; daily homework help and tutoring, 3:30-4:30 p.m.; Reading Help, 4:30-5:30 p.m.; Goals for Growth, 4-5 p.m. Monday; Club Tech, 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; Fitness Authority, 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday; Gamesroom Tournament, 4:30-6 p.m. Wednesday; SMART Moves, 4-5 p.m. Thursday; Torch Club, 5 p.m. Thursday; Keystone Club, third Friday of each month; ZOOM Club, 4:30 p.m. Friday; Teen Night Program, 6-10 p.m. Friday; Jam Session Basketball 2-4 p.m. Sunday at the Main Club.

*Feb. 23, March 1 & March 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m., North Casper Boys & Girls Club, 239 E. H St. Young Fathers Initiative is a roundtable discussion; fathers will be paid \$20 to attend. Fathers will discuss difficult issues in a safe, non-threatening environment. Info: 235-9125.

AT CASPER COLLEGE

125 College Drive. To register, call 268-2100 or toll-free (800) 442-2963.

*Adult Basic Education/GED at CC is located in Werner Technical Center Room 115. Hours: 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday; 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday; 1-8 p.m. Wednesday; 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday; and 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. At the Casper Employment Center/Department of Family Services, 851 Werner Court, Suite 121: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-noon Friday. Services are free and open to the public, ages 16 and older. A mandatory new student orientation will be held every Tuesday from 8-10 a.m., 1-3 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at the ABE/GED Center. English as a Second Language is available only at North Casper Elementary School, 1014 Glenarm, from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Tuesday & Thursday; and 1-3 p.m. Monday & Wednesday. Child care is available from 1-3 and 6-8 p.m. Monday and 1-3 p.m. Wednesday. Info: 268-2230.

*Goodstein Foundation Library is open to students and the public from 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; and 2-10 p.m. Sunday. It also is home to a special collection of noncirculating materials on Wyoming and the West. Info: 268-2269.

*Goodstein Art Gallery, located in the Visual Arts Center, is open to the public from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Admission is free.

*Tate Geological Museum, at the south end of campus, is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free. Museum tours are available with advance notice. Info: 268-2447 or toll-free (800) 472-2963, ext. 2447.

*CC Greenhouse, on the west side of Loftin Life Science Center, is open from noon-3 p.m. Monday-Friday and features a variety of plants and wildlife. Admission is free. Private tours are available by calling greenhouse director and biology instructor Evert Brown, 268-2407.

*Werner Wildlife Museum, 405 E. 15th St., is open from 1-5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday & Friday. Free admission. Private tours are available by calling 235-2108.

*Remaining sessions for "Communication for Professional Success," led by speaking professional Margaret Benson: Feb. 23-March 31 and April 5-May 5. The courses are one credit each.

*Application deadline is March 1 for the CC Nursing Program for fall 2004 semester. All applicants must meet eligibility requirements. The number of nursing students will be increased to 64, as well as an addition of a full-time instructor. Info: 268-2235.

FORT CASPAR MUSEUM & HISTORIC SITE

4001 Fort Caspar Road. Hours through May 1: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Closed Saturdays. Fort buildings are closed for the season. Admission is \$1 for adults, 50 cents for students ages 6-17 and free to children 5 and under. Membership in the Fort Caspar Museum Association includes free admission for the season and a discount in the gift shop. Info: 235-8462.

N.C. AMERICAN RED CROSS

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday, 1432 E. Second St. Pre-registration is required for all classes; fees charged. Info: 237-8436.

*Feb. 18, 8 a.m. Review class for Standard First Aid with AED and Adult Child & Infant CPR will last from one to three hours.

NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS INTERPRETIVE CENTER

1501 N. Poplar. Hours through March 31: 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Admission is \$6 for adults; \$4 for students ages 18 and older; \$3 for youth ages 6-17; \$1 for children ages 3-5; and free for infants under age 3. Federal recreation fee passports are honored. Info: 261-7700. For group tour information, call 261-7787.

CONSIGNMENT & THRIFT SHOPS

*Joshua's Storehouse, 1700 W. First St. (behind NAPA Auto Parts), a volunteer, nonprofit distribution center, seeks volunteers as well as donations of canned goods, cereal, and other non-perishable food items for food boxes. Clothing, shoes, household goods, bedding and other items, and Bibles are given free to those in need. Financial donations are appreciated. Info: 265-0242.

*The Salvation Army Thrift Store is located at 1230 E. Yellowstone. Donations are accepted at this location; do not leave anything on the dock before or after hours of operation.

*Rescued Treasures, 330 N. Durbin St., an outreach ministry of the Central Wyoming Rescue Mission, is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Proceeds are used to help the poor and homeless. Info: 577-7793.

*The Methodist Thrift Shop, 221 W. First St., is open 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and Saturday. All proceeds returned to area needy. Clearance sale features 50 percent off all clothing and toys; except children's clothing, which is 50 cents each or less. Info: 234-6611.

*Poverty Resistance Thrift Shop, 450 S. Wolcott, is open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily. the non-profit organization, which provides clothing, food and other items to low-income families, is currently accepting donations of food, clothing, furniture, appliances, household items and bedding. Info: 232-8725.

*St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, 301 E. H St., is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Items include adult & children's clothing and small household goods. All proceeds benefit Interfaith, Seton House, Holy Cross Food Bank and St. Anthony's Northside Center. Info: 237-2607.

*Bargain Basement, 1511 S. Melrose, is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday-Saturday. Proceeds benefit Interfaith and Habitat for Humanity. Info: 265-4466.

GLENROCK PALEONTOLOGICAL MUSEUM

506 W. Birch, Glenrock. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Admission is free. Info: 436-2667.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF WYO CASPER CLINIC

1945 Westwood Hill. Hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday; and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. the second & fourth Saturdays of each month. Closed Tuesday & Thursday. For appointments, call 234-1669.

UNITED BLOOD SERVICES

167 S. Conwell. Hours: 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday & Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday & Thursday and 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday. Blood supplies are at a critical low. Volunteer blood donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. Info: 237-2328.

SALT CREEK MUSEUM

The museum is open every day and is located at 531-1/2 Peak Street next to City Park in Midwest. The history of Midwest from 1924 to the present is documented, including thousands of vintage photographs. To visit, call 437-6633 or 437-6513.

HOGADON SKI AREA

Casper Mountain. Open Wednesdays-Sundays and all holidays. Info: 235-8499.

*Limited openings are Morning Dew, Park Avenue and Boomerang Terrain Park. Lift ticket prices are \$24 full-day and \$22 half-day for adults and students and \$16 full- or half-day for children.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

Bring all W-2s, 1099s and any other documents necessary for preparing returns; Social Security cards for all family members; a voided check for direct deposit of refunds or a voided deposit slip for savings accounts; and a copy of last year's return. Info: 261-6370, ext. 223.

*Casper College, 125 College Drive, Thorson Business Building Room 404: Through April 9, 10 a.m.-noon Fridays; through April 10, 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays; through April 15, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays.

*Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St.: Through April 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Mondays.

WYOMING SCIENCE ADVENTURE CENTER

Third floor of the Nicolaysen Art Museum, 400 E. Collins. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday & Monday. Admission: \$2 adults, \$1 children 12 and under. Members are admitted free. Info: 261-6130.

*Continuing through April, the new interactive "Mystery" exhibit features forensic science projects to solve make-believe crimes. Special demonstrations by law-enforcement professionals will be presented.

NICOLAYSEN ART MUSEUM & DISCOVERY CENTER

400 E. Collins Drive. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. Info: 235-5247.

*Exhibits: Through March 14, "Four Directions" by Crow Indian artist Kevin Red Star; and "Concepts with Contrast" by the Watercolor Co., featuring six Casper artists - Holly Bishop, Jim Gatheir, Barbara Kuxhausen, Skip Larcom, Michele McDonald and Joan Melius.

NATRONA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

307 E. Second St. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday & Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday, September-May. Bob Goff Memorial/Mills Branch Library hours: 1-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 1-5 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday, September-May. Mark J. Davis/Edgerton Branch Library hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday; 1-7 p.m. Wednesday; 2-6 p.m. Thursday, September-May; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday. Info: 237-4935.

*Storytime: 10:30 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday.

*Feb. 21, 3:30 p.m., Metro Coffee Co. Saturday Afternoon Book Club.

*Feb. 23, 7 p.m. Mystery Book Discussion.

GLENROCK BRANCH LIBRARY

518 S. Fourth St., Glenrock. Hours: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday & Friday and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday. Info: (307) 436-2573.

CASPER ARTIST'S GUILD

Hours: Noon-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th St. Admission is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required for all workshops. Info: 265-2655.

*Open Studio in any medium is offered from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays. All artists are welcome.

*Life drawing sessions are offered from 7-10 p.m. Tuesdays. Fee charged. Info: Bob Odell, 235-5408.

*Portrait classes are offered from 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays. Fee charged. Info: Ariane Demos, 259-5708.

*Through Feb. 29, Decorative Arts Show features china painting, tole art, quilting, embroidery, painting and basketry.

*Feb. 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Dick Sorenson acrylic and oil color workshop. Lunch will be served. Fees are \$30 for members and \$40 for nonmembers; call for supply list. Info: 265-2655 or 472-5857.

WYO VETERANS' MEMORIAL MUSEUM

3740 Jourgensen, in the former Casper Army Air Base Servicemen's Club, east of Natrona County International Airport. Hours: Noon-5 p.m. Thursday-Sunday. Admission is free; donations are appreciated. The museum features artifacts from all branches of military services from the Indian Wars-present. Info: 472-1857; Wyoming Veterans' Affairs Commission, 265-7372; toll-free outside of Casper, (800) 833-5987. For groups of 10 or more or tours arranged at different times, call the commission.

VERN & RITA DAVIS

7-10 p.m., Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St. Admission to the dance is \$3. No smoking or alcohol.

clubs & meetings

SELF HELP CENTER HOTLINE

The Self Help Center has a 24-hour confidential hotline, 262-9675, available to help educate potentially abusive men and provide available resources. The Self Help office number is 235-2814.

OSLC MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

Our Saviour Lutheran Church men meet for breakfast at 6:30 a.m. Wednesdays at Platte River Restaurant, 321 E. E St. New participants welcome. Info: 237-9087.

CDCNC BOARD

6:45 a.m., Child Development Center of Natrona County, 2020 E. 12th St. Board meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month. Info: 235-5097.

TOPS MEETINGS

* No. 35: 7-8:30 a.m., 1st Presbyterian Church, Eighth & Wolcott. New members welcome. Info: 237-3880 or 265-2085.

* No. 162: Christ United Methodist Church, 1868 S. Poplar St. Weigh-in at 8 a.m., meeting at 8:30 a.m. Info: 265-7834 or 235-0066.

* No. 299: 9 a.m., Fourth & Midwest, Mills. Info: 235-1249.

* No. 86: 6 p.m., Evansville Senior Center, Third & Curtis, Evansville. Info: 473-7060.

CASPER DAY CARE CHILD DEVELOPMENT BOARD

7 a.m., 2020 E. 12th. Info: 235-5097.

SUNRISE MALLWALKERS

8-10 a.m., Atlantic Pacific Postal Center, Sunrise Shopping Center. Blood pressure checks will be available.

Cost is \$8 or bring Medicare card. Info: 237-2561.

CASPER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITTEES

Regular business hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. The office is closed on holidays. Reservations are required for all meetings/events by calling 234-5311.

*Today, 11:30 a.m. Petroleum Club. Business Retention & Expansion. Speaker will be a staff member from the ACT Center at Casper College.

*Today, 4 p.m. Chamber Board meets.

*Feb. 18, noon, Petroleum Club. Sports & Attractions.

12-24 CLUB

9 a.m.-9 p.m., 136 W. Eighth St. Club is open to family and friends who are having trouble with alcohol and/or drugs. Info: 237-8035.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Info: 266-9578.

* 10 a.m., 200 N. Wolcott, Room 113; noon & 7 p.m., 136 W. Eighth St.; 6:30 p.m., 917 N. Beech; 8:23 p.m., 184 Copper, Evansville. Open meetings.

* 7 p.m., 136 W. 8th St. Closed 12 x 12 meeting.

* 8 p.m.: 200 N. Wolcott, Room 113. Candlelight meeting.

TELEPHONE PIONEERS

11:30 a.m., Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St. Appreciation Day, followed by business meeting. All members and/or partners are welcome. Bring non-perishables for Holy Cross Center. Info: 234-2575.

TOASTMASTERS PIONEER 97

Noon, Petroleum Club. Lunch optional. Info: 235-8222.

LIONS CLUB OF CASPER

Noon, Parkway Plaza. Info: 234-7316.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Info: 266-7154.

* Noon & 8 p.m., 200 N. Wolcott, office building basement; 8 p.m., 2521 E. 15th St., Facility WB1. Open topic and discussion meetings.

P.E.O. SISTERHOOD, CHAPTER Y

12:45 p.m., home of Bobby Jane Waldram, 1764 S. Conwell St.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

1 p.m., Senior Citizens' Center, 1831 E. Fourth St. Info: 265-4427, 235-3467, 235-5542 or 234-7038.

NICOTINE ANONYMOUS

5:30 p.m., 12-24 Club, 136 W. Eighth St.

HEPATITIS C SUPPORT GROUP

6-7 p.m., Wyoming Medical Center Support Services Building Classroom A, 1200 E. Third St. The group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Info: 267-4182, 267-0911 or 258-0301.

SEXAHOLICS ANONYMOUS

7 p.m., 309 N. McKinley. Informational meeting. Info: 265-8590.

COWBOY CHURCH

Cowboy Church, hosted by Stanley and Daphney Adams, will be held at 7 p.m. each Wednesday in Mills Municipal Building and Fire Hall, the corner of Fourth Street and Wasatch Avenue. Services are open to the public and casual dress is the code. Info: 377-8006.

AL-ANON

Info: 266-9578.

*7-8 p.m., 123 W. First St., enter door at corner of First and David streets. "Stepping Stones to Recovery" family group meeting. Non-smoking.

*7:30-8 p.m., 200 N. Wolcott, Basement Room No. 90. 12-step study group beginners' meeting. 8 p.m., 12-Step Study Group Sharing.

*8 p.m., 615 W. Deer, Senior Citizens' building, Glenrock.

EAST CASPER VOLLEYBALL CLUB

7 p.m., Sagewood Elementary gym.

N.C. ROCKHOUNDS WORKSHOP

7-10 p.m., 5211 Rambler, Mountain View Addition, Mills. Members and visitors welcome. Info: 237-8043.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BOARD & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

7:15 p.m., 442 W. Collins. Info: 234-1348.

GLENROCK AA

8 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Glenrock Senior Citizen Center basement, 615 W. Deer St. All meetings are open and other support group members are welcome to attend. Info: 436-9863, 436-9836 or 266-9578.

Upcoming

LYMPHEDEMA SUPPORT GROUP

Feb. 19, noon, Rocky Mountain Therapy, 111 S. Jefferson, Suite 100. A Casper pharmacist will talk about diuretics; a question-and-answer period on medications will follow. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month. Reservations are requested by calling 577-5204.

'SOLVING THE ESTATE PLANNING PUZZLE' WORKSHOP

Registration will be taken at the door for a workshop, sponsored by Women in Ag, at 1 p.m. Feb. 19 in the Agricultural Resource and Learning Center, 2011 Fairgrounds Road. Speakers are John A. Warnick and Dr. Bob Fetsch. Cost is \$10 each or \$15 per couple. Info: 235-9400 or (307) 339-3040.

CASPER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITTEES

Regular business hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. The office is closed on holidays. Reservations are required for all meetings/events by calling 234-5311.

*Feb. 19, 5-7 p.m., Sidelines Sports Bar/Banjo Bob's. Business After Hours' "A Picnic in February." Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. Non-perishable food drive to benefit Central Wyoming Rescue Mission, Self Help Center and Seton House. Reservations are required by noon Feb. 19.

*Feb. 20, 11:30 a.m., Petroleum Club. Government Affairs.

DMJHS CHILI BINGO NIGHT

Feb. 19, 5:30-8 p.m., Dean Morgan Junior High School cafeteria. DMJHS Parent-Teacher Organization sponsors the public event, featuring chili for \$1 and bingo cards for 25 cents. Cash and prizes offered. Info: 577-4440.

P.E.O. SISTERHOOD, CHAPTER AC

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are at 12:30 p.m.

*Feb. 19, 6:30 p.m., home of Carolyn Rhodes, 2024 Manor Drive.

N.C. GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Feb. 19, 7 p.m., Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St. Program: "Climbing Your Family Tree in Your Pajamas" by Kay McCullough. Info: 234-4216 or 234-3211.

'DIABETES 101' CLASSES

Beginning Feb. 20, the Community Health Center of Central Wyoming presents a free series, "CHCCW and You: Improving Diabetes Care Together." Unless otherwise noted, all classes are from 2-4 p.m. at 1522 E. A St. Lab work fees apply on Feb. 20 & June 11. Info: 233-6039.

*Feb. 20, Session 1: "The ABCs of Diabetes," with Jeff McCollum, M.D., CHCCW medical director; and registered dietitian Jennifer Sesley, MS, RD, CDE.

ARTCORE PRESENTS THE PERSUASIONS

A capella group, The Persuasions, will perform in concert at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20 in Natrona County High School's John F. Welsh Auditorium. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$11 for senior citizens, \$6 for school teachers and students and \$4 for ages 12 and under. They are available at Flower Gallery, Friends & Co. Espresso, Hill Music, The Shade Tree and Sonic Rainbow in Casper; and Mullinix & Co. in Douglas. The group will offer a free clinic at 4 p.m. at NCHS. Info: ARTCORE, 265-1564.

WYO TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

Info: 234-1579.

*Feb. 21, 9 a.m., Little America Hotel, Cheyenne. WTA Board of Directors meet.

PARENTS OF MURDERED CHILDREN

Feb. 21, 4-7 p.m., Casper College Center Room 207. Guest speaker: Sheila Kimmel. Info: Suzanne, 237-5230.

CASPER PLANETARIUM

904 N. Poplar St. Doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Admission is \$2.50 per person per program, unless otherwise noted. Most programs are not suitable for children under age 6. Group rates are available: \$25 for 25 or fewer and \$1 per person for 26 or more; reservations are required. Info: 577-0310.

*Feb. 21 & 28, "Images of the Infinite" by the Hubble Space Telescope, features a detailed look at nebula, star clusters and distant galaxies.

*March 6, 7 p.m. "This Month's Sky" is an entertaining and informative program for all ages.

CASPER EVENTS CENTER

Tickets are on sale at the box office and usual statewide outlets. Info: 577-3030 or (800) 442-2256.

*Feb. 21, 8 p.m. Rap and hip-hop superstar Ludacris, with special guests Chingy and David Banner. Tickets are \$36.

*Feb. 27-28, State High School Wrestling Tournament. Admission is \$3 for students & \$4 for adults for Friday sessions; \$6/students & \$8/adults for Saturday morning sessions; and \$4/students & \$5/adults for Saturday finals. Passes are \$8/students & \$11/adults for Friday; \$9/students & \$12/adults for Saturday; and \$12/students & \$17/adults for the tournament.

SPORTING CLAYS/CASPER SKEET CLUB

Feb. 22, noon-5 p.m., 700 JC Way. Info: 234-6958.

SOLOS CLUB

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at 1 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church, 1868 S. Poplar. Open to all singles ages 50 and older.

*Feb. 22. Potluck.

*Feb. 29, 1 p.m., Perkins Family Restaurant, 4710 E. Second St.



Casper Calendar

Posted: Thursday, February 19, 2004 12:00 am

3rd Thursday

'THROUGH WITH CHEW' WEEK

The Wyoming Department of Health has proclaimed this is "Through With Chew" Week, through Feb. 21. The campaign, which is endorsed by the Wyoming Dental and Dental Hygienists associations and Wyoming Dental Program, urges people to quit using chew tobacco. A free telephone quitline, (800) WYO-QUIT, is provided. Info: Well-Being of Wyoming, 472-5991.

'ANCIENT ROOTS' MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE SOCIETY

Membership is free and open to women with or without previous experience in Middle Eastern dance. Monthly "haflas" (meeting and potluck) will be scheduled. Info: 473-8845.

RED HAT SOCIETY MARDI GRAS BALL

Reservation deadline is today for the event, hosted by the Queen Bee and Top Hat chapters, at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at Club Dance West, 225 N. Wolcott. All Red Hat chapter members and guests are invited. Buffet dinner is \$20 per person. Masks are optional. Info: Margaret K Fashions, 235-6091.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE WORKSHOP

Registration deadline is Feb. 20 for an in-depth training seminar, sponsored by Health Education and Consulting Services, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Hampton Inn. Instructor is Linda Bowman, a geriatric nurse whose lecture has been approved by the Alzheimer's Educator, Alzheimer's Association in Cheyenne and Alzheimer's Affiliation of Wyoming in Casper. Info: (866) 226-7606.

WYO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Unless otherwise noted, classes are held in the Wyoming Small Business Development Center conference room, 300 S. Wolcott, Suite 300. Info: 234-6683.

*Registration deadline is Feb. 24 for "Managing Your Employees for Corporate Success," from 8 a.m.-noon March 2. Fee is \$25. A panel of local experts from the Society for Human Resource Management will participate.

LADIES OF THE PETROLEUM CLUB

Reservations are required for a luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Feb. 24. Program: Martha Rakestraw of Kitchens Etc., with the latest in remodeling ideas. Info: 235-6446.

'HANDS TO THE SANDS' SUPPORT GROUP AUCTION

"Hands to the Sands" Support Group hopes to build a memorial in Veterans Park to honor the men and women of Wyoming serving in the armed forces during 9-11 and Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, with special tribute to the Wyoming citizens who lost their lives. Donations of quality items - antiques, art, glassware, furniture, sporting goods, services, tools, collectibles - are needed to be auctioned on Feb. 28. Info: 267-0058 or 234-4746. Monetary donations may be sent to "Hands to the Sands," P.O. Box 815, Casper, WY 82602-0815.

FREE COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE TREES

Through Feb. 29, those who join the National Arbor Day Foundation will receive 10 free Colorado blue spruce trees, as part of the nonprofit organization's Trees for America campaign. The trees are guaranteed to grow and will be shipped with instructions at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31. To join, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Colorado Blue Spruce Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, Neb. 68410.

CASPER RECREATION DIVISION

Rec Center, 1801 E. Fourth St. Hours: 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, 1-7 p.m. Sunday. Lunch Hour Basketball continues from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday. Participants are asked to bring an extra pair of non-marking court shoes. Admission is a Rec Center pass or \$2 daily admission fee. Info: 235-8383. Ice Arena: 235-8484.

*Feb. 20-22, Ice Arena. Casper Area Hockey Club Pee Wee House Tournament.

*Registration is ongoing for Spring Learn-To-Skate classes, in the Ice Arena. Classes are offered in basic skills, figure and adult skating, home-school, beginning hockey, 3-on-3 hockey, and off-ice training. New classes begin the week of Feb. 21.

*Feb. 28, 10 a.m. Pepsi Hot Shot Basketball Shooting Competition is free to the public and geared for boys ages 6-14.

*Late registration continues for the 14th annual Youth Basketball Tournament, March 20-21, at various locations throughout Casper. The event is open to boys' and girls' teams in grades 4-9, with divisions in each age group. An ice-skating party and free-throw contest are included. Other rules apply. Teams interested in entering may register through March 2, as long as their requested division is not filled. Fee is \$100 per team. Call the Rec Center for more information.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CENTRAL WYO

Memberships are \$10 per year. Membership fees are waived for military families.

*Glenrock: 412 S. Fourth St. Info: 436-7588. Hours Monday-Friday: 6:30-8 a.m. Breakfast Program; 2:45-6 p.m.; daily Project Learn, homework help and tutoring. SMART Moves, Fitness Authority and Torch Club offered.

*Main Club: 353 W. A St., Casper. Info: 235-5694. Hours: 3-7 p.m. Monday-Friday; busing rides are available for \$1.50 per ride; daily homework help and tutoring, 3-6 p.m.; Technology Center, 4-7 p.m. Monday-Friday; SMART Moves weekly; Archery Program Monday & Friday; Teen Night, 3-10 p.m. Friday.

*North Casper: 239 E. H St. Info: 235-9125. Hours: 3-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; daily homework help and tutoring, 3:30-4:30 p.m.; Reading Help, 4:30-5:30 p.m.; Goals for Growth, 4-5 p.m. Monday; Club Tech, 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; Fitness Authority, 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday; Gamesroom Tournament, 4:30-6 p.m. Wednesday; SMART Moves, 4-5 p.m. Thursday; Torch Club, 5 p.m. Thursday; Keystone Club, third Friday of each month; ZOOM Club, 4:30 p.m. Friday; Teen Night Program, 6-10 p.m. Friday; Jam Session Basketball 2-4 p.m. Sunday at the Main Club.

*Feb. 23, March 1 & March 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m., North Casper Boys & Girls Club, 239 E. H St. Young Fathers Initiative is a roundtable discussion; fathers will be paid \$20 to attend. Fathers will discuss difficult issues in a safe, non-threatening environment. Info: 235-9125.

N.C. AMERICAN RED CROSS

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday, 1432 E. Second St. Pre-registration is required for all classes; fees charged. Info: 237-8436.

*Feb. 25, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Standard First Aid with AED and Adult, Child & Infant CPR.

*Feb. 28, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Babysitter Training for ages 11-16. Scholarships may be available.

CONSIGNMENT & THRIFT SHOPS

*Joshua's Storehouse, 1700 W. First St. (behind NAPA Auto Parts), a volunteer, nonprofit distribution center, seeks volunteers as well as donations of canned goods, cereal, and other non-perishable food items for food boxes. Clothing, shoes, household goods, bedding and other items, and Bibles are given free to those in need. Financial donations are appreciated. Info: 265-0242.

*The Salvation Army Thrift Store is located at 1230 E. Yellowstone. Donations are accepted at this location; do not leave anything on the dock before or after hours of operation.

*Rescued Treasures, 330 N. Durbin St., an outreach ministry of the Central Wyoming Rescue Mission, is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Proceeds are used to help the poor and homeless. Info: 577-7793.

*The Methodist Thrift Shop, 221 W. First St., is open 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and Saturday. All proceeds returned to area needy. Clearance sale features 50 percent off all clothing and toys; except children's clothing, which is 50 cents each or less. Info: 234-6611.

*Poverty Resistance Thrift Shop, 450 S. Wolcott, is open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily. the non-profit organization, which provides clothing, food and other items to low-income families, is currently accepting donations of food, clothing, furniture, appliances, household items and bedding. Info: 232-8725.

*St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, 301 E. H St., is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Items include adult & children's clothing and small household goods. All proceeds benefit Interfaith, Seton House, Holy Cross Food Bank and St. Anthony's Northside Center. Info: 237-2607.

*Bargain Basement, 1511 S. Melrose, is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday-Saturday. Proceeds benefit Interfaith and Habitat for Humanity. Info: 265-4466.

UNITED BLOOD SERVICES

167 S. Conwell. Hours: 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday & Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday & Thursday and 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday. Blood supplies are at a critical low. Volunteer blood donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. Info: 237-2328.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

Bring all W-2s, 1099s and any other documents necessary for preparing returns; Social Security cards for all family members; a voided check for direct deposit of refunds or a voided deposit slip for savings accounts; and a copy of last year's return. Info: 261-6370, ext. 223.

*Casper College, 125 College Drive, Thorson Business Building Room 404: Through April 9, 10 a.m.-noon Fridays; through April 10, 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays; through April 15, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays.

*Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St.: Through April 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Mondays.

NICOLAYSEN ART MUSEUM & DISCOVERY CENTER

400 E. Collins Drive. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. Info: 235-5247.

*Exhibits: Through March 14, "Four Directions" by Crow Indian artist Kevin Red Star; and "Concepts with Contrast" by the Watercolor Co., featuring six Casper artists - Holly Bishop, Jim Gatheir, Barbara Kuxhausen, Skip Larcom, Michele McDonald and Joan Melius.

*Today, 5-7 p.m. Cheyenne photographer Mark Junge will sign copies of his book, "A View From Center Street: Tom Carrigen's Casper."

NATRONA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

307 E. Second St. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday & Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday, September-May. Bob Goff Memorial/Mills Branch Library hours: 1-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 1-5 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday, September-May. Mark J. Davis/Edgerton Branch Library hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday; 1-7 p.m. Wednesday; 2-6 p.m. Thursday, September-May; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday. Info: 237-4935.

*Storytime: 10:30 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday.

*Feb. 21, 3:30 p.m., Metro Coffee Co. Saturday Afternoon Book Club.

*Feb. 23, 7 p.m. Mystery Book Discussion.

GLENROCK BRANCH LIBRARY

518 S. Fourth St., Glenrock. Hours: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday & Friday and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday. Info: (307) 436-2573.

CASPER ARTIST'S GUILD

Hours: Noon-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th St. Admission is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required for all workshops. Info: 265-2655.

*Open Studio in any medium is offered from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays. All artists are welcome.

*Life drawing sessions are offered from 7-10 p.m. Tuesdays. Fee charged. Info: Bob Odell, 235-5408.

*Portrait classes are offered from 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays. Fee charged. Info: Ariane Demos, 259-5708.

*Through Feb. 29, Decorative Arts Show features china painting, tole art, quilting, embroidery, painting and basketry.

*Feb. 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Dick Sorenson acrylic and oil color workshop. Lunch will be served. Fees are \$30 for members and \$40 for nonmembers; call for supply list. Info: 265-2655 or 472-5857.

*March 1-20, "Dreams of Spring" Show features spring landscapes. Entry fee is \$5 per painting; deadline is Feb. 29. An artists' reception is scheduled for March 14.

'SOLVING THE ESTATE PLANNING PUZZLE' WORKSHOP

Registration will be taken at the door for a workshop, sponsored by Women in Ag, at 1 p.m. in the Agricultural Resource and Learning Center, 2011 Fairgrounds Road. Speakers are John A. Warnick and Dr. Bob Fetsch. Cost is \$10 each or \$15 per couple. Info: 235-9400 or (307) 339-3040.

DMJHS CHILI BINGO NIGHT

5:30-8 p.m., Dean Morgan Junior High School cafeteria. DMJHS Parent-Teacher Organization sponsors the public event, featuring chili for \$1 and bingo cards for 25 cents. Cash and prizes offered. Info: 577-4440.

clubs & meetings

CASPER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITTEES

Regular business hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. The office is closed on holidays. Reservations are required for all meetings/events by calling 234-5311.

*Today, 5-7 p.m., Sidlines Sports Bar/Banjo Bob's. Business After Hours' "A Picnic in February." Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. Non-perishable food drive to benefit Central Wyoming Rescue Mission, Self Help Center and Seton House. Reservations are required by noon.

12-24 CLUB

9 a.m.-9 p.m., 136 W. Eighth St. Club is open to family and friends who are having trouble with alcohol and/or drugs. Info: 237-8035.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

10:15 a.m., First United Methodist Church basement, 332 E. Second St. The group meets the first and third Thursdays of the month. Open to the public. Info: 265-7960.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Info: 266-9578.

* Noon, 136 E. Eighth St. Open meeting.

* 8 p.m.: 917 N. Beech, open big book study; 200 N. Wolcott, Room 113, open meeting; 4600 S. Poplar, closed.

FIVE TRAILS ROTARY CLUB

Noon, Casper Petroleum Club.

BLUE ENVELOPE HEALTH COUNCIL

Noon, Central Wyoming Hospice conference room, 319 S. Wilson. Info: 577-7955.

KIWANIS CLUB OF CASPER

Noon, Radisson Hotel.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS

Noon, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 701 Wolcott. Info: 265-3110.

N.C. MASTER PLUMBERS ASSOCIATION

Noon, Parkway Plaza, 123 W. E St. No-host luncheon. Info: 234-1318.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Info: 266-7154.

* Noon, 200 N. Wolcott, office building basement. Open topic and discussion meeting.

* 8 p.m., 4700 S. Poplar. Closed, nonsmoking topic and discussion meeting.

LYMPHEDEMA SUPPORT GROUP

Noon, Rocky Mountain Therapy, 111 S. Jefferson, Suite 100. A Casper pharmacist will talk about diuretics; a question-and-answer period on medications will follow. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month. Reservations are requested by calling 577-5204.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

1 p.m., Senior Citizens' Center, 1831 E. Fourth St. Info: 265-4427, 235-3467, 235-5542 or 234-7038.

MERCER HOUSE OPEN CLASSES

Prerequisites and fees may apply. Info: 265-7366.

* 3:30-5 p.m., Controlling Anger through Life Management I; 3:30-5:30 p.m., Values and Character-Building

Group; 3:30-6 p.m., Tobacco Intervention; 6:30-8 p.m., Positive Parenting.

DEPRESSION BIPOLAR SUPPORT GROUP

Thursdays, 5:15-6:15 p.m., Community Health Center, Central Wyoming/University of Wyoming Family Practice conference room, 1522 E. A St. The group is sponsored by the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance and is open to the public. Info: Allie Kilpatrick, 259-1326.

P.E.O. SISTERHOOD, CHAPTER AC

6:30 p.m., home of Carolyn Rhodes, 2024 Manor Drive.

ENTERPRISE ENCAMPMENT & LEA

6:30 p.m., IOOF Hall. Carry-in dinner.

CENTRAL WYO CELIAC ASSOCIATION

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are in Wyoming Medical Center Health Services Building, auditorium A. Info: 472-5889 or 237-2058.

*7-9 p.m. "Yak for Celiac" socials are scheduled the third Thursday of each month.

OIL CITY SLICKERS

7 p.m., Middle Cross Ministry, 1744 S. Poplar (parking in front and side alleys). The barbershop chorus invites interested men to visit and sing for joy. Info: 234-1460 or 472-1052.

AL-ANON

*7 p.m., 12/24 Club, 136 W. Eighth St. "Just For Today." Non-smoking.

*7 p.m., 200 N. Wolcott, Basement Room 90. 12-Step Study Group.

N.C. GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

7 p.m., Central Wyoming Senior Center, 1831 E. Fourth St. Program: "Climbing Your Family Tree in Your Pajamas" by Kay McCullough. Info: 234-4216 or 234-3211.

'NEW BEGINNINGS' SUPPORT GROUP

Interdenominational peer support group for divorced, widowed or separated persons meets at 7 p.m.

Thursdays in the Patrician Room of St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Topic: "Depression." Info: 237-7333 or 234-4368.

CASPER GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

7 p.m. Tate Museum at Casper College. Meetings are the third Thursday of each month and are followed by refreshments and a program. Info: 237-8043.

PEBBLE PUPS CLUB

7 p.m., Tate Geological Museum. The Casper Gem and Mineral Club has established a children's rockhounding club for ages 9 and older, which meets the third Thursday of each month. Info: 234-3243 or 234-6276; e-mail: (jantanz@home.com).

EPILEPSY SUPPORT GROUP

7 p.m., Wyoming Medical Center. Info: 237-5316.

AL-ANON 12 STEP BOOK STUDY

7 p.m., 200 N. Wolcott, Basement Room 90.

ARCHERY

Through March 25, 7-10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Stuckenhoff Sport Shooters Complex. Fees are \$4 for nonmembers and \$1.25 for members; both prices include a target. Info: Dan Kolb. 265-4418.

VFW POST AUXILIARY NO. 9439

7:30 p.m., 1800 Bryan Stock Trail.

HEALING EUCHARIST

7:30 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 4700 S. Poplar. Fr. Roy Baker conducts the service every Thursday.

CASPER ANTIQUES & COLLECTORS CLUB

7:30 p.m., Basko Building, 777 W. First St. Info: 237-8101.

N.C. YOUNG REPUBLICANS

8 p.m. Open to all interested individuals ages 18-40. Visitors welcome. Info/location: 235-8547.

AA 'TRADITIONS GROUP'

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays, 8 p.m., 904 N. Durbin. Open to all who are interested in or affected by alcoholism. Info: 237-4863 or 377-4515.

Upcoming

BOOK-SIGNING

Feb. 20, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Blue Heron Books and Espresso, 201 E. Second St., Atrium Plaza. Cheyenne photographer Mark Junge, author of "The View From Center Street: Tom Carrigen's Casper," featuring the works of vintage Casper photographer Thomas Carrigen, will sign copies of his book. Refreshments will be served.

'DIABETES 101' CLASSES

Beginning Feb. 20, the Community Health Center of Central Wyoming presents a free series, "CHCCW and You: Improving Diabetes Care Together." Unless otherwise noted, all classes are from 2-4 p.m. at 1522 E. A St. Lab work fees apply on Feb. 20 & June 11. Info: 233-6039.

*Feb. 20, Session 1: "The ABCs of Diabetes," with Jeff McCollum, M.D., CHCCW medical director; and registered dietitian Jennifer Sesley, MS, RD, CDE.

*March 5, Session 2: "Are You in Target?" with CHCCW pharmacist Patti Nelson, PharmD.

ARTCORE PRESENTS THE PERSUASIONS

A capella group, The Persuasions, will perform in concert at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20 in Natrona County High School's John F. Welsh Auditorium. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$11 for senior citizens, \$6 for school teachers and students and \$4 for ages 12 and under. They

are available at Flower Gallery, Friends & Co. Espresso, Hill Music, The Shade Tree and Sonic Rainbow in Casper; and Mullinix & Co. in Douglas. The group will offer a free clinic at 4 p.m. at NCHS. Info: ARTCORE, 265-1564.

WYO TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

Info: 234-1579.

*Feb. 21, 9 a.m., Little America Hotel, Cheyenne. WTA Board of Directors meet.

MIDDLE-SCHOOL DISCUSSION

Feb. 21, 9:30 a.m., Casper College Center Room 207. American Association of University Women sponsors the public event. Facilitator will be Patricia McEneany-Colley. Info: 234-5567 (evenings).

PARENTS OF MURDERED CHILDREN

Feb. 21, 4-7 p.m., Casper College Center Room 207. Guest speaker: Sheila Kimmel. Info: Suzanne, 237-5230.

CASPER PLANETARIUM

904 N. Poplar St. Doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Admission is \$2.50 per person per program, unless otherwise noted. Most programs are not suitable for children under age 6. Group rates are available: \$25 for 25 or fewer and \$1 per person for 26 or more; reservations are required. Info: 577-0310.

*Feb. 21 & 28, 7 p.m. "Images of the Infinite" by the Hubble Space Telescope, features a detailed look at nebula, star clusters and distant galaxies.

CASPER EVENTS CENTER

Tickets are on sale at the box office and usual statewide outlets. Info: 577-3030 or (800) 442-2256.

*Feb. 21, 8 p.m. Rap and hip-hop superstar Ludacris, with special guests Chingy and David Banner. Tickets are \$36.

*Feb. 23, 8 p.m. Vienna Boys Choir performs in concert. Reserved seating is \$19.50 for adults and \$14.50 for children ages 12 and under. Group discounts are available at the center box office only.

*Feb. 27-28, State High School Wrestling Tournament. Admission is \$3 for students & \$4 for adults for Friday sessions; \$6/students & \$8/adults for Saturday morning sessions; and \$4/students & \$5/adults for Saturday finals. Passes are \$8/students & \$11/adults for Friday; \$9/students & \$12/adults for Saturday; and \$12/students & \$17/adults for the tournament.

SPORTING CLAYS/CASPER SKEET CLUB

Feb. 22, noon-5 p.m., 700 JC Way. Info: 234-6958.

SOLOS CLUB

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at 1 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church, 1868 S. Poplar. Open to all singles ages 50 and older.

*Feb. 22. Potluck.

*Feb. 29, 1 p.m., Perkins Family Restaurant, 4710 E. Second St.

AT CASPER COLLEGE

125 College Drive. To register, call 268-2100 or toll-free (800) 442-2963.

*Remaining sessions for "Communication for Professional Success," led by speaking professional Margaret Benson: Feb. 23-March

31 and April 5-May 5. The courses are one credit each.

*Application deadline is March 1 for the CC Nursing Program for fall 2004 semester. All applicants must meet eligibility requirements. The number of nursing students will be increased to 64, as well as an addition of a full-time instructor. Info: 268-2235.

AL-ANON

"Monday Noon Brown-Baggers" meets at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 701 S. Wolcott.

CASPER ROTARY CLUB

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are from noon-1:30 p.m. Mondays in the Parkway Plaza back ballroom.

*Feb. 23, Jim Lightner on "U.S. Energy and the Role of Rocky Mountain Natural Gas."

CASPER MOUNTAIN STEERING COMMITTEE

Mondays, 5 p.m., County Annex Building second floor, 120 W. First St. Open to the public. Info: County Development Department, 235-9435.

'NEW HOPE' OF DUAL RECOVERY ANONYMOUS

A new 12-Step meeting for people seeking recovery from psychiatric and emotional disorders, along with drug and/or alcohol dependency, is held from 6-7 p.m. Mondays at the 12-24 Club, 136 W. Eighth St. Info: Faye, 472-1858.

MENDED HEARTS

Feb. 23, 7 p.m., Wyoming Medical Center support services building, 1200 E. Third St., Auditorium A/B. Guest speaker: Pam Fulks, WMC's chief executive officer. Info: 235-1470 or 237-2349.

CIVIL AIR PATROL CADETS

Meetings are 7-9 p.m. Mondays at Star Lane Center, west of Poplar on First Street. Boys and girls ages 12-18 participate in search and rescue activities, aerospace education, leadership training, and preparation for U.S. Air Force service as part of the mission of the Civil Air Patrol, the Air Force volunteer auxiliary. Those ages 18-21 may continue as cadets or may become senior CAP members. Web site: (www.manicaltitude.net/cap)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Feb. 24, noon, LaCocina Restaurant, 1040 N. Center St. Social luncheon.

CASPER CHESS CLUB

Tuesdays, 6:30-10 p.m., St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 400 Country Club Road. Open to all. Info: 234-3797.

NCHS CLASS OF 1954 REUNION MEETING

Feb. 25, 7 p.m., Natrona County High School lounge area. Info: John Hilde, 235-1470.

CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP BANQUET

Feb. 26, 6 p.m., Highland Park Community Church Discipleship Center. Guest speaker is Pastor Jack Olsen of the Evangelical Free Church of Casper. Interested community members are invited to attend.

'A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS' BENEFIT PERFORMANCE

Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m., Stage III Community Theatre, 904 N. Center. Sponsors are Central Wyoming Hospice-Casper. Tickets are available by calling 577-4832.

CASPER AGLOW

Feb. 27, Casper Open Bible Church, 2955 W. Second St., Casper Aglow hosts concerts of praise and prayer at 7 p.m. the last Friday of the month. Open to interested adults and children of all ages. Info: Casper Open Bible Church, 265-5278; or Sherri Martin, 232-9578.

WAGON WHEEL ROLLER SKATING RINK

305 Van Horn Ave., Mills. Fees vary for own skates, regular, and inline/speed skate rentals. Call for weekly schedule. Info: 265-4214.

*Feb. 27, 7 p.m., to 6 a.m. Feb. 28. All-Night Mardi Gras event.

'A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS'

Feb. 27-28 and March 5-6 & 11-13, 7:30 p.m., March 7, 2 p.m., Stage III Community Theatre, 904 N. Center. The life of Sir Thomas More won the Tony for best play in 1962 and the screen version received four Academy Awards in 1967. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$6 for senior citizens and students and are available at Karen and Jim's Restaurant and Metro Coffee Co.; or at the door on show nights. Season ticket-holders and patrons from outside Casper may call 234-0946 to make reservations on a first-come, first-served basis. All attendees are encouraged to arrive at least 10 minutes prior to curtain time; late entrances are restricted.

PAISLEY PORCH ARTISTS

Paisley Porch Gallery, Hotel Higgins, Glenrock

*Feb. 28, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. A quarterly "Meet the Artists" Gathering will feature Lynn Williams. Info: Sharon, 436-8222.

DINING SINGLE

Feb. 28, 6 p.m., Drake's Restaurant in the Holiday Inn. Open to all singles: widowed, divorced or never married. Info: 235-5084 or 265-6404.

P-FLAG SOUP SUPPER

Feb. 29, 5:30-7 p.m., First Congregational United Church of Christ, 15th and Melrose streets. Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays invites all LGBT persons, friends, families and allies to attend. Info: 265-5449.



Casper Friday Feb. 20

Posted: Friday, February 20, 2004 12:00 am

clubs & meetings

SELF HELP CENTER HOTLINE

The Self Help Center has a 24-hour confidential hotline, 262-9675, available to help educate potentially abusive men and provide available resources. The Self Help office number is 235-2814.

CASPER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITTEES

Regular business hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. The office is closed on holidays. Reservations are required for all meetings/events by calling 234-5311.

*Today, 11:30 a.m., Petroleum Club. Government Affairs.

12-24 CLUB

9 a.m.-9 p.m., 136 W. Eighth St. Club is open to family and friends who are having trouble with alcohol and/or drugs. Info: 237-8035.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Info: 266-9578.

* 10 a.m., 200 N. Wolcott, Room 113; noon, 136 W. Eighth St. Open meeting.

*7:30 p.m., 200 N. Wolcott, Suite 90, closed big book study.

*8 p.m., 917 N. Beech, closed meeting; 200 N. Wolcott, Room 113, open speaker meeting; 136 W. Eighth St., open meeting.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

10 a.m., Wyoming Independent Living Rehabilitation, 305 W. First St. Info: 234-4111.

WYO GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Casper Petroleum Club. Lunch buffet is served from 11:15 a.m.-noon. Cost is \$8. Guests welcome. For reservations or other information, call 237-5315.

FOOD ADDICTS IN RECOVERY

Noon, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 701 S. Wolcott. Anyone who would like to improve their eating habits is invited. Info: 237-9667.

WYO SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Noon. Cost: \$7 for lunch. Location/reservations: 235-2769 or 437-9565.

SOROPTIMISTS CLUB

Noon, Parkway Plaza. Info: 472-6110 or 266-4412.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Info: 266-7154.

* Noon, 200 N. Wolcott, office building basement, open topic and discussion meeting; 8 p.m., closed, nonsmoking topic and discussion meeting.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

1 p.m., Casper Country Club. Info: 265-4427, 235-3467, 235-5542 or 234-7038.

PIECE BY PIECE QUILT CLUB

1-3 p.m., Jean's Fabrics, 3060 Allendale. Info: 237-5018.

12-STEPS FOR OVEREATERS GROUP

5:30 p.m., St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Seventh & Wolcott.

CENTRAL WYO MODEL RAILROADERS

7 p.m., 1356 N. Center St. Visitors welcome and new memberships accepted. Info: 234-5318.

GLENROCK AA

8 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Glenrock Senior Citizen Center basement, 615 W. Deer St. All meetings are open and other support group members are welcome to attend. Info: 436-9863, 436-9836 or 266-9578.

AA 'TRADITIONS GROUP'

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays, 8 p.m., 904 N. Durbin. Open to all who are interested in or affected by alcoholism. Info: 237-4863 or 377-4515.

Today

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE WORKSHOP

Registration deadline is today for an in-depth training seminar, sponsored by Health Education and Consulting Services, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Hampton Inn. Instructor is Linda Bowman, a geriatric nurse whose lecture has been approved by the Alzheimer's Educator, Alzheimer's Association in Cheyenne and Alzheimer's Affiliation of Wyoming in Casper. Info: (866) 226-7606.

CASPER RECREATION DIVISION

Rec Center, 1801 E. Fourth St. Info: 235-8383. Ice Arena: 235-8484.

*Today through Feb. 22, Ice Arena. Casper Area Hockey Club Pee Wee House Tournament.

*Registration is ongoing for Spring Learn-To-Skate classes, in the Ice Arena. Classes are offered in basic skills, figure and adult skating, home-school, beginning hockey, 3-on-3 hockey, and off-ice training. New classes begin the week of Feb. 21.

BOOK-SIGNING

10 a.m.-1 p.m., Blue Heron Books and Espresso, 201 E. Second St., Atrium Plaza. Cheyenne photographer Mark Junge, author of

"The View From Center Street: Tom Carrigen's Casper," featuring the works of vintage Casper photographer Thomas Carrigen, will sign copies of his book. Refreshments will be served.

'DIABETES 101' CLASSES

Beginning today, the Community Health Center of Central Wyoming presents a free series, "CHCCW and You: Improving Diabetes Care Together." Unless otherwise noted, all classes are from 2-4 p.m. at 1522 E. A St. Lab work fees apply on Feb. 20 & June 11. Info: 233-6039.

*Today, Session 1: "The ABCs of Diabetes," with Jeff McCollum, M.D., CHCCW medical director; and registered dietitian Jennifer Sesley, MS, RD, CDE.

ARTCORE PRESENTS THE PERSUASIONS

A capella group, The Persuasions, will perform in concert at 7:30 p.m. today in Natrona County High School's John F. Welsh Auditorium. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$11 for senior citizens, \$6 for school teachers and students and \$4 for ages 12 and under. They are available at Flower Gallery, Friends & Co. Espresso, Hill Music, The Shade Tree and Sonic Rainbow in Casper; and Mullinix & Co. in Douglas. The group will offer a free clinic at 4 p.m. at NCHS. Info: ARTCORE, 265-1564.

Upcoming

WYO TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

Info: 234-1579.

*Feb. 21, 9 a.m., Little America Hotel, Cheyenne. WTA Board of Directors meet.

*March 10, 11:30 a.m., Parkway Plaza. Twelve professional truck drivers will be honored at the WTA's annual Driver-of-the-Month awards luncheon. A regular business meeting of the Council of Safety Supervisors will follow at 1:30 p.m.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

Bring all W-2s, 1099s and any other documents necessary for preparing returns; Social Security cards for all family members; a voided check for direct deposit of refunds or a voided deposit slip for savings accounts; and a copy of last year's return. Info: 261-6370, ext. 223.

*Casper College, 125 College Drive, Thorson Business Building Room 404: Through April 10, 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays; through April 15, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays. NOTE: The service will be closed Feb. 21 due to a scheduling conflict with the college.

CASPER ARTIST'S GUILD

Hours: Noon-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th St. Admission is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required for all workshops. Info: 265-2655.

*Feb. 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Dick Sorenson acrylic and oil color workshop. Lunch will be served. Fees are \$30 for members and \$40 for nonmembers; call for supply list. Info: 265-2655 or 472-5857.

MIDDLE-SCHOOL DISCUSSION

Feb. 21, 9:30 a.m., Casper College Center Room 207. American Association of University Women sponsors the public event. Facilitator will be Patricia McEneany-Colley. Info: 234-5567 (evenings).

PARENTS OF MURDERED CHILDREN

Feb. 21, 4-7 p.m., Casper College Center Room 207. Guest speaker: Sheila Kimmel. Info: Suzanne, 237-5230.

CASPER PLANETARIUM

904 N. Poplar St. Doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Admission is \$2.50 per person per program, unless otherwise noted. Most programs are not suitable for children under age 6. Group rates are available: \$25 for 25 or fewer and \$1 per person for 26 or more; reservations are required. Info: 577-0310.

*Feb. 21 & 28, 7 p.m. "Images of the Infinite" by the Hubble Space Telescope, features a detailed look at nebula, star clusters and distant galaxies.

CASPER EVENTS CENTER

Tickets are on sale at the box office and usual statewide outlets. Info: 577-3030 or (800) 442-2256.

*Feb. 21, 8 p.m. Rap and hip-hop superstar Ludacris, with special guests Chingy and David Banner. Tickets are \$36.

*Feb. 23, 8 p.m. Vienna Boys Choir performs in concert. Reserved seating is \$19.50 for adults and \$14.50 for children ages 12 and under. Group discounts are available at the center box office only.



Jury selection begins Monday in Eaton trial

Kimmells feeling anxious, yet relieved

FEBRUARY 22, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Jury selection begins Monday in the trial of a man the state hopes to convict and execute for the kidnap, rape and murder of Montana teen Lisa Marie Kimmell nearly 16 years ago.

The selection process for Dale Wayne Eaton's trial is expected to take about a week, with trial proceedings to follow.

Kimmell's family will be in Casper for the entirety of the trial, which is expected to begin around March 1.

Sheila Kimmell, Lisa Kimmell's mother, said she and the rest of the family are feeling anxiety as the trial nears.

"On the other hand, we're so glad that we're finally coming to this point," she said. "We're all having our various difficulties with it, but that's to be expected.

"I'm just gonna flat out tell you - it's not easy," she added.

The court will begin to question potential jurors Monday in 7th District Court. Potential jurors will be called to the court in panels consisting of about 30 to 35 people.

Court officials said they will sift through 140 potential jurors in the first week, and if a sufficient jury is not found among those, the selection process will continue into the following week.

It is not known what Eaton's trial will cost the county.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen said he could not discuss that, but said it will amount to no more than any other murder trial.

Clerk of District Court Gen Tuma, likewise, didn't have a figure on the average cost of a murder trial. Each trial is different, she said, because of the variables involved, like how many jurors are called, how long the selection process lasts, how long the trial lasts and how many meals will be ordered throughout the trial.

"We're required by statute - it's a mandated service to have trials - and so it costs whatever it costs," she said.

Blonigen said he sees no reason why Eaton's trial would not commence as scheduled. He's not prepared to offer any deals, he said.

In court documents, Blonigen argued that Eaton's aggressive and violent behavior - which has allegedly not subsided behind bars - clearly shows death is the only appropriate punishment for Eaton.

Capital cases like Eaton's are rare in Wyoming and are considered by criminal justice instructors to be unique teaching opportunities.

State law enforcement academy and University of Wyoming officials, however, said it isn't likely that their students would be able to attend Eaton's trial. Demanding schedules will not allow time to travel to Casper.

Art Washut, Casper College's criminal justice director, said his students were told about the trial and are urged to attend portions, if they can.

Washut, who served in many capacities with the Casper Police Department - including an appointment as interim police chief in the late 1990s - said he will most certainly attend some portions of the trial.

"It's one of those things that was going on when I was a young patrolman, and to finally see the thing come to fruition and knowing a lot of the investigators who worked the case and so forth - it's fascinating. And then, of course, there was all that speculation about (Eaton) being a serial killer and all this adds to the flavor of it," he said.

He acknowledges that investigators have never tied Eaton to any other Wyoming murders.

"Sometimes they never do," Washut said. "We'll see how that pans out."

Throughout the trial, Eaton will be primarily represented by court-appointed attorney Wyatt Skaggs of Laramie.

Having taken a class taught by Skaggs years ago, Washut said he holds Skaggs in high regard, and Blonigen, too.

"Seeing Skaggs and Blonigen match up ought to be pretty interesting," he said.

Eaton was allegedly linked to Kimmell's murder through a DNA match and was formally charged with the killing in April of last year.

He stands accused of one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault, court documents state.

He also faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes: sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

Kimmell was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si, which bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas.

Two anglers discovered Kimmell's body on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been

sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

Last October, 750 seven-page questionnaires were sent out to selected Natrona County residents, who were asked various questions regarding their feelings and knowledge of the Eaton case.

The judge and attorneys in the case feel there is a sufficient pool to impanel a jury, according to Tuma.

The current pool will be narrowed to 12 jurors, plus an alternate.



Kimmells share pain of child loss to help others

Parents of Murdered Children come together in Wyo

FEBRUARY 23, 2004 12:00 AM • [KERRY DRAKE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

A mother is tremendously frustrated that the more than 2-year-old investigation of her son's homicide is going nowhere.

The grandparents of a 3-year-old boy beaten to death by a babysitter waited helplessly in Casper as 1,000 miles away the killer's lawyer successfully plea bargained for a reduced sentence.

And the parents of a girl abducted, raped and murdered nearly 16 years ago are preparing to witness the trial of the man accused of the brutal crimes, hoping he is put to death.

They all took different, painful paths to get to this Casper College room Saturday, and they are joined by others with heartbreaking stories of how their lives were torn apart by their losses. Some came for support, while others wanted to offer assistance. Two and a half hours later, after sharing their grief and advice, they hugged each other and promised to meet again next month.

No one involved in the fledgling Wyoming chapter of Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) wants the small group to get any larger, yet the reality is they all know there are others who need help now and still more who are just like they once were: soon-to-be victims who will have no idea how to cope with their loss.

The group was started late last year by Suzanne Paschal, the mother of 20-year-old James, who was shot to death in Casper in June 2003. The man accused of his murder, Robert Dix, is awaiting trial.

Helping Paschal is Jamie Tholson, a University of Wyoming law school graduate who is trying to rekindle interest in solving the early 1980s murders of three women in Wyoming: Naomi Kidder, Belinda Grantham and Jannele Johnson.

Tholson also suffered a tragic personal loss last year when her fiance inexplicably died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

"It's been eight months since he died," she recalled, still looking for answers. "It took me four months to get out of bed. We were supposed to get married and everything was going to be perfect."

Featured at Saturday's meeting were Sheila and Ron Kimmell of Littleton, Colo., who came to Casper two days before jury selection in the trial of Dale Wayne Eaton, the man charged with killing their 18-year-old daughter Lisa Marie in 1988. She was traveling from Denver to see her

boyfriend in Cody, but never made it. Her lifeless body was found several days later in the water near Government Bridge west of Casper.

There were no charges in her death until a DNA sample taken from Eaton in 1998 when he was incarcerated for other crimes in Wyoming was finally linked to her rape and murder in 2002, and investigators discovered Lisa Marie's car buried on his property near Moneta.

"We knew after a certain period of time it would take some kind of miracle of modern science, but we never gave up on that," Ron Kimmell explained. "We both, for some unexplained reason, thought it would be solved in our lifetime."

But the Kimmells are angry that a court in California, citing privacy reasons, has thrown out a requirement for a DNA sample to be taken from each prisoner in that state.

"I went ballistic when I heard about that," Ron Kimmell remembered.

"The only reason they have the laws that they have (about DNA samples from inmates) is because of organizations like this that fought long and hard to get that," he added. "If you research this law that finally caught our criminal, they went through many years of hell and grief and fighting and court battles to get that done, and they're still fighting it."

The Kimmells and others listened intently as Connie Moser detailed her bitterness over an investigation that has still not revealed who beat and ran over her 27-year-old son Danny in a Mills parking lot in October 2001. Danny Moser died several days later as a result of his extensive injuries.

"I understand how frustrated you are," Ron Kimmell said, "because I was to the point of punching walls and kicking things and yelling and screaming and crying. ... Not everyone grieves the same, not everyone thinks the same, but we did learn one thing - anger is the same for every parent."

"You go through intense anger that you've never understood before," his wife added. "Ron and I could never hurt anyone, but we would like to use our imaginations about what we would do if we found this man ourselves."

She said the intense anger they expressed would sometimes scare friends and family. Others encouraged them to move on with their lives.

"Even though we had a lot of people who were very supportive they didn't truly understand, and they still don't," Sheila Kimmell said. "They'd say, 'It's been five years, aren't you getting over it?' You never get over it. There's never any 'closure.' I hate that word. You don't get over it, but it is something you need to get past."

Nearly 16 years after their daughter's murder the couple appears to have little trouble expressing their emotions, often finishing each other's sentences. Still, Sheila Kimmell said coping is a daily struggle.

"People say, 'You're very strong, how do you handle it?'" she said. "It depends what day you're talking to me. Some days I'm still an emotional train wreck."

"I still go through the same emotions as you do," Ron Kimmell told Moser. "It's just not as raw as yours at the moment."

The Kimmells said they wanted to meet the POMC members in Wyoming because they feel they can provide support. They realize they will probably need help in the days ahead, too.

"Sometimes when you go through a tragedy, you have to find a purpose in your suffering," Sheila Kimmell said. "I don't know if you ever can, but that's part of what keeps you driven. You're trying to find meaning, to help somebody else."

One of the most frustrating aspects of the trial for the Colorado couple is the fact they will not be allowed to testify at the death penalty phase if Eaton is found guilty.

"I think Wyoming is one of the few states that do not allow the victims to give their impact statement in front of the jury," said Sheila Kimmell, who hopes to lobby the Legislature at its next session to get the law changed.

"Twenty years ago victims couldn't even come into the courtroom. So things are changing," her husband noted. "Sheila and I are determined that something good has to come out of this. It just can't be for nothing. If we can testify and help change the system, we're going to do it."

"We do hope that we can have some kind of an impact," Sheila Kimmell added. "Even though we don't live in Wyoming, there is a part of Wyoming that will always be part of me."



Jury selection begins in Eaton trial

Individuals questioned in private Monday afternoon

FEBRUARY 23, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Jury selection began Monday in the capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton who stands accused in the kidnap, rape and murder of a Montana teen who vanished while driving through Wyoming nearly 16 years ago.

The parents of Lisa Marie Kimmell, Ron and Sheila Kimmell, of Littleton, Colo., sat in the back of the courtroom listening as attorneys on both sides questioned the first panel of potential jurors in the case. A total of about 140 potential jurors will be questioned this week, court officials said.

Eaton, seated at a table with his attorneys, was in plain clothes and unshackled, his eyes closed much of the time.

Investigators say Eaton's alleged victim, Lisa Kimmell, left Denver, where she held a job, to drive to Cody to her boyfriend in late March 1988 but she never made it. Her lifeless body was found several days later in the water near Government Bridge west of Casper.

The 59-year-old defendant was linked to the woman's killing in the summer of 2002 after authorities were notified that a DNA sample Eaton submitted while incarcerated at the Wyoming State Prison in 1998 matched the sample taken from Kimmell's body after her death.

Not long after that, sheriff's investigators unearthed Kimmell's car - the black Honda CRX she was driving through Wyoming before she disappeared. The car was allegedly found buried deep under the ground on a Moneta property owned by Eaton, who was criminally charged with Kimmell's murder in April 2003. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton.

On Monday, about 30 potential jurors gathered in 7th District Court, where they were questioned about issues regarding the case. Before the lunch break, six jurors had been excused for various reasons.

Among those excused was a woman who said she knew Eaton personally, a woman who said she could not bare to look at graphic photos and a man who said his disability would not allow him to sit comfortably through the four to five weeks the trial is expected to last.

The remaining 24 were asked to come back to court at appointed times Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning to undergo individual questioning, which was to be done in a closed-court setting.

Wyatt Skaggs, Eaton's primary public defender, said, at that time, potential jurors will be asked to air any personal opinions they might have formed about the case.

That will not be done in open court, he said, because hearing other people's opinions on the matter could "poison the jury panel."

Potential jurors were told that the trial phase will likely begin March 2 and end around March 22, sentencing phase included.

Should Eaton be convicted, the sentencing phase is expected to last about one week and the jury will be sequestered for that portion, 7th District Judge David Park announced.

Jury selection in the trial will continue Tuesday, with a second panel of about 30 persons being called.

For a more complete story please see Tuesday's Casper Star-Tribune.



Accused killer, rapist denied bond

APRIL 22, 2003 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

A young female prisoner winced and shook her head during arraignment proceedings Monday as Circuit Court Judge Steve Brown read aloud eight charges brought against Lisa Marie Kimmell's accused killer, Dale Wayne Eaton.

The day was a long time coming for investigators, who spent the last 15 years hoping for a break in the rape and killing of the 18-year-old Montana teen.

Kimmell was last seen alive March 25, 1988, traveling from Denver through Wyoming on her way to Billings, Mont. Two fishermen discovered her partially nude body six days later in the North Platte River near Government Bridge west of Casper.

Investigators said Kimmell had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed six times before being thrown from the bridge.

Court documents don't say where exactly Kimmell and Eaton's paths crossed.

But those documents revealed additional evidence authorities have developed since they discovered her car buried at Eaton's property at Moneta last summer. The documents say Kimmell's car had been stripped of valuable parts. It was missing all four tires, its aluminum wheels, the front bucket seats, the stereo and gearshift knob.

Eaton allegedly sold the wheels to a Mills recycling company, an affidavit said.

Investigators say Eaton helped install the stereo and seats in a 1963 Ford pickup, which the sheriff's office later tracked down.

Items that were never recovered in the search include Kimmell's clothes, her purse, driver's license, some of her jewelry and money she withdrew from an ATM, investigators say.

Seated in a far corner of the courtroom Monday afternoon, Eaton was advised of the charges filed against him in connection with Kimmell's murder.

He is being held without bond on charges of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault.

Three additional counts of first-degree felony murder were also brought. Each were allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping, documents state.

Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton and several of his investigators were an imposing

presence in the courtroom. County Coroner James Thorpen, who performed Kimmell's autopsy, was seated beside District Attorney Kevin Meenan at the prosecution table.

Meenan has yet to announce if he will seek the death penalty against Eaton.

The charges were filed about nine months after sheriff's investigators began searching Eaton's Moneta property, located 70 miles west of Casper in Fremont County.

Last July the Wyoming State Crime Lab reportedly advised sheriff's officials that a blood sample drawn from Eaton during his incarceration at the Wyoming State Penitentiary in 1998 matched a sample taken from Kimmell's body after her death.

Eaton was reportedly not known to the Kimmell family or any of their acquaintances, reports say.

During their search of Eaton's property, authorities say they unearthed the black Honda that Kimmell was reportedly driving when she disappeared.

At the time of her disappearance, Kimmell's car bore personalized Montana plates that read "LIL MISS." Court documents say only a portion of one plate was dug up.

Her mother, Sheila Kimmell of Denver, said last week that she and her family plan to attend Eaton's preliminary hearing. But Eaton's court-appointed attorneys, Fred Dethlefson and Wyatt Skaggs, say they may waive the hearing.

Because of the apparent calculation involved in Kimmell's killing, Fremont County investigators are revisiting their unsolved homicide cases to see if Eaton might be connected to any of those, Sheriff Skip Hornecker said Friday.



Jury questioning begins in Eaton case

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Tuesday, February 24, 2004 12:00 am

CASPER - Lisa Marie Kimmell's parents sat in the back of a 7th District courtroom Monday, listening intently as attorneys on both sides questioned potential jurors in the case against their daughter's accused killer.

Jury selection began Monday in the capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton, who stands accused of the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of Kimmell, a Montana teen who vanished in late March while driving through Wyoming. A fisherman found her body in the North Platte River in April.

A total of 140 prospective jurors will be called this week, court officials said. The first panel of 30 was questioned about their knowledge of the case Monday in open and closed-court settings. (See related story, B1)

Eaton, seated at a table with his attorneys - Vaughn Neubauer and Wyatt Skaggs, of Laramie - was in plain clothes and unshackled, his eyes squinted much of the time.

At the prosecutor's table was District Attorney Mike Blonigen, Assistant District Attorney Stephanie Sprecher and the sheriff's lead investigators Dan Tholson and Lynn Cohee.

Potential jurors were told that, if selected, they would be asked to view very graphic photos of the crime scene and the autopsy.

"There's a great deal of violence involved in this case," Blonigen told the group before inquiring if anyone in the audience had been a victim themselves or knew someone who was a victim of a violent crime.

Law enforcement received more than 5,000 calls from people who said they had seen Kimmell's car after her murder, Blonigen told potential jurors.

Kimmell's car was missing for 14 years after her death. It was found in the summer of 2002 buried on Eaton's Moneta property, located 75 miles west of Casper.

Blonigen asked if any panelist was one of those people who called authorities to say they had seen the car. No one raised a hand.

Kimmell was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates "LIL MISS." She was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas, on her way from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Al Lesco, the state highway patrolman who pulled Kimmell over, will testify at trial, as will the boyfriend Kimmell was going to see, Ed Jaroch, Blonigen said.

One of the two fisherman who discovered Kimmell's lifeless body on April 2, 1988, west of Casper will also testify, he said.

Investigators said Kimmell was sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

Eaton was reportedly linked to the killing through a DNA match and is currently jailed without bond in Casper.



Defender questions noose photo

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Tuesday, February 24, 2004 12:00 am

CASPER - Dale Wayne Eaton's public defender Monday made it clear in 7th District Court that he believes the Star-Tribune was wrong to publish a photo of a noose hanging on his client's Moneta property.

"It is very, very damaging to my client," he told the court. "It was entirely inappropriate."

Skaggs, the capital case attorney for the State Public Defender's Office, told potential jurors he believed the photo was "staged."

The photo, published on Sunday's front page, was taken by Star-Tribune photographer Dan Cepeda and accompanied an article previewing Eaton's trial.

But Skaggs' assertion is untrue, according to Cepeda. The photo was not set up.

"No we didn't set it up. It's completely unethical - I'd never stage a photo," Cepeda responded. "Why would I risk my career?"

Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton said the noose was not at the site two summers ago when his officers searched the place and unearthed Lisa Marie Kimmell's black Honda, which had been missing for 14 years.

Star-Tribune City Editor Deirdre Stoelzle said the photograph shows "the intensity of sentiment on the part of the person who put it there for what has become a haunted place."

Seventh District Court Judge David Park asked potential jurors to steer clear of all media coverage on the Eaton proceedings for the time being. Specifically, the group was asked to disregard the Sunday photo.

Public Defender Ken Koski said in an interview Monday that he was shocked the newspaper ran the photo, which features a noose hanging on a metal bar next to a dilapidated trailer on Eaton's property. Moneta is about 75 miles west of Casper, on Wyoming Highway 20-26, just across the Fremont County line.

"It definitely jeopardized," Koski said of the image. "They're trying to seat an unbiased jury in a death-penalty case. It sends a message."



Lawyers seek jury panels' opinions

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Wednesday, February 25, 2004 12:00 am

The second set of potential jurors in the capital-murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton will be questioned individually by attorneys on both sides about their opinions on the death penalty, their perceptions of Eaton's guilt or innocence and if media coverage of the case has influenced them.

Tuesday marked the second day of jury selection in the trial of Eaton, 59, accused in the infamous slaying of Montana teen Lisa Marie Kimmell, who vanished while on a road trip through Wyoming nearly 16 years ago.

The selection process began Monday and is expected to last through the week.

Portions of the process are being held in open hearings, while other portions are being conducted behind closed doors in Casper's 7th District Court.

A handful of jurors were excused Monday before the rest were scheduled for private questioning, called voir dire - a process that extended into Tuesday afternoon, when the second 30-person panel of jurors was called around 1 p.m.

Waiting their turn, some read books, some glanced at the court schedule to be sure they were in the right place and others made small talk with fellow panelists.

"I always wondered how they picked the jury," one woman said to another.

Soon they were escorted inside the courtroom to their numbered seats in the first three rows.

Only two of 33 prospective jurors were excused Tuesday before smaller groups were scheduled for individual sessions that are expected to last all day today.

The larger issue Tuesday surrounded the weight prospective jurors would give to direct evidence as opposed to circumstantial evidence. Most said DNA evidence and eyewitness testimony would be much stronger in their minds than hearsay.

Prosecutors pointed out that in this case, there will be no eyewitnesses testifying, no videotape evidence entered and no murder weapon to present.

"There are going to be questions out there that will go unanswered," Assistant District Attorney Stephanie Sprecher told the group.

A number of people said they would be inconvenienced by having to sit on a jury for the duration of the trial, which the court expects to last most of March. They could be sequestered about a week of that time, Judge David Park told them.

The attorneys took a fair amount of time writing down the names of those who said the length of the trial would be problematic.

"Excuse me, I haven't gotten to the last row yet," said Eaton's public defender, Wyatt Skaggs, asking for another show of hands.

"It was everybody, Wyatt," Sprecher joked.

Neither District Attorney Mike Blonigen nor Skaggs, the capital cases attorney for the State Public Defender's Office, would say how many of Monday's jurors were deemed qualified to move forward in the process.

Blonigen did say that potential jurors will be chosen from each panel and that all of those people will be brought together for further questioning. The defense and prosecution will then exercise what are called "peremptory challenges" - in death penalty proceedings, each side has 12 opportunities to strike a juror from the panel for any reason.

Kimmell disappeared March 25, 1988, while driving from her job in Denver to Cody, where her boyfriend lived. She had planned to travel on to Billings, Mont., investigators said.

She never made it to Cody. The 18-year-old woman's body was found several days later. She had been sexually assaulted, hit over the head and stabbed multiple times before being thrown over Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220, investigators said.

Kimmell's killing remained unsolved and her car missing for 14 years until authorities were notified in July 2002 that a DNA sample given by Eaton at the Wyoming State Penitentiary matched a sample taken from the victim after her death.

Not long after that, investigators acting on a tip conducted a search of Eaton's property in Moneta west of Casper and found Kimmell's car - a black Honda CRX - buried underground.

At the time of the search, Eaton was serving time in a federal prison in Colorado for unrelated crimes.

He had never been known to the Kimmell family and was never a suspect in her homicide, court documents state.

He was formally charged with murder in April 2003.



Advocate helps navigate court system

Lynch comforts crime victims

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Thursday, February 26, 2004 12:00 am

CASPER - Janeice Lynch does more than offer crime victims comforting hugs or a tissue in the courtroom.

CASPER - Janeice Lynch does more than offer crime victims comforting hugs or a tissue in the courtroom.

Her job requires a keen sense of the social and emotional needs of each crime victim or witness who must navigate the criminal justice system.

Lynch, Natrona County's sole victim-witness coordinator for the felony unit, has held her position in the District Attorney's Office for nearly 11 years. She is the only person her office employs for felony-level cases like homicides and aggravated or sexual assaults.

"People are hurting when they come to us," explained Lynch. "I ensure that the victim is given their rights."

As the trial phase of the capital-murder case against 59-year-old Dale Wayne Eaton nears, Lynch has devoted much of her time and support to the family of his alleged victim, 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Eaton was charged last year with the 1988 kidnap, robbery, rape and murder of Kimmell.

Sheila Kimmell, Lisa Kimmell's mother, said her family will be temporarily relocating to Casper in March for the month-long trial. Lynch helped her family make arrangements and has from the beginning served as a source of information and a shield for her family, Kimmell said.

"She explains this (court) process that is so foreign to us," Kimmell said. "She is supportive, she's informative, she protects us, and she helps us wade through all the practical matters that you don't want to deal with when you're going through a very emotional time."

Lynch cannot discuss individual cases, but does such things for all of her clients to one degree or another, she said.

She sits with the victims, their families and witnesses through every court appearance. She helps them sort through the emotions that surge each time they have to confront the person who committed a crime against them or their loved ones.

"Sometimes they just need a hug, sometimes I'm just there to listen," she said. "I'm good at keeping people on an even keel in the courtroom and helping them emotionally, while not getting sucked in myself."

Lynch, who has bachelor's degrees in administration of criminal justice and sociology, isn't necessarily on call but she is available outside of the courtroom for those who need her.

"They have my numbers and they use them," said Lynch. "There are many times that, on weekends, I spend several hours on the phone. Victims just don't turn on and off their emotions when they walk into a courthouse. Victims are constantly dealing with the inner wounds that no one else ever sees."

Sometimes a victim will see someone who looks or smells like the person who hurt them, and that can trigger powerful emotions, Lynch said.

"They may have nobody but me who would understand how far they are in the process and what their needs are right then, so they just need to talk - I'm a sounding board," she explained.

Certainly, part of Lynch's job is to comfort victims and witnesses once criminal charges are filed, but there are other, more technical, details to address, she said.

Lynch arranges hotel and airline accommodations for victims and witnesses coming from outside Natrona County and she picks them up at the airport. She educates her clients on the criminal justice system, tells them what to expect and coaches them in testifying and what to do at each court appearance. Additionally, Lynch helps people get through the negotiation, or plea-bargaining, process.

While doing all of that, Lynch schedules appointments for lawyers who need to talk with the victims or witnesses, tracks subpoenas, helps with the jury-selection process and gets visual props ready for jury presentations, among other things.

Having all of those responsibilities, Lynch must prioritize her most serious cases, she said. She also spends a good deal of time trying to coax witnesses and victims of crimes to cooperate with prosecution - they don't always want to, she said.

Those cases sometimes involve young victims whose parents are scared that there will be more harm done by the justice system than from the actual trauma of the crime, she explained.

Every year, the number of people in the community her office serves rises tremendously.

"We need another victim-witness coordinator," she said. "The people who are being harmed by the fact that we don't have another victim-witness coordinator are victims who deserve our time and our energy."

With so much of her time spent caring for other people's needs, Lynch said she has to make time to care for herself.

"When you work in the human service field, you have to be healthy yourself, very strong. When I walk out of here, I need to shut the door," she said. "I know when I need to take that half-day and use it for myself. I need to know that those aren't my issues; I'm here to guide and direct them."



Eaton jury selection continues

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Thursday, February 26, 2004 12:00 am

CASPER - Attorneys on both sides of the case against accused killer Dale Wayne Eaton spent all of Wednesday individually interviewing a second panel of prospective jurors called to Casper's 7th District Court.

Those proceedings were not open to the public.

District Judge David Park told the group Tuesday that Wednesday's closed-court proceedings would serve as an opportunity for lawyers to get a sense of the opinions each of them hold regarding the death penalty, their perception of Eaton's guilt or innocence and what effect, if any, pretrial media coverage has had on their perceptions.

Court officials said all of the individual interviews were completed on schedule and that attorneys are prepared to conduct mass questioning of the next panel of potential jurors today, but no time schedule was available by late Wednesday.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen would not say how many potential jurors so far have been deemed qualified to move forward in the process.

He did say that a number of prospective jurors will be chosen from each panel and that all of those people will be brought together for further questioning at the end of the process. At that time, the defense and prosecution will exercise what are called "peremptory challenges." In death penalty proceedings, each side has 12 opportunities to strike a juror from the panel for any reason.

The jury selection process for Eaton's trial began Monday and is expected to continue through the week. His trial will likely begin early next week, attorneys said.

Eaton, 59, was charged last year with the rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, a Montana teen who vanished while driving through Wyoming nearly 16 years ago.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty in the case.



Man excused from serving in Eaton trial

Park scolds unwilling jury panelist

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Friday, February 27, 2004 12:00 am

A potential juror called for questioning in the capital-murder case against Dale Wayne Eaton was angrily scolded by 7th District Judge David Park on Thursday after he made no secret of his desire to get out of jury duty and get on with his life.

The man was a member of the third panel of potential jurors called in the case. The state is seeking the death penalty for Eaton, who faces charges of kidnap, rape, robbery and murder in connection with the 1988 death of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont.

The jury duty issue arose after Vaughn H. Neubauer, one of Eaton's two public defenders, asked panelists in open court if anyone was angry or apprehensive about the prospect of being selected as a juror.

After all, the court is asking panelists to serve in a trial that is expected to last about five weeks - including one week in sequestration, he said. It's also a death penalty case.

A young man raised his hand and said he'd rather be working. He just didn't want to serve, he told Neubauer.

The panelist's attitude inflamed Park, who said he found it "abhorrent."

The young man was excused shortly thereafter, but not before Park had a few words with him.

"It is your civic responsibility. You are part of a democracy," he told the man. Furthermore, Park said, the panelist's blatant disregard for the importance of the process was "very distasteful."

Three others were excused from duty Thursday - two women because they were over 72 and expressed little desire to serve. At that age, that's their right, according to Park.

Throughout the morning, a few other panelists expressed concern that the length of the trial would be a hardship for them, though no one else said they didn't want to serve.

Judge H. Steven Brown, who presides over Natrona County Circuit Court cases, has been a judge for five years. In that time, he said, he has never gotten the sense that people's busy lives were getting in the way of their willingness to serve.

"But I'm sure, in a trial that takes longer than four or five days, you're going to have additional consideration as far as the effects that service will have on those jurors," he said, referring to the willingness of the court to excuse certain jurors.

Casper defense attorney Don Fuller said the fact that it's a death penalty case may also weigh heavy on the panelists.

"The whole idea that you might be expected to go for the death penalty has to really sort of turn you off - it would be kind of scary," he said.

"My experience has been that many people do want to avoid jury service, but once they are in the courtroom - especially once they're impaneled - they take it very seriously," said Fuller.



CS-T moves to unseal some Eaton filings

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Saturday, February 28, 2004 12:00 am

An attorney for the Star-Tribune has asked a 7th District Court judge to unseal legal motions and orders made in the capital case of Dale Wayne Eaton regarding the exclusion of evidence or testimony that has since been deemed admissible at trial.

Eaton is charged with the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, a Billings, Mont., woman who vanished while driving from Denver to Cody to visit her boyfriend in March of that year.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton. Jury selection for his trial began Monday. A jury is not expected to be seated for the trial, however, until at least Wednesday, court officials said.

In a motion filed late this week, the newspaper's attorney, Bruce Moats, asked District Judge David Park to unseal all motions made by Eaton's defense attorneys prior to trial that were subsequently denied.

"The fair trial rights of the defendant will not be infringed by the release of the motions and orders finding that particular evidence will be admissible at trial," Moats wrote in the document, citing supporting case law.

All documents on issues discussed at a closed hearing in the case last month have remained under seal, meaning the public has had no access to them.

In a Jan. 17 letter to Park, the newspaper did not object to the closing of the hearing but asked that the court "take care in closing only those portions of the hearing, if any, where the fair trial rights of the defendant cannot otherwise be protected."

Moats, of Cheyenne, also told Park that the Star-Tribune won't object to the sealing of documents related to evidence that has, or will be, deemed inadmissible at Eaton's trial.

Long after that hearing, all documents reflecting arguments made in the closed hearing remained sealed.

"The release of the orders finding evidence or testimony admissible will promote the education of the public in understanding the workings of the judicial process at a time when the public interest of the judicial system is high," Moats argued in the recent motion.

He also asked that any other orders filed under seal outside of the closed hearing be made available to the press and public as well, so long as the court no longer feels Eaton's rights will be compromised.

"We believe the judge should tell us what's been going on behind closed doors if it affects the case," said Star-Tribune Editor Dan Neal.

Moats requested that a hearing on the matter be set, should the court feel that is necessary.

A District Court official said Friday that a hearing had not been set yet because Park is currently tied up in the jury selection process for Eaton's trial.

For the same reason, Eaton's court file is not available to the public.



Jury selection still in early stage

Eaton trial may begin mid-week

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Saturday, February 28, 2004 12:00 am

With jury selection still in the early stages Friday, it appears as though Dale Wayne Eaton's capital-murder trial won't get under way until about Wednesday, court officials estimated.

Eaton, 59, faces the death penalty in connection with the 1988 kidnap, robbery, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, who vanished after leaving her job in Denver to drive through Wyoming to see her boyfriend in Cody.

Prosecution and defense attorneys Friday called to 7th District Court a fourth panel of potential jurors in the case. But early in the process several people were excused, two of those leaving the courthouse in tears.

What upset the potential jurors, a man and a woman, was a question posed by Assistant District Attorney Stephanie Sprecher, who asked if any of the panelists knew someone who had been a victim of a violent crime, or if they had been a victim themselves.

The two panelists chose not to divulge their answers in open court but were allowed to approach the judge's bench to talk about it.

Both came away emotional and both were excused from service.

To the same question, one female panelist said her husband had been murdered some 26 years ago, a friend of hers was killed by her husband and, two years ago, she had a friend whose child was killed. She told attorneys, however, that she did not feel that those events in her life would prevent her from being a fair juror.

Among the other people who were excused was a man who indicated that he had a bad experience with law enforcement in the past. He voiced the issue, also in a private discussion at the bench, and was subsequently excused.

Another man, who said he was convicted of a felony, and a young woman, who argued she could not look at autopsy and crime scene photos, were let go, too.

"I don't exactly want to be looking at pictures of a girl that is my age - I wouldn't be able to look at them," she stated, adding that she can't even watch those things on television shows like "Forensic Files" on CourtTV.

Those people and another woman excused for health problems brought the day's panelists down from 30 to 24.

A potential juror who repeatedly told attorneys she had already formed the opinion that Eaton was guilty was told repeatedly that the issue would be explored more in-depth in her individual voir dire, despite her anxiousness to be relieved.

Eaton's public defender, Wyatt Skaggs, noted that many of the potential jurors sitting on Friday's panel had expressed that same sentiment in questionnaires they filled out prior to being called Friday.

Throughout the morning, Eaton, who appeared calm and alert, sat in his chair at the defense table jotting on a yellow pad.

Each of the panelist's opinions on Eaton's guilt or innocence, the death penalty and their willingness, if any, to give weight to issues like the defendant's alleged mental illness and his background will all be explored in individual sessions, attorneys said.

Since last Monday, four panels have been questioned over a period of five days. A fifth panel is expected to be called in late Monday or early Tuesday, if needed.

When enough jurors from each panel have been deemed qualified to move forward, all will be brought back to the court for mass-questioning, at which time the defense and prosecution will exercise what are called "peremptory challenges."

In death penalty proceedings, each side has 12 opportunities to strike a juror from the panel for any reason.

As soon as a jury is seated, the trial will begin.



Fifth panel called Monday

Still no jury in Eaton case

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Tuesday, March 2, 2004 12:00 am

CASPER - A jury has yet to be seated for the capital-murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton, who was charged last year with the kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell nearly 16 years ago.

Court officials are optimistic a jury will be seated by Wednesday, when the trial is expected to begin.

Attorneys on both sides of the case questioned a fifth panel of potential jurors Monday afternoon, posing only one new question, asked by Wyatt Skaggs, Eaton's public defender.

Skaggs inquired if any of the panel members were involved in a community project recently initiated to help raise funds for the Kimmell family. No one raised a hand.

Furthermore, he told the group he would be conducting an aggressive cross-examination of Ron and Sheila Kimmell, the victim's parents. Skaggs wanted to know if any of the potential jurors would perceive that as hostile and hold it against his client, who may or may not testify at trial, Skaggs said.

Ron and Sheila Kimmell, of Littleton, Colo., have temporarily relocated to Casper for the month-long trial. The two of them sat in the back of the courtroom throughout much of Monday's proceedings.

Jury selection for Eaton's trial began a week ago, with the first panel called to 7th District Court on Feb. 23.

Each group of roughly 30 people was questioned for about two hours in open court before being questioned more in-depth in individual, closed-court sessions.

Monday's panel was easygoing and a bit smaller than most, with only 21 potential jurors seated.

Wyoming seeks the death penalty in very few cases, Skaggs told Monday's panelists.

"This is probably the only chance you'll have to appear in a capital trial," he said.

He warned potential jurors that serving in a death penalty case has been known to be "a life-changing experience."

After all, the chosen jury hold his client's life in their hands - a tremendous responsibility, he said.

"The decision to give life in this case is an individual decision. You set the sentence," he told the group.

Panelists' opinions on the death penalty are being explored in the closed-court sessions, so as not to "poison the jury panel," court officials said.

By the end of the mass-questioning Monday, no one had been excused, though half of those present indicated that the length of the trial could present some hardship.

Qualified jurors chosen from each of the five panels will be called back to the courthouse, for a final open court session. From that group, a jury of 12 and one alternate will be chosen and the trial will commence.

It isn't known how many potential jurors the court is hoping to gather for the final interrogation.



Eaton trial begins Wednesday

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Tuesday, March 2, 2004 12:00 am

The capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton will open Wednesday in 7th District Court following a final round of jury selection, said District Attorney Mike Blonigen, who is prosecuting the case.

Forty-eight potential jurors have been chosen from five panels called to court for questioning since Feb. 23.

The fifth and final panel of jurors called in the case were individually interviewed in closed-court Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning.

Selected panelists will gather in District Court at 9 a.m., where defense and prosecuting attorneys will exercise what are called "peremptory challenges." That means attorneys can strike a juror from the panel for any reason.

"(Prosecution and defense attorneys) each have 12 challenges, plus one challenge per side for each alternate," Blonigen said. "Then we have some additional jurors selected for cause, in case any problems arise prior to the jury selection process. So, you end up with 15 challenges on each side and a few extras. We want to be sure we don't have to re-open this thing."

Following the final selection, opening statements will commence, said Blonigen.

If Eaton is convicted, the jury will be sequestered at a local motel for the entirety of the sentencing phase, which is expected to last about a week, court officials said.

Eaton is being represented by Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn Neubauer, of Laramie.

Blonigen will be assisted in Eaton's prosecution by Assistant District Attorney Stephanie Sprecher.

The state is seeking the death penalty for Eaton, who was allegedly linked to Kimmell's homicide by a DNA match made more than a decade after the teen's death.

His trial is still expected to last throughout most of March.



Casper and Wyoming briefs

Posted: Tuesday, March 2, 2004 12:00 am

Accused child killer in court today

CASPER - A Circuit Court preliminary hearing is set for 10 a.m. today in the case of a Casper man who police suspect killed his 6-month-old son last August, District Attorney Mike Blonigen said Monday.

Jose Mendoza, 25, was extradited to Casper last week to face charges filed in connection with the boy's death.

Mendoza was charged with one count each of felony first-degree murder and child abuse in October 2003 but he left Wyoming soon after his son, Jose Mendoza, Jr., died from a blow to the head at his home Aug. 7, court records say.

Casper police worked with the U.S. Marshals Service to locate Mendoza south of Provo, Utah.

Mendoza was brought back to Wyoming but was in federal custody after being arrested in Utah for allegedly being a felon in possession of a firearm, a charge unrelated to the homicide, police said.

Arguments heard on public-access request

CASPER - Seventh District Court Judge David Park will hear arguments this afternoon by a Star-Tribune attorney who has asked the court to unseal legal motions and orders made in the capital case of Dale Wayne Eaton regarding the exclusion of evidence or testimony that has since been deemed admissible at trial.

Eaton is charged with the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, a Billings, Mont., woman who vanished while driving from Denver to Cody to visit her boyfriend in March of that year.

His trial is expected to begin Wednesday.

In a motion filed late last week, the newspaper's attorney, Bruce Moats, asked District Judge David Park to unseal all suppression motions made by Eaton's defense attorneys prior to trial that were subsequently denied.

Park said the hearing regarding Moats' motion to unseal the documents is set for 3 p.m. today in District Court.

Man charged in brother's beating

CASPER - A Casper man was arrested and charged with assault and misdemeanor property damage after he allegedly attacked his brother while the two of them were drinking at a residence in the 1000 block of South Nebraska Street on Sunday night, according to documents filed in Natrona County Circuit Court.

Police said the 30-year-old suspect began arguing with his brother around 10:30 p.m. and that he suddenly attacked the man, throwing several punches at him that resulted in the victim suffering a fat lip, several cuts and scratches and a loose tooth, the report said.

The assailant also suffered injuries in the fight, which included a swollen eye and bleeding cuts and scratches to his face and neck area, police said.

Additionally, police allege the suspect broke some glass out of an entertainment center that belonged to the victim.

Police noted that both men were "extremely intoxicated," the report said.



Some trial documents unsealed

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Wednesday, March 3, 2004 12:00 am

CASPER - Seventh District Court Judge David Park on Tuesday made public certain documents regarding possible testimony in the capital murder case of Dale Wayne Eaton, despite opposition from attorneys on both sides.

Star-Tribune attorney Bruce Moats asked Park to open any documents filed under seal that pertain to motions on evidence or testimony that were ultimately ruled admissible at trial.

He did not ask the judge to make public documents relating to evidence or testimony that won't be heard by jurors.

"It is sometimes forgotten that the general openness of court proceedings is in the interest of a fair trial," Moats told Park, adding that the openness also serves an educational purpose for the public.

The filings to be unsealed are documents that pertain to two prison inmates who prosecutors say will testify at Eaton's trial. The other filings the judge ordered be made public pertain to testimony that will be offered by Natrona County Coroner James Thorpen, M.D., who performed the autopsy on Eaton's alleged victim, Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Defense attorneys reportedly filed a motion asking the court to preclude Thorpen from talking about ligature marks allegedly found on the victim, but Park said he denied that motion and ordered the filings unsealed.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen and Eaton's public defender, Wyatt Skaggs, also made arguments regarding Moats' motion to unseal documents.

Skaggs objected to the opening of any documents right now, he told Park.

"The media has been very good, in most cases, except for the Star-Tribune, who has gone out of its way to sensationalize and stir hatred," Skaggs argued, regarding the extensive coverage of Eaton's case by the newspaper.

Responding to Skaggs' accusation, Moats assured the court that the newspaper has no intent of sabotaging Eaton's case.

Blonigen, who did not object to the release of the Thorpen documents, did ask Park that the documents detailing the inmates' testimony not be made public until after they appear in court, which would be in about one week.

Blonigen said the documents characterize testimony that may, or may not, turn out the way it is outlined in court papers. He was also concerned that the release of those documents could present a security risk for the inmates.

Park ruled that the public will have access to all of those documents but that the inmate filings will be redacted - or blacked out - to eliminate the names of the inmates and the institutions in which they are currently housed.

Park also ruled at the hearing that an illustrator hired by media outlets in Casper, including the newspaper, will not be allowed to draw jurors seated at Eaton's trial in any recognizable detail.

Eaton is charged with the 1988 kidnapping, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, a Billings, Mont., woman who vanished while driving from Denver to Cody to visit her boyfriend in March of that year.



Trial phase begins today

MARCH 03, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Label: Dale Wayne Eaton Trial

CASPER - The capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton is expected to get under way today in 7th District Court following a final round of jury selection, District Attorney Mike Blonigen said.

Forty-eight potential jurors have been chosen from five separate panels of roughly 30 people, he said.

The court began calling potential jurors for questioning in open- and closed-court sessions Feb. 23.

The voir dire, or questioning, of the fifth and last panel of jurors concluded Tuesday morning.

Those selected from each panel will gather at 9 a.m. today in District Court. Defense and prosecuting attorneys will exercise "peremptory challenges," whereby they excuse potential jurors for any reason.

Each side has the opportunity to remove 15 potential jurors and alternates, Blonigen explained.

"We want to be sure we don't have to reopen this thing," he said.

Opening statements will be made by attorneys once 12 jurors and three alternate jurors are chosen, Blonigen said.

Eaton, 59, faces multiple charges in the 1988 killing of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell. The counts include first-degree premeditated murder; first-degree murder during a kidnapping; first-degree murder during a robbery; first-degree murder during a sexual assault; kidnapping; aggravated robbery; first-degree sexual assault; and second-degree sexual assault.

If Eaton is convicted, the jury will be sequestered at a local motel for the sentencing phase, which is expected to last about a week.

On the murder counts, the jury will have three sentencing options - death, life imprisonment without parole, or life imprisonment.

The state is seeking the death penalty for Eaton, who was allegedly linked to Kimmell's homicide by a DNA match made almost 14 years after the teen's death.

Kimmell was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of the black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. She had been traveling from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Two fisherman discovered Kimmell's body on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220. One of those fisherman will testify at the trial, Blonigen said.

Sheriff's officials two summers ago unearthed Kimmell's car on a property owned by Eaton at Moneta, 75 miles west of Casper.

Investigators began searching the property after being notified by the Wyoming State Crime Lab on July 16, 2002, that a blood sample drawn from Eaton in 1988 at the state prison in Rawlins matched a sample recovered from Kimmell's body after her death, court documents say.

Eaton is being represented by Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn Neubauer, of Laramie.

Blonigen will be assisted in Eaton's prosecution by Assistant District Attorney Stephanie Sprecher.

The trial is expected to last about three weeks.



Opening statements in Eaton trial

MARCH 03, 2004 12:00 AM

Opening statements in the capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton were set to begin at 10:30 a.m. today in Casper's 7th District Court.

Lawyers this morning impaneled a jury of 15 people - including three alternates - eight men and seven women. The jury selection process, which involved five panels of some 30 people each, began Feb. 23.

Eaton is charged with the 1988 kidnapping, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell. Her body was found in the North Platte River near Government Bridge west of Casper. Her car, bearing license plates that read LIL MISS, was unearthed on Eaton's property in Moneta in Fremont County in 2002.



Trooper's recording played for Eaton jurors

Victim's voice fills courtroom

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Thursday, March 4, 2004 12:00 am

Lisa Marie Kimmell's voice rang through a 7th District Courtroom on Wednesday, as prosecutors played a 16-year-old tape recording made by the Wyoming highway patrolman who stopped the teen for speeding just before she disappeared in 1988.

The tape was played on the first day of the capital murder trial of 59-year-old Dale Wayne Eaton - the man accused of orchestrating Kimmell's kidnap, rape and murder.

The girl's voice brought her family to tears. They sat in the front row, listening to her converse with state trooper Al Lesco inside his patrol car.

Lesco was the last person known to see the 18-year-old alive. He was called to the stand by District Attorney Mike Blonigen, to relay the events of that night.

On March 25, 1988, Kimmell left Denver in her Black Honda CRX Si and headed north to see her boyfriend, Ed Jaroch, in Cody. On Interstate 25 near Douglas at 8:39 p.m., Kimmell crossed Lesco's path, he said.

He clocked her going 88 mph, well over the speed limit, he told the court.

He wrote Kimmell a citation, he said, and told her she would have to post a \$120 bond because she wasn't from Wyoming. But Kimmell didn't have the cash.

"I have \$40 with me," she could be heard telling Lesco. Her voice timid, Kimmell asked if she could go to a cash machine.

At her request, Lesco followed her to an ATM in Douglas.

"It won't take my card," Kimmell said, her soft voice barely audible due to background noise on the tape.

Instead of taking her to jail, Lesco decided to let Kimmell sign a promise to appear on the ticket and gave her directions back to I-25.

And then she vanished.

Eight days later, on April 2, 1988, her body was found by two anglers 30 feet from the bank of the North Platte River near the old Government Bridge off Highway 220 west of Casper.

William Greg Bradford, one of the fisherman who found her body, also testified Wednesday.

"I had a good idea" the body was going to be Kimmell's, having heard about her disappearance in the media, he testified.

Ron and Sheila Kimmell also took the stand, as did Jaroch; Lisa Marie's sister, Sherry Odegard; and Sgt. Roger Means, a highway patrolman on duty the day Kimmell's body was found.

Means assisted the Natrona County Sheriff's Office in its investigation, he said, and helped secure Government Bridge, where he witnessed a pool of what was soon to be identified as Kimmell's blood.

Ron Kimmell told the jury about an "odd" note he found on his daughter's grave in Billings, Mont., one year almost to the day after his daughter disappeared.

Kimmell said the note, wrapped in clear tape and solidly attached to Kimmell's headstone, was signed by "Stringfellow Hawke."

Blonigen, in his opening statement, told jurors that the note said that Kimmell would be missed and that she'd "always live in me." He later said Stringfellow Hawke was a "fictional character," according to his research.

An Internet search by the Star-Tribune showed that Hawke was a character on a TV series, "Airwolf," in the mid-1980s.

Handwriting examples from Eaton have been analyzed by experts and the writing on the note appears to match Eaton's, Blonigen said.

Jaroch, who now lives in Alaska, told the jury that his plans with Kimmell on the Friday she disappeared had changed several times, with his girlfriend ultimately deciding that she would make the drive to Cody.

"I didn't especially like the idea," he said. "I was concerned about her safety."

Eaton's attorney Wyatt Skaggs, in his opening statement, did not deny his client committed the crimes he is accused of but argued that Eaton was heavily overcharged.

Skaggs said Eaton "bears criminal responsibility." But there's no proof that Kimmell's homicide happened in the commission of a robbery, her sexual assault or her kidnapping, he told the jury.

Eaton faces one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault and second-degree sexual assault.

He also faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder because prosecutors alleged that the crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping were committed during the course of Kimmell's killing.

"It's not premeditated murder," Skaggs said.

The defense said it will dispute some aspects of the DNA evidence to be presented by the state, which prosecutors will argue makes Eaton as the only perpetrator of the crimes against Kimmell.

Skaggs also told the jury that he will call a Tampa, Fla., medical examiner to the stand, who will contradict some of the testimony to be offered by Natrona County Coroner James Thorpen, M.D.

Thorpen, who conducted Kimmell's autopsy in 1988, will testify for prosecutors.

The findings of the Tampa medical examiner, Daniel J. Spitz, M.D., who has reportedly studied photos of Kimmell's injuries, will differ from Thorpen's conclusions in major areas, Skaggs said.



Jury impaneled in Eaton case

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Thursday, March 4, 2004 12:00 am

CASPER - Potential jurors sat silently, taking up four rows on each side of a 7th District Courtroom, as attorneys in the capital murder case of Dale Wayne Eaton narrowed 48 remaining panelists down to 15 - 12 jurors and three alternates.

The day began at 9 a.m. with panelists watching as attorneys seated at the front of the courtroom conferred and then handed the judge three-by-five slips of paper.

On those slips were the names of potential jurors whom attorneys on either side wanted eliminated from the pool. No reason had to be given.

Roughly an hour later, a jury of eight men and seven women was impaneled. A glance at the jury shows several older men.

In all, five panels of about 30 potential jurors - some 150 people - came to court beginning Feb. 23 for voir dire. Those people were paid \$30 per day, or \$50 per day if serving five or more consecutive days, Clerk of District Court Gen Tuma said.

The three alternates on the jury will not be identified until after the trial phase is completed.

Each panel was interviewed in a short open-court session and then questioned in more detail in individual sessions not open to the public.

Panelists' opinions on the death penalty were never openly discussed during the selection process.

After the jury was impaneled, some potential jurors who'd been eliminated expressed disappointment in being let go.

Among those who made it to the final round in the selection process was Rick Tempest, a former Wyoming House speaker, who was first called Friday.

"I thought it would be an interesting process; it's something I hadn't done before," he said. "I was sort of geared up to serve if I had to. I would have had to shut my business down ... and I was ready to do that."

Eaton is on trial on eight counts, including premeditated murder, for his alleged involvement in the 1988 kidnap, rape and slaying of Montana teen Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Opening statements were delivered Wednesday after the jury was impaneled.

Eaton was charged last year with the nearly 16-year-old crime after a DNA sample he gave while in prison in 1998 reportedly matched samples taken from Kimmell's clothes and body after her death.

If Eaton is convicted, the jury will have to decide if Eaton should be put to death. However, they have the option of sentencing the 59-year-old defendant to life without parole or life in prison.

Eaton's trial continues today.



Observers pack courtroom

Family hunkers down for long trial

MARCH 04, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

CASPER - The mood was somber and the courtroom full Wednesday as testimony began in the capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton.

The District Attorney's Office wants the 59-year-old defendant executed for the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

The day began at 9 a.m. in 7th District Court with attorneys narrowing down the 48 potential jurors to 15 - 12 jurors and three alternates.

The courtroom was silent for roughly an hour, as individual panelists were eliminated.

The trial began around 10:30 a.m. with jury instructions read and opening statements made by District Attorney Mike Blonigen and Wyatt Skaggs, Eaton's public defender. A black and white "Missing" poster with Lisa Kimmell's picture was placed on a tripod in the background.

The courtroom was packed with onlookers, most of whom appeared to be investigators and attorneys unrelated to the case, journalists and a few public observers, including two women who said they had come because of their interest in the high-profile case and the judicial process.

Family members of Lisa Kimmell took up the first open row of seats directly behind the jury.

Ron and Sheila Kimmell sat with their two daughters, Sherry Odegard and Stacy Hoover and Hoover's husband, Todd. All came expecting a full day of testimony, bringing with them a long cushion to place on the hard wooden seats. On the floor in front of them were placed two boxes of tissues.

During a break, Blonigen walked past the empty bench and patted the Kimmells' cushion.

"Looks like they came prepared," he said with a hint of jealousy. The trial is expected to last about three weeks.

The courtroom observers thinned out by afternoon.

Throughout the day, Eaton, dressed in a long-sleeve plaid shirt, occasionally glanced at the crowd. He kept busy jotting notes, looking over documents and viewing various photos offered to the jury.

The trial will continue today.



Time of Kimmell's death unknown

Investigators describe crime scene for jury

MARCH 05, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

When Lisa Marie Kimmell's body was found eight days after she left Denver to see her boyfriend in Cody, her watch had stopped at 9:40. But 16 years later, the day and time of her death is still not known.

Jurors in the death penalty trial of Dale Wayne Eaton, who is charged with killing Kimmell in 1988, heard forensic testimony Thursday related to the discovery of the girl's body. Testimony in the trial began Wednesday.

Former Natrona County sheriff's investigator Mike Sandfort and current Undersheriff Dave Kinghorn - both of whom worked for the Sheriff's Office in 1988 - and County Coroner James Thorpen, M.D., separately described the scene the day Kimmell's body was discovered floating in the North Platte River beneath the old Government Bridge.

Jurors were told of Kimmell's injuries, the condition of her body and the bloodshed investigators found on the bridge, located 25 miles southwest of Casper off Highway 220.

It was Saturday, April 2, 1988, when Sandfort received a call at home. He was told the body of a young woman had been found floating face-down in the river.

The girl - who had been hit over the head and stabbed six times in the chest and abdomen - was discovered near Trapper's Route by a couple of fisherman who frequented the area, he said.

Sandfort went to the scene with Dan Tholson, also a sheriff's investigator, he told the court.

The two of them arrived around 3 p.m. Photos were taken of the body and of the blood that was discovered on one side of the bridge.

The eight-man, seven-woman jury viewed those photos as they listened to testimony presented by the state's prosecutor, District Attorney Mike Blonigen.

Sandfort's voice shaking, he told the court, "That is the body," while holding a photo of the scene that day.

The body appeared "fresh," according to Sandfort.

He had seen the "Missing" posters of Kimmell, Sandfort told the jury, and he recognized the body.

It was sunny and warm that day, about 65 degrees outside, Sandfort said, though the temperature of the water where Kimmell's body floated was much colder, about 44 degrees.

The girl still had color. She wore only pink underpants, dark-colored socks and some jewelry.

Sandfort said he was in charge of surveying the old, rusty bridge, and came upon a large pool of blood along one side.

Testimony from Tilton Davis of the State Crime Lab would later identify the blood as belonging to Kimmell.

Investigators determined that Kimmell had been thrown over the side of the bridge into the water.

"It was fresh blood, crisp and clean. There was no dust," Sandfort told Blonigen, viewing photos taken at the bridge.

Kimmell's family members, sitting directly behind the jury, wiped tears as the graphic photos circulated among the jurors.

Wyatt Skaggs, Eaton's attorney, questioned Sandfort's recollection of that day, saying a lot of what he just told the court was not noted in a report filed at the time.

Sandfort admitted he left some of those details out of the report, but said in re-direct by Blonigen that the Kimmell case, "in a law enforcement career, was a traumatic experience that remains vivid in your mind."

"A quick glance at the photos makes it crystal clear," he said.

Kinghorn, who worked as a deputy coroner for Thorpen at the time of Kimmell's killing, offered testimony similar to Thorpen's.

He and Thorpen described in more detail the injuries found on Kimmell's body.

Kimmell's body was found in the river, her arms and legs dangling, they each testified.

It was about 4:17 p.m. that Saturday when they pulled her from the water and transported her body to Casper to Bustard's funeral home. The autopsy would be performed the next day.

Lisa Marie Kimmell had suffered a severe head injury and was stabbed six times - five times in the chest and once in the abdomen - before she was thrown over Government Bridge.

The 18-year-old had earrings in one ear, a necklace with a cross, a gold ring and a watch with a leather strap. The Roman numerals on the watch had stopped working at 9:40.

Thorpen said he was never able to come up with an estimate regarding her time of death. That was due to many factors, he said, but mainly because her body had been submersed in cold water, which tends to preserve a body.

Thorpen, reading from the autopsy report he filed in the case, said Kimmell's pubic hair had

been shaved.

"That occurred about seven days prior to her death," he said.

Her mother, Sheila Kimmell, testified Wednesday that she'd seen her daughter naked before she left for Wyoming, and that her pubic hair was "intact."

Semen was found inside Kimmell's body. The semen, along with samples of Kimmell's hair and blood and an unidentified hair found on her abdomen were sent to the State Crime Lab in Cheyenne, Thorpen said.

Davis, of the State Crime Lab, told the court that DNA from semen samples sent by Thorpen's office in 1988 would later match that of a blood sample Eaton submitted a decade later while he was incarcerated at the Wyoming State Penitentiary.

Due to advances in DNA technology, the two samples would end up producing a match in 2002, Davis said.

The trial resumes today at 9:30 a.m. Jurors will view the many autopsy photos taken in the case.

Thorpen will take the stand again today and continue his testimony.



Pathologist: Kimmell was bound

Says teen was unconscious during stabbing

MARCH 06, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Bruising and abrasions found on the wrists of Lisa Marie Kimmell indicated she had been bound by a hemp or braided nylon rope, County Coroner James Thorpen, M.D., told jurors seated for the capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton in 7th District Court.

Thorpen's autopsy report showed Kimmell had many bruises and abrasions, mainly on her wrists, ankles, arms and legs. The ligature marks showed up after the body was embalmed, according to testimony.

"In my opinion, they represent probably binding marks," the coroner said.

Eaton is accused of committing the high-profile kidnap, robbery, rape and murder of the 18-year-old girl whose body was found floating in the North Platte River under the old Government Bridge west of Casper in 1988. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton.

Eaton's trial was in its third day Friday when Thorpen was recalled to the stand. He testified briefly Wednesday afternoon.

The state's key witness described for the jury the ligature marks, the woman's six stab wounds and a head injury investigators say she received before being thrown from the bridge.

That blow to the head was so severe, Thorpen said, that it caused a four-inch fracture to Kimmell's skull. She also had a fractured hip, likely received in her fall from the bridge, he added.

Upon further questioning by District Attorney Mike Blonigen regarding Kimmell's time of death, Thorpen could only estimate that she died 36 to 46 hours before she was found in the river.

His autopsy findings also concluded that she died sometime in the evening, though Eaton's attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, objected to that conclusion.

Thorpen said Kimmell's body had not decomposed much before she was discovered and said she appeared to have eaten something resembling beef stew roughly two to four hours before she was killed.

The binding material, the knife, and the weapon used to hit Kimmell in the head were never recovered, the jury was told.

The Montana teen vanished Friday, March 25, while driving through Wyoming nearly 16 years ago.

The 59-year-old Eaton was linked to the woman's killing in the summer of 2002 after authorities were notified that a DNA sample Eaton submitted while incarcerated at the Wyoming State Penitentiary in 1998 matched samples taken from Kimmell's body.

Not long after the alleged DNA match was confirmed, Natrona County sheriff's investigators unearthed Kimmell's car - a black Honda CRX with vanity plates that read LIL MISS. The car was allegedly found buried deep under the ground on a Moneta property owned by Eaton, who was criminally charged with Kimmell's murder in April 2003.

The jury Friday was careful to keep extremely graphic autopsy photos taken of Kimmell's injuries out of the view of the family, who was seated right behind them in 7th District Court.

However, several photos depicting the deep stab wounds Kimmell suffered were held up in front of the jury so the doctor could explain them.

According to Thorpen, Kimmell's killer hit her in the back of the head with a severe blow before meticulously stabbing her six times. She was stabbed five times in the chest and once in the abdomen. Small cuts surrounding the stab wounds indicated that the killer felt around with the knife before stabbing the girl, so as not to hit her ribs, Thorpen concluded.

Thorpen additionally testified that he believed Kimmell's hands were still bound together when she was stabbed, and that the bindings were then removed.

"The position of her body made us think of binding," even before the actual marks became visible, he said.

Skaggs also objected to that conclusion, among others, in his cross-examination of Thorpen.

Thorpen said all of the stab wounds were 5.5 to 6.5 inches deep. Each penetrated vital areas of her heart and her left lung, and three of the stabs went all the way through to her spine, he said.

Each of those wounds could have been fatal, Thorpen said, but added that Kimmell was unconscious after being hit in the head and likely never knew she was being stabbed.

From the head wound alone, Thorpen told the jury that Kimmell would have died about two to six hours later.

But the subsequent stab wounds caused her to die quickly because of the "massive bleeding into and out of the body," he said.

That led to her death within seconds to minutes, he added.

"She did not suffer at all, is that correct?" Blonigen asked Thorpen, referring only to the actual killing and not any time before that.

"That is my opinion," he responded. No defensive wounds were found on Kimmell that would indicate she put up a fight when being struck in the head or when being stabbed, he reported.

According to Thorpen, Kimmell also had no drugs or alcohol in her blood when she died.

Eaton's trial will continue Monday with more DNA testimony, prosecutors said.



Eaton jury sees unearthed Honda

MARCH 06, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

CASPER - Lisa Marie Kimmell's 1988 Honda CRX Si - the top crushed and the car plastered with dirt inside and out - was shown to jurors on Friday seated for the capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton.

The car and the hole it was buried in on Eaton's Moneta property was videotaped by Chris Reed, an evidence technician for the Casper Police Department.

Reed testified that she taped the property before and after a sheriff's department search at Moneta. She also checked for evidence in several different vehicles, including Kimmell's car, she said.

The tape, created in July 2002, was shown to the 7th District Court jury, along with photos of the debris-littered property located about 70 miles west of Casper just over the Fremont County line off Wyoming Highway 20-26.

Buried well beneath the ground's surface, the car had only one window and its wheels, tires, seats and the stereo had been removed.

The Honda was filled almost completely with dried clumps of dirt, the tape showed.

The search of the Moneta property began on July 29, 2002, Reed said.

A dilapidated full-size mobile home, a smaller trailer and a large metal outbuilding, all in poor condition, were photographed before the search, she said.

"There were piles of dirt around" that indicated to investigators that a lot of digging had been done on the property over the years, said Reed.

There was a large mound of dirt inside the outbuilding and beside it, where a white pipe was sticking out of the ground next to the smaller trailer, Reed showed the jury.

Both areas were dug up by authorities who ultimately discovered the Honda buried about 10 to 12 feet under the ground beneath the white septic pipe, she said.

Jurors watched as investigators attached cables to the Honda and lifted it onto a flat-bed trailer.

The vehicle was secured under a tarp and transported back to Casper, where it was processed, said Reed, adding that the moist, cold conditions underground and the length of time the car was buried destroyed any chance of recovering fingerprints on the car.

Kimmell's body was found April 2, 1988, underneath the Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper.

Her car, however, remained missing for about 14 years.

Eaton was seated at the defense table, where he could not see the tape of his property or the Honda prosecutors alleged he buried on his property.

According to Reed, the vehicle identification number, or VIN, on the car discovered in Moneta matched the number on Kimmell's car.



Judge Park comes through

Posted: Sunday, March 7, 2004 12:00 am

From Dan Neal, Editor

In a victory for truth and justice, 7th District Court Judge David Park agreed last Tuesday to make public several previously secret documents in Dale Wayne Eaton's murder trial.

The judge agreed to release orders and all or parts of three motions in which Eaton's attorneys argued unsuccessfully to block the introduction of some of the prosecution's evidence.

A fourth suppression motion will remain sealed because Judge Park agreed to keep evidence it described out of the trial.

The judge agreed to the immediate release of motion "D-3." He said Tuesday that he had disagreed with defense arguments in D-3 that County Coroner James Thorpen should not be allowed to refer to marks on Lisa Marie Kimmell's wrists as "ligature marks." Thorpen testified Friday that Kimmell's wrists had been bound.

At the request of D.A. Mike Blonigen, Judge Park directed Star-Tribune attorney Bruce Moats to redact the names of witnesses and their present locations cited in motions "D-1" and "D-4." Blonigen mentioned security concerns for those witnesses. Any references to the evidence suppressed under motion "D-2" also must be blacked out.

Public Defender Wyatt Skaggs agreed the motions should be made public, though not before he pounded on the newspaper. He said the Star-Tribune coverage of the case has fostered a sensationalist atmosphere that harms his client.

Our attorney dismissed Skaggs' argument. He noted that opinions of press coverage of trials vary - but do not matter. The issue is the public's right to access to trial proceedings, including pre-trial motions, so long as that access does not clearly endanger the fairness of the trial.

Judge Park agreed and good for him. I have only one quibble. The judge said he could not open any of the sealed motions until he received a formal motion asking him to do so.

In the spirit of openness, Judge Park could have offered a public order to unseal the suppression motions he had rejected. The attorneys could have questioned that order. That would have given the D.A. the opportunity to request his redactions.

Overall, Judge Park's ruling is a positive one for the public and its interests in the justice system.

Star-Tribune online

The small schools basketball tournament is always a lot of fun. This year, we're posting photos from the tournament on our Web site, casperstartribune.net. Our photographers shoot pictures that we can't get into the paper that deserve to be seen by more people. Take a look at the gallery.

Speaking of online, the City of Casper has posted on its Web site the first few paragraphs of our story about Inc. magazine declaring the city a good place to do business. It's nice to have people saying positive things about the community. A link takes readers to the full story at the paper's site.

Readers will see our site becoming a larger part of regular operations in coming months.



Experts: Eaton's DNA a match

No one else can be linked to crimes against Kimmell, they say

MARCH 09, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Two DNA experts who testified at Dale Wayne Eaton's capital murder trial Monday said lab results positively matched Eaton's DNA to samples taken from Lisa Marie Kimmell after her death in 1988.

The odds of another person having the same DNA profile as Eaton are one in 240 quadrillion, Kim Clement, a DNA analyst with Virginia-based Bode Technologies Group, testified in 7th District Court.

Clement performed the DNA analysis herself and said her statistics mean that 99.99 percent of the Caucasian population is excluded from having the same DNA makeup as Eaton.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen, the lead prosecutor in the case, pointed out to the 15 jurors that the world's population is roughly 6 billion people. All these numbers are extremely large. A quadrillion is a million times larger than a billion.

Defense attorney Wyatt Skaggs questioned the testing techniques and how the scientists arrived at their results. The experts appeared to be unshaken in their testimony.

Blonigen is seeking the death penalty for Eaton, who investigators say was connected to Kimmell's rape and homicide by a DNA match made almost 14 years after her death.

Expert witnesses explained Monday that DNA is unique in every person, except identical twins. Every person's DNA contains 46 chromosomes - 23 inherited from their mother and 23 inherited from their father. Those 46 chromosomes are the same in every human cell except for white blood cells.

A person's DNA makeup determines if they are short or tall, for example, or have brown or blonde hair. It also distinguishes unique personality characteristics, the experts said.

Since Kimmell's killing in 1988, two laboratories - Bode Technologies and Cellmark Diagnostics of Maryland - were asked to analyze DNA samples sent to them by Wyoming State Crime Lab officials.

The samples included cut-outs containing semen and non-semen samples taken from Kimmell's underwear, along with vaginal swabs and a blood sample taken from the 18-year-old after her death.

Kimmell's body was found floating in the North Platte River under the old Government Bridge southwest of Casper by two fisherman on April 2, 1988. Investigators said the girl, who

disappeared eight days earlier, had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed numerous times before being thrown from the bridge. She was wearing only her socks and underwear.

Tilton Davis of the State Crime Lab testified early in Eaton's trial that three areas on Kimmell's underwear appeared to have semen on them and that those areas were cut out, preserved and later sent to outside labs for DNA testing.

At the time, DNA testing was not an option. When it was, the Wyoming lab was not equipped to conduct the testing on-site, though it has since set up a lab with help from Bode Technology.

Robin Cotton of Cellmark Diagnostics said her lab was the first to conduct a DNA analysis of the samples Nov. 29, 2000.

Kimmell's DNA and that of an unknown male showed up in the samples, she said. At that time, however, Eaton was not a suspect in the crime.

The profile Cellmark generated was then entered into the FBI's CODIS database, which generates investigative leads in crimes where biological evidence is recovered from the crime scene using two indexes, one for forensic evidence and one for offenders.

The Forensic Index contains DNA profiles from crime scene evidence; the Offender Index contains individual DNA profiles of convicts.

In July 2002, the Wyoming State Crime Lab notified investigators that a blood sample drawn from Eaton at the Wyoming Penitentiary in 1998 matched the DNA profile compiled by Cellmark Diagnostics.

"DNA in the sperm fraction of the panties matches Dale Eaton," Cotton told the jury. "In the non-sperm fraction, Mr. Eaton's profile is present."

Soon after that, in 2002, the State Crime Lab asked Bode Technologies to confirm the preliminary match with further testing. That analysis, which included reference samples from both Kimmell and Eaton, also linked Eaton to the crime, according to Clement.

Both Cotton and Clement testified that DNA from no other person was found in any of the samples and that both labs' results were reviewed for technical and administrative accuracy.

Statistically, Cotton told the jury, Cellmark reported the likelihood of any other person having the exact same DNA profile as Eaton was one in 83 quadrillion - a much lower number than Clement's lab calculated.

Cotton and Clement told attorneys that the same calculation formulas were used by their labs but that variables like a less potent sample or the use of different testing kits could produce a slight difference in the odds.

One in 83 quadrillion is still more than the world's population, Blonigen pointed out.

The trial will continue at 9:30 a.m. today with testimony from sheriff's investigator Lynn Cohee and other various witnesses in the case.



Eaton's son testifies

Said defendant had Honda parts in 1988

MARCH 10, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

William Eaton testified against his father Tuesday in 7th District Court, saying he unknowingly helped the accused killer install in his pickup a stereo and pin-striped bucket seats that investigators say came from victim Lisa Marie Kimmell's 1988 Honda CRX.

Kimmell was raped and killed in 1988. William's father, 59-year-old Dale Wayne Eaton, is on trial for his life in connection with the crimes against the 18-year-old girl.

What was left of Kimmell's car was unearthed in the summer of 2002 by Natrona County sheriff's investigators during a search of Eaton's Moneta property.

The search was conducted after sheriff's officials were told that a DNA sample Eaton was ordered to submit during his 1998 incarceration at the Wyoming State Penitentiary matched unknown semen samples taken from Kimmell after her death.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen is seeking the death penalty for Eaton on murder, kidnapping, rape and robbery charges.

In his testimony, 31-year-old William Eaton said he was familiar with Hondas and that he believed in 1988 - when the parts were installed in his 1963 Ford pickup - that they had come from a Honda CRX or a "top-line" Honda Accord.

They looked "pretty new," he said.

Plus, "The cassette lid said 'Honda' on it," said William Eaton, further stating that he had also seen aluminum wheels for a Honda on his dad's property around that time.

The wheels to whatever car the parts came from were melted down, he told jurors.

"We melted down iron stuff, too - we'd sell them," he added.

At the time, however, he had no reason to think the parts he helped his dad put into his truck belonged to Lisa Kimmell, Eaton said.

The Ford truck was given to William Eaton by his uncle when he was 13, but the Honda parts weren't put into his pickup until 1988, he testified.

He was 15 years old then and had moved in with his father at the desolate Moneta property on Wyoming 20-26, which had no running water or electricity. William Eaton said his sister lived with them for a short time.

The family had to bathe in a horse trough and had no restroom facilities, he said.

"I don't remember it being all that bad - it was kinda fun," he told his father's attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, during a cross-examination.

William Eaton testified that he never saw any digging go on at his father's property around the time of Kimmell's killing and that he never saw a backhoe. But his father did tell him that a well had been dug on the property.

His father told him to stay away from a building across the highway, and he did, he said. His father had access to the building, however, he said.

William Eaton told District Attorney Mike Blonigen his father had a 1979 Dodge Dually pickup truck on the property and that it was equipped with a tool box and a hoist, which could have been capable of pulling a small Honda.

Upon further questioning, William Eaton told the court that "years and years before" 1988, he saw his dad convert a vehicle into a septic tank.

In earlier testimony at the trial, investigators who were present for the search of Eaton's property said they believed Eaton had at some point intended to use Kimmell's Honda as a septic tank.

Kimmell's car was found buried at the bottom of a white pipe that investigators said extended out of the ground on Eaton's property.



Claims defendant said 'nobody would miss' murder victim

Inmate: Eaton confessed

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Wednesday, March 10, 2004 12:00 am

Editor's note: Witnesses Tuesday in the murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton included a convicted felon who testified that Eaton confessed the crime to him. Readers should be aware the testimony includes strong sexual references.

Statements made Tuesday by a convicted felon that accused killer Dale Wayne Eaton confessed to raping and killing a girl in 1988 drew gasps from courtroom observers and angry objections from Eaton and his attorney.

A former co-worker of Eaton's also offered testimony which caught defense attorneys by surprise.

A sudden outburst by Eaton stunned those in 7th District Court when the convict, Joseph Dax, took the stand as a witness for the prosecution. Dax was housed in a neighboring cell at the Natrona County Jail and said he had contact with Eaton in April 2003. He is now a prisoner at the Oxford Federal Correctional Center in Oxford, Wis.

Dax was asked to identify Eaton, 59, who is charged with the first-degree murder and rape of Lisa Marie Kimmell, 18.

"Don't point at me. You don't know me," Eaton shouted.

But the most explosive moment came later, after Dax was asked by District Attorney Mike Blonigen if he knew whether Eaton had sex with the girl.

Dax said Eaton told him that "nobody would miss her" and that she was "a lousy lay," said Dax, clothed in orange jail garb.

The Kimmell family, who have attended every day of the trial which began March 3, sat solemnly throughout the testimony, in which Dax retold the story he swore Eaton told between April 3 and April 8, 2003.

During that period in jail, Dax said he had about five to six conversations with the defendant and that some of them involved the discovery of a car on Eaton's Moneta property in the summer of 2002 and the killing of "a girl," who Dax never directly referred to as being Kimmell.

"I had that feeling that (Eaton) was trying to tell me something," said Dax.

Dax began giving a chronology of the conversations, but Blonigen asked him to skip to the pertinent information.

After a pause, Dax said he saw Eaton holding a newspaper article that had to do with the car's recovery.

Eaton was complaining about the article.

"He didn't believe they had all this evidence - that they were trying to get him to admit to something," Dax told the jury.

Eaton was concerned about how the authorities found the car - whether it was by accident or whether it was through someone in Colorado, Dax said Eaton wondered.

Before being extradited to Casper, Eaton was imprisoned in a federal facility in Englewood, Colo., court documents state.

In his testimony Tuesday, Dax said Eaton told him that "he'd met a real nice girl and that she was helping him out" by giving him a ride. Dax did not say where the girl allegedly picked Eaton up.

In earlier testimony, though, Lisa Kimmell's family said the 18-year-old would never offer a stranger a ride.

Despite that, Dax said Eaton told him that he and the girl were "driving along and talking" when Eaton jokingly asked her if the two of them were going to have dinner.

The girl started acting nervous and "all high and mighty," refusing Eaton's advances, Dax said Eaton told him.

She slammed on the brakes and pulled the car over, Dax said.

"She called him a weirdo and told him to get out - she was freaking out," Dax testified Eaton told him.

That's when "everything spun out of control," Dax said. Eaton told Dax he was angry because she was going to drop him off "in the middle of nowhere."

"He knew he had to do her right there," Dax said without elaborating. "If she wouldn't have been acting so high and mighty, things wouldn't have happened the way they did."

Blonigen asked Dax if Eaton ever told him that he had sexual contact with the girl and Dax responded, "Yes, he said nobody would miss her ... basically, that she was a lousy lay."

Eaton's attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, objected to that comment, calling it "highly inflammatory."

Eaton never told Dax how he killed the girl, the inmate told the court.

Dax reportedly has a long criminal history and is currently serving multiple sentences - both state and federal - that will keep him incarcerated for at least 20 years and that is why he agreed to testify Tuesday, Eaton's attorneys alleged.

Eaton calmed down following Dax's testimony but remained visibly agitated in his chair for the remainder of the day, as witness after witness testified against him.

Other heated moments

Skaggs engaged in other heated debates with Blonigen over testimony offered by Alice Kardonowy, a woman who said Eaton had access to a historical site located between Moneta and Hiland, which her family owned.

Eaton took her to the property, she told the court. At the site was a building which she said had a secret passageway behind a stove.

That surprised the defense, who claimed not to have been told that testimony would be offered to the jury.

Blonigen told District Judge David Park that he had just learned of the new information Tuesday morning from Kardonowy, who was already on the state's witness list. She was to testify that she worked with Eaton in 1988 at a construction company and that she believed he had access to a backhoe.

Skaggs' aggravation again mounted following the testimony of Keith Kerr, a power company employee who told the jury that Eaton in 1988 installed his own power line and pole on a Moneta property owned by Eaton.

"He advised he had access to a backhoe and could install that himself," Kerr said, adding that he noticed there had been some digging on the property.

Later, seeing the work Eaton had done with regard to the power, Kerr testified that he was surprised Eaton planted the power pole so far away from his residence.

Skaggs took issue with documents Blonigen wanted to enter as evidence, and Blonigen agreed to get the information to the jury later through further testimony.

Sheriff's investigator Cpl. Lynn Cohee began to testify late Tuesday afternoon regarding evidence found on the Moneta property.

Her testimony will continue today at 9:30 a.m.



Grave note tied to Eaton

MARCH 11, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

An "odd" note left on the headstone of slain teenager Lisa Marie Kimmell's was almost certainly written by Dale Wayne Eaton, a handwriting expert told jurors Wednesday in 7th District Court.

The small note, dated Nov. 13, 1988, was found taped to Kimmell's headstone about a year after her 1988 disappearance and death, according to testimony from her father, Ron Kimmell, earlier in Eaton's trial.

Eaton - the man prosecutors want to execute for Kimmell's kidnap, robbery, rape and killing - lashed out at his lawyers when they did not cross-examine the expert, Jim Broz, a former Natrona County Sheriff's Office investigator now working in Colorado.

"I told you where I was that day and you never do nothing about it," Eaton said to his attorneys, Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn Neubauer.

District Court Judge David Park admonished Eaton for the outburst, the second in two days.

The note Eaton is accused of writing states, "There are'nt words to say how much you're missed/The pain never leaves. It's so hard without you/ you'll always be alive in me. Your death is my painful loss but heavens sweet gain/ Love Always/Stringfellow Hawke."

The note, small, smudged and covered by clear packing tape, was retrieved from the teen's headstone in Billings by Ron Kimmell on March 29, 1998, according to his testimony at the trial.

Kimmell said a friend of the family had visited his daughter's grave shortly before he found the note and immediately turned it over to the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office.

Inspector Broz told the jury Wednesday that prosecutors asked him to compare 137 pages containing text known to be written by Eaton to the handwriting on the note. He noticed many similar characteristics, he said.

For one, punctuation in the known samples and in the note was consistently poor, or improperly used. Broz also noted similarities between the writings in regard to the strokes used when penning individual letters and the combination of print and cursive used in the writings, he said.



State rests in Eaton trial

Defense opens case Friday

MARCH 11, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The state rested its case Wednesday against Dale Wayne Eaton, the man charged with committing the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of Montana teen Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Prosecutors, who finished presenting their case a day early, strove to convince the eight-man, six-woman jury that the crimes Eaton is accused of warrant the death penalty.

Eaton's attorneys Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn Neubauer will begin presenting their defense Friday morning in 7th District Court.

The public defenders have not denied Eaton's involvement in the crime but in opening statements said that "reasons to give life" will be presented to the jury.

Before ending its case Wednesday, two Natrona County sheriff's investigators, Cpl. Lynn Cohee and Dan Tholson, took the stand.

Cohee, who began testifying late Tuesday, displayed two life-sized photos of the back and front bumpers of the victim's dirt-crushed Honda CRX. Half of one of Kimmell's vanity license plates reading "LIL MISS" was also found.

The photos showed the car as it was found after its unearthing on Eaton's Moneta property two summers ago.

Cohee held tail-light pieces investigators found buried at different levels in a water well hole at Moneta against their corresponding places on the photo depicting the back of the vehicle.

The pieces were a perfect match.

The same was done with the photo of the front end of the car. Cohee showed the jury where bumper pieces belonged.

The 18-year-old Kimmell was last seen March 25, 1988, when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. She was behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si, traveling from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Her body was found eight days later in the North Platte River off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper. The girl had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from the old Government Bridge.

Kimmell's car, however, remained missing until July 2002, when it was unearthed on Eaton's

property. Sheriff's officials began digging there not long after being notified that a DNA sample submitted by Eaton in 1998 matched semen samples taken from Kimmell 10 years earlier.

The tail light and bumper pieces of the Honda were found buried in what Cohee termed the "water well hole." The parted-out car was found 10 feet underground in a nearby septic tank hole. The keys to the car were found buried with the car.

Investigators also found some of Kimmell's personal belongings, which included a pair of shoes; a few Arby's visors - Kimmell was an assistant manager at a Denver-area Arby's; eyeglass frames; and a rosary she had hung from her rearview mirror, Cohee testified. A deteriorated atlas was also found at the scene, she told jurors.

Kimmell's clothes, the suitcase she took on the trip, and her cosmetics and wallet were never found, she said.

Tholson, in his testimony, tied up loose ends in the state's case.

He showed 10 slides of bloodstains left on the bridge where Eaton allegedly killed Kimmell before dumping her body. Offering jurors a better look of the condition of the blood, he maintained that it appeared to be fresh.

He also reminded the jury that Kimmell's trip odometer on her car read 215.8 miles at the time of its recovery and that she was known to stop for gas in Cheyenne.

He reset his own odometer at a Cheyenne gas station on Lincolnway, he said. Taking Interstate 25 north to Casper, Tholson said he reached 215.8 miles just outside of Powder River - indicating that was as far as Kimmell's car was driven the night she disappeared.

Skaggs, in cross-examining Tholson, argued that Tholson could only speculate where Kimmell had stopped for gas.

Regarding the blood on the bridge, Skaggs said there's no proof that Kimmell was killed on the bridge, even though Tholson testified that investigators found no trail of blood leading to the bridge.

"Man dug big hole"

Among the other witnesses who testified against Eaton on Wednesday was a 91-year-old Casper woman who claimed to have seen Eaton digging a huge hole on his Moneta property.

Doris Buchta, in an interview with the Star-Tribune over a year ago, said she was a resident of Moneta for 20 years and had lived across the highway from Eaton until 1994.

Due to her health, Buchta was only asked to read small sections of the journal she told the court she had written in every day for "almost 30 years," including during her time in Moneta, she said.

The short time she spent on the witness stand was refreshing for the courtroom audience, who was repeatedly tickled by her sense of humor as she read scattered excerpts from her late-

March and early April 1988 journal entries.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen offered three specific pages of her journal to the jury for review.

In her interview with the newspaper, Buchta couldn't say exactly when she saw Eaton digging the hole but she did know the digging was done "approximately in the same place" where the car was unearthed. She used wildlife-spotting binoculars to watch him, she said.

"He did dig it deep enough that you could barely see the top of his head down there, and it was a pretty damned big hole," she said in the interview. "I'm speculating all night - maybe he put the car in the shed and buried it at night."

Eaton's son, William Eaton, testified Tuesday that Eaton had access to a shed on Buchta's property, which he was told not to go near.

It was not clear if Buchta referred to the same shed.



Eaton's defense to begin Friday

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Thursday, March 11, 2004 12:00 am

The capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton will resume Friday morning in 7th District Court, where Eaton's attorneys will begin launching his defense.

Eaton is charged with the first-degree murder, rape and kidnapping of Lisa Marie Kimmell, 18, in 1988.

District Judge David Park ordered a one-day recess in the trial Wednesday because the state had finished calling witnesses and witnesses for the defense weren't expecting to be in court until Friday, he said.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen on Thursday said he didn't know how many of the people on the defense's 14-person witness list would be called in the trial phase. But he expected that both attorneys will be ready to give closing arguments by Monday.

Before the trial began March 3, the court estimated the process could take as long as four to five weeks.

"I always thought we could finish this quicker than the total time set for it," said Blonigen. "But we do anticipate some evidence from the defense Friday, although nothing is set in stone."

Eaton's public defender, Wyatt Skaggs, could not be reached for comment Thursday morning.

It's not known yet if Eaton will testify because Blonigen said the defense isn't obligated to tell him that.



Eaton trial resumes today

Attorneys to mount defense

MARCH 12, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Attorneys for accused killer Dale Wayne Eaton will launch their defense this morning in 7th District Court.

District Judge David Park on Wednesday ordered a one-day recess in the trial after the state rested its case. Defense witnesses weren't expecting to be in court until today, he said.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen on Thursday said he didn't know how many of the people on the defense's 14-person witness list would be called during the trial phase. But he expected that both attorneys would be ready to give closing arguments by Monday.

Before the trial began March 3, the court estimated the process could take as long as four to five weeks.

"I always thought we could finish this quicker than the total time set for it," said Blonigen. "But we do anticipate some evidence from the defense Friday, although nothing is set in stone."

It's not known yet if Eaton will testify because Blonigen said the defense isn't obligated to tell him that.

"That's a very critical decision they have to make," he added. "And it's not unusual for (the defense) to change its mind."

Public defenders Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn Neubauer are representing Eaton.

Skaggs, who set up shop in Casper for the duration of the trial, did not return calls Thursday regarding his expectations for the defense.

The state contends Eaton should be put to death for the kidnap, robbery, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Montana. If the jury convicts Eaton, though, it could decide to offer a lesser sentence.

Kimmell vanished nearly 16 years ago on March 25, 1988, as she was driving through Wyoming from her job in Denver. Kimmell planned to stop in Cody to pick up her boyfriend, Ed Jaroch, on her way to Billings, her family said.

She never made it, though. Her body was found in the North Platte River under the old Government Bridge eight days after she disappeared.

Investigators testified that she had been abducted and held against her will for an unknown

period before being taken to the bridge. There, they said, she was hit in the head and then stabbed six times before being thrown from the bridge.

Kimmell's car - a black Honda CRX Si with personalized Montana plates that read "LIL MISS" - was still missing.

Her death and the car's disappearance gained national attention and was featured in 1989 on the television program "Unsolved Mysteries." Soon after the broadcast, sightings of her car were reported throughout the country, according to investigators.

None of the sightings panned out but a DNA match suddenly revived the case about 14 years later, when sheriff's investigators unearthed the Honda from a septic hole on Eaton's Moneta property in July 2002.

Eaton, who was never a suspect in the crime, was ordered to submit a DNA sample 10 years after Kimmell's killing, while incarcerated at the Wyoming State Penitentiary.

That sample was entered into an FBI database, where it produced a hit in 2002. Authorities allege Eaton's DNA matched semen samples taken from Kimmell's body after her death.

He is the only person thought to have perpetrated the crime.

Blonigen said Thursday he thinks the state has proved its case against Eaton.

"I think, with very minor exceptions, we got in the evidence we wanted to get in, so we're comfortable with that," he said.

Eaton's attorneys are not denying their client's involvement in the crimes. But they are trying to save his life.

In his opening statement March 3, Skaggs told the jury that he will present to them "reasons to give life," if Eaton is convicted. The trial phase will then be followed by a penalty phase during which jurors will decide if Eaton should be executed. Part of that defense is that Eaton struggles with mental illness, he said.

Additionally, Eaton's attorneys apparently hope to prove the killing wasn't premeditated.

Eaton is charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault.

He faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes: sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

Attorneys estimate that a sentencing phase could last up to a week.

On Blonigen's witness list for this phase is Shannon Breeden.

In 1997, Eaton abducted her, her husband and their infant child and forced them at gunpoint onto a dirt road in Sweetwater County. For that, Eaton was convicted of aggravated assault,

court records state.

Offering her testimony to jurors, if the case reaches sentencing, is one thing Blonigen said the prosecution is "actively considering right now."

"We're kind of waiting for the verdict to come in," he said.



Doctor disputes Kimmell was tied

Also finds no evidence that stabbing was methodical

MARCH 13, 2004 12:00 AM • TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Eaton Trial, Day 7

Defense attorneys for Dale Wayne Eaton rested their case Friday after calling just one witness - an associate medical examiner from Tampa, Fla., who disputed the state's claim that Lisa Marie Kimmell was bound with rope and that her killer was methodical in her stabbing.

Daniel Spitz also told jurors Friday morning that he believes the head injury sustained by the 18-year-old Kimmell could have resulted from her head impacting a cement curb on the old Government Bridge, where the state contends she was killed.

Eaton's public defenders, Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn Neubauer, asked Spitz to review the autopsy report compiled by Natrona County Coroner James Thorpen after the teen's death. Spitz said he also looked at autopsy photos and others taken at the crime scene.

For the most part, Spitz told jurors that he agreed with Thorpen's findings. But he did not agree with Thorpen's conclusion that Kimmell's wrists and ankles had been bound with rope. He thought the marks looked more like she had been "grabbed or held."

In addition, he disputed the state's claim that Kimmell's killer carefully tried to avoid striking her ribs with the knife when inflicting all six stab wounds.

Spitz did not rule out the possibility that Kimmell was killed somewhere other than the bridge, "provided her body was not dragged during transport."

He said he felt that some of the evidence was inconsistent with her being killed at Government Bridge.

"I would have expected a wider distribution of blood" at the bridge, had she been killed there, Spitz told the jury.

Because there were no defensive wounds found on Kimmell's body, Spitz conceded that Kimmell probably did receive the head injury before being stabbed in the chest and abdomen.

Eaton, the man charged with Kimmell's kidnap, robbery, rape and murder in 1988, chose not to testify.

Kimmell vanished nearly 16 years ago on March 25, 1988, as she was driving through Wyoming from her job in Denver. Kimmell planned to stop in Cody to pick up her boyfriend, Ed Jaroch, on her way to Billings, her family said.

Eight days later, her body was found in the North Platte River near the old Government Bridge. Investigators said Kimmell had been hit in the head and stabbed six times before being thrown into the water.

In cross-examining Spitz regarding the "ligature marks" on Kimmell's body, District Attorney Mike Blonigen asked the examiner if it appeared to him that Kimmell had been forcefully restrained - even if the marks on the victim's wrists weren't made by rope.

Spitz concurred and further admitted that such marks are consistent with a sexual assault.

But he didn't concede there was evidence of the killer's intention to miss Kimmell's ribs when inflicting the stab wounds.

Judge refuses to acquit

Eaton is charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault.

Additionally, he faces three counts of first-degree felony murder allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes: sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

Before mounting his defense, and with the jury out of the room, Skaggs unsuccessfully argued that Eaton should be acquitted. He said some of the eight charges filed against Eaton constituted double jeopardy.

The state hadn't proved its case in many areas, according to Skaggs, particularly in its arguments that Kimmell's killing was premeditated and that she was sexually assaulted.

"There's no evidence it was done without her consent," he told the court - an allegation that drew gasps from many members of the courtroom audience.

According to Skaggs, the state didn't even prove that Kimmell was kidnapped. It was the state's own witness, Joseph Dax, who testified that Kimmell offered Eaton a ride the night she disappeared, he said.

And Skaggs maintained there's no proof that Eaton robbed Kimmell before killing her.

"We believe the robbery falls outside of the homicide," meaning that Eaton didn't take possession of Kimmell's property - namely her car - until after her death, Skaggs said.

In rebuttal, Blonigen argued that the stab wounds Kimmell suffered showed there was a deliberate attempt to kill her.

There was confinement that lasted days - the ligature marks prove that, he said. And doctors testified at trial that it is not uncommon for rape victims to have no genitalia injury.

"The sequencing of events is not important," he continued. The state only has to prove that there was continuous action that led to her death.

District Judge David Park denied the defense motion, saying the jury should make the decision.

With the defense resting its case Friday, the court opted to recess until Monday at 9 a.m., when jury instructions and closing arguments will commence.

The case will then go to the jury.



Lawyer: Fight access battles early

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Saturday, March 13, 2004 12:00 am

News organizations that want to get access to sealed court documents should start filing motions long before the trial starts, advises Star-Tribune attorney Bruce Moats of Cheyenne.

Seventh District Court Judge David Park on Friday released confidential documents relating to testimony by prosecution witnesses in the capital murder case of Dale Wayne Eaton. He agreed to make the documents public earlier this month, but by Friday - after the prosecution had rested its case - they were essentially useless.

The trial began March 3. Moats asked Park on March 2 to open any documents filed under seal that pertained to motions on evidence or testimony that were ultimately ruled admissible at trial.

He did not ask the judge to make public documents relating to evidence or testimony that wouldn't be heard by jurors.

Park ruled March 2 that the public should immediately be given access to some of the documents but that portions of those documents would have to be redacted - or blacked out - to protect the witnesses' identities, at the request of Assistant District Attorney Mike Blonigen and Eaton's public defender, Wyatt Skaggs.

Moats was asked to type up the judge's order and was charged with completing the redactions. His redacted versions were then sent back to the court for approval - it turned out to be a lengthy process, Moats explained.

The filings that were made public Friday were documents that pertained to two prison inmates who were to testify at Eaton's trial. Joseph Dax, a prisoner at Oxford Federal Correctional Center in Oxford, Wis., did testify, but the second inmate did not. His testimony was not necessary, according to Blonigen, the lead prosecutor in the case.

Other filings made public in early March involved aspects of the testimony offered by Natrona County Coroner James Thorpen, M.D., who performed the autopsy on Eaton's alleged victim, 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Defense attorneys reportedly filed a motion asking the court to stop Thorpen from talking about ligature marks allegedly found on the victim, but Park said he denied that motion and ordered the filings unsealed.

According to Park's ruling, the full documents would be made available after each of the parties testified at trial.

"When I first sent out (the redacted versions) the inmate hadn't testified yet," said Moats. "But we have to go through this process. The judge issues the order orally and then assigns - like he did me - the responsibility of writing the order, and then you're supposed to submit it to the other (attorneys) and they have 10 days to either say yes or no."

"If they say no, then you submit it to the court anyway and (the other attorneys) can submit objections, if they want to," he explained. "So it's immediate from the time the order is signed, I guess."

Moats said getting an order through the process typically takes a long time. He hopes to find a way to speed things up.

"It's a learning process," said Moats, not only for the attorneys, but for the newspaper and, sometimes, the judge.

"What I try to encourage newspapers to do in the beginning, when they've got a high-profile case, is to go in early on and try to establish some process for the release and unsealing" of documents, he added. "Rather than coming in after the fact, I think we can do it ahead of time."

Regardless, tackling the issue late was better than doing nothing at all, Moats said.

In Wyoming, there haven't been many aggressive attempts made to have sealed documents made public, said Moats.

But Moats said he has since been notified by Park of all closed hearings held in the case and he's been afforded the opportunity to object immediately.

Star-Tribune Editor Dan Neal said he's disappointed in the time it took to release the documents and that it turned out to be such a battle.

"We thought we could do this in a more friendly way simply by alerting the judge to our interest," Neal said. "We were trying to stay out of their way - all we wanted was access to the information. The judge has made clear to us that if the public and the press wants access to the Wyoming justice process, we have to formally intervene."

That means hiring an attorney to file a motion.

"I still don't understand why, when the judge has ruled that evidence will be allowed at trial, that making that evidence a part of the file requires a special motion," he added.

Eaton is charged with the 1988 kidnapping, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, a Billings, Mont., woman who vanished while driving from Denver to Cody to visit her boyfriend in March of that year.

His trial concludes Monday with closing arguments. If the jury convicts Eaton, a sentencing phase to determine whether he should receive the death penalty will begin next week. Jurors will be sequestered for the duration of that phase, court officials said.



Eaton case goes to jury

MARCH 15, 2004 12:00 AM • TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

The capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton concluded Monday morning with his defense attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, admitting his client's guilt.

"There is no question my client kept, sexually assaulted, killed and disposed of Lisa Marie Kimmell's body," said Skaggs. "Dale Eaton did it."

He did argue, however, that Eaton was grossly overcharged - because he faces four counts of murder for one killing - and the prosecution has not proved that Kimmell was killed at Government Bridge.

Skaggs, again, picked apart DNA results from semen evidence admitted at trial and told jurors that Eaton did not write the note that was left on Kimmell's Montana grave about one year after her death.

Furthermore, Skaggs argued passionately that a federal inmate who testified for the state that Eaton told him details about Kimmell's kidnapping, is "a flat-out liar."

After both sides presented their closing arguments, the jury broke for lunch at 11:40 a.m. The group is now deliberating Eaton's guilt on each of the eight counts filed against him for Kimmell's 1988 kidnap, robbery, rape and murder.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton, though jurors right now are only deciding guilt or innocence, not punishment. Two alternate jurors were excused from deliberation Monday. They are still being sequestered in case they are needed by the court to continue their service for a penalty phase, said District Attorney Mike Blonigen.

A third female juror was excused earlier in the trial for health reasons, court officials said.

Eaton is charged with one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sexual assault.

He faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes: sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.



Skaggs: Eaton did it

But defense argues Eaton not guilty of first-degree murder

MARCH 16, 2004 12:00 AM • TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

The capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton concluded Monday morning with his defense attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, admitting his client's guilt.

"There is no question my client kept, sexually assaulted, killed and disposed of Lisa Kimmell's body," said Skaggs. "Dale Eaton did it."

He did argue, however, that Eaton was grossly overcharged - he faces four counts of murder for one killing.

"He killed one person, and that's Lisa Kimmell," Skaggs told the jury in front of a standing-room only courtroom.

The charges were appropriate, District Attorney Mike Blonigen said in his closing statements.

No one except Eaton will ever know for sure when and where each of the crimes occurred, he told the jury.

What is known, he said, is that Eaton put a lot of thought into how Kimmell's abduction was going to end.

"She and Mr. Eaton knew exactly how this was going to end - she had to know," Blonigen told the jury.

And it doesn't matter in which sequence the events occurred, the state only has to prove that they occurred as part of a "continuous transaction," Blonigen argued. "It doesn't matter if (the murder) is first, last or in between."

In addition to one count each of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault, and second-degree sex assault, Eaton faces three additional counts of first-degree felony murder allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes: sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

During his closing statements, Skaggs argued that neither the kidnapping, the sex assault, nor the robbery were committed at the time of Kimmell's killing and that there was no premeditation involved in her murder. He contends a second-degree murder charge is more appropriate.

"There is plenty of evidence of malice in this case ... but premeditation is lacking," said Skaggs, referring to the very short amount of time that elapsed between Kimmell's being

struck in the head and the stabbing that followed.

The prosecution also had not proved that Kimmell was killed at Government Bridge, he said. She could have been killed at Eaton's Moneta property in Fremont County, Skaggs added.

Again, Skaggs picked apart DNA evidence admitted at trial, saying there were significant differences in the results produced by the two labs that studied semen evidence later linked to Eaton.

According to Skaggs, some of the results lead him to believe it's possible that there could have been another person involved and that there just wasn't enough DNA evidence left in the samples to conclusively determine that.

And, contrary to a handwriting expert's testimony, Eaton did not pen the note left on Kimmell's Montana grave one year after her death, he said.

Skaggs passionately argued that the jury should disregard the testimony offered by federal prisoner Joseph Dax, who said that Eaton confessed the murder to him.

"I contend Joe Dax is a flat-out liar," Skaggs said.

"He never talked to my client - that was a preposterous story," he told the jury, referring to Dax's testimony that Eaton had told him that Kimmell offered him a ride the day she disappeared.

"That just didn't happen," said Skaggs.

Dax further alleged he was told that "the girl," whom he never referred to as Kimmell, refused Eaton's advances. Eaton made a snap decision to kidnap Kimmell when she told him to get out of her car, Dax testified.

Dax told the jury that Eaton confessed all of this to him when they were both housed at the Natrona County jail in April 2003.

But Skaggs displayed for the jury all of Dax's criminal convictions and said Dax lied in court to get time taken off his hefty sentences.

Blonigen disputed Skagg's assertion that Eaton did not plan to kill Kimmell. Even Daniel Spitz, M.D. - the defense's sole witness - testified that any stab to the chest is meant to be fatal, Blonigen said.

"Where is the lack of intent?" he asked the jury. "Dale Wayne Eaton killed because he wanted to kill. He chose not to extend mercy to this girl."

Blonigen reviewed evidence and testimony he presented to the jury during the trial, which began March 3, to prove that Kimmell's killing did not occur long before her body was found in the North Platte River on April 2, 1988. She had been dumped over the side of the old Government Bridge. The blood on the bridge appeared fresh and her body had not decomposed, he said.

Kimmell disappeared eight days earlier, on March 25. Investigators reported she was struck once in the back of the head and then methodically stabbed six times - five times in the chest and once in the abdomen.

Before she was found, Blonigen reminded the jury, she was kidnapped, held against her will for days, and raped, experiencing the "sheer and abject terror" that any person would in the same situation.

As evidence of Eaton's control over the girl, Blonigen referred jurors to the testimony of County Coroner James Thorpen, M.D., who said Kimmell's pubic hair had been shaved and had re-grown for about seven days before her death.

And the defense's contention that Eaton didn't take control of Kimmell's property until after her death does not hold up, he added.

"He takes control of her property before she's dead. Committing the murder only helps him get away with the other crimes," Blonigen told the jury. "He had choices to make - and Dale Wayne Eaton chose, with premeditated malice, to end this young girl's life."



Jury begins deliberation

MARCH 16, 2004 12:00 AM • TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

The jury seated for the capital murder trial of 59-year-old Dale Wayne Eaton was handed the case Monday after attorneys on both sides presented closing arguments. The group retired Monday evening without reaching a verdict and is expected to resume deliberations today.

The 12-person jury broke for lunch at 11:40 a.m. and was told by 7th District Judge David Park that they would be sequestered until further notice. They will be staying at a local motel through the deliberations and possibly the sentencing phase.

Deliberations were taking place at the Natrona County Courthouse.

Before the closing arguments, Judge Park took about three-quarters of an hour to outline detailed instructions to the jury. The jury was told it can find Eaton guilty of lesser charges including second degree murder or voluntary manslaughter. He reminded the jury it can disregard any testimony it heard and can determine how much weight to give the testimony offered by each witness.

Jurors are charged with considering Eaton's guilt on each of the eight counts filed against him in connection with Lisa Marie Kimmell's 1988 kidnap, robbery, rape and murder.

Those counts include first-degree premeditated murder; aggravated kidnapping; aggravated robbery; first-degree sexual assault; and second-degree sex assault. Three additional counts of first-degree felony murder allegedly committed during the course of separate felony crimes: sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping are also being considered.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Eaton, though jurors Monday were asked only to determine guilt or innocence, not punishment.

Two remaining alternate jurors were excused from deliberations Monday. They are still being sequestered, though, in case they are needed by the court to continue their service through a penalty phase, District Attorney Mike Blonigen said.

A third female juror was excused earlier in the trial for health reasons.

In order for the penalty phase to go forward, Eaton must be convicted of first-degree murder, Blonigen said.

Court officials said before the trial started March 3 that a penalty phase in Eaton's case could take up to a week to complete.

Eaton was charged with the crimes last year.

Two summers ago, sheriff's investigators were informed that DNA Eaton submitted while he was incarcerated at the Wyoming State Penitentiary in 1998 matched DNA from samples taken from Kimmell's body after her death.

Not long after that, Kimmell's missing Honda CRX was found buried 10 to 12 feet beneath the ground on Eaton's property at Moneta, about 75 miles west of Casper off Wyoming Hwy. 20-26.



Eaton deliberations start over

Posted: Tuesday, March 16, 2004 12:00 am

A juror seated for the capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton was excused Tuesday during the deliberation process, which began Monday afternoon, court officials said.

No reason was given as to why the unnamed juror was let go.

"There's no mistrial," said Star-Tribune attorney Bruce Moats, who was told of the juror's excusal by 7th District Judge David Park.

Moats said an alternate juror was called in to replace the person who was excused but that the jury had to start the deliberation process over again to include the new juror.

"Park said the (jurors) lost what was done yesterday and this morning," Moats said Tuesday.

Eaton is accused of the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

His trial began March 3 and ended after closing arguments Monday morning around 11:40 a.m.

If the jury convicts Eaton of first-degree murder, he could be given the death penalty.



Eaton jury still out

MARCH 17, 2004 12:00 AM

The jury is still deliberating guilt in Dale Wayne Eaton's capital murder case, court officials said.

By mid-morning, court officials reported that there had been no problems Wednesday morning but that the jury was still out.

Eaton's trial ended Monday morning just before lunch.

The jury began deliberating after their lunch break that day but had to start over Tuesday when a primary juror was replaced by an alternate.

No reason was given for the juror's dismissal.

Eaton is accused of the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

The 12-person jury is currently deciding Eaton's guilt on eight counts filed against him, including premeditated murder.



Dismissal no cause for mistrial, attorneys say

Eaton juror excused during deliberation

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Wednesday, March 17, 2004 12:00 am

A juror in the capital murder trial of Dale Wayne Eaton was excused Tuesday in the middle of deliberations but no mistrial was called, attorneys said.

Those close to the case gave no reason why the unnamed juror was let go. Nor were they saying if it was a man or a woman.

"But there's no mistrial," assured Star-Tribune attorney Bruce Moats, who was told of the excused juror by 7th District Judge David Park.

Contacted late Tuesday, Park said the reason the juror was dismissed is "not being discussed." This was the second juror to be let go since the beginning of the trial, leaving only one alternate available.

According to Moats, one of the two alternate jurors remaining was called in to replace the person excused Tuesday. The jury, however, had to restart the deliberation process for the sake of the new juror, he said.

The 12-person jury was given the case late Monday morning. They began deliberations after lunch. The two alternates that remained were sequestered with the primary jurors but were not part of the deliberations, attorneys said.

"Park said they lost what was done yesterday and this morning," Moats said of the progress that had been made in deliberations leading up to the time the juror was excused.

Park said the jurors retired to their motel rooms without entering a verdict around 5 p.m. Tuesday and that the panel would be back this morning to continue deliberating.

Four days into Eaton's trial, a female juror was excused for "personal reasons."

Before that happened, attorneys in the case suddenly called for a closed hearing late in the afternoon, asking everyone but the attorneys to leave the room. No one knew why until after the hearing, when it was disclosed that a juror had been excused.

An alternate juror was called to fill in. Park said the reason that juror was let go would not be made public until after the trial. And that still applies, he said of Tuesday's dismissal.

Before the trial commenced March 3, three alternates were seated. All three alternates sat with the 12 primary jurors throughout the trial and have been privy to all the evidence presented by the prosecution and the defense.

Eaton is accused of the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, and he faces the death penalty.

His trial ended Monday morning around 11:40 a.m., after closing arguments.

The jury right now is only deliberating Eaton's guilt.

The same jury seated for the trial will be seated for the penalty phase, if needed, Blonigen said. Witnesses will be called by both sides and the jury will again deliberate.

That phase alone is expected to last up to a week.

Blonigen said he is not worried about having only one alternate left.

"I wanted three (alternates) and I think the judge understands why I wanted three now," he joked. "You would hate to do this whole thing and then have to start all over again, obviously."

Park also said he was not concerned at this point.

As for possible reasons the judge would call for a mistrial, there are many, Blonigen said. And there are just as many reasons a juror could be let go without a mistrial having to be declared.

"The bottom line is, the juror's conduct would have to endanger the defendant's right to a fair trial," Blonigen said.

If a mistrial were called in the case, Eaton would have to be re-tried, and therefore, a new jury would have to be seated.



Eaton guilty in Kimmell murder case

MARCH 17, 2004 12:00 AM

Dale Wayne Eaton was found Wednesday afternoon in the capital murder trial that began March 3. The jury returned its verdict just before 3 p.m.

Eaton was convicted in the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell. Kimmell's body was found in the North Platte River. Her car, the subject of an extensive search at the time of her death, was discovered buried on Eaton's Fremont County property in 2002.

The 12-person jury that decided Eaton's guilt on all eight counts filed against him, including premeditated murder, deliberated for two days before reaching the verdict.

The sentencing phase will begin at 9:30 a.m. Thursday.

Read the Casper Star-Tribune for complete coverage of the Eaton trial.

03/17/2004 03:25:20 PM



Eaton found guilty

Penalty phase begins today

MARCH 18, 2004 12:00 AM • TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Dale Wayne Eaton on Wednesday was found guilty of the kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988.

The 7th District Court jury must now determine if he should be executed for the crimes.

Eaton, 59, was convicted on all but one of eight counts filed against him. A charge of second-degree sexual assault was not considered after jurors found him guilty of first-degree sexual assault.

The defendant showed no emotion as Gen Tuma, the Clerk of District Court, read aloud the verdict the jury reached around 3 p.m. Deliberations were restarted after noon Tuesday when an alternate was called to replace a juror who was excused for reasons that are not being disclosed.

He appeared mildly anxious before the court proceedings started, but once the jury entered the room, he regained his composure.

Tuma announced to the court that the jury found Eaton guilty of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery and first-degree sexual assault.

The jury also convicted Eaton of three counts of first-degree felony murder, each committed during the course of separate crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping, Tuma said.

The Kimmell family, sitting at the front of a standing-room-only courtroom, put their arms around one another as they awaited the jury's decision. Upon hearing the first verdict, Sheila Kimmell, Lisa Kimmell's mother, rested her head on her husband Ron's shoulder.

Seated throughout the room were numerous court officials, attorneys and observers, some of whom had watched the entire trial, which began March 3.

Outside the courtroom, observer Dora Westbrook of Casper said she was not at all surprised by the verdict.

"The jury had no other choice in the matter - he admitted he was guilty," she said, referring to closing statements made Monday by Eaton's public defender, Wyatt Skaggs. He told the jury Eaton was guilty of the kidnap, rape and killing but that the killing wasn't premeditated.

The Kimmell family was swiftly ushered out the courtroom after the verdict. The Kimmells are reserving comment until the end of the penalty phase, which 7th District Court Judge David

Park said will begin today at 9:30 a.m.

Approached by reporters outside the courtroom, District Attorney Mike Blonigen said he could offer only limited comment because the case is not over. However, he estimated the penalty phase will last several days.

"The penalty phase, from the state's point of view, will be based largely on the testimony already produced at trial," but there will be a few witnesses, he said. (See related story)

As the lead prosecutor in the case, Blonigen said he can still only speculate where and how Eaton abducted Kimmell. Kimmell had been driving from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

"We have several theories - which may or may not come out in the penalty phase - that right now are the sheerest of speculation. But we've always thought potentially in Casper (she had been approached by Eaton while stopping) for gas, the Waltman rest area, or she had a flat tire or something - we really do not have any solid evidence on where that took place," Blonigen said. "That remains one of the biggest mysteries in this case."

Eaton's defense attorneys offered no comment.

Shannon Breeden, a woman who successfully fought her way out of Eaton's clutches seven years ago, was relieved by the verdict. She is in Casper to testify for the prosecution at today's hearings in the penalty phase.

"He didn't fall through the cracks this time - he has several times before," she said.

Eaton abducted Shannon and her husband Scott Breeden and their infant child and forced them at gunpoint onto a dirt road in Sweetwater County in 1997.

For that offense, Eaton was convicted of aggravated assault and was finishing out a prison sentence at Community Alternatives of Casper when he escaped the facility in June 1998.

Natrona County authorities in April 2003 had Eaton extradited back to Casper from a federal prison in Florence, Colo., where he was serving time on a charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm, records state. He was brought back on the felony escape charge and the numerous counts related to Kimmell's death.

Last November, Eaton received a seven- to 10-year prison sentence for escape.

Prosecutors hope to convince the jury that Eaton deserves the death penalty. Breeden is needed to establish certain aggravating factors, Blonigen said.

Defense attorney Skaggs said early on that he intends to produce witnesses in the penalty phase that will offer "reasons to give life."

Aside from the death penalty, the jury has the option of sentencing Eaton to life in prison or life in prison without commutation or parole.

Eaton's case was handed to the jury around 11:40 a.m. Monday.

Tuesday, however, one of the jurors was replaced by an alternate and the deliberations began again without a mistrial declared.

Blonigen said Wednesday that was the first time he or Skaggs, in their legal careers, had dealt with such a thing, though he would still not explain the reason for the juror's dismissal.

Eaton, who once lived in Moneta, west of Casper on Wyoming Highway 20-26, was reportedly linked to Kimmell's murder through a DNA match.

Kimmell was last seen March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of her black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas.

According to trial testimony, Kimmell's body was discovered April 2, 1988. She had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper.

The woman's car was missing until the summer of 2002, when sheriff's investigators unearthed it during an underground search of Eaton's Moneta property.

The car - reportedly buried under about 10 feet of soil - had been stripped of valuable parts. It was missing all four tires, its aluminum wheels, the front bucket seats, the stereo and gearshift knob.

Some of Kimmell's personal effects were also found in the back of the car.



Prosecutor pushes for death in Eaton case

MARCH 18, 2004 12:00 AM

The prosecution Thursday morning began calling witnesses in the death penalty phase of the trial of Dale Wayne Eaton, convicted Wednesday in the 1988 rape and killing of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Lawyers on both sides delivered opening statements in 7th District Court. District Attorney Mike Blonigen said death is the only appropriate sentence for Eaton, 58. Defense attorney Wyatt Skaggs said he will "present reasons for life" to the jury.

Aggravating circumstances will be presented by the prosecution, including that Kimmell's killing was particularly atrocious. The defense will counter that with mitigating factors, for example, that Eaton's life was filled with abuse, poverty and mental illness.

The prosecution called Shannon Breeden, a woman who was victimized by Eaton in 1997 in Sweetwater County. But she was not allowed to testify about how that crime impacted her and her family. Also called were an investigator and county prosecutor in that case.

Beginning Thursday afternoon, the defense is expected to call Eaton's father, an uncle and psychiatrists.

For more information on this story read Friday's Casper Star-Tribune.



Woman who escaped Eaton testifies today

'He tried to kill us'

GREG TUTTLE The Billings Gazette | Posted: Thursday, March 18, 2004 12:00 am

Six and a half years ago, Dale Wayne Eaton was stabbed, beaten with a rifle butt and left bleeding in the Red Desert near Rock Springs. The first officers to find him assumed that he was the victim of a brutal attack.

"What we first perceived was that this guy had been assaulted by some whacked-out hippies," said Wyoming State Patrol Officer J.B. Tibbets.

But Tibbets and the other officers who investigated quickly discerned that Eaton, a middle-aged man with no criminal past, was the instigator of an attack which years later would help detectives solve the murder of a young Billings woman.

On Wednesday, a jury in Casper convicted Eaton, 59, of kidnapping, raping and killing Lisa Marie Kimmell. The verdict was reached after a nine-day trial in which Eaton's public defender didn't dispute that he killed Kimmell, but argued that prosecutors had overcharged him for the crime.

Now, the same jury will decide whether to sentence Eaton to death. The penalty phase of the trial is scheduled to begin today.

The DNA sample from Eaton that eventually linked him to Lisa Kimmell's murder was taken after his conviction in 1997 for the attack on a couple and their 5-month-old baby in the Red Desert.

The woman, Shannon Breeden, is among the witnesses expected to be called by prosecutors in their effort to convince jurors that Eaton deserves the death penalty for Kimmell's murder. Breeden's testimony will be offered to show that Eaton has a history of committing crimes, an aggravating factor that prosecutors need to support a death sentence.

For Breeden, who now lives in Santa Cruz, Calif., it will be the first time she has seen Eaton since he pulled a gun on her and demanded that she drive into the desert. In a telephone interview with The Gazette, Breeden said she has always opposed the death penalty in general, but she feels differently about Eaton.

"He tried to kill us," she said. "As far as I'm concerned, he slipped through the cracks once and I'll be damned if I'll let him slip through the cracks again."

Here's Shannon Breeden's story of what happened during her encounter with Eaton in the desert, which she is expected to describe when she testifies today:

Breeden and her husband, Scott, and their 5-month-old son, Cody, were driving from Michigan to Washington state in September 1997 when their van broke down on Interstate 80 about 40 miles west of Rawlins.

Breeden said they tried unsuccessfully to get someone to stop and help them. They spent the night in the van and were running out of water the next morning when a man pulled up.

Dale Eaton seemed concerned for the stranded family, and offered them a ride in his van to Rock Springs where they could get help. Afraid of spending any more time stranded on the side of the desolate stretch of highway, Breeden said, they accepted Eaton's offer. It was about 9 a.m. when they climbed in Eaton's van and headed west toward Rock Springs.

Breeden said she was uncomfortable with Eaton right away. "I thought to myself he looked like a serial killer," she said. "But I'm kind of a hippie mom, and I told myself not to judge and think like that."

After awhile, Eaton said he had to relieve himself and pulled the van off the highway at a maintenance exit. Scott was sitting in the passenger seat holding the baby as Eaton stepped out of the van. When he returned, Eaton told her to move to the driver's seat

because he wanted to rest.

Breeden obliged, and got behind the wheel. Eaton climbed in and stretched out on a bed in the rear as Breeden started the van. She had driven only a short distance when something caught her eye. She turned to see Eaton holding a rifle on her husband and her baby.

"He said, 'Drive down this road,'" Breeden recalled. The road was a two-track dirt trail leading away from the highway.

"When I saw nothing in front but desert, I thought if I'm going down I'm going down right here," Breeden said.

Breeden pushed her foot on the accelerator and turned the van in a tight circle, trying to knock the rifle away from Eaton. Eaton jumped forward and tried to grab the keys out of the ignition. Breeden's husband jumped out of the van with the baby.

With Scott and the baby out of the van, Breeden also fled from Eaton, jumping into the dirt and scrambling toward her husband. But Eaton grabbed her and the two went down next to the van. The rifle fell out of Eaton's reach, but he grabbed a knife from under the passenger seat of the van. Breeden jumped on Eaton's back, and the man spun her down to the ground and put the knife to her ribs. Her husband grabbed Eaton's arm to keep the knife from plunging into her.

"He said, 'Let go or I'll kill her,'" Breeden said.

Scott grabbed the rifle with his other hand and hit Eaton on the head, breaking the wooden butt. Eaton went down, but started to get up. Scott lunged at Eaton to keep the knife away from his wife. The two wrestled, and during the struggle Eaton was stabbed in the chest. The wound slowed Eaton long enough for Breeden to grab the broken rifle and fire a shot into the dirt.

"He said, 'If you fire that again it will blow up and kill you,'" Breeden said.

She handed the rifle to Scott, who beat Eaton several more times until the man said he had enough.

When Eaton gave up the fight, the couple grabbed their baby, jumped into the van and fled. They stopped about a mile away at a maintenance area where they were able to call for help.

Tibbets and two other Wyoming Highway Patrol Officers were closest when the call for help was broadcast. Officer David Gray, who is now sheriff of Sweetwater County, was among the first to speak with Shannon Breeden after the incident.

"She was still wired tight, still afraid," Gray said. "Obviously, she knew she was fighting for her life."

Tibbets and another officer found Eaton alone and bleeding in desert. An ambulance was called, and the officers gave Eaton first aid. Eaton didn't have much to say, Tibbets recalled.

At first, it was difficult to distinguish attacker from victim, said Sweetwater County Chief Deputy Attorney Anthony Howard. Eaton was seriously injured, and the Breedens were distraught but unharmed. Fortunately, Howard said, Eaton made the prosecutor's job easier by making a quick confession.

The story Eaton gave still puzzles the prosecutor, who described Eaton as "kind of broken down."

"It was real odd," Howard said. "Eaton's statement all the way through was that he had cancer or a life-threatening disease and he wanted to commit suicide but didn't have the guts. He was hoping they would kill him. Suicide by stranger."



Doctor details Kimmell's ordeal

Psychiatrist testifies about Eaton's confession of crimes

MARCH 19, 2004 12:00 AM • TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

CASPER - Lisa Marie Kimmell sat alone in her car on Dale Wayne Eaton's property at Moneta when he came upon her on the night of March 25, 1988. Whoever was in the car had plans to rob him, Eaton thought as he crept up brandishing a gun.

Seeing only a girl, Eaton ordered her out of the car and into his bus, where he raped her over and over for days. Expecting the police to show up, Eaton worried about the consequences; so he decided to kill her right there.

That is what happened, a Fort Collins, Colo., psychiatrist said Eaton told him, as he testified on the first day of the penalty phase of Eaton's trial.

Eaton was convicted Wednesday of committing Kimmell's kidnap, robbery, rape and murder 16 years ago and the state - which charged him just last year - wants to put him to death.

Eaton's public defender told the jury Thursday that Eaton's mental impairment at the time of Kimmell's killing was so bad that he wasn't of sound mind and, therefore, not deserving of the death penalty.

Kenneth H. Ash, a psychiatrist asked to evaluate Eaton at Skaggs' request, said he found Eaton to be suffering from a long-standing and severe depression - so bad that it has caused brain damage and overall dysfunction.

In talking with Eaton, Ash told 7th District Court jurors that around the time of Kimmell's killing, Eaton described himself as having been isolated from family and friends. Ash said he is undereducated and unmotivated and has a "very explosive" temper, which has caused him to lose jobs.

He has always been poor, "scavenging cans out of dumps and selling them for money for groceries," and, while residing in Moneta, Eaton existed without power, heat or indoor plumbing.

But District Attorney Mike Blonigen asserted that Eaton has played the mental illness card time and time again, using it to rationalize his bad acts. He's become skilled at fooling the specialists who evaluate him, he said in his cross-examination of Ash.

And Eaton was far from isolated, as he would have the doctor think, Blonigen said.

Eaton's neighbor at the time kept a journal in 1988 that noted Eaton's visits on March 8, 16, 22, and 24, he said. His visits to Doris and Buck Buchta lasted hours, and she noted he paid

them taxes owed on an adjoining property.

April 1988 visits were frequent, too, Blonigen noted. Eaton even went over for a chicken dinner. Eaton's claims of isolation and poverty were bogus, Blonigen contended.

Ash conceded he had not been privy to that information.

"A diagnosis is only as good as the information it's based on, correct?" Blonigen asked Ash and he agreed.

The psychiatrist said the night Eaton came upon Kimmell, he had just returned home from making a phone call to his estranged wife. He wanted the kids for Easter, but he was told he couldn't have them.

Eaton's wife said the kids weren't his and that she was with another man - that set Eaton off, according to Ash.

He returned to his home in Moneta to find Kimmell's car sitting on his property.

Ash said Eaton told him that he thought whoever was in the car had plans to rob the bus, in which he lived.

Strangely, Eaton thought, "he's not going to be alone for Easter," Ash told the jury.

Eaton sometimes restrained Kimmell while he had her in the bus, said Ash, and the only conversation Eaton relayed was that "(Kimmell) wanted to be home with her family by Easter."

Lisa Kimmell's mother, Sheila, left the courtroom, escorted by her husband Ron.

The rest of the story was not entirely clear, Ash said. After much deliberation, Eaton "decided to kill her," the psychiatrist said.

Eaton walked up behind Kimmell and hit her in the head with a pipe but her heart was still beating, said Ash.

"He then proceeded to stab her until her heart stopped beating," Ash said he was told by Eaton.

He wrapped her body up in plastic and hauled her to the old Government Bridge west of Casper and dumped her in the North Platte River. He knew there would be fishermen there and that she would get home by Easter, Ash said Eaton told him.

Eaton has undergone several evaluations, most of them in the midst of legal troubles, Ash and Blonigen pointed out.

Different doctors said different things and Eaton once scored off the charts on a test that rates psychosis, which isn't possible for a genuine psychotic, Blonigen said.

Eaton's penalty phase continues today at 9 a.m.



Arguments made for, against death

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Friday, March 19, 2004 12:00 am

Dale Wayne Eaton is a product of a difficult life - his father was a selfish drunk who severely abused him and dined out on steak dinners while the rest of the family choked down bologna sandwiches. He was poor and moved around a lot and, because of that, he suffers mental illness that caused him to kill Lisa Marie Kimmell, Eaton's public defender Wyatt Skaggs told a 7th District Court jury on Thursday.

In the first day of the penalty phase in the capital-murder trial of Eaton, the defendant sobbed as his attorney told the jury they would hear the grief Eaton suffered in his childhood, how badly he and his mother were abused and his history of mental illness, namely depression.

"We are a product of our life," Skaggs said, before describing his own loving family.

"(Eaton has) never had the chance, ever in his life, that we had," he said.

In his opening statement, Skaggs said the jury would be presented with "reasons to give life."

Eaton was convicted Wednesday of committing the still mysterious kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988.

Throughout his trial, the only emotion Eaton showed was aggravation, but Thursday he sobbed many times as his family members and friends were called by the defense to testify on his behalf.

Skaggs, who did not deny Eaton's involvement in Kimmell's slaying, is asking the jury to give Eaton life in prison.

"Is Eaton's life valuable at all?" he asked the jury.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen, in his opening statement, asked the jurors for "justice's full measure."

In Eaton's case, that's death, he said.

"A killing is a bad enough thing," but when it goes beyond murder to torture, it's not on the same level, Blonigen said.

Particularly when the torture - mostly mental - goes on for days and involves three of the most serious offenses known to man, he added.

Eaton has "some issues," he agreed. "But how does that weigh against the offenses?"

"They're excuses, rationalizations and explanations," he said.

Skaggs countered by saying his client's "issues" are not excuses but reasons to spare his life.

After opening statements, Blonigen called three brief witnesses - an investigator, the prosecutor and the victim involved in a 1997 violent assault Eaton was convicted of committing against another woman in Sweetwater County.

Skaggs filled the rest of the day calling family members and long-time friends of Eaton's, who either testified to Eaton's mental illness, his father's abuse or their fondness of the defendant.

Betty Ferrins, Eaton's aunt from Pavillion, became particularly emotional on the stand Thursday.

Eaton, covering his eyes, cried as Skaggs asked Ferrins, "Do you like Dale? Do you want Dale to die?"

"No," she cried out. "I don't think Dale was in his right mind when he did this."

The penalty phase for Eaton continues today at 9 a.m.



Judge limits victim's testimony against Eaton

TARA WESTREICHER and KERRY DRAKE Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Friday, March 19, 2004 12:00 am

A woman who fought for her life as her family struggled to get away from Dale Wayne Eaton in 1997 testified against him Thursday but was not allowed to tell the jury what he did to her, her husband and their infant son.

Shannon Breeden, 36, of Santa Cruz, Calif., took the stand for the state the first day of the penalty phase in Eaton's case.

Eaton was convicted Wednesday of kidnapping, raping and killing 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988. Ten years later, he was convicted of the aggravated assault on Breeden.

In that case, Eaton stopped and offered a ride to Shannon and her husband Scott Breeden, whose van broke down in a parking area off Interstate 80 about 45 miles east of Rock Springs.

The Breedens were driving from Michigan to their home state of Washington that September with their 5-month-old baby, Cody, their dog and their cat.

After waiting more than 12 hours for a ride, the family piled into Eaton's van, thankful that he'd offered to help.

Not long into their journey, Breeden took the wheel to let Eaton rest. But suddenly he pointed a rifle at Breeden's husband, threatened to shoot their baby and later wrestled Shannon Breeden to the ground in the Red Desert, where she'd brought Eaton's van to an abrupt halt.

The couple got the gun away from Eaton but he promptly grabbed his knife. Breeden fought Eaton as he repeatedly tried to slash her with the dull blade.

Scott Breeden got the knife away from Eaton, stabbed him and beat him down with his own rifle.

But the 7th District Court jury Thursday didn't hear any of that.

"That's him right there," is all Breeden was allowed to say, aside from when and where the assault occurred.

Judge David Park said he had "serious concerns" about Breeden going into too much detail.

For one, the jury could be led to believe that Eaton was undercharged and feel they need to compensate for that in this case.

Besides, the state only needed to prove the aggravating circumstance that Eaton has been convicted of other violent felonies.

In an interview after her testimony, Breeden said she felt a mixture of frustration and relief.

"I think it's just appalling that (Eaton's) family can get up there and cry and talk about him as a little boy and how they loved him, and poor, poor Dale, but I can't tell them that he had the gun to the head of a 5-month-old," she said.

After seeing Eaton in the courtroom for the first time since he attacked her, Breeden said, "I still think he's a sick son of a bitch."

While the memories of that day made her emotional, she said, what she is reliving is "victory."

"I'm not reliving something that resulted from my getting harmed, I'm reliving the fact that I survived something, that we got away," Breeden said. "So that's great."

"I'm mad, I've still got all this anger, and I didn't realize quite how pissed off I was," she added. "I think this has been a long time coming. I'm just really relieved to know that he's not out killing people."

Breeden said while she is generally opposed to capital punishment, she came to Casper to make sure Eaton receives the death penalty.

"In this particular case Dale has slipped through the cracks so many times that the only way I'm going to feel relieved is if he dies," she said.

Breeden said she communicated through sign language to her 4-year-old son, a special-needs child, that she had to leave home for a few days to go to the trial. Earlier she had told him about the attack his brother Cody survived as a baby.

"In sign language he said, 'Mommy is going to go help police lock up a monster.' I couldn't have said it any better myself, kid," she said. "I think in his head I'm kind of a superhero right now."



Prosecution blasts psychologist's credibility

Expert: Eaton's depression severe

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Saturday, March 20, 2004 12:00 am

The cross-examination of a Utah psychologist testifying in defense of Dale Wayne Eaton was lively Friday, causing the usually subdued jurors to listen and watch intently as District Attorney Mike Blonigen aimed to discredit the witness.

In the second day of Eaton's penalty phase, Linda Gummow told the 7th District Court jury that in 1988 - when Lisa Marie Kimmell was raped and killed by Eaton - his mental illness and various life events had caused him to be extremely disturbed and under "duress."

He could not conform his conduct to law, yet was well enough to know that he was killing Kimmell, she said.

Gummow was the last witness to be called by the defense, which rested its case Friday.

After evaluating Eaton and his history, Gummow told the court she diagnosed him as a man who suffers from a major depressive disorder and has a low IQ.

Eaton's condition has been a lifelong struggle for him, Gummow said. And there's a history of depression and other mental illnesses in his family.

For instance, she said, Eaton's mother was hospitalized with chronic schizophrenia, one of his brothers had anger issues, another brother committed suicide and Eaton's father was known for "explosive behavior," most of which was confirmed by testimony Thursday.

The prolonged depression has caused moderate to severe brain damage for Eaton and, at times, great emotional disturbance - and even dementia, which is caused by changes in the brain from disease or trauma and can result in behavioral and personality changes, Gummow said.

Eaton, whose father was said to have severely abused him and his mother, is on medication now but he wasn't for many years, she said. He underwent evaluations several times in his life and he was always diagnosed as being in some cycle of depression, the psychologist said.

Gummow based her diagnosis on what Eaton had told her; family member accounts; test results and medical, academic and other available records, she told the jury. She noted that Eaton was also tested for memory and for malingering and that she found him to be 95 percent truthful and proficient at remembering.

The psychologist's brain damage claim particularly inflamed Blonigen, who aggressively picked apart her diagnosis and her credibility in his cross-examination - "Law and Order"-style.

"Was his brain damage more or less than Kimmell's?" he asked, receiving a firm objection from Eaton's public defender, Wyatt Skaggs.

Blonigen argued that Eaton's brain damage was probably caused by the beating he took during the 1997 assault on Shannon Breeden and her family. He asked Gummow if the brain damage could have come from Eaton's rifle stock being broken over his head.

"Mild, but not moderate," she stated.

Gummow admitted she hadn't put Eaton through CAT Scan, EEG or MRI testing but said that was because she isn't a doctor.

According to trial testimony, Kimmell was abducted by Eaton on March 25, 1988. She was held for days and raped repeatedly. The day she died, she was struck in the back of the head - hard enough to cause a four-inch skull fracture - before she was stabbed six times in the chest and abdomen. Kimmell's body was then thrown over the old Government Bridge and into the North Platte River west of Casper, where she was found April 2 of that year.

The 12-person jury found Eaton guilty of Kimmell's kidnap, rape, robbery and murder Wednesday after an eight-day trial that began

March 3.

The state wants Eaton to die for the manner in which he tortured and murdered the 18-year-old Montana girl but the defense hopes to convince at least one juror that there are mitigating factors that warrant a lesser sentence of life in prison.

Blonigen asked how Gummow - 16 years after the fact - can accurately assess a person's mental state at the time of a murder.

She alluded to her extensive research.

Again, he pointed out, that most of Eaton's past evaluations were done in the midst of his legal troubles and that most of the tests produced different results.

Additionally, he said, there had been conflicting accounts - including Eaton's - regarding his education level and job history. And, Eaton's IQ may be low but it's still in the normal range, he added.

"Is it possible then that Mr. Eaton is capable of being less than honest, if it suits his purposes?" he asked.

Next, Blonigen picked apart the number of times Gummow had testified for the defense in past murder cases and he asked how much she charges for her work and testimony.

In Eaton's case, she will be paid \$5,000, she said.

Naming numerous cases in which she had testified, Blonigen asked Gummow how it is that she always finds the defendant is mentally ill.

"It's real interesting that she finds something for everyone," he belted, again to Skaggs' objection.

The biggest blow to the defense came after the psychologist said Eaton was distressed by his pending divorce, separation from his kids and his brother's suicide in 1988 - all of which could have severely affected his mental stability at the time of Kimmell's killing, according to Gummow.

She told the jury Eaton's wife left him in 1986 and that his brother killed himself in 1987.

"Dale blamed himself," as he did for his mother's illness, she said.

But Blonigen produced a copy of the death certificate that showed Eaton's brother committed suicide more than a year after Kimmell was killed.

"What we have is someone who suffered a divorce and decided to kill a young girl," Blonigen bluntly stated after showing her the document. The judge ordered the comment stricken from the record after Skaggs objected.

With the defense resting its case Friday, the court recessed for the day.

The jury will be instructed and hear the attorney's final arguments today.

The front doors of the District Courthouse will be open at 8:30 a.m. for those who want to watch the proceedings, District Judge David Park said.

After final arguments, the jury will begin its deliberation but if a verdict isn't reached today, Park said, the jury will take Sunday off and begin again Monday.

The jury will be sequestered at a local motel until a verdict is reached.



Eaton gets death

MARCH 20, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Dale Wayne Eaton showed no emotion when a 7th District Court jury sentenced him to death Saturday for the 1988 kidnap, rape, robbery and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

The verdict's announcement did bring evident emotion for Eaton's family members and the Kimmells, none of whom wished to comment on the outcome of the trial. However, the Kimmells will hold a press conference this morning, according to Assistant District Attorney Mike Blonigen, who prosecuted the case.

Speaking briefly with the Lisa Kimmell's family, Blonigen said, "They were satisfied with the verdict - they do believe it's fair."

Eaton's attorneys, Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn Neubauer, also offered no comment on the verdict, which will be automatically appealed, Blonigen told news organizations following the verdict.

Read the complete story in Sunday's Casper Star-Tribune



Jurors also leery of the task

Capital cases hard to defend

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Saturday, March 20, 2004 12:00 am

Mark Hopkinson, the last man executed in Wyoming, reportedly maintained his innocence right up to the final moments before a lethal concoction of drugs flowed into his veins.

Hopkinson, 42, was convicted of ordering four murders in the 1970s. His death Jan. 22, 1992, marked Wyoming's first execution in 26 years.

Cheyenne attorney Bruce Moats remembers Hopkinson was the only person in the state's history who was executed in spite of the fact that he didn't actually participate in the murders of Jeff Green, and Vincent Vihar and his family.

Hopkinson's lack of participation and subsequent execution particularly bothers Casper attorney Dallas Laird. He isn't against the death penalty, per se, he said, but he is opposed to the manner in which prosecutors on a national level choose to apply it.

"I think it needs to be applied fairly," said Laird, who asserts that most of the people who get the death penalty are poor. They can't afford to hire their own attorneys, he said.

"If you get the death penalty in Wyoming for a crime like this, you should get the death penalty in the other states the same way. Now, there are states that have no death penalty - so you can kill all the people you want in those states and you won't get any death penalty."

Until a fairer system can be devised, no one should be put to death, he said.

Hopkinson's execution was the state's first since Andrew Pixley died in the gas chamber in 1965 for the rape-slaying of a 12-year-old Chicago girl.

Natrona County prosecutors hope to add Dale Wayne Eaton to a short list of inmates currently on death row at the Wyoming State Penitentiary. Eaton was charged last year with committing the high-profile kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988.

Her disappearance and subsequent murder resurfaced in the headlines again nearly 14 years after her death when her Honda CRX - which was still missing - was found buried on Eaton's Moneta property, 75 miles west of Casper.

He was charged last year.

Eaton's trial began March 3 and ended March 15. The jury deliberated for several hours over two days before finding him guilty of the kidnap, robbery, rape and murder of Kimmell.

Wyatt Skaggs, of Laramie, is Eaton's primary public defender. He minced no words in his closing statements to jurors Monday when he said his client kidnapped, raped and killed Kimmell 16 years ago. It just wasn't premeditated, he argued.

Len Munker, a retired public defender, worked with Skaggs when the two represented Hopkinson during his final penalty phase. They were called in after the first penalty phase had been overturned, Munker recalled.

Having heard second-hand reports of Skaggs' closing argument and the lack of defense witnesses called at trial, Munker said he would have handled Eaton's case differently. But he trusts that Skaggs has a strategy in mind.

Such cases are hard for attorneys to defend because they are often working with uncooperative clients, said Munker.

"To begin with, when you get a homicide case, you're gonna have a defendant who's difficult, at best," he asserted.

Skaggs, in his opening argument at Eaton's trial, said his client has struggled with mental illness, yet he didn't call any experts witnesses to testify to that effect at trial. Skaggs did, however, during the penalty phase.

Munker said he would have called a mental health witness during the trial but he's not undermining Skaggs' approach.

"If the evidence is going to be overwhelming, you have to find some way to deal with that," said Munker.

Defendants in these cases are not usually emotionally stable, they can be uncooperative and often refuse to divulge all the needed information, said Munker.

"For an attorney to defend somebody, it's necessary that he knows the good stuff, as well as the bad stuff," Munker said.

If the attorney and the defendant can't find a common ground in communicating with each other, things can fall apart fast. The attorney doesn't get the full story and is unable to pursue a good defense.

"To the outside world, they might not understand the full situation, and their assumption is that the client has cooperated - he's told you everything - but that's not always the case. In fact, just the opposite is usually the case," Munker explained.

But the client still wants the impossible done.

"What's lacking in the relationship is empathy. You can't relate to your client and so he becomes angry at you and you become angry at him. When that occurs, it's hard to say that you can be an effective attorney in dealing with it - but there's no way to get out of it," he said, further explaining that courts are usually not sympathetic to that situation.

"The judge would say to you, 'Well, did you expect to develop any empathy with a killer?'" he said.

Aside from defense issues, capital cases, by their nature, are hard on the attorneys emotionally. But they have to "extricate" themselves before it gets to them, he said.

Laird said a defense lawyer in a death penalty case will hope that, through all the appeals, the defendant will just die of natural causes.

Munker added that jurors sitting for death penalty cases also have a hard time. The fact that the Eaton case lost two jurors within a matter of a week is indicative of that, he said.

"I'm not there, but that tells me ... that people don't want to sit on death penalty cases," Munker asserted. "And people are far more sensitive today of death penalty cases than they were 20 years ago - it's hard to pick a jury, to keep a jury, it's hard on the jury."

Wyoming has only one person on death row, James Harlow. He was convicted in the killing of Wyoming State Penitentiary guard Wayne Martinez.

Death row is where prisoners who have been sentenced to capital punishment are housed, segregated from other prisoners in a special part of the prison, pending their execution.

Capital punishment is the judicially ordered execution of a prisoner as a punishment for a serious crime, often called a capital offense or a capital crime.

In jurisdictions that practice capital punishment, its use is usually restricted to a small number of criminal offenses, principally, treason and murder, that is, the deliberate premeditated killing of another person.

Currently, lethal injection is the method used or allowed in 37 of the 38 states which allow the death penalty and by the federal government. Nebraska requires electrocution. Other states also allow electrocution, gas chambers, hanging and the firing squad.

If Eaton is sentenced to death by the jury, prosecutors say he will die by lethal injection.



Eaton gets death

Excused juror went out to Government Bridge

MARCH 21, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Dale Wayne Eaton showed no emotion when a 7th District Court jury sentenced him to death Saturday for the 1988 kidnap, rape, robbery and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

The verdict's announcement evoked evident emotion from Eaton's family members and the Kimmells, none of whom wished to comment on the outcome of the trial. However, the Kimmells will hold a press conference this morning, according to Assistant District Attorney Mike Blonigen, who prosecuted the case.

Speaking briefly with Kimmell's family, Blonigen said, "They were satisfied with the verdict - they do believe it's fair."

Eaton's attorneys, Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn Neubauer, also offered no comment on the verdict, which will be appealed automatically, Blonigen told news organizations following the verdict.

In Skagg's defense, Blonigen said Eaton's attorney did all he could for his client.

"You're looking at one of the most experienced death penalty attorneys in this part of the country. He is somebody who takes his job very seriously and who believes in protecting his client's rights," he said. "He fights hard and he fights fair."

The 12-person jury was handed Eaton's case just after 11 a.m. Saturday and was back with a verdict around 3:30 p.m.

The same jury that convicted Eaton on Wednesday was asked to decide Eaton's fate. An aggravating factor had to be present for the death penalty. The jurors all agreed each of the three aggravating factors presented by the prosecution existed in the killing.

That means they found Kimmell's killing to be especially atrocious or cruel and unnecessarily torturous; that Eaton killed Kimmell purposely and with premeditated malice while engaged in a robbery, kidnapping or sexual assault; and that Eaton was previously convicted of a felony involving the use or threat of violence to a person.

Blonigen said he did not take lightly his decision to seek the death penalty for Eaton. He did so, he said, because he believed it was right, and the jury agreed.

"It's no small thing to ask for a man's life," he said.

Eaton will die by lethal injection.

An execution date has not been set, and considering there will be an appeals process, Blonigen said he doesn't think Eaton will be put to death until about seven to 10 years from now.

Wyoming does not have a lot of experience with the appeals process surrounding death penalty cases, Blonigen noted, "But I would be surprised if this process takes less than 10 years."

Other charges Eaton was convicted of that are not capital offenses still have to be addressed, too, he said. A presentence investigation will be conducted and, about six weeks from now, a sentencing date for those charges will be set. At that hearing, Eaton will be given an execution date, Blonigen said.

"Even though, at this particular point and time, you might view that as superfluous, it is required under the law," he explained.

Closing arguments

Earlier in the day, jurors intently listened as each side offered final arguments. The jury was given reasons Eaton should be spared and reasons he should not.

The jury had to find that at least one aggravating factor existed in the murder to sentence the 59-year-old Eaton to death. Aggravating factors qualify a murderer for capital punishment.

Mitigating factors - elements that lessen the severity of the offense - were also considered, as were mercy or sympathy for Eaton.

The defense presented a number of mitigating factors it contended were reasons to choose a life sentence for Eaton.

At the time of Kimmell's killing, Eaton was mentally ill, suffering from a severe and chronic depression that rendered him emotionally disturbed. The illness still affects Eaton and has even caused him to suffer brain damage, a psychiatrist and psychologist testified.

Eaton's illness, they said, affected his capacity to appreciate the criminality of his conduct and rendered him unable to conform his actions to law.

Eaton's father was also an alcoholic who was extremely demeaning and abusive to him as a boy. The abuse troubled him all his life, leading to a dysfunctional existence, the defense claimed.

"Whatever happens today, Dale Eaton is not going to walk free," said his public defender Wyatt Skaggs, in offering the jury his closing statement.

"Don't do what Dale Eaton did - don't do that," he pleaded, reminding the jury that just one person's decision against death would spare Eaton's life.

In closing, Blonigen expressed no sympathy for Eaton. What he did to Kimmell in the five days before he decided to kill her is unforgivable, Blonigen said.

"Some murders must be recognized as different from other murders," he told the jury, asking them to choose death. "What your verdict says will reflect what this murder means."

Eaton can mask his cruelty behind "psychiatrists and tears" but don't be fooled, he said - Eaton knew what he was doing and took five torturous days to do it.

"He wasn't content simply to kill," the prosecutor said.

"He played 'catch me if you can' for the next 14 years," he told jurors. He would have continued the game if it weren't for the DNA match, Blonigen argued. In an interview with police after the DNA evidence came to light, Blonigen said, Eaton denied any knowledge of Kimmell.

The juror

Explaining the long-awaited reason a male juror was excused from duty on Tuesday, Blonigen said it was because the man had gone out to the old Government Bridge at some point during the trial and admitted it during deliberations.

An alternate was brought in to replace the dismissed juror and no mistrial was called.

Because the jury was not sequestered during the trial phase, all members were specifically told by District Judge David Park not to investigate the case on their own.

"You can't do that - you've gotta stick with the evidence," Blonigen said.



Investigators relieved case is finished

MARCH 21, 2014 12:00 AM • TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton and Sheriff's Cpl. Lynn Cohee, two people intimately involved in the investigation of Lisa Kimmell's murder, said the jury's decision Saturday to sentence Dale Wayne Eaton to death was just.

The same jury that convicted Eaton Wednesday of committing the kidnap, rape, robbery and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988 sentenced him to death for the crimes Saturday afternoon.

Eaton was linked to the killing 14 years after the fact by a DNA match and was charged last year.

"In the beginning, 16 years ago, this case was all consuming for a long, long time," said the sheriff.

"It was time consuming but well worth every minute we spent on it," a smiling Cohee added.

Kimmell vanished on March 25, 1988, as she was driving through Wyoming from her job in Denver. She planned to stop in Cody to pick up her boyfriend, Ed Jaroch, on her way to Billings, her family said.

She never made it. Her body was found in the North Platte River under the old Government Bridge eight days after she disappeared.

She had been abducted and held against her will for days. She was sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed six times in the chest and abdomen before being thrown from Government bridge.

Kimmell's car - a black Honda CRX Si with personalized Montana plates that read "LIL MISS" - was not found until July 2002, when it was uncovered by local law enforcement investigators on Eaton's Moneta property.

"We didn't know that car was buried out there," said Cohee. "When we went out there to do the search warrant, I can remember the morning of the briefing with everybody involved in the search - we had a pretty good idea we were going to find something, but we didn't know what."

Noticing there had been a lot of digging in the area, sheriff's investigators summoned a backhoe, did a little digging of their own and soon unearthed the Honda from a septic hole.

"When we found that car - it was just ..." Cohee said, failing to find words to explain the impact of the moment.

"Over the years, people, I would see them on the street, the coffee shop, the barber shop, the grocery store and people would ask me if we found the person who killed the Kimmell girl and pretty soon it was, 'Did you find the car?' " Benton recalled.

"When we did, it was an emotional, personal, moving situation," he added.

The lead investigator on Kimmell's killing, Dan Tholson, was not available for comment.

Eaton, who had not been a suspect in the crime, was ordered to submit a DNA sample 10 years after Kimmell was killed, while he was incarcerated at the Wyoming State Penitentiary.

That sample was entered into an FBI database, where it produced a hit in 2002.

Eaton's DNA matched semen samples taken from Kimmell's body after her death.

Regarding Blonigen's relentless prosecution of the case, Benton said, "Mike Blonigen was on top of Dale Eaton and never got off."



Kimmells: Verdict just

Kimmell family talks about verdict, struggles

MARCH 22, 2004 12:00 AM • TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Having endured the lengthy and difficult death penalty trial of Dale Wayne Eaton, the Kimmell family says they are glad to have it behind them. But their emotional struggle with what happened to their daughter and sister will never be resolved, they said.

A 7th District Court jury on Wednesday convicted Eaton of the 1988 kidnap, robbery, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell. Eaton was sentenced to die for the crimes after a four-hour deliberation Saturday.

Lisa Kimmell's parents, Ron and Sheila Kimmell, along with Kimmell's sisters, Sherry Odegard and Stacy Hoover, sat down with news organizations Sunday and thanked the community for their support before, during and after the trial.

At times emotional, the family shared their personal feelings on certain aspects of the trial, their relationship with Eaton's family and the pain they endured in the years leading up to the trial of the man who killed Lisa Kimmell.

"For our family, the words 'thank you' are very inadequate to express our gratitude to so many," Ron Kimmell said, reading off an innumerable list of people the family wished to thank.

The trial was a long time coming, the family said, and they are satisfied with the outcome for Eaton.

But in no way does the family consider the jury's verdict as "closure." Its more the end of another phase.

Eaton, now 59, was identified as a suspect 14 years after Lisa Kimmell's body was found in the North Platte River on April 2, 1988. She had been raped, hit over the head, stabbed six times and thrown over the old Government Bridge into the river.

Kimmell, who had a job in Denver, had vanished eight days previous, while on a road trip through Wyoming to Cody. Her plan was to pick up her boyfriend in Cody and then head to Billings, Mont.

Eaton was named as a suspect in her murder in 2002, after authorities were told a DNA sample he had to submit at the Wyoming State Penitentiary in 1998 matched samples taken from Kimmell's body after her death.

The Honda CRX Si Kimmell was driving through Wyoming when she disappeared was not recovered until two summers ago when it turned up on Eaton's property during a sheriff's

department search. It was buried 10 to 12 feet underground.

Eaton was formally charged with the murder last spring. Not long after, the D.A.'s office said it would seek the death penalty for Eaton. His fate was sealed almost 16 years to the day Kimmell went missing.

"After all these years of wondering ... it just kind of ripped open scars again," Ron Kimmell said of the unexpected revival of his daughter's unsolved murder.

Having endured the trial, the family is ready to move on, he said. But they will always carry with them the pain of knowing what their daughter went through in her final days and the emptiness that lingers from her absence, they said.

Sherry, who is two years younger than Lisa, tearfully recalled her memory of Lisa and talked about the memories she knows she'll never have.

"At 16 years old and 18 years old, you know, you always have that sibling rivalry and fighting. I wished I still had the opportunity to become friends - Stacy and I, we talk everyday," she said, crying.

Lisa and Sherry were just becoming friends and Lisa was becoming an adult, a responsible one, and Sherry admired her sister for that, she said.

"Lisa was an extraordinary young lady," said Lisa's mother. Wise beyond her years, her father said.

Sheila remembers Lisa was kind, independent, motivated - a daughter to be truly proud of.

But they will never know who Lisa would have become because Eaton took away her future.

Sitting through the nearly three-week trial, the Kimmells said the day the jury viewed the autopsy pictures was the hardest for them. They had seen some of the photos before but not the really graphic ones.

"I can only equate (the trial) as being as agonizing of a thing as the initial eight days when we were looking for our daughter," Sheila Kimmell said.

The family noted the jury's kindness in keeping the photos of Lisa out of their sight as much as possible.

Another trying time for the family, they said, was the guilt deliberation phase when it was discovered a juror had gone out to Government Bridge sometime during the trial. That could have caused a mistrial in the case and the family was not prepared to endure another trial, they said.

Fortunately, the court determined the other jurors weren't tainted by that action. An alternate was seated and the deliberations began again.

The jury's decision to invoke the ultimate punishment for Eaton was "a bittersweet moment" for the Kimmells, Sheila said.

"We are the kind of people who could not intentionally hurt anybody - let alone kill anybody - but we think justice has been served," she said.

No thought has been given yet as to whether the family will attend the inevitable appeals hearings. They will be at Eaton's sentencing on the other charges. At that time, the family said, they will finally be allowed to tell Eaton in person how his actions affected their family.

While the Kimmell family holds no sympathy for Eaton, they do realize the pain his own family is going through.

Sheila Kimmell first encountered some of Eaton's family, namely a sister of his, about a year ago at a separate trial at which Eaton was accused, and acquitted, of killing his Colorado cellmate.

"After meeting his family, I can say they are truly and genuinely wonderful people," Sheila Kimmell said. Sheila said she attended that trial to get a glimpse of the man who had recently been accused of killing her daughter.

Sheila Kimmell said Eaton's actions were his own.

"My heart goes out to them - they have become a victim, too," she said.



Kimmells, D.A. offer thanks

MARCH 22, 2004 12:00 AM • TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

With the trial of Dale Wayne Eaton behind them, family members of Lisa Marie Kimmell, Eaton's victim, offered a long list of thank you's to everyone who helped them cope in the difficult past weeks.

At the end of a nearly three-week trial, a 7th District Court jury on Saturday sentenced Eaton to death for the 1988 kidnap, robbery, rape and murder of the then 18-year-old Kimmell.

The jury only deliberated a few hours.

The Kimmell family gathered Sunday to thank investigators, District Attorney's Office staff, the community and the media, who they say helped them get the word out when Lisa went missing nearly 16 years ago.

"They have cried with us. They have anguished with us and for us. They were here for us in our times of deep despair - even during the times we felt hopeless," Ron Kimmell said, reading from notes the Kimmells prepared.

The family searched for answers for so many years, he said, the Kimmells are thankful the investigators and others never gave up.

Sheila Kimmell, in her emotional thank you to the prosecution team, said, "Not only did they do their civic duty, but they were passionate about it. They sacrificed family, friends and personal time for months preparing for this trial. They wanted justice for Lisa, our family and you."

To the attorneys who defended Eaton, Sherry Odegard offered their family's respect. And to the jury, their family's gratitude.

"We know they invested time and emotion to make this very hard decision. They painfully endured a glimpse of Lisa's tragic death. We are certain they had to deal with many of the same inner conflicts we did, as they decided Mr. Eaton's fate. We admire their strength and courage to give Lisa, our family and the community justice," she said.

Stacy Hoover, again, offered the family's thanks to those who they may have never met but who supported them in numerous ways during their stay in Casper throughout the trial.

"It seems as though a legion of angels were dispatched to embrace us, and brace us, to give us the strength to get us through each agonizing day," Hoover said. "It is true that Casper cares."

District Attorney Mike Blonigen, also at the gathering, also extended his thanks the investigators, his staff and other agencies involved in bringing Eaton to justice.

Natrona County sheriff's Cpl. Lynn Cohee, Assistant District Attorney Stephanie Sprecher, Victim-Witness Coordinator Janeice Lynch, Susan McCartney and Wyoming State Crime Lab officials, were among those on that list.

Good cases are like houses - are build on a strong foundation, Blonigen said.

"Mike Sandfort, Jim Broz and Dan Tholson build that foundation - we might not have known it for 14 years - but they did everything that made what has happened here possible," he said.



Death sentence

MARCH 28, 2004 12:00 AM

a just decision

in Eaton's case|

On March 20, a jury of 12 Natrona County citizens sentenced Dale Wayne Eaton to be executed by the state of Wyoming for killing Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988. It is a just sentence.

No thoughtful human reaches a decision to take a life or to support such a decision easily. The justice system is a human construct and contains all the ambiguities, contradictions and potential for error evident in all other human endeavors.

In this case, absolutely no doubt remains that Dale Wayne Eaton killed his young victim.

The DNA evidence, the victim's car, and other physical evidence linked him directly to the crime. A psychiatrist who testified for the defense laid out Eaton's thinking the night he decided to kidnap and kill Kimmell. More damning: Eaton, through his attorney, admitted he murdered the woman.

The jury found the aggravating factors that Wyoming law requires before anyone can be subjected to the death penalty.

The jurors found the killing to be especially atrocious or cruel. It found Eaton killed Kimmell purposely and with premeditated malice. It declared that Eaton committed the murder while engaged in a kidnapping or sexual assault.

The testimony of a woman whose family was kidnapped at gunpoint in September 1997 also was critical. Her testimony gave the jury part of the information it needed to declare that Eaton previously had been convicted of a felony involving the use or threat of violence to a person.

The U.S. Supreme Court requires that juries, not judges, must determine whether the aggravating conditions exist to impose a death sentence. When the Supreme Court made that decision, Justice Stephen Breyer wrote that juries "are more attuned to the community's moral sensibility" and are "more likely to express the conscience of the community on the ultimate question of life or death."

This jury followed the law and considered the evidence presented to it. It quickly decided Dale Wayne Eaton's fate. It is a just decision.



Split on life or death

TARA WESTREICHER Star-Tribune staff writer | Posted: Thursday, March 25, 2004 12:00 am

Support for capital punishment is steadily on the decline and has reached its lowest level in 25 years, according to those who study the issue.

Gallup Poll findings released in October 2003 state that a majority of Americans - 64 percent - still condone the death penalty, though that number is the lowest it has been in over two decades.

Three months prior to the publications of the October findings, the organization reported on its Web site (www.gallup.com) that 74 percent of those polled in May were in favor of death penalty. But when given a choice between the death penalty and life imprisonment as a punishment for murder, a slim majority still favored the death penalty.

Those findings are in line with other surveys conducted last year, including an ABC News poll that found 49 percent of respondents would choose the death penalty and 45 percent would be satisfied with a sentence of life without parole.

The Death Penalty Information Center (DPIC) reports that numerous exonerations of death row inmates over the years - some because of advances in DNA technology - have steadily changed people's minds about the penalty.

Retired Wyoming public defender Len Munker defended death penalty cases - including the one that resulted in Wyoming's last execution. He said about 77 percent of the potential jurors he questioned for the second penalty phase in the Mark Hopkinson case said they supported the death penalty.

Even so, Wyoming is not a state that liberally seeks capital punishment.

Hopkinson's execution Jan. 22, 1992, marked Wyoming's first in 26 years.

Dale Wayne Eaton, who was sentenced to death Saturday for the 1988 kidnap, rape, robbery and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, will be the next if his sentence is upheld.

When asked about their opinion on the death penalty, Casper residents who supported it, or had no strong opinion either way, said Eaton's crimes and the evidence presented in court made him a proper candidate.

Aside from people who oppose or condone the death penalty are those who say they support the punishment for heinous crimes but that they don't care for the court's application of it.

"I just don't like the government killing people," said Dallas Laird, a Casper defense attorney. "I think there are cases that are appropriate for the death penalty, but until the system gets itself straightened out, I'm not for it."

Just last year, 10 death row inmates - four in Illinois, two in Ohio, and one each in Pennsylvania, Florida, Louisiana, and Missouri - were exonerated for various reasons, DPIC reported.

In some states, like Illinois, there is no death penalty, Laird said. In others, the penalty exists but it is applied unfairly, meaning two people could commit essentially the same crime but only one would face capital punishment - usually poor people, Laird asserted.

Nevertheless, executions nationwide have declined as steadily as people's support for capital punishment, according to Bureau of Justice Statistics.

There were 315 death sentences handed down nationwide in 1994. By 2003, the number had dropped to 139, the statistics state.



Debating the death penalty

Posted: Sunday, March 28, 2004 12:00 am

The Star-Tribune today declares its support for imposing the death sentence on Dale Wayne Eaton, the man guilty of the torture, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell 16 years ago.

We did not reach the decision easily. Our editorial board debated the position the paper should take three different times, once before the jury reached its guilty verdict and twice in the past week. We carefully explored the many ambiguous implications of the death penalty for people and society.

The murder of Ms. Kimmell is a crime of nearly incomprehensible brutality. There was deep empathy for her and her long-suffering family during these discussions. We made and listened to impassioned arguments for and against the death penalty with them in mind.

One editor believes the idea of state execution morally wrong. He described it as a barbarous response to barbarous acts. Executing another human is simply wrong, no matter who does it.

Another made a different argument of conscience and said execution lets a convicted murderer off too easily. Better to work for restorative justice by requiring the killer to face and apologize to the family of victims. Ultimately, the killer must confront the truth that he has done the unthinkable.

We considered many other arguments against the death penalty.

Simply in terms of financial costs, it is more expensive than locking someone away.

It does not serve as a deterrent.

It is applied unfairly in society. Statistics reveal clearly that it is used more against minorities and the poor.

It contradicts the Christian philosophy of forgiveness.

It presumes an omniscient knowledge of which humans are not capable.

My own opposition to the death penalty rests not in moral objection but rather political philosophy. No state should be granted the legal authority to execute any of its citizens. History has shown it always - *always* - leads to misuse and innocent people will be killed.

The reasons for executing Eaton likewise were strong.

Sometimes society confronts a crime so heinous, so brutal, that justice demands the ultimate penalty. This case is one of them.

Eaton already has killed one person while incarcerated. Keeping him alive means society would place good people in the corrections system in mortal danger.

I raised an argument made here long ago by a former city editor when we were discussing the fate of Mark Hopkinson. The death penalty may not deter other murderers from killing, he said, but executing Mark Hopkinson made certain that he never killed another human.

In the end, we did not reach agreement. When the editorial board ends up at loggerheads, the publisher must make a decision.

He did.

We'll have more vigorous debates over editorials in the future. Few will reach so deep into our hearts as this one.

(You can read the editorial today on page A6.)



Kimmells get \$5 million judgment

APRIL 08, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Ron and Sheila Kimmell have been awarded a \$5 million civil judgment against Dale Wayne Eaton, the man sentenced to death by a Casper jury last month for the 1988 kidnap, robbery, rape and murder of their daughter, Lisa Marie Kimmell.

The Kimmells filed a wrongful death complaint against Eaton in 7th District Court last May.

Eaton never responded to the complaint and the Kimmells subsequently asked the court for \$4 million in compensatory damages and \$1 million in punitive damages.

District Judge W. Thomas Sullins awarded the family the full amount Monday, court documents state.

Eaton was sentenced to death March 20. An execution date has not been set.

Eaton was also convicted of related offenses that are not punishable by death. He has not been sentenced on those counts, pending a presentence investigation.

Eaton's sentencing hearing will likely include an execution date, District Attorney Mike Blonigen said last month.

For more details read Friday's Casper Star-Tribune



Kimmells granted multi-million dollar judgment

Family lawsuit filed on 'principle'

APRIL 09, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Ron and Sheila Kimmell were granted a \$5 million civil judgment against Dale Wayne Eaton - the man sentenced to death by a Casper jury last month for the kidnap, robbery, rape and murder of their daughter, Lisa Marie Kimmell, in 1988.

The Kimmells filed a wrongful death complaint against Eaton in 7th District Court last May.

Eaton never responded to the complaint and the Kimmells subsequently asked the court for \$4 million in compensatory damages and \$1 million in punitive damages.

District Judge W. Thomas Sullins granted the family the full amount Monday by way of a default judgment, court records state.

The \$5 million debt will bear interest at a statutory rate of 10 percent per year, until paid, added Sullins, who was not the judge who presided over the criminal case.

Eaton was linked to the crime by a DNA match 14 years after the fact and was sentenced to death March 20 after a lengthy 7th District Court trial.

An execution date has not been set yet.

Eaton was also convicted of offenses related to Kimmell's homicide that are not punishable by death. He has not been sentenced on those counts yet, but will be after a presentence investigation is completed.

Eaton's sentencing hearing on the other crimes could include the setting of an execution date, District Attorney Mike Blonigen said last month.

Contacted at her home in Colorado, Sheila Kimmell said she knows Eaton doesn't have that kind of money.

"There is no profit in it for us. But that's not the point," Kimmell said. "There isn't anything of Dale's that we want - he has nothing of value - but we want to strip him of everything he does have. It's the principle of the matter."

Frankly, Kimmell said, her daughter's life was "priceless."

Lisa Kimmell vanished on March 25, 1988, as she was driving through Wyoming from her job in Denver. She planned to stop in Cody to pick up her boyfriend, Ed Jaroch, on her way to Billings, but she never made it. Her body was found in the North Platte River under the old

Government Bridge eight days after she disappeared.

She had been abducted and held against her will for days, investigators testified at Eaton's trial. She was sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed six times in the chest and abdomen before being thrown from the bridge.

Kimmell's car - a black Honda CRX Si with personalized Montana plates that read "LIL MISS" - was not found until July 2002, when it was uncovered by local law enforcement investigators on Eaton's Moneta property.

The 6,000-square foot property is valued at \$1,400, according to an official with the Fremont County Assessor's office.

The Kimmell family still has to go through the legal process to take possession of the property, Sheila Kimmell said, but if they are awarded the deed, the family wants to change the landscape.

"We do not want that property to stand as an evil, haunting reminder" of what happened to her daughter, Kimmell said.



District Court doings

APRIL 10, 2004 12:00 AM

Here is the activity in the Seventh District Court.

Civil Dismissals Granted

Jacqueline R. Hedges v. Donald Young, matter is dismissed

Mary E. Lyons v. Wyoming DFS, Mark McKelvey, Jonna McKelvey, Ted McKelvey and Linda McKelvey, grandparent visitation, matter is dismissed without prejudice, parties to bear own costs and attorney fees

Michelle Colling v. Jason McDonald, matter is dismissed without prejudice

Jonathon Ciocarlan v. Allison Ward, auto tort-PI, matter is dismissed, parties to bear own costs

Western Engine & Equipment v. John W. Martin, appeals, matter is dismissed

CollectionCenter v. Ammon C. Foster and Kimberly Ranae Foster, collections, matter is dismissed without prejudice as to Kim Foster

Civil Satisfaction of Judgments Granted

Rocky Mountain Service Bureau Inc. and CollectionCenter Wyoming v. Ernie Trujillo and Sunrise Enterprises, foreign judgments, plaintiff received payment on March 29, 2004 in partial satisfaction of judgment, leaving a balance

Robert Bressler and Jane Bressler v. Sharyl Norman, collections, plaintiff received payment in partial satisfaction of judgment, leaving a balance as of April 2, 2004

Providian National Bank and Chase Manhattan Bank v. Shirley J. Barr, contract actions, plaintiff received payment in partial satisfaction of judgment, leaving a balance as of April 1, 2004

PRA III LLC v. Tamiko L. Ushio, collections, plaintiff received payment in partial satisfaction of judgment, leaving a balance as of April 5, 2004

American Collection Systems Inc. v. Trisha Leigh Schaff and Monte Neil Schaff, collections, plaintiff received payment on March 31, 2004 in partial satisfaction of judgment

RT Capital Inc. v. Rosie Leaver, collections, plaintiff received payment in partial satisfaction of judgment, leaving a balance as of April 6, 2004

Civil Judgments Granted

Cheryl D. Lawrence v. Dennis R. Lawrence, divorce/annulment, defendant to pay current child support per month retroactive from July 1, 2003; judgment entered against defendant through February 2003 of which large amount is owed to plaintiff and smaller amount is owed to state as set forth in order

Elise M. Buhler v. Tobin W. Buhler, divorce/annulment, defendant-obligor's child support is modified per month beginning April 1, 2004 and continuing each month thereafter until further order of the court; judgment is entered against defendant-obligor in favor of the state through February 2004; the wage withholding currently in effect will be amended

Les Motylewski and Kathy Motylewski v. Underwood Construction, Carl E. Underwood, John Doe 1-10 and Katherine Underwood, contract actions, plaintiffs are awarded judgment against the defendant Carl "Eddie" Underwood payable as set forth herein; defendant Katherin Underwood is dismissed from this proceeding with prejudice as to all claims

Wyoming DFS and minor v. John Doe, the parent child relationship between the unknown putative father and NLH is terminated and severed forever; the permanent care, custody and control of the minor child will be placed with the Natrona County DFS for adoptive or appropriate placement

Estate of Lisa Marie Kimmell, administrators Sheila Martin Kimmell and Weston W. Reeves v. Dale Wayne Eaton, miscellaneous tort-PI, judgment is entered in favor of the plaintiffs against the defendant in the total amount of \$5 million to bear interest from the date hereof until paid

Movie Palaces Inc. v. Bill C. Hart, contract actions, defendant to appear April 15, 2004 at 9:40 for deposition as set forth in order; plaintiff awarded judgment against defendant for attorney fees

April Lynn Deitz v. Mark Reese, judgment entered against defendant and in favor of the plaintiff through March 2004; registration of order from PA confirmed

Wyoming DFS and two minors v. Bryon Harrison, Heather L. Even and Byron Harrison, paternity, state awarded judgment against B. Harrison through Dec. 1, 2003; B. Harrison is to pay child support per month, to begin Jan. 1, 2004 and continue until minor is emancipated; H. Even to provide medical insurance; a wage withholding is to be entered; H. Even is awarded custody.

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Elbert Smith and Kristi K. Moser, paternity, state awarded judgment against E. Smtih and K. Moser awarded judgment through Feb. 1, 2004; T. Powers is to be dismissed in this matter; E. Smith is to pay child support per month, to begin March 1, 2004 and to continue during dependency of minor until minor is emancipated; either parent is to provide insurance for minor; a wage withholding is to be entered; K. Moser is awarded custody of minor.

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Brandon D. Marken and Fonda M. Pinneo, paternity, B. Marken is the natural father of minor PR; state awarded judgment against B. Marken and F. Pinneo awarded judgment against B. Marken through Jan. 1, 2004; B. Marken is to pay child support per month to begin Feb. 1, 2004 and to continue until further court order; either parent to

provide medical insurance; a wage withholding is to be entered; F. Pinneo is awarded custody of minor subject to visitation by B. Marken.

Criminal Judgments Granted

State v. James Patrick Mahoney, defendant's probation is revoked and defendant is remanded to custody of NCSO to await transfer to WSP at Rawlins to serve not less than 3 years nor more than 5 years to be suspended on condition that defendant shall successfully complete 3 years of supervised probation with numerous conditions, including complete in-patient counseling at New Horizons, maintain fulltime employment; as to count II, defendant's probation is not revoked.

State v. Michael Lewis Day, defendant pled guilty to receiving and concealing a felony and is remanded to custody of NCSO to await transfer to WSP at Rawlins to serve not less than 20 months nor more than 24 months with credit for 223 days previously served and with ITU recommendation and shall pay restitution and to funds.

State v. Cricket Shanell Morey, order March 11, 2004 is amended to reflect that defendant's release date from WWC is effective April 24, 2004 and shall successfully complete 3 years of supervised probation with numerous conditions, including pay restitution, maintain fulltime employment and successfully complete counseling; probation for counts I and II shall run concurrent with each other and ISP is recommended

Defendant's motion for sentence modification is granted and the 1 to 6 year sentence imposed Nov. 5, 2003 for count I and II will be suspended May 6, 2004 and shall successfully complete 3 years of supervised probation with numerous conditions, including same as above.



Moser's mother renews plea

Son's 2001 killing remains unsolved

APRIL 17, 2004 12:00 AM • [DEIRDRE STOELZLE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The mother and sister of homicide victim Danny Moser on Friday issued a plea for information into the October 2001 killing.

"We need someone to come forward - tell us what happened," said Jamie Householder, Moser's sister. "Somebody out there knows what the circumstances were."

A potential witness called the Star-Tribune within days of the second anniversary of Moser's killing. But the woman, who did not identify herself, refused to report her findings to Moser's mother, Connie Moser, or to police.

The woman said she saw Moser get run down in the parking lot of the Wagon Wheel Roller Skating rink in Mills. She said she'd left the state for a while but had returned. She said she had children and did not want to imperil them in any way by coming forward with what she saw that night.

Connie Moser is now begging her do just that.

"Let our family have some peace in our minds," she said at a press conference called at her daughter's house Friday morning.

Connie Moser said her 6-year-old granddaughter is still in therapy, working through her grief following her father's death.

"I know this little girl needs some answers, and I don't have any answers for her," Connie Moser said.

Householder agreed, showing a picture of angels with tears in their eyes that the child had drawn.

"She knows nothing but sadness - that's all she's seen," Householder said.

Connie Moser said "numerous" tips have been received in the case in the last four weeks. She attributes the increase to attention to the recent trial of Dale Wayne Eaton, who was sentenced to death in the 1988 homicide of Lisa Marie Kimmell. Kimmell's body was found shortly after she was murdered, but her killer was identified 14 years later - long after the case had grown cold.

"I don't want to wait 16 years or 18 years," Connie Moser said. "This community gets together. ... I don't care if it's hearsay or what. If you know anything, call me, call (police), call my

daughter."

Danny Moser was 27 when he was found just before midnight Oct. 19, 2001, on the south side of the parking lot of the roller rink. He was unconscious and not breathing, and was bleeding profusely. He was taken off life support and died the morning of Oct. 22. He was an organ donor.

Police say Moser had been run over with a car within 20 minutes of his discovery. Detectives tried to track his whereabouts that night.

He left Cattlemen's - now the Wonder Bar - and was believed to have headed over to the Beacon Club, according to his mother.

Connie Moser urges anyone with information about this crime to call her at 265-5314, or Jamie Householder at 265-2835.



Eaton sentencing next week

Convicted killer also asking for new penalty phase

MAY 14, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Dale Wayne Eaton - the man sentenced to death in March for the 1988 rape and killing of Montana teen Lisa Marie Kimmell - will be sentenced next week on non-capital offenses connected to her slaying.

The 59-year-old Eaton is also asking the court for a new penalty phase, officials say.

That motion will be heard in 7th District Court at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, two days prior to Eaton's sentencing hearing on rape, kidnap and other charges in the case.

Eaton's primary public defender, Wyatt Skaggs, could not be reached for comment on why his client is requesting a new penalty phase or where the case is regarding appeal.

Eaton was linked to the crime by a DNA match 14 years after Kimmell was abducted, robbed, raped and killed. Eaton was criminally charged in April 2003. He was found guilty March 17 on seven of eight counts filed against him and then sentenced to death March 20 for the crime of first-degree premeditated murder.

The jury also found Eaton guilty of aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault and three additional counts of first-degree felony murder, each committed during the course of Kimmell's sexual assault, her robbery and kidnapping.

Those charges are not punishable by death and the coinciding sentences will be decided by Judge David Park, who presided over the trial.

An execution date has not been set, but District Attorney Mike Blonigen said after Eaton's trial that it could happen at the sentencing hearing Thursday, which is set for 3 p.m.

The Kimmell family was not allowed to make statements during Eaton's trial, but they will be making a victim impact statement at Thursday's sentencing hearing, Sheila Kimmell said.

Lisa Kimmell, 18, vanished on March 25, 1988, as she was driving through Wyoming from her job in Denver. She planned to stop in Cody to pick up her boyfriend, Ed Jaroch, on her way to Billings, but she never made it. Her body was found in the North Platte River under the old Government Bridge eight days after she disappeared.

She had been abducted and held against her will for days, investigators testified at Eaton's trial. She was sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed six times in the chest and abdomen before being thrown from the bridge.

Kimmell's car - a black Honda CRX Si with personalized Montana plates that read "LIL MISS" - was not found until July 2002, when it was uncovered by local law enforcement investigators on Eaton's Moneta property.

The search of his property came about because of the DNA match and a tip that led investigators there.



Victim impact ruling angers Kimmell family

MAY 18, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The family of Lisa Marie Kimmell is furious they will not be allowed to present their entire victim's impact statement at Dale Wayne Eaton's sentencing hearing Thursday.

Kimmell was raped and killed by Eaton 16 years ago.

After a lengthy trial in March, a 7th District Court jury sentenced Eaton to death on a premeditated murder charge.

He was also convicted of six non-capital crimes connected to Kimmell's killing, and 7th District Court Judge David Park will decide those sentences at the hearing Thursday, when he will also hear from the Kimmell family regarding the impact the murder has had on them.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen told Park on Tuesday that the Kimmell family wishes to play for the court a 12-minute DVD production that is a compilation of photos of Lisa Kimmell accompanied by music.

Blonigen informed the court of the family's intention at a hearing at which the judge denied Eaton's motion for a new penalty phase.

Regarding the video presentation, the defense argued that the presentation as a whole would be prejudicial to Eaton and Park, to some extent, agreed.

"We have to be careful this doesn't turn into a memorial," Park told the attorneys. "Strike the music. I'll watch the pictures."

Sheila Kimmell, after being told of the ruling, said her family almost cancelled plans to come to Casper for the hearing Thursday.

"I'm extremely angry about this," she said. "We've waited 16 years and taken the high road. We did everything we were told to do. We finally get to tell our side of the story and we're told it won't be heard in its entirety. That was 50 percent of what we had to say - we have no rights."

Kimmell pointed out her frustration lies with the court and not Blonigen.

"He did all he could do," she added.

Eaton was linked to the crime by a DNA match 14 years after the 18-year-old Kimmell was abducted, robbed, raped and killed. Eaton was criminally charged in April 2003. He was found guilty March 17 on seven of eight counts filed against him and then sentenced to death March 20 for the crime of first-degree premeditated murder.

The jury also found Eaton guilty of aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first-degree sexual assault and three additional counts of first-degree felony murder, each committed during the course of Kimmell's sexual assault, her robbery and kidnapping.

Those charges are not punishable by death and the coinciding sentences will be decided by Park, who presided over the trial.

Eaton's sentencing hearing begins at 3 p.m. on Thursday.



Eaton denied new penalty trial

MAY 18, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Dale Wayne Eaton - a Moneta man sentenced in March to die for the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell - was denied a new penalty phase Tuesday.

Attorneys for the 59-year-old Eaton alleged there was "egregious" prosecutor misconduct.

Vaughn Neubauer, one of Eaton's two public defenders, argued Tuesday that District Attorney Mike Blonigen made inappropriate statements to the jury in his closing argument in the penalty phase.

But Seventh District Judge David Park ruled there was no misconduct and said the defense took Blonigen's statements "out of context."

Eaton's primary attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, offered no comment on Park's ruling, which Eaton could later appeal to a higher court, according to Blonigen.

At the hearing, the defense took issue with several comments Blonigen made in his closing statement, including his telling the jury that he had no family pictures of Kimmell to show them, just autopsy photos.

Neubauer argued the statement goes to victim impact, which wasn't allowed in that stage of the proceedings.

But, having reviewed the entire transcript of Blonigen's closing statement, Park said, "I see no direct or indirect references to victim impact."

The defense also took issue with Blonigen's statement that all of Kimmell's days with Eaton were filled with torture and depravity.

Neubauer told Park that attorneys are only allowed to argue matters in evidence and that one can only speculate on what the victim's last days were like.

"But reasonable inferences can be made based on what we know," Park later countered.

The defense also told Park that it was inappropriate for Blonigen to tell the jury that Eaton was making excuses by saying he was depressed when he killed Kimmell and that expert witness testimony to the severity of the depression was not credible.

The defense further contended that the prosecutor went too far in his arguments regarding Eaton's criminal past and that he shouldn't have told the jury that Eaton blamed Kimmell for his actions.

At trial, it was said that Eaton thought Kimmell was a burglar, and when he came home to find her parked alongside his property late at night, he abducted her at gunpoint.

"What we're talking about is an accumulation of improper remarks" to which the defense wasn't allowed to object, Neubauer said. "The case was improperly submitted to the jury."

Park disagreed and said, "plain error must be established" in order to determine misconduct on the prosecution's part.

All of Blonigen's conclusions were reasonably drawn, said Park, before denying the defendant's motion.

Eaton's two-part trial was held in March. After the trial phase, the jury convicted Eaton on seven charges filed in connection with Kimmell's killing. One of those charges was first-degree premeditated murder, punishable by death. After a three-day penalty phase, the jury rendered that sentence.

An execution date has not been set yet.

Kimmell's, whose body was found April 2, 1988, was abducted by Eaton on March 25 of that year as she traveled from Denver to Cody.

The teen was held captive by Eaton and sexually assaulted for about five days before being hit in the head and stabbed several times.

Eaton threw her body from the Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 west of Casper.

He was reportedly linked to Kimmell's killing through a DNA match. Kimmell's missing Honda CRX was found buried on Eaton's Moneta property in the summer of 2002, and he was charged with her murder the following spring.



Judge signs death warrant for Eaton

Execution date likely to be stayed for years

MAY 21, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The family hoped they could get through to their daughter's killer by showing him a memorial pictorial of her 18-year-long life, but Dale Wayne Eaton, staring at the defense table, appeared unmoved.

"We don't know if it got to him or not. It may have, or it may take a while," said Ron Kimmell, the father of Lisa Marie Kimmell, who was kidnapped, robbed, raped and murdered by Eaton 16 years ago.

A June 25 execution date was set for Eaton, 59, at a sentencing hearing Thursday in Casper's 7th District Court. Judge David Park signed Eaton's death warrant and dealt with additional charges connected to the 1988 killing.

On all charges, Eaton got death and a life sentence plus 50 years in prison.

Because of appeals, Blonigen said that execution date will almost certainly be stayed.

Mark Hopkinson, the last man executed in Wyoming, was convicted in September 1979 and was executed in January 1992. The case serves as an indicator of how long the process could take, District Attorney Mike Blonigen said after the hearing.

"Certainly, we don't expect anything to happen for the next several years," he said, adding that the Attorney General's Office will act on behalf of the state for appeals.

In March, a 7th District Court jury found Eaton guilty of first-degree premeditated murder - for which he received the death sentence - and aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery and first-degree sexual assault.

Eaton was also convicted on three counts of first-degree felony murder, each committed during the course of separate crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

The felony murder charges were lumped in with the death sentence; the other charges were dealt with separately.

The courtroom was standing-room-only Thursday. Several jurors who sentenced Eaton to die had apparently returned to see the case through.

Sitting in the audience, some of those jurors wiped tears, as did many others who watched the memorial snapshots of Lisa Kimmell - the DA said he'd watched the video six times in an effort to maintain his composure in court Thursday.

An earlier ruling prohibiting the pictures to be accompanied by music was dissolved Thursday morning after the defense withdrew its objection.

"If there's even a slim chance we reached him," it was worth it, said Lisa's mother, Sheila Kimmell, who has pleaded with Eaton to come clean if he ever killed anyone else.

"That came from their own desire that if anybody else is in the situation they lived in for 16 years, (the Kimmells) would like them to have some closure," Blonigen explained. "They thought that was very important."

It was a murder that touched the community, said Judge Park. "Her violent death shattered illusions of peaceful lives," he said before reading Eaton's complicated sentence.

Given the opportunity to speak for himself, Eaton declined, shaking his head from side to side.

Blonigen said the case was the most atrocious one the courtroom had ever seen. Natrona County Coroner James Thorpen, MD, said it was, for him, the most heart-wrenching case.

What makes it so painful, they said, is having to think about the five to seven days Kimmell was sexually and mentally tortured by Eaton.

"And it's not just the brutality, it's the way she was killed," Blonigen said. "Murder is always terrible, but the idea of her absolutely knowing what her end was and to live with that for five to seven days, for me, is the most terrible aspect of this case."



Eaton's sister sets record straight

Says their father not abusive; supports death penalty

MAY 21, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Dale Wayne Eaton's father was not a drunk and he didn't ditch the family for steak dinners, Eaton's sister, Judy Mason, said Thursday, disputing those and other claims her brother made at trial regarding their childhood.

Mason's voice shook as she spoke for herself and on behalf of her father, two sisters and her other brother at a news conference.

The event was held Thursday, shortly after her brother's death warrant was signed by 7th District Court Judge David Park, who presided over the final sentencing hearing.

"It's been really hard," she said of the ordeal. "I love my brother, but it is with sadness that I have to support the death penalty in this case."

For the past two years, Lisa Kimmell has been in her family's thoughts every day, said Mason, who met the Kimmells a year ago and has been close with them ever since.

Feeling a certain loyalty to her older brother, Mason said, she sat through his entire trial, only to hear the defense trash their family - particularly their father.

"If having a son on death row isn't enough, he was dragged through the mud," she said.

She said her family feels betrayed and their father is hurt by Eaton's claims that their dad was a drunk who singled him out for beatings.

During the trial, Eaton's attorneys told the jury that Eaton was a product of a difficult life - his father was a selfish drunk who severely abused him and dined out on steak dinners while the rest of the family choked down bologna sandwiches. Eaton was poor and moved around a lot and, his attorneys said, because of that, he suffers a mental illness that caused him to kill Lisa Marie Kimmell.

And two family members testified to that effect.

"I was in shock during their testimony," said Mason, who is 56. "This is not the family I grew up in. We love and support our father. Yes, Dale was disciplined, as were the rest of us when it was deserved."

"Our father was not to blame for the way Dale turned out," she added. "His actions were his own."

Eaton's family, she said, was also hurt by the way their mother's mental health problems were blown out of proportion and the disrespectful way they believe they were treated by Eaton's attorneys.

"She was a wonderful and caring mother and we loved her dearly," she said.

Like Mason said, she sat in the courtroom throughout much of the trial but was allowed no contact with her brother.

Letters she sent him have been returned.

If she could talk to her brother, Mason said, "I would tell him I loved him ... but he took away a life - what he did was not right."



Waiting for the call

Investigators look back on 16-year-old murder case

MAY 24, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Investigators spent an arduous 16 years looking for the killer of Montana teen Lisa Marie Kimmell, who was abducted while traveling through Wyoming in the spring of 1988.

Until 2002, the case remained unsolved - that was 14 years with nary a lead trickling in - and then a surprising turn brought investigators to her killer, Dale Wayne Eaton.

The lead investigator, Dan Tholson, was involved during the entire protracted course of the case. Tholson, now a youth diversion officer, sat recently in his third-floor office in the Natrona County Courthouse. Behind his desk, in the window, is the "LIL MISS" Montana license plate created in 1989 by "Unsolved Mysteries" for a segment the TV program ran on the case.

When the segment ran, authorities had already found Kimmell's body but they hadn't located her little black car. It wouldn't be uncovered until the summer of 2002, after a DNA match pegged Eaton as the prime suspect.

Kimmell's car was buried on his Moneta property, on the border between Natrona and Fremont counties, sometime after her killing, but only weathered fragments of the actual licence plates have been recovered.

Tholson said he feels a certain degree of satisfaction the killer was caught. But he would prefer there was never was a killer to catch.

The case was one that took a personal toll on its investigators, who chased endless leads with no results. Eventually, Tholson remembered, the leads just stopped coming, leaving only a glimmer of hope the case would ever be solved.

Back to the scene

On Government Bridge southwest of Casper - the scene of Kimmell's murder - a weathered sympathy card and flowers are taped to a section of steel girders. During a visit to the scene Friday, Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton looked over the card's message and gazed out at the point Kimmell's body was found.

"Everybody knows this place," he said. "And, I guess, to some degree, it's almost sacred."

Back in 1988, Benton was the undersheriff.

"If there was a logo for this investigation, for the first 14 years it would be: 'Your guess is as good as mine,' and 'Who knows?'"

He, Tholson and numerous other investigators were at the scene when Kimmell's body was recovered April 2, 1988, in the North Platte River, downstream from bridge.

She had been struck in the head and stabbed six times in the chest, and it appeared she had been brought to the site alive and dumped.

The teen had been sexually assaulted, too, which left investigators with the one piece of evidence that would solve the case some 14 years later.

Among questions left unanswered for Benton is this one: "Why didn't he bury her in the car?"

And why did he dump her body at Government Bridge, in an entirely different county than where the car was found?

"Did he do that to throw us off?" Benton still ponders. "Who knows?"

Kimmell vanished eight days before her body turned up. She went missing while driving from Denver to Cody in her new Honda CRX Si, with vanity plates that read "LIL MISS" - a nickname her grandmother had given her as a child.

Investigators would learn that Eaton held her hostage for five to seven days in primitive conditions and inflicted unthinkable mental torture on the girl.

How she got there and what happened between her and her killer is still, mostly, a mystery.

Racking their brains

Jim Broz, now assistant chief of police overseeing 75 officers at the U.S. Mint in Denver, was a 35-year-old investigator with the Natrona County Sheriff's Office when Kimmell was killed.

He worked the case with Tholson and others.

It was a sunny day, about 65 degrees, when two fisherman came upon Kimmell's body in the water. She was clad only in underwear, socks and some jewelry.

Broz took aerial photographs of the crime scene and looked for Kimmell's car.

Tholson, 32 at the time of the murder, stayed at the scene. He and Broz had worked murders before, but this one was different.

It was one Broz ended up thinking about all the time - even after he left the sheriff's office, he said.

"There wasn't a handful of days that I didn't think about Lisa Kimmell. And I'm not just saying that," Broz said. "I remember her birthday. I still remember what she looked like, her physical description, her car. I still remember everything about her. I think I've thought about her constantly, thinking, 'I'm away from the sheriff's office and one of these days I'm gonna get a call from Dan saying they got him.'"

Tholson thought about the case a lot, too. Sixteen years, to be exact.

In the years following the murder, the suspect list was "a mile long," but Eaton was never on it. Those who were, were DNA tested and cleared.

"Dan called me on July 18, 2002, which is Lisa's birthday. I was in Virginia and he called and said they had gotten someone and I remember, when I left the sheriff's office, I said, 'Dan, do me a favor before I die, I want you to call me and tell me you found Lisa Kimmell's murderer,'" Broz remembered.

It was about 10 o'clock in the morning when Tholson called.

"He says, 'We got him.' And my first question was, 'Was he on our suspect list?' And he says, 'Nope.'"

It wouldn't be possible to count the hours spent working on the case, Tholson said.

"In the beginning, it was really intense. And there's all that time ... that you lay there and you can't sleep at night because you've got a million things going through your head. It can be a consuming thing for periods of time."

The fact that Eaton wasn't on the list of suspects offered Broz and Tholson a little solace. But they still wonder what they could have done to get to Eaton sooner.

Tholson said his main regret was that investigators didn't drive down Eaton's highway - the route Kimmell planned to take to Cody - and knock on all the doors.

"We would have at least talked with him and maybe recognized him as being different or something. Yeah, I regret that - I wish we would have done that," Tholson said.

Eaton was caught because he committed a felony decades later and was court-ordered to submit a DNA sample. The sample was entered in to the federal DNA database CODIS, where it subsequently produced a match with the semen sample the coroner had taken from Kimmell's body.

DNA technology was in its infancy in 1988 but local investigators, on the advice of federal authorities and the State Crime Lab, stored the sample.

"That turned out to be the winning card," Broz said.

It's what kept Tholson optimistic that one day the killer would be identified.

15 minutes with Eaton

Tholson recalled his first interview with Eaton in 2002. It lasted about 15 minutes, at best.

It was after the DNA match but before Kimmell's car was unearthed in Moneta.

Sheriff's Cpl. Lynn Cohee, who entered the investigation later on and was there when they found the car, accompanied Tholson to a federal prison in Florence, Colo.

Eaton was jailed there for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

On their way to talk to Eaton, the investigators didn't know much about him, just that his DNA matched the sample taken from Kimmell after she was killed.

The Kimmell family remembers the call.

Cohee's voice cracked over the telephone, as if she were going to cry, when she called to tell them of the monumental break in the case, Sheila Kimmell said.

Wanting to be sure they had their man, Tholson stopped by the State Crime Lab on his way to the prison.

"We sat down with them to have them convince us it was really a match," he recalled. "But there was still this doubt - is this really the guy?"

The two investigators had seen old jail mug shots of Eaton, but when they got to the prison, he looked quite different. He was a hulking, weathered man but he didn't look like a killer.

"People look at guys like (Eaton) and expect to be able to pick them out of a crowd as being different than anybody else and he's really not. He doesn't look or act any different than anybody else," Tholson said.

It was something to finally be face-to-face with the guy, he said.

"We ended up interviewing him in a visiting room, with glass in between us, so it was really hard to determine what his demeanor was like. You couldn't see him very well, just his face. He seemed calm enough and then he just got pretty upset as it went on. He got to the point where he couldn't talk because his mouth was so dry. He ended the interview shortly after that," offering nothing close to a confession, Tholson recalled.

"He wanted to know what we knew and why we were there," he said.

Trial a long time coming

By the time the case reached trial it was 16 years old. That presented some problems.

"It was harder to track people down and information - it's harder to find records because a lot of people don't keep records from 16 years ago - and we're used to everything being on the computer now," Tholson said.

Broz, who left Casper in 1997 to take the job in Denver, said it was gratifying to spend some time with his former colleagues, who were all relieved to be converging outside a 7th District Courtroom so many years after the murder.

"It was good to come back, even for a short time, and see my friends again and work with them again. It was an honor to come back for that occasion - we all wanted this thing to be solved someday," Broz said. "I'm glad I lived long enough to see it."

Broz would testify as a handwriting expert at Eaton's murder trial in March, telling jurors that Eaton had authored a strange note left on Kimmell's grave in Billings around the one-year anniversary of her death.

"I was a question document examiner at the sheriff's office. And we had never been able to place (that note) with anyone until Dale Wayne Eaton," he said.

"We wanted to give him a fair shake on this. I mean, if it wasn't him, it wasn't him," Broz said. "I was able to determine that he was the author of that note."

Tholson sat at the prosecution table and also testified at the trial, mostly describing the bloody scene on the bridge.

It was tough going for most of the participants in the three-week-long trial - three jurors ended up being replaced, including one who got so involved in the case he went to Government Bridge.

For Tholson, the trial was a test of endurance.

Going in, "I was just worried that we had forgotten something and that he might get off somehow. So, it was a real relief that he was found guilty," said Tholson.

Eaton, 59, was given the death sentence; his execution date, which will be stayed pending appeal, is set for June 25. He has made no public statement and has declined opportunities to do so in court. He remains in the Natrona County Detention Center awaiting transfer to Rawlins to begin serving a term of life plus 50 years. In addition to the four murder charges, he was convicted of kidnapping, rape and robbery.

Eaton: Mum's the word

Eaton isn't one to talk, so no one will probably ever know how he and Kimmell crossed paths.

Observers at the trial had hoped to find out; but that didn't happen.

The prosecution did, however, present a few theories. And investigators hold differing opinions on which of those seems most probable.

Joe Dax, a prisoner at the Oxford Federal Correctional Center in Oxford, Wis., who was jailed with Eaton in Casper right after he was extradited here, came closest to offering an answer for Tholson.

"His story was real," Tholson said. "I think, what he told us was the truth. I don't think he made that story up and he certainly didn't gain anything."

Dax swore that Eaton told him about a girl who offered to help him out by giving him a ride. When she rejected Eaton's advances, the situation "spun out of control," he said.

Dax told the jury that Eaton said he knew he had to kill her.

Other theories brought up at trial included that she was abducted from a rest area near

Waltman or that she pulled over in the vicinity of Eaton's property and then he kidnapped her.

It was also said that her brand-new car might have broken down or she might have pulled over to look at a map.

Benton said the rest stop theory seems plausible to him. What he doesn't believe is that Kimmell was anywhere near Eaton's property, and he's positive she didn't run out of gas.

"We know she didn't make it out there," he said. "And when we dug up the car, the siphoning hose was still sticking out of the tank. Mr. Eaton took the gasoline out of the car."

It's likely the case will drag on for years with appeals. And Tholson knows there's always a chance some part of the case could be overturned someday.

"I do wonder if it'll end," he said. "It's gone on a long time."



The rumor mill

Everyone wondered who killed 'Lil' Miss'

MAY 24, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The high-profile murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell 16 years ago took on a life of its own, with rumors circulating of a serial killer, a cult and the involvement of a former Natrona County sheriff.

There's no evidence any of that is true, investigators say.

Even though Kimmell's killer, 59-year-old Dale Wayne Eaton, has been tried, convicted and sentenced to death, "There are still people who probably don't believe that it's as simple as DNA and a murder - they're waiting for the good stuff to come out," said the case's lead investigator, Dan Tholson.

Sitting in his third-floor office in the Natrona County Courthouse, where he now works as a youth diversion officer, Tholson recently put those lively theories to rest.

"It's actually a pretty simple, straightforward case," he said. "There are no conspiracies, no intrigue, no cults, no drugs, none of those things."

And only one person - Eaton - was involved in the crime.

Lisa Kimmell, 18, disappeared March 25, 1988, while making the drive from her job in Denver to Cody, where she planned to pick up her boyfriend and head to Billings.

Her body was found eight days later by two fisherman downstream from the old Government Bridge west of Casper off Wyoming Highway 220. She'd been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed six times in the chest.

The theory that it was a cult killing came about after people learned of the meticulous way in which Kimmell was stabbed. Yes, it was meticulous. But it wasn't necessarily in the shape of a pentagram, as one rumor purported.

Eaton was sentenced to death for the murder after his trial in March. Last week, he was given a life sentence plus 50 years for other related crimes.

The rumor still surfaces that former Natrona County Sheriff Ron Ketchum had a hand in the killing, and that's not true, Tholson said.

"He was never a suspect," Tholson assured.

Ketchum was sheriff from 1987 to 1991. When Ketchum died, he was the chairman of the

Natrona County Commission. His death, a suicide, served to fuel even more speculation about his involvement as some people wondered, "Did he feel guilty?"

But he had nothing to do with Kimmell's killing.

That's all Tholson and his former colleague, Jim Broz, would say about the clearly uncomfortable subject.

But Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton, who was undersheriff when the killing occurred and a close friend of Ketchum's, was quite relaxed when dispelling that rumor.

Standing at the memorial site at the old bridge Friday, Benton said he thinks someone just had it out for Ketchum and circulated the rumor. Every angle had to be investigated, though, including that one, he said.

Benton acknowledged his former boss suffered from severe depression and that he made attempts to kill himself. He succeed at taking his own life in May 2000, but Ketchum's problems were not related to the killing, Benton said.

"He took his own life, not far from here. He had other instances where he attempted the same thing, but it was not on the anniversary of her disappearance, it was close. But I think somebody put two and two together and came up with five," Benton asserts. "I think it's more of a revenge thing than anything else."

Even so, the Division of Criminal Investigation did talk to Ketchum and he was cleared, Benton said.

"Ron had his issues, but in all the years I knew him, I knew he wouldn't hurt anybody," said Benton.

As for whether Eaton is a serial killer, Benton echoed Tholson's contention that there is no evidence to support that theory, though it's possible, he said.

Eaton has never admitted to killing anyone else, but he isn't one to divulge.

If it weren't for the DNA evidence in the Kimmell killing, her case would likely still not be solved, Benton said.

"We always hoped there were two people involved," said the sheriff. The hope was that one would snitch on the other. But that never happened, he said.

And if Eaton did kill anyone else and there's no DNA evidence involved, he's not likely to tell.

'We miss you so much'

Eaton jurors leave note for teen victim



JUNE 02, 2004 12:00 AM • [TARA WESTREICHER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Eight jurors who sentenced Dale Wayne Eaton to death in March signed a sympathy note to murder victim Lisa Marie Kimmell and taped it to the section of Government Bridge where Eaton is believed to have thrown the teenager into the North Platte in 1988.

Interviewed Tuesday, lawyers say the jurors were within their rights to leave the card.

Juror Al Roan said he brought the card to the bridge. He wrote this message: "Lisa, we will

always love you - we miss you so much."

Beneath the message are the signatures of Roan and seven other jurors who met at the bridge the day after the 16th anniversary of Lisa's death for a memorial.

The site is about 25 miles southwest of Casper on Wyoming Hwy. 220.

Roan said it wasn't any one juror's idea to meet there, everyone just sort of agreed.

The trial was over and done with by then, he said, and it was a measure of closure for the jury to have an opportunity to say goodbye to Lisa.

"We lived with that trial for three weeks and we kind of just took (Lisa Kimmell) as part of our family. She was such a sweet little girl," said Roan, who has three daughters of his own.

"It was kind of tough," he said of the things he saw and heard at the trial.

As near to the 16th anniversary of the murder as they could get together, the eight jurors went to the bridge and down to the area of the North Platte River where Lisa's body was found in 1988.

That year, she had been abducted by Eaton, now 59, as she traveled through Wyoming from her job in Denver on March 25. She was headed to Cody and then to Montana.

According to trial testimony, the 18-year-old Kimmell was held captive on an old bus on Eaton's property at Moneta west of Casper on Wyoming Hwy. 20-26. She was repeatedly

sexually assaulted by him for up to seven days before being taken to Government Bridge, hit in the head and stabbed numerous times.

Her body was dumped over the bridge around April 2, 1988, the day she was found by two fishermen, according to investigators.

At that spot, members of the jury who convicted Eaton and sentenced him to death in late March met and said a prayer for the victim, said Roan.

"They're a real good group of people - all those jurors - and we kind of like to stay in touch. It's the first time we've ever met, but they're real nice people."

Roan said the card was from all the jurors who signed it, but not all of them could make it to the meeting at the bridge.

Wyatt Skaggs, Eaton's primary defense attorney, said Tuesday he was aware of the card and who left it.

"It's odd - that's all you can say. I've never seen that happen before," he said from his Laramie office.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen, who successfully prosecuted Eaton, did not know the card existed.

He agreed the jury's meeting at the bridge was a little unusual, but not inappropriate.

"They're human beings subject to all the emotional frailties as the rest of us," he said. "Once they're off that jury, they're just like the rest of us. They can do and say as they please."

Blonigen said jurors in other cases have asked at the end of a trial how they could express their sympathy to the victim's family.

"It doesn't happen a lot but it will happen, particularly in these very serious cases," he said.

Blonigen added that he'd never seen anything a juror did after a case was finished cause a problem.

"If it would have happened, let's say, the day before the penalty phase were to happen, then we'd have a problem," he said.

A juror in the Eaton trial was dismissed for visiting the bridge during the trial, according to prosecutors.

In March, Roan and his fellow jurors found Eaton guilty of first-degree premeditated murder and sentenced him to death. They also found him guilty of aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery and first-degree sexual assault.

Eaton was also convicted on three counts of first-degree felony murder, each committed during the course of separate crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

The felony murder charges were lumped in with the death sentence and the other charges were dealt with separately.

For those, Eaton got life, plus 50 years.

His June 25 execution date will be stayed pending appeal.



District Court doings

JUNE 04, 2004 12:00 AM

Here is the activity in the Seventh District Court.

Civil Satisfaction of Judgments Granted

Household Finance Corp. v. Charles R. Atkinson, collections, plaintiff acknowledges satisfaction of judgment in full

Risk Management Alternatives Inc. v. Andrew Sanchez and Diane Sanchez, collections, plaintiff received payment in partial satisfaction of judgment

Katherine Rose Zobel v. Gary Bruce Zobel, divorce/annulment, plaintiff acknowledges satisfaction of judgment in full

Civil Dismissals Granted

Cathryn Christie v. Leanne Kay Summers, auto tort-PI, matter is dismissed with prejudice

Delane Baldwin, Carmen Baldwin and 10 Mile Enterprises v. MC Enterprises, Michael W. Carper, and Shelly R. Carper, contract actions, matter is dismissed with prejudice

Citicorp v. Kerri A. Bergner, collections, matter is dismissed with prejudice

Discover Bank v. Lucille Hoover, collections, matter is dismissed without prejudice

Discover Bank v. Candace S. Allen, collections, matter is dismissed without prejudice

Credit Acceptance v. Grady C. Jackson Sr., and Grady Charles Jackson Jr., collections, matter is dismissed without prejudice

Civil Judgments Granted

Connie Margaret Ashland v. Danny Lee Ashland, divorce/annulment, defendant to pay child support

Kim Clifton v. Stephen L. Clifton, foreign support or custody, judgment entered against respondent

Ronald E. Loomer v. Workers Compensation, judicial review, R. Michael Shickich awarded attorney fees; judgment of District Court is affirmed

Dan Curfew and Paula Curfew v. Champion Home Builders, EMC Mortgage and United

Companies Funding, contract actions, defendant Champion Home Builders awarded summary judgment against plaintiffs on all causes of action and is awarded costs

Debby Loberg, Brad E. Loberg deceased v. Workers Compensation, judicial review, Keith Nachbar awarded attorney fees; judgment of District Court is affirmed

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Robin Renee Green, collections (child support), judgment is entered against respondent-obligor in favor of the state; an immediate income withholding order will be entered

CollectionCenter v. Randy Kay Overman, collections, plaintiff awarded judgment against defendant

Rachael KA Andersen v. Michael L. Andersen, collections (child support), judgment entered against defendant and in favor of plaintiff

Julie Ann Amsden v. Anthony Dale Amsden, marriage of parties is dissolved; petitioner awarded custody with visitation to respondent; petitioner's name of Phillips restored; respondent to pay child support

Amanda S. Blewett v. Larry J. O'Brien, defendant to pay current child support

Leanna Halverson v. Scott B. Halverson, marriage of parties is dissolved; petitioner awarded custody with visitation to respondent; respondent to pay child support

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Mary Lou Grumbine and Chris Vernell Wallace, paternity, state awarded judgment against C. Wallace and M. Grumbine awarded judgment; C. Wallace is to pay child support; wage withholding is to be entered; M. Grumbine is awarded custody subject to visitation by C. Wallace

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Julie Gay Williams and Christopher James Loucks, paternity, state awarded judgment against C Loucks and J Galloway awarded judgment against C Loucks; C Loucks to pay child support; a wage withholding is to be entered; J Galloway awarded custody of minor subject to visitation by C Loucks

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Nicole Christine Howard and Keith Gene Oliver, paternity, state awarded judgment against K Oliver and N Howard awarded judgment against K Oliver; a wage withholding is to be entered; N Howard awarded custody

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Tonya R. Brigance and Scott Allan Hutchinson, paternity, state awarded judgment against S Hutchinson and T Brigance awarded judgment against S Hutchinson; S Hutchinson to pay child support; a wage withholding is to be entered; T Brigance awarded custody of minor subject to visitation by S Hutchinson

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Michele Rene Larrymore and Donald Jean Picek, paternity, state awarded judgment against D Picek and M Larrymore awarded judgment against D Picek; a wage withholding is to be entered

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Tiffany Sue Sells and Samson Dean Emerson, paternity, state

awarded judgment against S Emerson and T Sells is awarded judgment against S Emerson; S Emerson is to pay child support; a wage withholding is to be entered; T Sells is awarded custody of minor

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Hollie Johnson and Eric Michael Hendrickson, paternity, H Johnson awarded custody of minor subject to visitation by E Hendrickson; E Hendrickson to pay child support and past child support until paid in full; state awarded judgment against E Hendrickson.

Malinda A. O'Brien and minor v. Stephen J. Howard, paternity, S. Howard is the natural father of minor TH; S Howard to pay child support; a wage withholding is to be entered; S Howard is to maintain insurance

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Lola Ruth Ann Wilson and Shawn P. Bice, paternity, state awarded judgment against S Bice; L Wilson awarded judgment against S Bice and A Summers is awarded judgment against S Bice; a wage withholding is to be entered; L Wilson awarded custody subject to visitation by S Bice

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Brandy Pickler and Brian J. Delaney, paternity, state awarded judgment against B Delaney and B Pickler awarded judgment against B Delaney; a wage withholding is to be entered; B Pickler awarded custody of minor subject to visitation by B Delaney; state awarded judgment, a wage withholding is to be entered

Wyoming DFS and minor v. Jessie Sterling and Travis Jerome O'Brien, paternity, state awarded judgment against T. O'Brien and J Sterling awarded judgment; a wage withholding is to be entered; J Sterling awarded custody subject to visitation by T O'Brien.

New Criminal Cases Filed

State v. Steven Patrick Brow, State v. Quintin R. Beekman.

Criminal Judgments Granted

State v. Gary Bushnell, defendant's probation is revoked and defendant shall successfully complete remaining 39 days of his sentence to CAC as a resident and shall abide by the following terms; upon release from CAC, defendant's probation shall be discharged

State v. Joshua Steven VanGundy, defendant granted full and complete discharge from probation

State v. Dale W. Eaton, defendant was found guilty by a jury of count I, premeditated first degree murder, a felony; count II, felony murder in perpetration of a kidnapping; count III, felony murder in the perpetration of a robbery; count IV, felony murder in perpetration of sexual assault; count V, aggravated kidnapping, a felony; count VI, aggravated robbery, a felony, count VII, first degree sexual assault, a felony and the jury having determined that the sentence of death should be imposed in counts I, II, III and IV, and defendant is remanded to custody of NCSO to await transfer to WSP at Rawlins to be put to death in accordance with the Warrant of Execution May 20, 2004 and as to count V, defendant is remanded to custody of NCSO to await transfer to WSP at Rawlins to serve a term of life imprisonment, consecutive to the

sentence in counts I, II, III, and IV, and as to count VI, defendant is remanded to custody of NCSO to await transfer to WSP at Rawlins to serve not less than 40

years nor more than 50 years, to run consecutive to the sentence in count V, and as to count VII, defendant is remanded to custody of NCSO to await transfer to the WSP at Rawlins to serve not less than 20 years nor more than 25 years to run concurrent to sentence in count V and consecutive to sentence in counts I, II, III and VI and credit for time served will not be given.

State v. Brandi Marie Brewer, defendant pled guilty to forgery, a felony and is remanded to custody of NCSO to await transfer to WWC at Lusk to serve not less than 24 months nor more than 54 months with credit for 251 days previously served, to run concurrent and with recommendations for ITU or equivalent program and shall pay to funds.

State v. Craig Alan Rahman Jr., defendant pled guilty to possession of burglary tools a felony and shall successfully complete 3 years of supervised probation with 3 days credit, and with numerous conditions, including take all medications prescribed by his health care professionals.



There are no 'buts' in love

JUNE 06, 2004 12:00 AM

Editor:

Dale Wayne Eaton's sister says their father was not abusive and that she supports the death penalty. "It's really been hard," she said of the ordeal. "I love my brother, but it is with sadness that I have to support the death penalty in this case."

"Love, but." I cannot ascertain the events in Dale Wayne Eaton's life which led to his demise; however, I am certain, in the course of human events, the events which do lead to an injured soul are sponsored from a series of "love, but."

"Love is that which causes one person to desire the most good to come to another and is willing to do whatever is necessary to bring it about," the Rev. D.W. Blaut. I certainly highly disapprove of the injustices attributed to the actions of Mr. Eaton; however, it is the failure of society to bear witness to the "love, but" in his life which ultimately have struck him down with the state of Wyoming death penalty, yet another "love, but."

While it may be obscure to many, "love, but" are the Antichrist among us, doing well through our sponsorship. The ultimate expression of love comes when it is most difficult to do so, forgiving the transgressions of our transgressors, the Christ among us. Have a most good day, for I am doing my part, as necessary, to bring it about. The forgiveness is up to you. Have a loving day!

DAVE FINK, *Casper*



In Brief

JUNE 25, 2004 12:00 AM • [FROM STAFF REPORTS](#)

Firefighters respond to two blazes

The Casper Fire Department responded to two structure fires on Thursday morning, according to a news release from the fire department.

Fire destroyed a detached shed and its contents at 1137 Elma Street about 9 a.m.

Twenty minutes later, city fire units were called to 4360 Valley Drive about reports of a dryer on fire in the basement of the residence. The fire was contained to the dryer, which ignited because of a buildup of lint in the dryer vent, officials said.

Gonzalez sued again

A former female patient at the Wyoming Medical Center has sued the hospital for its negligence in hiring and supervision of former nurse assistant Ernesto "Tito" Gonzalez, according to a lawsuit filed Wednesday in 7th District Court.

The woman was a patient at the hospital between July 10 and 15, 2002, when Gonzalez worked there, according to the complaint filed by her attorneys Dallas Laird and John Henley.

The woman seeks damages for pain and suffering, loss of enjoyment of life, disability, and other issues, according to the complaint.

Five other women have filed civil lawsuits against Gonzalez alleging similar issues, and also allege the Wyoming Medical Center for not conducting background checks that would have found he had a history of substance abuse and sexual assault.

Gonzalez also faces criminal charges.

He was arrested on May 22, 2003, and has been charged with seven counts of sexual assault, according to the amended criminal information document filed in 7th District Court.

He is scheduled to go to trial on these counts on Aug. 2.

Eaton execution stayed

District Judge David Park on Tuesday signed a stay of execution for Dale Wayne Eaton, who is convicted of the 1988 first-degree murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, according to the order filed in 7th District Court.

Eaton, 59, was scheduled to be executed on Friday, according to the sentence ordered by

Park on May 20.

But death sentences receive an automatic review by the Wyoming Supreme Court, and Eaton has a right to appeal the sentence.

In March, a 7th District Court jury found Eaton guilty of first-degree premeditated murder - for which he received the death sentence - and aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery and first-degree sexual assault.

Eaton was also convicted on three counts of first-degree felony murder, each committed during the course of separate crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

The felony murder charges were folded into the death sentence.

Mailboxes vandalized

The Natrona County Sheriff's Office is investigating the shooting of a bank of mailboxes costing \$7,700 west of Casper earlier this week, sheriff's Sgt. Mark Sellers said Thursday.

The Post Office reported the vandalism of the mailboxes at Bessemer Bend Road and Highway 220 about noon Wednesday, according to the offense report.

The Post Office estimated the incident occurred between 10:30 a.m. Tuesday and 11 a.m. Wednesday, according to the offense report.

The group of mailboxes had 16 bullet holes in them, Sellers said.

The Sheriff's Office has no suspects, he said.

Correction:

The cost of a proposal to move the District Attorney's Office to the fourth floor of the Hall of Justice and build a courtroom on the site of the office is approximately \$2 million. The cost of a proposal to put a courtroom on the fourth floor of the Hall of Justice is approximately \$1.5 million.

These amounts were incorrectly reported in an article on this page Tuesday.



Casper Briefs

OCTOBER 05, 2004 12:00 AM • [FROM STAFF REPORTS](#)

Cold Case Files features Kimmell case

The story of Lisa Marie Kimmell's 1986 murder and the 14 years it took to catch her killer is the subject of tonight's episode of Cold Case Files at 7 p.m. on A&E.

Kimmell was 18 when she was kidnapped, raped and killed while driving through Wyoming in 1988. Her body was found soon after the homicide, and biological samples were taken from her body, but her car - a black Honda bearing personalized plates "LIL MISS" - remained missing.

A DNA test of convict Dale Wayne Eaton in 2002 appeared to match the samples taken from Kimmell's body, and in August of that year, investigators unearthed her car from his property west of Casper. Eaton was convicted of her killing this year and was sentenced to death.

City decides tonight toy vehicles

The Casper City Council will hold the final reading tonight at 6 p.m. tonight on an ordinance banning some types of motorized toy vehicles from the city's streets, sidewalks, trails, parks and right-of-ways.

The meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers.

As it now stands, the ordinance would ban all gas-powered motorized toy vehicles from city streets, including gas-powered skateboards, unlicensed scooters and other unlicensed gas-powered vehicles. The ordinance was amended on second reading to allow some electrically-powered toy vehicles on city property.

Sheriff's Office investigates assault

Natrona County Sheriff's deputies are investigating a report that a 39-year-old man made sexual advances and inappropriately touched a 16-year-old girl on the grounds of the Natrona County International Airport on Saturday afternoon, Sgt. Mark Sellers said Monday.

The girl had taken her car to an unidentified building on the airport grounds to be repaired, according to police. The sexual assault occurred in the repair shop, the girl told police.

Upon hearing the allegation, the girl's mother, 39, reportedly pushed her daughter to the ground and put her in a headlock, according to the affidavit. The mother told her daughter that she didn't want police involved, and that getting the car back was more important, according to the affidavit.

"The guy was doing you a favor. That's just how guys are," the mother was reported saying.

Officers arrested the woman and charged her with assault and battery under the Domestic Violence Protection Act, according to the affidavit.

Police charge man with assault, interference

Casper police arrested a 43-year-old man early Saturday after responding to a 911 call in the 1200 block of North Center Street, where his live-in girlfriend told an officer that he had assaulted her, according to an affidavit written by Randy Ackerman and filed in Natrona County Circuit Court.

The couple had been at a bar in Bar Nunn, when she left about 7:30 p.m., and he got a ride with a male friend about 11:15 p.m., according to the affidavit.

The two men talked for about a half hour, the driver left the residence, and the boyfriend tried to enter the bedroom, according to the affidavit.

She did not want him there, which angered him and he straddled her body and began choking her and threatening her, according to the affidavit.

The woman dialed 911, but the man broke the telephone, according to the affidavit.

Besides arresting him on the domestic violence charge, police also charged the man with interfering with an emergency 911 call, according to the affidavit.

Murder, manslaughter and meth

A look back at 2004's crime stories



DECEMBER 28, 2004 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The Casper area reaped a bitter harvest in 2004, as the trials and plea agreements from five 2003 homicides made their way through the courts.

Here's a roundup of Natrona County's most prominent crime news of 2004:

Closing a cold case - The 1988 kidnap, robbery, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell gained national attention when Dale Wayne Eaton's case came to trial in March. He was

convicted and sentenced to death.

Eaton, 59 at the time of his conviction, was identified as a suspect 14 years after Kimmell's body was found in the North Platte River.

Dismissed again - Another cold case came to a far different conclusion. On Dec. 2, a judge dismissed the first-degree murder charge against Rita Humphrey.

Humphrey had been accused of killing her husband on Nov. 23, 1977, at their home in Evansville. Evansville Police Chief Zach Gentile had reopened the case three years ago.

Seventh District Judge W. Thomas Sullins ruled the state had failed to bring the case to trial within an appropriate time. District Attorney Mike Blonigen said he'll probably appeal.

Manslaughter conviction - In another homicide case, John Kenneth Lopez was convicted in September of voluntary manslaughter and being a habitual criminal for the 1999 death of Robert Herman.

It was Lopez' second conviction in the case. He was tried and convicted of second-degree murder in 2000. But the Wyoming Supreme Court ordered a new trial this year, on grounds the state had failed to prove he killed Herman "maliciously."

48 to life - "One-Eyed" Joe Thomas was sentenced to 48 years to life imprisonment after pleading guilty in June to one count of first-degree murder for his role in the beating and stabbing murder of Dennis Fisher Sr. on Christmas Eve 2000.

The 49-year-old Thomas is already serving a 30-year federal sentence in California for

distributing methamphetamine. He'll serve the state sentence concurrently.

Five homicides - The five homicides from the summer of 2003 saw their conclusions in 2004:

* Robert Dix, 23 at the time, was sentenced to least 40 years in prison after pleading guilty in June to second-degree murder. The guilty plea happened a year to the week after the shooting that took James Paschal's life.

* Steven Sanchez was sentenced to life without parole in April for first- and second-degree murder in the death of his ex-girlfriend's baby, Johnte Zaptin, in July 2003 in Evansville.

Sanchez, 30 at the time, caused the death of 17-month-old Johnte with of a blow to the head equal to the force of a 100 mph fastball.

* Brandon Keith Butcher was convicted of second-degree murder in April for the stabbing death of John Dilorio in June 2003 outside The Lounge bar. He received a sentence of 40 to 50 years' imprisonment.

* Timothy Paul Martinez, 27, was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for murdering his wife, Melissa, on Sept. 7, 2003.

* Jose Mendoza pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the Aug. 7, 2003, killing of his 6-month-old son by a blow to the head. Mendoza, whose sentencing is scheduled for this week, could face up to 20 years in prison.

Meth's deadly role - Some of this year's homicide cases were linked to the use of methamphetamine. The drug was the object of much police activity in the past year:

* In May, the federal government indicted 34 defendants in connection with the Casper-based Rodolfo Jimenez drug ring. Some of the defendants have entered guilty pleas, and a five-week trial for the others is scheduled to start in late January in Cheyenne.

* Both federal and state courts were the scenes of several other trials, including a group of defendants linked to the raid on a house with a meth lab across the street from Jefferson Elementary School in October 2003.

* Casper will play host to its second methamphetamine awareness conference from Jan. 5-7.

Arson - While Casper saw no homicides committed in 2004, it was the scene of arsons. Two occurred on Cherry Street, one of which severely burned a boy, Justin Hunley.

Other arsons, some of which are unsolved, burned houses and sheds in north Casper.

A fire also destroyed the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant on East Second Street.

Other people's money - Embezzlements also dogged the justice system this year:

* Casper certified public accountant Clayton White pleaded no contest in November to one count of forgery in connection with defrauding a local oil company.

* Casper police investigated embezzlements of \$84,000 from Stalkup's RV and \$26,000 from True Oil Co. In the second case, Kathryn Sue Zobell, 44, faces one count of larceny by bailee, Circuit Court Judge Michael Huber said.

Disbarred - The criminal justice system had its own trouble in 2004. The Wyoming Supreme Court disbarred former 7th District Attorney Kevin Meenan in February. He had resigned as DA the previous week.

He's banned from practicing law in the state for at least five years, for mishandling his stepchildren's financial affairs. Earlier, a judge sentenced him to two years of supervised probation and 200 hours of community service.

Reporter Tom Morton can be reached at (307) 266-0592, or at Tom.Morton@casperstartribune.net.



Give Harlow death, not appeal

FEBRUARY 15, 2005 12:00 AM

Editor:

How many appeals did [James] Harlow and his acquaintances give Mr. Wayne Martinez when they beat, stabbed him to death? Did it matter to them that he had a family and two little girls that looked to him for support, protection and to teach them the things he can never do now. He is dead! What about the little girl that Harlow raped and murdered? What kind of rights did she have when Harlow administered the death penalty to her?

Appeals? This man was sentenced to death. This sentence should be carried out. Harlow should be executed. He murdered, raped, and assaulted innocent people. Human beings.

Psychopaths such as Harlow, Dale Eaton and others on death row - how much dignity should they deserve? These individuals have the minds and mentality to mutilate, rape, murder, and physically and mentally destroy innocent victims. Mark Hopkenson appealed his death sentence for 13 years

Give these individuals what they deserve, the death penalty or lethal injection. They are not fighting their sentencing to deter their death sentence. They're making a mockery our of our judicial system and the families of the ones they murdered. Every time they appeal it, it costs taxpayers. The longer they stay in prison, the longer they live, it costs taxpayers. Even the victim's families pay the state every day to house, feed, and clothe them. They are evil, mindless, unconcerned animals that should be put to sleep.

LEO INGWERSON, *Casper*



Kimmells honor helpers of crime victims

Advocate Janeice Lynch retires

APRIL 11, 2005 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Ron and Shelia Kimmell never lived in Casper, and one of their daughters only drove through it.

But their family became tragically entwined with central Wyoming when Dale Eaton murdered Lisa Marie Kimmell in Natrona County in 1988 when she was traveling from Denver to Cody, and he was subsequently tried, convicted and sentenced to death in 2004.

The Kimmells and their two other daughters and their families effectively moved to Casper for a month last year for the trial, and returned again Sunday to pay their respects to those who have helped them and other crime victims.

"It is in an honor to be here today, to recognize the good people that have come into our lives because of our tragedy," Shelia Kimmell told 25 local citizens at the Parkway Plaza where they received awards for their behind-the-scenes efforts for victims.

"When you are a victim of a crime, you are impacted in many ways," she said.

Crime affects people emotionally and financially, Kimmell said.

Many of the award recipients helped the Kimmells and other victims with cards, prayers, flowers, donated goods and services, a shoulder to cry on, and money, she said.

The Kimmells had never met these people before, Sheila said.

Parkway Plaza owner Pat Sweeney, for example, donated the rooms for the Kimmell families and gave them coupons for meals at his restaurants, she said.

Ashley and Cindy Fuller opened their house to the families to get away from the trial and the media, and to feed them home-cooked meals, Kimmell added.

Lewis Pierson, a local mechanic, offered the families free car care and parts at cost during the difficult month, something they didn't think they would need but did, said daughter Sherry.

Victim-witness coordinator Janeice Lynch of the 7th District Attorney's Office said some of the award recipients are well known.

"Justice isn't served until crime victims are," she said, citing the theme of the 25th anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

Those well-known award recipients included the Rev. Bill Moore of First United Methodist

Church who has provided spiritual counseling, Kelly Walsh High School Principal Brad Diller, Mick and Susie McMurry, and Rich and Carmen Fairservis.

Others are known when people enter the justice system, such as counselor Bernie Strand, Rose Fry of the Department of Family Services, Assistant District Attorney Michael Schaefer, dispatcher Lori Jackson, law enforcement officers Jimmy Brierley and Kathryn Davison, and firefighter Patrick Stafford.

Still others are known only to a few such as guardian ad litem attorney Corinne Miller and child sexual abuse victim counselor Val Goen, Lynch said.

While she was not on the list of recipients, the Kimmells and others honored Lynch, who is retiring later this month to become a vice president of the Wyoming Central Federal Credit Union.

Her work with them and other crime victims will never be forgotten, Sherry Kimmell said.

Recipients of the crime victims' rights awards:

Janeice Lynch

Pat Sweeney

Ashley and Cindy Fuller

Michelle Leete

Bernie Strand

Rose Fry

Kenneth and Patricia Hans

Jimmy Brierley

Lori Jackson

Rev. Bill Moore

Toni Reichenbach

Brad Diller

Michael Schafer

Karen Bila

Val Goen

Corinne Miler

Victoria Patricelli

Chris Schell

Mick and Susie McMurry

Josh Bjorkland

Todd Sexton

Patrick Stafford

Wyoma Groenenberg

Kathryn Davison

Rich and Carmen Fairservis

Lewis Peirson

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Casper judge takes Fremont murder case

APRIL 12, 2005 12:00 AM • [BRODIE FARQUHAR STAR-TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT](#)

LANDER - Seventh District Judge David B. Park of Casper has been tapped to preside over the first-degree murder trial of Andrew J. Yellowbear Jr., charged with murdering his daughter last summer.

Last year, Judge Park presided over another high-profile murder case - that of Dale Wayne Eaton, who was found guilty of the 1988 murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Yellowbear is charged in the killing of his daughter, 22-month-old Marcella Hope Yellowbear, who died July 3, 2004, after weeks of severe abuse. His first-degree murder charge is punishable by death or life in prison, with or without parole.

Judge Park was appointed to the task by 9th District Judge Nancy Guthrie, after Yellowbear requested a change of judges. Yellowbear complained that 9th District Judge Norman Young - the judge at preliminary hearings - once prosecuted Yellowbear in an earlier case.

In a motion filed Feb. 24, Yellowbear's attorneys, Valerie Thomas and Robert Carroll, said Young was biased because he prosecuted Yellowbear both personally and through others while he was Fremont County attorney.

Last week, the Fremont County attorney's office formally filed a notice with the court that it will pursue the death penalty in the trial of Yellowbear.

County Attorney Ed Newell cited four aggravating circumstances that contributed to the decision: The alleged murder was especially atrocious or cruel; the victim was under 17 years of age; the victim was vulnerable; and the defendant poses a threat of future dangerousness.

Originally, Yellowbear and Macalia Blackburn, the mother of the child, were both charged with first-degree murder. According to court documents, their daughter had extensive burns, bruises and sores on her body; a broken arm; a fractured skull; third-degree burns to her hand; and a hole in her chin.

In the initial investigation after the child's death, Blackburn accepted responsibility for all the abuse, later changing her story to say that Yellowbear was responsible for much of the abuse. She told investigators she was trying to protect Yellowbear.

Last month, the Fremont County attorney's office reduced first-degree murder charges against Blackburn, in exchange for her testimony against Yellowbear.

Park is scheduled to hold a scheduling hearing with lawyers for the prosecution and the defense at 1:30 p.m. April 18 in Lander. Park was appointed as a district judge by Gov. Jim

Geringer in 1998.



Eaton's appeal goes forward

APRIL 16, 2005 12:00 AM • [ANTHONY LANE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

An appeal on behalf of convicted murderer Dale Wayne Eaton will go forward in June with a hearing in Seventh District Court to examine whether or not he received effective counsel in a case that resulted in him being sentenced last year to the death penalty.

The hearing is scheduled to begin June 6 in Seventh District Court and is aimed at providing Eaton and his representatives with the chance to "develop a record" in support of the claim that his earlier representation was ineffective, according to an order from Chief Justice William Hill of the Wyoming Supreme Court.

Donna Domonkos, a public defender who works in Cheyenne, said the argument that Eaton received ineffective counsel is just one part of a larger appeal.

Eaton was convicted in March 2004 of kidnapping, raping and then murdering 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988.

The jury that found him guilty of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery and first-degree sexual assault sentenced him to death a short time later.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen noted at the time that Wyoming does not have a lot of experience with the appeals process surrounding death penalty cases.

"But I would be surprised if this process takes less than 10 years," he said after Eaton was sentenced.

According to testimony at Eaton's trial, Kimmell was held captive on an old bus on Eaton's property at Moneta west of Casper on Wyoming Hwy. 20-26. Eaton raped her repeatedly over several days before taking her to Government Bridge, where he hit her in the head and stabbed her numerous times, investigators said.

Kimmell's body was thrown off the bridge on or before April 2, 1988, and into the North Platte River, where it was found by two fishermen, according to investigators.

Reporter Anthony Lane can be reached at (307) 266-0593 or at anthony.lane@casperstartribune.net.



Judge asks for arguments on Eaton's appeal

MAY 19, 2005 12:00 AM • [ANTHONY LANE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

A June hearing for convicted murderer Dale Wayne Eaton is meant as a look at whether he received effective counsel in the trial last year that ended with him being sentenced to death.

Before that hearing begins, attorneys on both sides of the appeal have been asked to provide information about what new information could be raised at the hearing that might reflect on the effectiveness of Eaton's trial representation, according to a letter from Seventh District Court Judge David Park.

Eaton was convicted in March 2004 of kidnapping, raping and then murdering 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988.

The jury that found him guilty of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery and first-degree sexual assault sentenced him to death a short time later.

The hearing scheduled to begin June 6 in Seventh District Court was ordered by Chief Justice William Hill of the Wyoming Supreme Court to "develop a record" that will be used to determine the question of whether Eaton received effective counsel.

Park's May 17 letter is addressed to Natrona County District Attorney Mike Blonigen and Tina Kerin of the State Public Defender's Office. Park discusses the three areas in which concerns have been raised about Eaton's counsel: that it was generally deficient, a change of venue was not sought and jury selection was not handled properly.

In each area, Park asks for arguments saying what questions cannot be answered on the basis of the trial record. Or, in other words, he asks why an evidentiary hearing is needed.

Although the appeal could center around details of jury selection and other matters, for many people the case is remembered more for the more horrifying details that emerged as Eaton was investigated and then convicted.

According to testimony at Eaton's trial, Kimmell was held captive on an old bus on Eaton's property at Moneta west of Casper on Wyoming Hwy. 20-26. Eaton raped her repeatedly over several days before taking her to Government Bridge, where he hit her in the head and stabbed her numerous times, investigators said.

Kimmell's body was thrown off the bridge on or before April 2, 1988, and into the North Platte River, where it was found by two fishermen.

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Judge orders Eaton to attend hearing

JUNE 02, 2005 12:00 AM • [ANTHONY LANE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Convicted murderer Dale Wayne Eaton will need to be in Casper next week for a hearing that is part of the legal effort to have his death sentence overturned, Seventh District Court Judge David Park ruled Wednesday morning.

The evidentiary hearing scheduled to begin Monday is intended as an examination of whether Eaton received effective counsel in his trial last year. Since the hearing could delve into matters that former members of his legal team would ordinarily be barred from discussing, Park said, Eaton could be needed to provide permission for them to talk freely.

Eaton was generally silent for the duration of Wednesday morning's hearing at which the question of his return to Natrona County next week was perhaps the most tangible issue in a series of legal arguments.

Eaton was convicted in March 2004 of kidnapping, raping and then murdering 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988. Since then, he has since been housed in Rawlins awaiting his execution.

Public defender Tina Kerin briefly conferred with her client before repeating his desire not to attend next week's hearing.

Park declined this request as he also turned down a number of motions during Wednesday's hearing, many of them dealing with requests from attorneys on each side to gain access to various pieces of information.

Kerin also argued for a motion that Natrona County District Attorney Mike Blonigen and other prosecutors from his office be removed from the hearing.

"I have very real concerns that Mr. Blonigen is making himself an unsworn witness in this hearing," Kerin said, referring to statements made by Blonigen that seemed to draw on his experience in prosecuting Eaton in his trial last year. Since most of the public defenders working on the appeal were not present for the trial, Kerin said, allowing Blonigen's involvement would create an "unfair, unlevel playing field."

Park ruled against this motion, pointing out that it would take months for a special prosecutor to get "up to speed" with the case if one were appointed at this point.

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Skaggs defends his defense of Eaton

JUNE 07, 2005 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

While Dale Wayne Eaton was on trial for his life last year, he expressed his unhappiness with his attorney Wyatt Skaggs, the public defender told 7th District Court on Monday.

But Eaton didn't want a new attorney because that would have further delayed the trial that resulted in his conviction and death sentence for the kidnapping, robbery, rape and first degree murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988, Skaggs said.

The death row inmate now has begun the appeals process, starting with the allegations that his attorney failed to give effective counsel, Skaggs' fellow defense attorneys said.

"We don't mean to minimize the horror of Lisa Marie Kimmell's death," Senior Assistant Public Defender Marion Yoder told District Court Judge David Park on the first day of a scheduled week-long evidentiary hearing.

"We are here to determine whether 6th Amendment rights ... were abridged," Yoder said.

But 7th District Attorney Mike Blonigen, who successfully prosecuted the case, countered that his former adversary Skaggs faced a nearly impossible case. "The evidence will show Mr. Skaggs made reasonable decisions."

Park will take the case under advisement and issue a decision later.

Chief Justice William Hill ordered what is known as a Calene hearing, named for a 1993 Wyoming Supreme Court ruling that reversed the larceny and conspiracy convictions of John Calene and sent the case back to district court for a hearing about whether he received ineffective representation.

The hearing marks the beginning of Eaton's appeals process, and heads into some uncharted legal waters, Yoder said. "We're in some kind of legal limbo land between trial court and appellate court."

Tina Kerin, senior assistant appellant counsel for the Public Defender's office, questioned Skaggs about his dealings with Eaton and the defendant's family, whether he was ready for trial, whether he thoroughly pursued legal options such as moving the trial from Casper, and whether he fully investigated the case.

Skaggs did the best he could considering that Eaton and Eaton's family often refused to cooperate, he said.

At one point during Monday's hearing, Eaton voiced disapproval of a member of Skaggs' staff, and he was silenced by Yoder and Senior Assistant Appellant Counsel Ryan Roden.

For the rest of the session, Eaton scowled, grimaced, shook his head "no," and sat with his hands folded in front of his face.

Skaggs told the court that he did not seek a not guilty plea based on mental incompetence because an evaluation at the State Hospital in Evanston would lead to rebuttals by experts for the prosecution, he said.

Under questioning by Blonigen, Skaggs further explained that he did his best - despite his client's obstruction - to present mitigating circumstances to the jury during the sentencing phase.

Skaggs also successfully persuaded the court to exclude evidence that would have shown Eaton posed a future danger to society, he said.

For example, any helpful testimony by Eaton's ex-wife would have offset in cross examination where she would have had to tell the court about his beatings, sexual assaults, and sexual abuse of his own children, Skaggs said.

"You cannot make a judgment about mitigation without a rebuttal," he said.

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Three testify in Eaton hearing

JUNE 09, 2005 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The week-long hearing to determine whether Wyoming public defender Wyatt Skaggs effectively represented now death-row inmate Dale Wayne Eaton last year crossed the halfway point Wednesday.

Eaton's attorneys - representatives of the Wyoming Public Defender's office - called three more witnesses to the stand to question Skaggs' effectiveness.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen, who successfully prosecuted Eaton for the 1988 first-degree murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, questioned the witnesses and maintained his assertion that his former legal adversary Skaggs did a good job of representing an often uncooperative client.

District Court Judge David Park presided over the evidentiary hearing, which he said would conclude Friday.

Prosecution, defense and judge conducted their business before a virtually empty courtroom in marked contrast to the emotional and packed spring 2004 trial that resulted in the jury sentencing Eaton to death for kidnapping, robbery, rape and first degree murder of Kimmell.

Nancy Johnson, the victim witness coordinator for the District Attorney's Office, said she has been in daily contact with Kimmell's mother Sheila Kimmell in Colorado.

Yet the state must conduct the hearing, because Wyoming law allows those convicted of crimes to question their attorneys' effectiveness as part of the appeals process.

Chief Justice William Hill ordered what is known as a Calene hearing, named for a 1993 Wyoming Supreme Court ruling that reversed the larceny and conspiracy convictions of John Calene and sent the case back to district court for a hearing about whether he received ineffective representation.

Eaton was present for the hearing, and squinted a lot because he didn't have his glasses.

Eaton's attorneys called three witnesses to testify.

Senior Assistant Public Defender Marion Yoder called Richard Burr to speak about Eaton's competency to stand trial, she said after Park recessed the hearing.

Burr is a nationally recognized capital defense litigator, Yoder said.

Tina Kerin, senior assistant appellant counsel for the Public Defender's office, said she called Natrona County Sheriff's investigator Lynn Cohee, who worked on the case when Eaton's car

was found buried on his property in Moneta in the summer of 2002.

Kerin also called Jessica West, a lawyer from Denver who lectures about presenting DNA evidence.

Park scheduled the hearing to resume at 9:30 a.m. today.

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Hearing on competence of Eaton's defense ends

Judge's decision due July 5

JUNE 11, 2005 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The law demanded that Dale Wayne Eaton, sentenced to death last year for the 1988 murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, deserved effective representation from the Wyoming Public Defender's Office.

He didn't get it, according to a representative of that same office who challenged Eaton's defense team led by Wyatt Skaggs.

"There was deficient performance in this case," Tina Kerin told 7th District Judge David Park during her closing arguments at the end of a week-long hearing with witnesses to determine whether Skaggs did all he could to represent Eaton.

Skaggs did not adequately determine whether Eaton was competent to stand trial; didn't present a comprehensive defense theory for both the innocent-guilt and penalty phases of the trial; didn't have properly trained attorneys for a capital murder case; and failed to thoroughly investigate witnesses, family members and records that could have convinced at least one juror that the defendant didn't deserve the death penalty, Kerin said.

But 7th District Attorney Mike Blonigen responded that Park should look at the total effort Skaggs made.

Eaton himself often was uncooperative, Eaton's family shut off the defense team after initial promising contacts, medical and school records were nearly impossible to track, some sought-after records probably didn't exist, he wasn't mentally incompetent, lawyers who are inexperienced aren't necessarily incompetent, and the case against him was damning, Blonigen said.

"There were no huge gaps (in evidence gathering)," he said.

Skaggs also knew that he couldn't introduce some evidence to help Eaton without the risk that the prosecution would use that to expose the defendant's violent life, Blonigen said.

"You don't let everything in so good will come out," he said. "That belies a reasonable strategic choice."

It's easy for lawyers to pick apart other lawyers' decisions after the fact, and Park should consider what Skaggs did more than what he was not able to do, Blonigen said.

Park took the case under advisement, and intends to issue a decision by the Wyoming Supreme Court's July 5 deadline, Blonigen said after the hearing.

The tedious hearing this week took place in a nearly empty courtroom.

"We knew that our absence would be obvious," Lisa's mother Sheila Kimmell said Friday.

"When we sought the death penalty, we knew there would be years of legal bantering about this," Sheila Kimmell said.

She and her husband Ron moved to Canon City, Colo., after the trial last year and are trying to get on with their lives as best as they can, she said. "There is no closure here; there is none."

They cannot afford the emotional and financial burden of traveling to Wyoming every time a hearing occurs, but they'd come if the District Attorney's Office wanted them, Sheila Kimmell said.

"Let them duke it out," Sheila Kimmell said.

This week's hearing began the legal maneuvering of Eaton's appeal.

Wyoming law allows those convicted of crimes to question their attorneys' effectiveness as part of the appeals process.

The Supreme Court will review Park's decision and consider other factors before making its own decision, Blonigen said.

The trial

Blonigen successfully prosecuted the month-long case in February and March last year, convincing the jury to convict Eaton of first-degree premeditated murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery and first-degree sexual assault. The jury also convicted Eaton of three counts of first-degree felony murder, each committed during the course of separate crimes of sexual assault, robbery and kidnapping.

Kimmell was last seen on March 25, 1988, behind the wheel of the black Honda CRX Si that bore personalized Montana plates reading "LIL MISS," when she was stopped for speeding on Interstate 25 near Douglas. She had been traveling from Denver to Cody to see her boyfriend.

Two anglers discovered Kimmell's body on April 2, 1988. Investigators said she had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed several times before being thrown from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

No real headway had been made in bringing charges in the case until July 2002, when sheriff's officials unearthed Kimmell's car on a property owned by Eaton at Moneta 75 miles west of Casper.

During the penalty phase of the trial, Skaggs presented a number of mitigating factors to persuade the jury to choose a life sentence for Eaton.

Skaggs told the jury that Eaton suffered from a severe and chronic depression that rendered him emotionally disturbed and caused brain damage.

But Kerin, senior assistant appellant counsel for the Public Defender's office, said Skaggs and his defense team did not do nearly enough to present mitigating factors. It did only 61 hours of research when a death penalty case requires hundreds of hours to probe a defendant's background, she said.

"In the case of a client, it (mitigation research) starts at conception," she told Park in her rebuttal of Blonigen.

That includes family and social history, physical and mental health history, traumatic events, and education and employment history, Kerin said.

That research must be done even if a client and his family refuse to talk because of their own shame, she said.

Skaggs didn't avail himself of the opportunity to call to the stand Eaton's daughter who had said he was a good father, Kerin said.

She came from Denver to Casper to watch the trial, but Skaggs didn't ask the court to have her testify as a late witness, Kerin said.

"There was too much to be done that was not done," she said.

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Family to erase 'haunting reminder'

Kimmells will destroy property of daughter's killer

JULY 03, 2005 12:00 AM • [GREG TUTTLE BILLINGS GAZETTE](#)

BILLINGS, Mont. - For years, the decrepit trailer house and rusting metal outbuilding stood vacant, barely worth a glimpse to any Easterners passing by on their way to or from Yellowstone National Park.

Even the town where the property sits is easy to miss.

Moneta, Wyo., is more of an afterthought. The sign along U.S. 20-26 declaring the community's existence claims a population of 10.

But this middle-of-nowhere place was the lair of a suspected serial killer.

Here, 17 years ago, Dale Wayne Eaton held captive for six days a young Billings woman whom he had abducted while she was driving from Denver to Billings.

After raping her, Eaton hit Lisa Marie Kimmell in the back of the head, stabbed her six times in the chest and then discarded her body in the North Platte River.

Eaton was convicted of the kidnapping, rape and murder last year and sentenced to death. He is also suspected of killing at least four other women, although he has not been charged with any other murders and has refused to speak with investigators. He is on death row at the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins.

Lisa's parents, Ron and Sheila Kimmell, now own the property in Moneta where Eaton lived and Lisa died.

On July 18, the day Lisa would have turned 36, the Kimmells have vowed to burn down the place.

"We know it's important to have that evil, haunting reminder gone," Sheila Kimmell said of the trailer and shed that remain on the property.

The burning will be done by the Fremont County Fire Protection District, a mostly volunteer fire service that covers the rural area. The district's deputy fire chief, Craig Haslam, said the agency will use the event as a training exercise.

"We felt we could help (the Kimmells) out and benefit us by doing some training," Haslam said. "It will help the family with dealing with the closure they need."

The Kimmells took possession of the property, located about 75 miles west of Casper, as the

result of a wrongful-death lawsuit they filed against Eaton in 2003. Eaton did not respond to the lawsuit, and in April 2004 a judge awarded the Kimmells \$5 million in damages in a default judgment.

"There is no profit in it for us," Sheila Kimmell said last year after taking possession of Eaton's property. "But that's not the point. There isn't anything of Dale's that we want - he has nothing of value - but we want to strip him of everything he does have. It's the principle of the matter."

More recently, Sheila Kimmell said she has since learned just how little value there is to the place.

The property totals 6,000 square feet, or .14 acre. It is an isolated parcel with no legal access through an easement or other means, Sheila Kimmell said.

The parcel is mostly barren except for the two structures and the remnants of Eaton's scavenging from oil rigs and junkyards. Sheila Kimmell said the property has an assessed value of about \$1,400.

Last year, an oil and gas company approached the Kimmell family about obtaining mineral rights to the property. The effort was hardly worth the estimated \$120 a year that the lease would put into Lisa's estate, Sheila Kimmell said.

The trailer house is of no value, having been long abandoned and deteriorated by time, weather, vermin and investigators searching the property for evidence to use against Lisa's killer.

They found it: Lisa's Honda sports car with its personalized Montana license plates "Lil Miss" was found buried on Eaton's land in 2002. Investigators descended on the place and dug up the car after getting a DNA match to Eaton from semen found with Lisa's body.

The trailer house was put on the property after Lisa was killed, Sheila Kimmell said, but she's not sure exactly when.

The Kimmells learned after the trial that, at the time of Lisa's death, Eaton lived in a 1951 school bus. Investigators were told that Eaton used to live in a bus on the property, but they could not find it and assumed it was lost or demolished.

After the trial, a man from Riverton, Wyo., called prosecutors to say he had followed Eaton's trial in the news.

Sheila Kimmell was told that the man said, "I think I have something that I bought from Dale Eaton that might be of interest to you. I have that school bus."

Investigators found large amounts of blood residue in the bus, but any evidence recovered from it was too late to use at trial. Sheila Kimmell said the bus has since been destroyed.

The large metal shed on the property also has little value and will be burned along with Eaton's trailer house.

Anything that can not be burned will be hauled away, leaving barren ground, Sheila Kimmell said.

"I don't want to see so much as a tire rim there," she said.

The Kimmells have no immediate plans for the property beyond burning away any trace or reminder of the place where their daughter died at the hands of a stranger.

"I hope it offers some measure of peace, not only for us but for the community, who are constantly reminded of the horrors that happened there," she said.



Mother writes book about daughter's murder

JULY 03, 2005 12:00 AM • [GREG TUTTLE BILLINGS GAZETTE](#)

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - Sheila Kimmell wasn't sure what to think when a Madison Avenue publishing executive said it would be cathartic for her to write a book about the horrifying death of her daughter.

Kimmell wasn't looking for a catharsis 17 years after her daughter was abducted and murdered in Wyoming while driving home to Billings from Denver.

Kimmell knew that putting the painful details of Lisa Marie Kimmell's final days on paper would not put an end to her own pain.

"In the real world, for somebody who's experienced something like this, there is no closure," Kimmell said.

Writing and publishing "The Murder of Lil Miss" wasn't about healing, Kimmell said. It was about sharing her family's journey through tragedy.

And it was an attempt to say thank you, she said, to all the people who knew Lisa and still mourn her death and to those who never met Lisa but who showed kindness to the Kimmells in their loss.

"They were the legion of angels that supported us through this tragic event," Kimmell said.

Sheila's husband, Ron, said he hopes the book answers any lingering questions about their family and how they coped with their daughter's death.

"We're not writers," he said. "We just happen to be a family that lived through a tragedy that people want to know about. The people who have followed this all these years deserve to know everything there is to know about it."

After a year of writing and editing, Sheila Kimmell's book will be released this month. Kimmell self-published the 244-page paperback with help from The Floating Gallery, a New York City publishing company that specializes in independent projects.

Writing the story of her daughter's murder and the long hunt to catch and convict her killer was a daunting job, Kimmell said.

There were hours of telephone interviews with Kay Carpenter, a professional writer in North Carolina hired to assist with the book. The women had long discussions about the focus of the book, the details of the crime, the investigation that spanned more than a decade and the trial last year that resulted in a death sentence for Lisa's killer, Dale Wayne Eaton.

At one point, Kimmell and Carpenter disagreed on how much information about Eaton's past should be included in the book.

"When Kay felt that was an element, my first comment was, 'I don't give a damn about Dale Eaton,' " Kimmell said.

There were long hours of rewrites and editing and moments where the only way to get the story right was to relive painful memories.

She got through those times, Kimmell said, by allowing herself to step away from the project when she could no longer work through the tears.

"There were times I could stand back and be objective and other times I just couldn't," she said. "There are still areas that I can go back and, as I review the book, I can't help it, I just cry. It's just there. I guess it would be a real sad commentary on my daughter's life if I didn't feel that way. Even though it's been time, a lot of years, it just doesn't really go away."

Vanished

Lisa Kimmell was raised in Billings and graduated from Senior High School in 1987. A few months later, she went to work with her mother in Colorado. Sheila Kimmell was a regional manager for Arby's, and Lisa also worked for the company. They shared an apartment.

Lisa disappeared on March 25, 1988, while driving to Billings from Denver in her new sports car, a black Honda CRX with a customized license plate, "Lil Miss."

The Kimmells launched a frantic search for their missing daughter. A week later, the 18-year-old woman's body was found in the North Platte River west of Casper, Wyo. She had been raped, bludgeoned and stabbed.

Lisa's car, with its distinctive license, was not found despite a nationwide search.

The media carried the story of Lisa's disappearance and murder across the country. When the investigation stalled and years passed without an arrest, the case was featured on the television series "Unsolved Mysteries" and later on "Cold Case Files."

A year after Lisa's death, the Kimmell family moved from Billings to Colorado.

Sheila Kimmell said she was always amazed at the attention and interest her daughter's case generated. Over the years, the family received letters, telephone calls and e-mails from people across the continent and from as far away as Germany.

"Lil Miss has become such a wide-known moniker," she said. "People wanted to know more about this pretty little girl in the picture that everybody has seen."

Many people also wanted to know how the Kimmell family coped with the loss.

"We met a lot of people who have had similar situations who didn't get the publicity," Ron Kimmell said.

Sheila Kimmell said she recalls the first suggestion someone made to her about writing a book. It came about 10 years ago, she said, from federal agent investigating the case after a frustrating meeting with local law-enforcement officials in Wyoming.

Over the years, others familiar with the case also suggested that she should write a book about her family's story. Sheila Kimmell didn't give the idea serious thought until three years ago, when an unexpected breakthrough pushed case into the national news again.

In 2002, investigators got a hit on foreign DNA that had been found with Lisa's body. The DNA was matched to Eaton, who was serving time in a federal prison in Colorado. Investigators soon were digging up Eaton's property in Moneta, Wyo., where they found Lisa's black sports car buried. A piece of the "Lil Miss" license plate was found with the car.

Eaton was charged a few months later, and, after a trial last year, Eaton, a divorced drifter, was sentenced to death.

The book became real about a year before the trial started, Sheila Kimmell said. She had retired and was preparing to face the trial. A few months before the trial started, she contacted The Floating Gallery and signed a contract.

Interest in the case and the Kimmell family peaked during the trial, she said.

"How did our family cope with all of the things we had to cope with, both on the emotional basis, but then also through the process of the twists and turns and the ironies of 14 years of investigations and some of the bureaucratic and jurisdictional red tape?" she asked.

Sheila Kimmell said she knew she couldn't write the book until after Eaton's trial. And, although she had some writing experience as a corporate executive, she also knew she would need some help. The publishing company found Carpenter.

Despite the distance between them, Kimmell and Carpenter worked well together, they said. Shortly before the trial, Sheila Kimmell sent a box full of newspaper clippings, her journal and other material to Carpenter in Asheville, N.C., where she lives.

Carpenter was excited to be involved in the book project and flew to Wyoming to attend some of Eaton's trial.

Not long after Eaton was convicted, work on the book started. As Carpenter and Kimmell talked by telephone, Carpenter recorded the conversations and turned them into material for the book.

"Sheila did a lot of talking, and I did a lot of listening and a lot of writing," Carpenter said.

As with Kimmell, Carpenter said there were times when writing Lisa's story was overwhelming.

"We would be talking, and she would start crying and I would start crying and we would say, 'Let's take a break,' " Carpenter said.

A serial killer?

Fascinated by the speculation of some criminal experts that Eaton may be a serial killer, Carpenter said she lobbied Kimmell to include more information about the man in her book. Eaton has not been charged with any other murders, but at least one expert on serial crimes has said he fits the profile of a serial killer.

The expert, former FBI profiler Greg Cooper, also wrote a chapter for Kimmell's book. The unsolved murders of four other women with possible links to Eaton are discussed.

"What does a sociopath look like?" Carpenter said of Eaton. "This is what it looks like."

Kimmell was reluctant at first to include much information at all about her daughter's killer, let alone devote chapters of her book to him. The debate eventually focused on whether to include letters Eaton wrote before his arrest for Lisa's murder.

Another decision was whether to use a note found on Lisa's grave in Billings signed by someone who identified himself as "Stringfellow Hawke," a character from a 1980s television series.

An Easter poem written by two Billings boys left at the Kimmells' door the year Lisa died also was debated by Kimmell and Carpenter.

The issue was finally decided when five people who reviewed a draft of the book late last year agreed with Carpenter that the Eaton letters and the note left at Lisa's grave should be included.

"I said, 'OK, you win, but I keep the Easter poem,' " Kimmell said.

Kimmell said there have been other challenges to getting her book into print, most of it due to her own inexperience on such a project. Details such as the book cover, page design, marketing and distribution have all proved interesting, she said.

In mid-June, Sheila Kimmell said she finally learned that her first order for 2,000 copies of the book would be off the printer the first week of July. She has scheduled a book signing at Borders Books in Billings on July 23. Similar signings are scheduled in Denver and Casper, she said.

Kimmell said it is not her goal to profit from selling the story of her daughter's murder. She said she has invested about \$30,000 into the book project and hopes to at least break even.

The purpose of the book, she said, is to answer any questions about Lisa and how her family survived her slaying and to show that the man who killed Lisa could be responsible for several similar crimes.

"I've always had to believe there has to be some kind of good, and we've had a lot of good, even out of this tragedy," Kimmell said.



Focus now shifts to ways to stop child abuse

APRIL 09, 2006 12:00 AM

Star-Tribune Editorial Board

Only two men sit on Wyoming's death row. Andrew Yellowbear Jr. probably deserves to, but he won't be joining them. That may be for the best.

Yellowbear, a 31-year-old resident of the Wind River Reservation, had his life spared Friday by a jury in Thermopolis. His life sentence means there will be no endless capital punishment appeals. There also will be no distracting claims that an all-white jury's racist attitudes led to another minority defendant's execution, or that the victim's mother - who pleaded guilty to being an accessory to second-degree murder - was really to blame.

The focus, therefore, can remain on the horrific crime itself and ways to keep such tragic instances of extreme child abuse from happening to others.

The same jury that earlier convicted Yellowbear of brutally killing his 22-month-old daughter, Marcela Hope Blackburn, decided he should spend the rest of his life in prison, with no chance for parole.

Ironically, it was the violence-filled past of Yellowbear's extended family's that reportedly persuaded some members of the jury to show him the mercy he never afforded his daughter.

Marcela's great-grandmother, Ruby Blackburn, said Friday justice was served, because "the death penalty would have been too easy" on Yellowbear. He now has the rest of his life behind bars to think about how his despicable actions put him there.

Perhaps that's why Wyoming juries have been reluctant to enact the ultimate punishment. Or maybe Wyoming juries simply appreciate the moral burden that accompanies official vengeance. For whatever reason, only two inmates - Dale Eaton and James Harlow - await execution in this state.

Ed Newell, Fremont County's chief prosecutor, said he respects the Yellowbear jury's sentence. So do we.

Our criminal justice system asks juries to make life-and-death decisions about people who, in court, may bear little resemblance to the persons accused of horrible crimes. Defendants also are given the opportunity to present mitigating circumstances, such as child abuse they suffered, to persuade jurors to spare them. That process discourages jurors from exercising the death penalty lightly.

Yellowbear will no doubt appeal his first-degree murder conviction, but the process won't be

as high-profile as it would have been if he had been sentenced to death. He will likely fade from the public's memory as he grows old in prison.

But we can't allow Marcela's torturous death at her father's hands to be forgotten.

The child's murder was shocking, and not only because of the extent of her injuries. Native American culture places a great emphasis on a family's protection of children. The cruel nature of Andrew Yellowbear's daily attacks on his daughter demonstrates that no culture is immune to child abuse.

There is no shortage of places to look for remedies, beginning with the tribal social services agency, which is woefully understaffed. The Northern Arapaho Child Protection Services has been criticized for allowing Marcela to be returned to her parents, but it is hardly a surprise that her case did not receive more attention. The social workers on the tribal staff have an average caseload of nearly 100 children, while a typical caseload for similar social workers in Wyoming is in the mid-20s.

It is time for tribal officials to seriously examine ways to improve the efforts of the social services agencies charged with protecting children, beginning with adequate funding and staff.

The Yellowbear conviction also points to the need to look at what is being done to decrease alcohol abuse - on the reservation and throughout Wyoming - since his lawyers stressed that his drinking reportedly triggered numerous incidents of domestic violence.

Marcela never had a chance to grow up, but if memories of her murder can prevent the abuse of other children, she will not have died in vain.



Benton announces re-election plan

APRIL 19, 2006 12:00 AM • [ANTHONY LANE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Announcing plans on Tuesday to add to the 32 years he has been with the Natrona County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Mark Benton listed accomplishments with histories almost as long.

Sheriff's investigators finished work in recent years on the 1988 killing of Lisa Marie Kimmell, leading in March 2004 to the conviction of Dale Wayne Eaton on charges of murder, rape and kidnapping.

Benton testified in March during the trial of Rita Ann Humphrey, who was ultimately convicted of killing her husband in 1977. Benton was a sheriff's investigator at the time Jack Humphrey was shot in Evansville, and he was called during the trial to talk about his work gathering and maintaining evidence from that case.

Benton's announcement that he will seek his third term as Natrona County's sheriff sets up a Republican race in the Aug. 22 primary. Ed Blase, who worked for many years as a sheriff's deputy in California, announced in March he plans to seek the Republican nomination.

Benton, who is finishing his eighth year as sheriff, said he is pleased with recent efforts to train and recruit volunteers for the Community Emergency Response Team and the successful transition to an 800 MHz radio system that is shared by local law enforcement and fire agencies. He also mentioned the expansion of the county's jail from 242 beds to 466, describing it as an unfortunate necessity.

Staffing the expanded detention center remains difficult, Benton said, with eight spots remaining open. He said closing a "very large" pay gap between sheriff's office salaries and those offered by the Casper Police Department and other agencies will be a high priority in coming years. He also said he hopes to add several new deputy positions to the sheriff's office, with three to be placed on patrol teams, one dedicated to handling ranch and farm issues, another stationed in northern parts of the county and possibly a final deputy hired to monitor arrest warrants.

Other entrants to the 2006 sheriff's race are possible. Robert Chamberlin, who has been a vocal critic of Benton and other law enforcement and judicial figures, said Tuesday he has gathered many of the 600-plus signatures needed for his name to be on November ballots as an independent candidate.

Reporter Anthony Lane can be reached at (307) 266-0593 or at anthony.lane@casperstartribune.net.



'Dead Man Walking' keeps debate alive

Casper College production includes discussion on death penalty



MAY 05, 2006 12:00 AM • [WILLY ZIMMER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Since the early days of theater, drama has been used to provoke discussion of difficult social issues.

One of the more powerful dramas of the last decade comes to Casper College tonight, and with it a discussion of one of our society's most complex controversies.

The college's Theatre Department puts on the first of eight performances of "Dead Man Walking" tonight at 7:30 p.m. on the Black Box stage of the

Gertrude Krampert Theatre.

The play by actor/writer Tim Robbins is based on a book by Sister Helen Prejean, who wrote of her experiences as spiritual advisor to condemned killer Elmo Patrick Sonnier. He was eventually executed at Louisiana's Angola State Prison in 1984 for brutally murdering two teenagers.

Robbins also wrote and directed the film "Dead Man Walking," starring Susan Sarandon in Sister Prejean's role and Sean Penn as condemned murderer Matt Poncelet - the character inspired by Sonnier. Sarandon won the 1996 Best Actress Oscar, and Robbins and Penn were nominated as Best Director and Best Actor, respectively.

The script was adapted to stage and provokes discussion on the death penalty wherever it plays. Sister Prejean became an opponent of capital punishment as a result of her experience, but neither the play or book is a blanket condemnation, according to director Richard Burk.

Sister Prejean also became an advocate for the victims, Burk said, which makes the plot as complex as the subject.

"It's not a play that's going to slap you in the face for being wrong about what you believe," Burk said. "Instead it does a very sophisticated job of presenting both sides of the issue. We see a murderer/rapist who is a vicious person. We see the parents of the victims ... the boy that he killed, and the girl that he raped and killed.

"We have a scene in a survivors-of-murder victims discussion group that is very compelling. We get strong descriptions of the violence he perpetrated on others."

As it has in other communities "Dead Man Walking" will become a focus for the death penalty debate, with a visit from Sister Prejean bringing a special insight to the controversy.

An open-to-the-public panel discussion convenes Monday from 3-5 p.m. on the Krampert Theatre's McMurry Main Stage. Panel members include District Attorney Mike Blonigen and Public Defender Wyatt Skaggs. The Casper attorneys opposed each other during the trial of convicted murderer Dale Wayne Eaton, who was sentenced to death in 2004 for the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Sister Prejean will speak of her experiences and opposition to the death penalty at 7 p.m. The attendees may then move to the Black Box to see a special 8 p.m. showing of the dramatization of her book.

Burk added the play is staged with unusual techniques. The Black Box set is appropriately "grim," he said, with a prison cell as the main focus. Poncelet, played by Wheatland student/actor George Taylor, is literally incarcerated for the entire play.

Samm Lind, of Cheyenne, portrays Sister Prejean. She and the rest of the company also stay on stage, which creates an interesting effect.

"They sit behind as if they're always witnesses to what's going on. ... It's a highly theatrical approach and it's made for a very interesting process," Burk said.

The process promises to have a lasting impact on theater-goers. Burk said "Dead Man Walking" exposes "mankind's willingness to do violence on mankind," whether it's perpetrated by a violent criminal or by society seeking retribution.

That willingness makes a happy ending impossible. Nevertheless, theater-goers can walk away from the Black Box with a sense there is hope for the future.

"If there's a happy ending it's that the play does resolve with what happened in the real story where Sister Helen and the father of one of the victims met and they prayed together," Burk said. "He was able to get on with his life and that's the feeling I am getting at the conclusion of the play. It leaves you with a sense of hope that we can do something about the violence."

Assistant features editor Willy Zimmer can be reached at (307) 266-0524 or William.Zimmer@casperstartribune.net.

If you go ...

***what:** Casper College Theatre Department presents "Dead Man Walking"

***when:** Tonight-Saturday and May 9-13, 7:30 p.m. A special 8 p.m. performance will be held May 8 after a panel discussion from 3-5 p.m. on the death penalty. Sister Helen Prejean, author of the book "Dead Man Walking," speaks at 7 p.m.

***where:** Gertrude Krampert Theatre Black Box stage

***tickets:** \$12 for adults, \$10 for students ages 5-18.

***info:** 268-2500



Judge denies new trial in death penalty case

JULY 14, 2006 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Convicted murderer Dale Wayne Eaton lost a bid for a new trial for the 1988 killing of Lisa Marie Kimmell during a hearing before 7th District Judge David Park on Thursday.

For a motion for a new trial to be valid, Park said the defendant appealing the case must have new evidence, and that the evidence may have affected a jury's decision.

Eaton's attorneys Marion Yoder and Tina Kerin of the state public defenders office asked for a new trial as part of the appeals process of Eaton's death sentence, arguing he was not competent to stand trial in 2004 for the kidnapping, robbery, rape and murder of 18-year-old Kimmell.

"It's a very important, fundamental issue," Kerin said.

Since the trial, and since the 2005 hearing in which Park ruled Eaton's original counsel was effective, Kerin said that a forensic psychiatrist has determined Eaton was not competent, and a former schoolmate submitted an affidavit about his difficult childhood.

Eaton, who was not present at the hearing, had emotional disorders that also affected his ability to understand the charges against him and his death sentence, Kerin said.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen, however, quipped that Eaton was not competent to stand trial yet apparently had the competence to waive his appearance in court.

Kimmell's body was found by two fishermen near Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220 on April 2, 1988, about a week after she disappeared while driving across Wyoming. No one was charged in connection with her murder until 2002, when sheriff's officers found Kimmell's car buried in Moneta west of Casper on property owned by Eaton.

Kerin submitted a report by a psychiatrist and an affidavit by a Colorado man who knew Eaton as a bullied and troubled child.

The psychiatrist was not able to attend the hearing on Thursday, Kerin said.

The affidavit, whose author also was not present, showed in detail not presented during the 2004 trial that Eaton was teased mercilessly, including being wrestled to the ground after a 4-H meeting and having thistles rubbed into his groin, she said.

Kerin also said she had school records not presented at the trial showing the Eaton family moved a lot.

Blonigen objected, saying the affidavit from the schoolmate could not be verified because the

author was not there.

Likewise, the psychiatrist's report and resume were not evidence because he was not present to answer questions, he said.

During the 2004 trial, two psychiatrists testified that Eaton was competent to stand trial, Blonigen said.

Eaton's defense was wary of presenting evidence about Eaton's being bullied because it carried the risk that the prosecution would inquire about his bullying of others, he said.

The psychiatrist cited by Kerin had statements about Eaton's eruptive behavior during trial, but the psychiatrist never read the transcripts or interviewed his attorneys then, Blonigen said.

Park agreed. "What we have now is a new opinion based on existing facts."

Blonigen later said he expects the public defenders will appeal Park's ruling.

Reporter Tom Morton can be reached at (307) 266-0592, or at Tom.Morton@casperstartribune.net.



Sheriff candidates tout experience

AUGUST 04, 2006 12:00 AM • [ANTHONY LANE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Experience is the central quality at issue in the race to be the Republican candidate for Natrona County sheriff.

Mark Benton has worked in the sheriff's office for more than 30 years and is now finishing his eighth year as sheriff. He said that experience, and a familiarity with local issues and concerns, should prompt his re-election.

"I've devoted my law enforcement career to Natrona County," said Benton, who is 55.

Candidate Ed Blase said his own experience in law enforcement - he worked for the sheriff's office in Santa Clara County, Calif., for more than 30 years - and educational background would make him an effective leader for an agency charged with law enforcement, running the county jail and various other tasks.

"I can effectively respond to the needs and realities of the community," said Blase, 68.

Blase, who now works as a security guard at Wyoming Medical Center, said he has several priorities if he is elected as sheriff. He said he would start an advisory panel to encourage feedback from the community and would seek volunteers to help with county search and rescue operations.

Both candidates have said a priority is to increase the number of sheriff's deputies patrolling in the county while also improving their pay and training. Benton, who mentioned this goal when he announced in April his intention to seek re-election, said this week he is pleased that some progress in these areas has already been made with the recent approval of pay increases in the sheriff's office and new deputies for northern parts of the county.

Benton said improving the sheriff office's ability to conduct search and rescue operations is an ongoing process.

Investigators have made progress on several "cold" cases in the county during Benton's time as sheriff, including the conviction in 2004 of Dale Wayne Eaton for killing Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988, and the more recent conviction of Rita Ann Humphrey in the 1977 shooting of her husband. While the latter case was investigated by Evansville police, Benton was involved as an investigator.

In July, Benton and Natrona County District Attorney Mike Blonigen announced that charges had been filed against a man suspected in the 1986 slaying of Tammy Dively.

Blase says his own experience and education n- he has a masters degree in criminal justice

from San Jose State University n- would make him a valuable addition if he is elected. With a son who now works as a deputy for the NCSO, Blase assured that adjustments would be made within the office so his son would work for the undersheriff.

The winner of the Republican primary will likely face Ken Benson, who has filed as a Democrat, in November's general election. Rob Chamberlin, a vocal critic of Mark Benton, has also said he intends to submit signatures to have his name on the ballot as an independent candidate.



No dirty tricksby sheriff's office

AUGUST 28, 2006 12:00 AM

Editor:

In response to Mary Tomlinson's "Campaign resorts to dirty tricks":

I think it is a very big leap to compare Natrona County to Iraq, as well as Sheriff Mark Benton to Saddam Hussein. Does Miss Tomlinson honestly believe that our sheriff's department has so little to do that they have time to sabotage Mr. Blase's campaign? With the convictions in cold cases including Dale Wayne Eaton, Rita Humphrey, the charges that are currently being filed on David Bush and the man suspected of slaying Tammy Divley in 1986, that seems very unlikely to me. With trying to stay on top of the meth problem in our city, as well as having to track down and baby-sit all the child molesters that fail to register correctly, I would say the sheriff's department is working too hard to worry about destroying or defacing signs.

Is it possible that the businesses Miss Tomlinson referred to (that do not want to advertise a Blase sign), may not want to show support for either candidate for fear of losing customers either way? That might be something to think about.

KRYSTIN BACHMEIER-OSTERMAN, Casper



Attorney argues Eaton's appeal

SEPTEMBER 16, 2006 12:00 AM

CHEYENNE (AP) - The lawyer representing Dale Wayne Eaton told the Wyoming Supreme Court that Eaton's previous attorneys erred and jury instructions were flawed when he was convicted two years ago of the 1988 murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Attorney Tina Kerin told the court Thursday that the jury received misleading instructions, and that some of the jurors may not have agreed to the selection of the jury foreman.

Kerin also said Eaton's trial attorneys erred when they agreed to let Eaton be tried under a 2001 statute, rather than the law that was in place when Kimmell disappeared. Kerin said the defense team didn't conduct enough research into Eaton's childhood or his visits to mental health facilities, and that an investigator hired to do such research failed to do her job.

Michael Pauling, a supervising attorney with the Wyoming attorney general's office, argued that Eaton's trial attorneys believed Eaton was better off being tried under the 2001 statute.

And a previous court ruling found no evidence that the defense attorneys conducted themselves improperly.

"The court finds that trial counsel conducted themselves with the highest standards of the legal profession," Judge David Park wrote in the 47-page opinion issued last year. "The ultimate jury verdict was based on the facts and not on any ineffective representation."

Kimmell disappeared in March 1988 while driving from her home in Colorado to visit family in Billings, Mont. Her body was found a week later in the North Platte River west of Casper; she had been raped, beaten and stabbed.

No charges were filed until 2002, when Kimmell's car was found buried on Eaton's property near Moneta in central Wyoming. Eaton was convicted of kidnapping, rape and murder in 2004 and sentenced to die by lethal injection.



Accused killer denies charge



OCTOBER 07, 2006 12:00 AM • [ANTHONY LANE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

David Labon Bush spoke in an even, quiet tone as he answered a series of questions at his arraignment Friday morning on a first-degree murder charge. He only raised his voice noticeably when he was asked how he pleads to the charge, which stems from the presumed death of his wife in December 1990.

"Not guilty, your honor," Bush replied to Judge David Park.

Bush has been in custody since Aug. 4, his arrest coming more than 15 years after Lynn Lynette Bush disappeared. He is now charged with first-degree murder and, if convicted, faces the prospect of life imprisonment or the death penalty.

A decision about whether to seek death is due from Natrona County District Attorney Mike Blonigen by Nov. 19.

Bush has been held in jail since early August on \$500,000 bond. Kerri Johnson, Bush's attorney, asked Park to consider lowering the bond amount on Friday, pointing out that her client has not left Wyoming in the years since his wife disappeared.

"He's not a threat to the community, your honor," Johnson said.

Blonigen argued in response that the bond is appropriate given the seriousness of the charge Bush faces, the fact he has worked as a long-distance truck driver and his status as a convicted felon.

Park deferred consideration of a reduced bond until next week, when a conference will be held to schedule Bush's trial and set dates for the various motions and hearings that will precede it.

Blonigen said after Friday's hearing that he expects the trial to begin in March or April and to last about three weeks.

Testimony about DNA evidence will likely occupy a significant portion of the trial. Before his wife disappeared in 1990, according to testimony, Bush told a mistress that such evidence is not a "true science."

Since then, DNA has been a central part of many criminal cases, including the 2004 conviction in Natrona County of Dale Wayne Eaton for killing Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988.

The evidence in Bush's case is complicated by the fact that no biological sample from Lynn Bush was available given her disappearance. To overcome this shortcoming, analysts inferred Lynn Bush's DNA profile by examining samples from various relatives in a process known as reverse paternity testing, according to court documents.

This profile was then matched to DNA from blood samples found inside the Bushes' pickup and on a vodka bottle inside their home, according to documents.

The pickup was parked on Dec. 9, 1990, in the parking lot at 12th and Beverly in front of what used to be Buttrey's grocery store. That day, Bush told police his wife went missing the previous evening and that he found the truck there, its door open and back loaded with day-old groceries.

Police later found possible drops of blood in several locations when they searched the pickup, a Casper police detective testified at Bush's preliminary hearing in late August. A chemical test indicated small amounts of blood over much of the interior, she said, possibly as the result of it having been washed.

Before his wife disappeared, according to testimony, Bush told friends and acquaintances he could commit the "perfect murder" and knew of places where a body would never be found.

In spite of the fact her body has not been found, Judge Michael Patchen, who presided at Bush's preliminary hearing, said "the court is convinced that Lynn is, in fact, dead."



District attorney earns praise for cold cases

MARCH 26, 2007 12:00 AM

Star-Tribune Editorial Board

Cold cases are hard to prosecute, especially when the charge is murder and no body has ever been found.

But that didn't keep Natrona County District Attorney Michael Blonigen from putting David Bush behind bars, more than 16 years after Bush's wife disappeared in Casper. Bush's sentence is pending.

Obtaining a second-degree murder conviction of Bush last week was another in a string of impressive cold-case victories for this prosecutor. He has helped bring justice to three murder victims and their families long after the high-profile crimes were committed.

Blonigen successfully prosecuted Dale Eaton in 2004 for the 1988 kidnap, rape, robbery and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell. Eaton is appealing his death sentence.

Last year, Blonigen won an even older case. Rita Humphrey of Evansville was convicted of second-degree murder for the 1977 shooting death of her husband, Jack. She was sentenced to 25 to 40 years in prison.

In all three cases, survivors of the victims had given up hope that the killers would ever see a courtroom, much less be sent to prison. But thanks to dogged determination by law enforcement to bring sufficient evidence to the prosecutor, these local cases have been closed.

Memories may fade and witnesses may die, but advances in DNA testing have been the downfall of offenders everywhere who thought they were in the clear. Technology caught up to Eaton and Bush, helping Blonigen establish beyond a reasonable doubt that they killed their victims.

An expert testified at Bush's trial that blood found in Lynn Bush's truck was genetically linked to the woman's parents and daughter. The chance that it came from anyone other than Lynn Bush was estimated at one in 51 quadrillion people.

In addition to physical evidence, Blonigen was able to establish a strong circumstantial case against David Bush, even though his wife's body has never been found. Many witnesses described Bush's behavior as often "bizarre" since his wife's disappearance in December 1990. His excuse - that everyone else was either lying or mistaken - just didn't add up.

Other homicide cases in Natrona County, recent and ancient, are still open. Not every killer will be brought to justice. But it's encouraging to know that law enforcement doesn't give up.

After Blonigen became district attorney in 2003, nothing obligated him to use his office's limited resources on the Eaton, Humphrey and Bush cases. No one would have blamed him if he had pursued other priorities.

It's to his credit that he took the cases to court, and doubly to his credit that he won. He has sent a clear message to people who may think they can commit the perfect murder: Think again.

Murder trial begins 21 years after death



MAY 07, 2007 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

It's been 21 years since Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton stood at the scene where Tammy Dively's body was found.

For almost all of that time, authorities were unable to charge anyone with her killing.

"As time goes by, you do start to scratch your head and wonder if you'll ever make an arrest, have a trial and get a conviction," said Benton, then a sheriff's captain.

The second-degree murder trial of the man suspected of killing Dively begins today.

"It's long overdue," Benton said.

Jeffrey Lynn Smith, a 44-year-old former Casper resident, is accused of killing Dively. Although authorities interviewed him shortly after her death, it wasn't until last July that Smith was charged with her murder.

A motorist found Dively's body lying alongside Hat Six Road at about 7:45 p.m. on the night of her death, April 28, 1986. The 25-year-old had been run over several times, according to a sheriff's office affidavit. She had left her Casper home a little more than an hour earlier.

Although there were ranches in the area, no one reported anything unusual that evening, according to Star-Tribune reports from that time.

A native of Bedford, Pa., Dively had lived in Casper for about six years, working at the Casper College cafeteria. She had a daughter who was 7 at the time of her mother's death.

Investigators found seminal fluid when they examined Dively's body. Tests done last year connected Smith to that biological material, the affidavit said.

Police interviewed Smith soon after Dively's disappearance and he denied being involved in her death.

"He's pled not guilty and that's how we are going to approach it," said his attorney, Senior Assistant Public Defender Rob Oldham.

Oldham declined to comment further on the case.

Three years after Dively's death, Smith was arrested in Natrona County for first-degree sexual assault. He was accused of breaking into the home of a 58-year-old Casper woman and raping her. He pleaded guilty and went to prison until 2001.

Smith's murder trial is expected to last eight days and Natrona County District Attorney Mike Blonigen expects to call between 20 and 25 witnesses. Blonigen declined to comment on the case itself.

Reach Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@casperstartribune.net.

The trial of Jeffrey Lynn Smith, beginning today in Casper, will be the fourth cold case murder trial in Natrona County since 2004 and the third in just over a year:

* Two months ago, a jury convicted David Bush of killing his wife, Lynn, in December 1990. Her body has never been found, so prosecutors built their case largely around circumstantial evidence, including testimony from witnesses who said that Bush spoke of getting away with murder.

* In March 2006, Rita Ann Humphrey was convicted of murdering her husband 28 years earlier. Jack Humphrey's body was found in bed at the couple's Evansville home in November 1977. His wife was charged with his murder three years later, but the case was dismissed. She was again charged with the murder in 2004 following an investigation by Evansville police.

* In March 2004, a jury sentenced Dale Wayne Eaton to death for the kidnapping, robbery, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988. Kimmell, 18, was found in the North Platte River.

Eaton's conviction helped inspire sheriff's investigators to look at other cold cases, including Dively's, Natrona County Sheriff Mark Benton said.

"I'm pleased it's going to trial," he said. "It is going to bring closure to the incident itself, the death of Ms. Dively."]]>



Investigation hits dead ends

JULY 22, 2007 12:00 AM • [WHITNEY ROYSTER STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

LANDER - The case of Amy Wroe Bechtel has been cold for several years.

Roger Rizor, lead detective on the case, said it is still considered open, but "I would say it's stalled."

Early in the investigation, friends of Amy put out about 250,000 fliers looking for her, with her photo, description, and a number to call with information. Now, even a toll-free number set up for the case has expired and leads to a salacious "chat" line.

People with information on the case are asked to call the Fremont County Sheriff's Department. Rizor said the last bit of information trickling in about the case was a repeat of earlier information: That a carload of American Indians from the nearby Wind River Indian Reservation were in the area the day Amy disappeared, drinking. They hit her, and buried her on the reservation.

"We never could find any information on that," Rizor said. "Over the years, the same clue has come up from people calling and people saying they have this information. We have never, never been able to pin it down as anything valid."

"When it comes down to the location of a body, no one knows," he said.

There was another rumor early on of a "shallow grave" found in the mountains on the Loop Road above Lander. Rizor said for the spot to be a grave, it has to have a body.

Cadaver dogs were brought to the area but never found anything.

There was evidence that someone dug there, but why they were digging, officials don't know.

There were also phone calls, in the hundreds, from all over the country of people saying they had seen Amy.

Rizor said it was not uncommon to have four phone calls in one day from different states, all saying people had seen Amy at a certain place at roughly the same time.

"Obviously, some of those folks are wrong," he said. "And you look at the photo of Amy Bechtel, and she is the all-American girl." He believes people really thought they had seen her, and officials followed up on every traceable tip.

There were also rumors that Dale Wayne Eaton abducted Amy. He was convicted in 2004 of killing Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988 and sits on death row. Rizor said there has never been any evidence to link Eaton to the crime.

Eaton has refused to talk to Fremont County investigators. Rizer said he would like to speak with him.

Rizer said the biggest spark of hope came when Amy's husband, Steve, decided to talk to police shortly after the disappearance. After a short interview, he decided not to talk to police, as he felt he was being treated as a suspect.

Rizer would still like to talk with Steve Bechtel, who lives in Lander.

New information?

Although the 10-year-old case has been rehashed repeatedly in the press, Rizer said a new piece of information is that the car Amy was driving, a white Toyota Tercel wagon, might not have been driven by Amy to the area of Burnt Gulch on the Loop Road where it was found.

The car was parked in a mud puddle, and was not pulled off to the side of the road, which would have been likely had Amy driven it there to go running, he said.

"I think something very bad happened to Amy Bechtel the day she disappeared," Rizer said.

He thinks she is dead, he said, and thinks she died that July day. Rizer said his gut also tells him her body is still in Wyoming, but he has "no evidence to suggest that it is."

Rizer also readily admits that mistakes were made in the case, and that an investigator should have been put on the case immediately.

For now, Rizer said it's a case he still thinks about every day, and sometimes he wakes up at night thinking about it.

The time he spends on the case varies, as he has other administrative duties as both a detective and sergeant at the sheriff's office.

"I keep going back through the case, keep hoping that some new piece of evidence, some new clue, will come forward," he said. He also hopes that someone who knows anything about the case will come forward to help put the case to rest for Amy's family.

"This is still an active case," Rizer said. "If (people) think they have information that may help, the only way we're going to know that is if they share that information with me. No matter what they call with, I won't think it's dumb, and I will follow up on it as far as I can.

"Amy, she's still a missing person. She still has a family that want to know what happened to her, and I've got a few years to go before I retire and hope to have it solved before I do."



State crime lab needs help from Legislature

OCTOBER 05, 2007 12:00 AM

Star-Tribune Editorial Board

At a time when its services are needed more than ever, Wyoming's crime lab lacks the resources to keep up with its caseload.

It's a problem the Legislature needs to address. State and local law enforcement agencies should be able to take full advantage of the latest forensic tools available to fight crime.

As the Star-Tribune reported in a series of stories this week, the high volume of requests for DNA analysis and other forensic tests has led to long delays at the state crime lab in Cheyenne. It is not uncommon for agencies to wait six months for a DNA profile. An investigation may be in limbo during the wait, and if the results don't match a suspect, the real culprit has gained more time to avoid detection, to relocate - or to commit more crimes.

The state lab's 21 analysts have handled more than 1,000 cases since January. That's about five new cases per day.

Staff members are not easy to recruit or retain. First, they must receive specialized training to earn certification to perform different tests and analyze the results. Once they have been trained, crime labs in other states or private firms may lure them away with higher pay.

Having adequate staff to perform key tests in a timely fashion is essential. In recent years, Wyoming has seen several high-profile crimes solved by DNA testing, including two "cold case" murders. These cases show how the work done at the crime lab may be the difference between punishing a criminal and watching him elude justice.

Dale Wayne Eaton never would have been tried and convicted for the 1988 rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, if his DNA profile from his stay in a Colorado prison hadn't matched new tests on evidence recovered from the victim's body.

Law enforcement tried for years to find evidence to link David Bush to the 1990 disappearance and apparent murder of his wife, Lynn, but they never found a body. However, DNA tests showed that her blood was splattered in the family's truck. It was strong evidence that helped put Bush behind bars.

Some officials have suggested that the solution to the testing delays is to build a second crime lab somewhere else in the state. Thorough study will be needed before the state makes such a large investment.

A more immediate way to get quicker lab results and retain workers would be to hire a few

more technicians and increase salaries. Or, if cost-conscious lawmakers balk at expanding the state government, they could budget additional money to outsource forensic tests to crime labs in other states, including private ones. That option wouldn't create an ongoing salary obligation.

Throwing money at a problem isn't always the way to solve it. In the case of the state crime lab, however, a modest additional expenditure could make a big improvement in the lab's response time.

The best option for how to do that isn't fully clear. But this problem is hurting law enforcement, and the Legislature should work at solving it.



Kimmell's mom is angry about reality crime show

JANUARY 13, 2008 12:00 AM • [GREG TUTTLE BILLINGS \(MONT.\) GAZETTE WITH STAFF REPORTS](#)

A woman whose daughter was murdered in 1988 said she is disappointed and angered by a new reality television show about her family's case.

Sheila Kimmell, who used to live in Billings, Mont., said she is considering legal action against the producers of the TruTV cable show "Body of Evidence." The program features Dayle Hinman, an FBI-trained criminal profiler.

The season premiere of the show aired Saturday and included a 30-minute segment on the murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, who was abducted, raped and killed in Wyoming while driving between Denver and Billings.

Lisa Kimmell grew up in Billings and had moved to Denver after graduating from Senior High. She was 18 years old when she was killed.

The case went unsolved for 14 years until a DNA match in 2002 led investigators to Dale Wayne Eaton, a divorced drifter who was convicted of Lisa Kimmell's slaying and sentenced to death in 2004.

Kimmell's body was found by fishermen floating the North Platte River southeast of Casper on April 2, 1988. The discover came eight days after a state trooper - likely one of the last people to see her alive - wrote her a ticket.

In 2002, authorities found the car that belonged to Kimmell buried near Eaton's former home in Moneta, about 70 miles west of Casper in Fremont County.

The case has long captured public interest, and it has been featured on such television shows as "Eye on America," "Unsolved Mysteries" and "Cold Case Files." In 2005, Sheila Kimmell, who now lives in Colorado, wrote a book about her family's loss and experience with the criminal justice system.

Kimmell said in a telephone interview she believes the latest television version of her daughter's case is misleading because Hinman appears in the show as if she was involved from the beginning. Hinman never played a role in the investigation of her daughter's murder, Kimmell said, and she said the show is a "disservice" to the law enforcement officers who were involved.

"I'm not going to stand behind it and endorse it," Kimmell said. "I'm not going to be used, and I'm not going to let them use my daughter. This is not what Lisa's life and legacy are about, and I'm not going to prostitute my daughter. I'm not going to prostitute my family."

Kimmell said she agreed to be interviewed and filmed at her home for the program last summer. She said she agreed to participate after a producer assured her the show would be factual.

"He described it as an educational program, reality-based, about criminal profiling," Kimmell said.

Shortly after the film crew left, Kimmell said, she grew concerned. Others close to the investigation had not agreed to participate, she said, and it appeared as if Hinman, whom she has never spoken with, was injecting herself into the closed investigation.

"There is nothing she did to contribute to the solving of this case," Kimmell said.

Similar concerns were expressed by Billings resident Don Flickinger, a retired ATF agent who spent nearly a decade investigating the Kimmell murder. Flickinger said he also agreed to be filmed for the Hinman show. After watching it, Flickinger said he disagrees with how the program presented the investigation.

"The FBI agent who did the actual (criminal) profile shortly after the murder was never even mentioned in the program," Flickinger said. "It's pretty easy to do a program like that and act like you are profiling the individual involved when that person has already been convicted and is on death row."

Bryan Ranharter, an associate producer for Story House Productions, said Thursday the company would have no comment about the complaints by Kimmell and Flickinger.

Kimmell said she is most concerned that viewers will be deceived into believing that Hinman was responsible for solving her daughter's murder. She is considering legal action to halt any future broadcast of the segment, but she acknowledged there may be little chance of winning such case.

"Anybody can write a book, and I can't stop them," Kimmell said. "But I can expose them. The same goes for a TV program."



Crime was 'unnecessarily torturous'

DA will seek death penalty against Donald Lee Rolle

FEBRUARY 06, 2008 12:00 AM • [CHRISTINE ROBINSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The Natrona County District Attorney's office will seek the death penalty against a man accused of brutally killing a Casper woman, according to papers filed on Monday.

Donald Lee Rolle, 47, is charged with first-degree murder and kidnapping in the death of Casper mother-of-two Jennifer Randel, 40. The Natrona County man was arrested in November after police found Randel's body in his truck in the area of Poison Spider and Robertson roads.

The killing is described as "especially atrocious or cruel" and "unnecessarily torturous," in the death penalty filing. It also states that Rolle "poses a substantial and continuing threat of future dangerousness or is likely to commit continued acts of criminal violence."

District Attorney Michael Blonigen said the decision, like in all death penalty cases, was a difficult one. There are many factors that need to be considered, he said, including the nature and events surrounding the crime, the individual, any past history and any mitigating evidence.

Ultimately, Blonigen said it's up to a jury to determine guilt or innocence and to give a death sentence.

Blonigen said in his more than 20 years in the district attorney's office, this is the fourth death penalty case sought by the office.

"The death penalty is used relatively infrequently in the state of Wyoming," Blonigen said.

Rolle's attorney, public defender Vaughn Neubauer, said he does not comment on ongoing cases.

During Rolle's preliminary hearing in November, Natrona County Sheriff's Investigator Michael Steinberg said 911 dispatchers received a call from a woman who identified herself as Jennifer Randel. During the eight-to-10-minute call which happened the night before her body was found, Randel said that she was on the floor of Rolle's truck and could not get away from him.

Dispatchers said they could also hear yelling and what sounded like an assault.

After receiving a tip, officers found Rolle's truck the day after Randel's call. The red Ford pickup was stuck in a ditch along Canal Road, in a barren, hilly area roughly four miles west of Poison Spider School.

When Rolle was arrested, there was a filet knife wired to his hand, Steinberg said in his

testimony.

Randel's body was found inside the truck, and an autopsy concluded she died in the early hours of Nov. 4 when trauma caused her brain to swell.

Randel and Rolle had dated in the past, and according to a sheriff's affidavit, he'd been convicted of assaulting her three times. Court records show that four days before Randel was found dead, Rolle was sentenced for assaulting her.

Rolle has been held without bond at the Natrona County Detention Center since his arrest.

A trial date has not yet been determined.

Contact reporter Christine Robinson at (307) 266-0639 or christine.robinson@trib.com

The death penalty in Wyoming

There are currently two convicted murderers on death row in the state of Wyoming, said Melinda Brazzale, a spokeswoman for the Department of Corrections.

The most recent death sentence was for Dale Wayne Eaton, for the 1988 murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell. Eaton was sentenced in 2004 by a Natrona County judge.

James Martin Harlow is serving the death penalty for the 1997 murder of Cpl. Wayne Martinez, a guard in the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins. A Sweetwater County judge gave Harlow the death sentence in 1998.

The last execution in Wyoming, and the only one since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976, was Mark Hopkinson in 1992. He spent 13 years on death row while appealing his sentence, and died from lethal injection. Hopkinson was sentenced to death for arranging the killing of Bridger Valley carpenter Jeff Green in May 1979. Green's body was found at a rest stop near Fort Bridger near Interstate 80.

Prior to Hopkinson, Andrew Pixley was executed on Dec. 10, 1965 for the rape and slaying of a 12-year-old girl at a Jackson hotel.

Notable Natrona County death sentences sought

* In 1982, Roy Lee Engberg was sentenced to death after he robbed and killed a Wells Fargo guard in a Casper supermarket parking lot in 1981. He was serving life for killing a security guard in Missouri when he escaped from a work-release program and came to Wyoming.

The Wyoming Supreme Court later overturned his death sentence.

* In 1999, Justin Sincock was convicted of killing his benefactor, Becky Horkan, while he was a transitional resident inmate at Community Alternatives of Casper (CAC). He was not given the death penalty because one member of the 12-person jury voted against the sentence.

News Tracker

Last we knew: A District Court judge ruled in November that there was enough evidence to try Donald Lee Rolle, 47, in the death of Jennifer Randel, 40.

The latest: District Attorney Michael Blonigen filed a notice stating his intent to seek the death penalty for Rolle.

What's next: There will be a series of scheduling conferences to determine the date of the trial.



Key figures face grueling times in capital cases

FEBRUARY 10, 2008 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Intensely stressful. Overwhelming. Simply miserable.

The attorneys who've litigated death penalty cases in Wyoming don't mince words when describing the experience. Fighting for the ultimate punishment, or fighting to prevent it, is an emotionally taxing business that sticks with the participants long after the outcome has been decided.

"The responsibility is just so overwhelming," said veteran public defender Wyatt Skaggs, who's represented clients in four capital cases. "If you make an error, you are not talking about a year or two in jail. You are talking about a man's life."

Last Monday, prosecutors in Natrona County disclosed their plans to seek the death penalty against Donald Rolle, a Casper man accused of murdering Jennifer Randel, a woman he'd dated and been convicted of assaulting in the past.

If the experience of others is any indication, the participants in the Rolle case can expect a long, difficult process.

"I think it is the hardest thing a lawyer or a judge will ever have to do," said Fremont County Attorney Ed Newell, who's sought the death penalty against two defendants. "Nobody takes these cases lightly.

"I found it incredibly stressful," he continued. "You get greatly invested in it on a personal level."

It's an experience that relatively few attorneys, jurors and defendants go through. Only two men are on death row in Wyoming, and only one has been executed in the past 20 years.

Attorneys who've litigated capital cases say they differ from other trials - even murder trials where defendants face life behind bars.

"I don't know if anybody is so callous and indifferent that they don't spend many, many nights tossing and turning, trying to make sure they do the right thing," Newell said.

It's also a difficult experience for the judges charged with ensuring the trials proceed fairly and according to the law.

Former Wyoming District Judge Robert Ranck pronounced the death sentence for Mark Hopkinson, the last person executed in Wyoming. Hopkinson was executed by lethal injection in 1992 - 13 years after his trial.

Hopkinson was executed after being found responsible for ordering four killings in the 1970s.

"Every little part of it, when you are dealing with someone's life, is serious business," said Ranck, who retired from the bench in 1989.

Capital cases, the judge said, are more difficult, more intense and more demanding.

"Before you ever walk in a courtroom, you are under stress with a death penalty case," he said.

Slow process

Death penalty cases proceed slower than a typical criminal case.

Just getting to trial can be time consuming. In a regular criminal proceeding, attorneys might file a handful of motions. In a capital case, they sometimes file more than 100.

Jury selection also takes longer. It might take a morning to seat a jury in murder cases that don't involve the death penalty. It took more than a week to seat a jury for the 2004 trial of Dale Wayne Eaton, the last defendant in a capital murder trial in Natrona County.

It's also grueling process for jurors, who normally have little experience with the legal system.

"You put a man's life before 12 ordinary citizens, who in their daily lives have nothing to do with the legal system, and you call upon them to make what's probably the most important decision of their lives," Newell said. "It's something they find incredibly difficult."

The trials themselves are typically longer than normal. Prosecutors may be inclined to present more proof than usual for jurors who are literally grappling with issues of life and death. Defense attorneys, meanwhile, focus not just on the facts of the case. During the sentencing phase, they walk jurors down the path the accused took to get to the courtroom, according to Skaggs.

"It requires a different sort of foresight and direction," he said.

The manpower required for a death penalty case is considerable. Keith Goody, who represented James Harlow, one of Wyoming's two inmates now on death row, estimates a lawyer can spend more than 1,800 hours on a death penalty case.

"If you look at that, that's a year's worth of one lawyer's time," he said.

Goody called working a death penalty case "miserable," but laid out multiple reasons for why he's done them.

"For a constitutional scholar, there is nothing like those cases because they are filled with constitutional issues," he said. "Secondly, criminal defense lawyers are there for a reason and somebody has to do (the cases)."

You never forget death penalty cases, Skaggs said. The public might think the cases should be relatively short, with few appeals, just like a typical case. But death is different.

"In the end, the emotional load is the thing that sticks with you, and it sticks with you every single day and afterward," said Skaggs, who's a few weeks from retirement. "I never forget cases that are that way."

Reach Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@trib.com.

The death penalty in Wyoming

In Wyoming, death penalty trials have two phases. First, the jury must decide whether the defendant is guilty of the crime he is accused of. Then, if they convict him, they must decide whether to impose the death penalty.

All 12 jurors must agree that death is warranted. In 1999, a single Natrona County juror spared the life of Justin Sincock, who had been convicted of first-degree murder.

Death penalty convictions are automatically appealed to the Wyoming Supreme Court.

Wyoming death row

Wyoming currently has two people on death row:

- Dale Wayne Eaton, convicted of the 1988 kidnapping, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell. He was sentenced in 2004 in Natrona County.
- James Martin Harlow, convicted of murdering Cpl. Wayne Martinez, a prison guard, in 1997. He was sentenced in 1998 in Sweetwater County.



Judge orders new trial for death row inmate

FEBRUARY 16, 2008 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER AND WIRE REPORTS](#)

A federal judge has thrown out the conviction of a Wyoming inmate sentenced to die nearly a decade ago for the killing of a correctional officer during an escape attempt.

U.S. District Judge Clarence Brimmer set aside the death sentence and ordered a new trial for James Martin Harlow, who'd been convicted of murdering Cpl. Wayne Martinez in 1997. Harlow was one of only two inmates on Wyoming's death row.

In his 232-page ruling, released Friday, Brimmer cited several reasons for throwing out Harlow's conviction:

- * Conflicts between Harlow's trial attorney, Keith Goody, and former state Public Defender Sylvia Hackl;

- * The Wyoming Public Defender's Office failure to provide enough money for an adequate investigation into circumstances related to the case;

- * The withholding by state prosecutors of files pertaining to inmate witnesses who testified against Harlow;

- * Trial Judge Kenneth Stebner's refusal to allow Harlow's attorney to adequately question potential jurors about the death penalty and other issues.

"Numerous errors were present in the trial of James Martin Harlow," Brimmer wrote.

"Individually, any one of them likely would have altered the outcome of the trial verdict, or possibly the appeal."

Brimmer gave prosecutors 120 days to grant Harlow a new trial.

Attorney General Bruce Salzburg did not respond to a message left Friday afternoon seeking comment on the ruling.

Cindy DeLancey, the chief prosecutor for Carbon County, where Harlow was originally convicted, said Friday afternoon she couldn't comment on the case because she hadn't had an opportunity to review it yet or confer with the Attorney General's Office.

Reached at a death penalty conference in California, Goody called the judge's decision, "the best news I've had in years.

"It was a terrible miscarriage of justice and my guy was on the row," he said. "And they were trying to kill him."

Goody said he was fired from the Public Defender's Office for publicly insisting at the time of the trial he wasn't getting the resources to defend Harlow.

Brimmer found that Harlow's trial counsel failed to conduct a reasonable investigation into Harlow's background and character because of a "budget conscious head of the state public defender's office."

"When a man's life was at stake, there was surely \$20,000 to be found for such an important investigation, either in the public defender's budget or the governor's contingency fund," Brimmer wrote.

Sean O'Brien, the Kansas City, Mo. attorney whom Brimmer appointed to the case three years ago, said he was pleased with Brimmer's ruling, but called the case tragic.

"There is no good outcome when somebody as good and decent as Wayne Martinez is murdered," O'Brien said. "But we are glad and hopeful the judge has done the right thing."

Martinez died during a July 1997 escape attempt at the maximum-security unit of the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins. Harlow held Martinez while two other inmates, Bryan Collins and Richard Dowdell, stabbed the 27-year-old correctional officer and struck him in the head with a fire extinguisher, according to court documents.

All three inmates were tried and convicted in Martinez's death. Harlow received the death penalty. The other two men were sentenced to life behind bars.

The Wyoming Supreme Court upheld Harlow's conviction in 2003, but two years later, Brimmer ordered a stay of execution after he received Harlow's petition for federal court review.

O'Brien and Terry Harris, a Cheyenne attorney also appointed by Brimmer to represent Harlow, used federal subpoenas to secure records from the Wyoming Department of Corrections and other state agencies that had never been turned over to Harlow's previous attorneys in his original trial or state Supreme Court appeal.

In hearings before Brimmer in late 2006, Harlow's attorneys asserted that prosecutor Tom Campbell and lawyers from the state denied requests from their client's original trial lawyers for information about other inmate witnesses who testified against him.

Lawyers with the attorney general's office argued that while it was unfortunate Harlow's original team didn't receive the records, withholding them neither affected the outcome of the trial nor violated Harlow's rights.

Harlow remains held at Wyoming State Penitentiary, according to Department of Corrections spokeswoman Melinda Brazzale.

With Brimmer's ruling, Dale Wayne Eaton becomes Wyoming's only death row inmate. In 2004, a Natrona County jury sentenced Eaton to die for the 1988 kidnap, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

The Associated Press contributed to this report. Reach Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at

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Former death-row prisoner apologizes for part in killing guard

APRIL 17, 2008 12:00 AM • [FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS](#)

RAWLINS - A man who won a new trial after being sentenced to death for killing a prison guard has pleaded guilty to felony murder.

James Harlow entered the plea Tuesday, and District Judge Wade Waldrip sentenced him to life in prison - Harlow's fourth life term. Harlow already has been serving three life terms for the rape and murder of a Rock Springs girl in 1985.

Harlow was convicted and sentenced to death in the 1997 stabbing death of Cpl. Wayne Martinez. After Harlow spent close to a decade on Wyoming's death row, U.S. District Judge Clarence Brimmer in February ruled that Harlow got an unfair state trial and ordered a new one.

Waldrip also sentenced Harlow on Tuesday to two terms of eight to 10 years in prison for attempted escape and conspiracy to escape.

"We're here to bring some closure," Carbon County Attorney Cindy DeLancey said in court. "I do believe the plea agreement was in the interest of justice."

DeLancey said Tuesday that she spent a lot of time thinking about whether to seek a plea agreement or take Harlow to trial and possibly seek the death penalty. DeLancey said she decided not to seek his execution by lethal injection in part because of the age of the case.

"I had to go through the analysis of the likelihood of prevailing," she said. "The odds were not in my favor."

Harlow apologized to the court before the sentencing.

"Whether you believe me or not, I cannot judge that," he said. "It was wrong that a good man had to die. My part in that was wrong."

Harlow told the court that he conspired to escape with Bryan Collins and Richard Dowdell, both of whom are serving life sentences for their roles in the escape and murder. Harlow said he only planned to knock Martinez unconscious, not kill him.

Brimmer had issued a 230-page ruling in Harlow's case.

Brimmer wrote that the state public defenders office failed to devote adequate resources to Harlow's case. The judge also wrote that prosecutors failed to turn over critical evidence to Harlow's defense team and that the trial judge mishandled the process of questioning prospective jurors about their views on the death penalty.

Dale Wayne Eaton is now Wyoming's only death row inmate. In 2004, a Natrona County jury sentenced Eaton to die for the 1988 kidnapping, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

The last execution in Wyoming, and the only one since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976, was Mark Hopkinson in 1992. He spent 13 years on death row while appealing his sentence, and died from lethal injection. Hopkinson was sentenced to death for arranging the killing of Bridger Valley carpenter Jeff Green in May 1979. Green's body was found at a rest stop near Fort Bridger near Interstate 80.

* Last we knew: Prosecutors decided against again seeking the death penalty for former death-row inmate James Harlow, for whom a new trial was ordered by a federal judge.

* The latest: Harlow pleaded guilty to felony murder in the death of a prison guard.

* What's next: He'll serve a sentence of life in prison for the killing.]]->



Wyo Supreme Court rejects Eaton appeal

AUGUST 19, 2008 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The Wyoming Supreme Court on Monday denied the appeal of Dale Wayne Eaton, Wyoming's lone death-row inmate, who was convicted of the 1988 kidnapping, rape and murder of a teenager.

In a unanimous ruling, the justices affirmed Eaton's 2004 conviction and death sentence, while rejecting his motion for a new trial.

Eaton's attorneys asserted, among other things, that his trial counsel offered ineffective assistance, that he was not competent for trial and that jury selection was unconstitutional. The justices, however, said they were satisfied that evidence in the case supported the jury's findings and that the death penalty was not imposed "under the influence of passion, prejudice or any other arbitrary factor."

At trial, Eaton's attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, admitted to jurors his client raped and killed Lisa Marie Kimmell, an 18-year-old woman who was driving from Denver to Billings, Mont., when she disappeared on March 25, 1988. Fishermen found her body in the North Platte River eight days later. She had been stabbed multiple times.

While conceding Eaton's guilt at trial, Skaggs asserted Kimmell's killing was not premeditated and that a second-degree murder conviction was more appropriate. That strategy, according to the justices, was designed with the intent of saving Eaton's life.

In his appeal, Eaton maintained the theory was unrealistic and really conceded guilt to first-degree murder - eliminating any real chance for success.

The justices disagreed, concluding the trial strategy did not constitute ineffective counsel.

"Our experience tells us that juries have minds of their own, and a theory such as that propounded by the defense team was as good as anything we can think of, given the circumstances of the case," the justices wrote, adding that Eaton's appellate attorney did not offer a more compelling theory that could have been offered to jurors.

During the trial, Eaton made multiple outbursts. In one incident, he cursed in front of the jurors after his defense decided not to cross-examine a witness. The justices found those outbursts, along with the fact that Eaton was generally an uncooperative client, did not suggest he wasn't competent for trial.

Prosecutors did not charge Eaton with Kimmell's murder until roughly 15 years after her body was found, when DNA linked him to the killing. Authorities later found Kimmell's car on property he owned near Moneta.

Reach crime reporter Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@trib.com.



Open court

Rolle murder trial begins Monday; capital case will be the first in Natrona County in four years

SEPTEMBER 07, 2008 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

It's been four years since Natrona County held a capital murder trial.

That changes Monday when the trial of Donald Rolle begins.

Rolle, 47, is charged with first-degree murder in the death of Jennifer Randel, whose body, authorities say, was found Nov. 4 in his pickup along a rural road west of Casper.

More than 60 people have been subpoenaed to testify at the trial, which will be held in the main courtroom at the Natrona County District Courthouse. Selecting 12 jurors and three alternates could alone take up much of the first week.

Attorneys will select jurors from daily panels of 48 people. Once that is completed, opening statements will begin.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty against Rolle, who has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Prosecuting Rolle will be District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who also represented the state of Wyoming in Natrona County's last death penalty case, in the spring of 2004.

Rolle is represented by Vaughn Neubauer, a local public defender who also has experience in death penalty cases. Assisting him are attorneys Randolph Hiller and Erin Thompson.

The trial begins a little more than 10 months after Randel's death. On Nov. 3, 2007, a person who identified herself as the 40-year-old Casper woman called 911 to say she was being held against her will in a red pickup. Authorities traced the call to the area of 7 Mile and Poison Spider roads. However, a search that night failed to turn up the truck.

Earlier that evening, Randel and Rolle were seen together at Butch's Bar in Evansville, according to investigators.

The next day, officers learned of a red pickup stuck in a ditch near Canal Road, a hilly area about four miles west of Poison Spider School. When they arrived, they allegedly found Rolle standing outside the truck.

After Rolle was taken into custody, officers found Randel's body in the truck. Authorities say Randel had been beaten and stabbed.

Citing publicity, Rolle's attorneys sought to move the trial from Natrona County. Judge Thomas

Sullins denied the request.

The trial is expected to last three to four weeks.

Reach crime reporter Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@trib.com.

TrialTracker

Last we knew: Judge Thomas Sullins decided on several motions in preparation for the murder trial of Donald Rolle.

The latest: The trial begins Monday in Natrona County District Court.

What's next: Attorneys expect the capital trial to last three to four weeks.

Other notable Wyoming capital cases

* **Mark Hopkinson.** The only person to be executed in Wyoming since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty. He was sentenced to death in 1979 and executed in 1992.

* **James Martin Harlow.** Charged with murdering a prison guard in 1997. He was convicted and sentenced to death in 1998. However, after a federal judge ordered a new trial for him earlier this year, he accepted a plea agreement that included a life sentence.

* **Martin Olsen.** The Wyoming Supreme Court overturned Olsen's death sentence in 2003. A judge ultimately gave Olsen a life sentence for killing three people in a Worland Bar.

* **Dale Wayne Eaton.** Charged with raping and murdering 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmel. A Natrona County jury convicted him and sentenced him to death in 2004. The Wyoming Supreme Court recently denied his appeal.

* **Andrew Yellowbear Jr.** Convicted in 2006 of beating his 22-month-old daughter to death. Prosecutors sought the death penalty, but jurors decided he should serve life in prison instead.

* **Floyd DeWayne Grady.** A jury in 2006 spared Grady's life after convicting him of murdering a nurse at the Wyoming Honor Farm two years earlier.

On the Web

Visit www.trib.com/randel for daily updates on the Donald Rolle murder trial and more information on the Jennifer Randel case.



Victim's family should be allowed to testify

OCTOBER 03, 2008 12:00 AM

Star-Tribune Editorial Board

A Natrona County jury determined that Donald Rolle shouldn't be put to death for the first-degree murder of Jennifer Randel. Which begs the question, was justice served by a life sentence without the possibility of parole?

One troublesome aspect of all capital cases in Wyoming is the fact that the jury never gets to hear from the victim's family.

The Rolle case was a complex one. The 12 people on the jury listened to testimony for nearly three weeks, including the penalty phase, and were in the best position to judge his crimes and determine whether Rolle would be a threat to take another life. The decision whether the state should execute Rolle for his crimes against Randel was no doubt one of the most difficult of their lives.

Jury members aren't required to reach a unanimous decision on the death penalty. If even one member of the panel decides against death, the defendant's life is spared. On Thursday, a Rolle juror told Star-Tribune reporter Christine Robinson that two jurors voted for life and 10 chose death. The fact that the members only deliberated about three hours on Rolle's fate indicates that those in favor of a life sentence were committed to that outcome.

The last capital case heard in Casper turned out far differently. In 2004, jurors here decided Dale Wayne Eaton should be put to death for the 1988 murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell. One might well wonder why he now sits on death row in the state penitentiary, while Rolle won't be executed.

Their crimes had some similarities and differences. Both women had been kidnapped by their killers. Both deaths were brutal and torturous. Kimmell was a stranger to Eaton; Randel had been Rolle's girlfriend and had been injured numerous times by him during their on-again, off-again relationship.

Eaton had killed an inmate in prison while serving time for another crime, so jurors knew Kimmell's murder wasn't his only one. It was not difficult to believe that in the 14 years before a DNA match identified him as Kimmell's killer, Eaton could have taken more lives. He was, and is, a dangerous man.

There is overwhelming evidence that Rolle is as well. Still, it was probably more difficult for the jury to determine how much of a threat he poses to others. While the prosecution showed that Rolle had a history of violent encounters with others, including women he dated, a defense psychologist testified that Rolle would pose a low risk for serious violence while in prison.

The jury also heard Rolle's family members beg for mercy on his behalf, and listened to their stories about how he and his siblings were abused by their mother. While Rolle himself told the jury he believed in "an eye for an eye" and instructed them to remember "what Jennifer got," he could no longer control his own fate. It was in the hands of the men and women who had determined his guilt.

Some people believe that a life sentence without parole actually punishes a criminal more than a death sentence, because they have to face the consequences of their actions for the rest of their lives. Perhaps that's the belief of the two jurors who voted for life.

Randel's family can find some solace in the fact that the man who took away their loved one was caught and will spend the rest of his life behind bars. And they won't have to relive the events through the lengthy appeals process in death penalty cases.

But even though justice appears to have been served in this case, there's one aspect of the penalty phase of the trial that should be changed. If Rolle's family could seek mercy from the jury, members of Randel's family should have also been able to testify and describe how the murder has affected their lives, and recommend a sentence. It may not have changed the outcome in this case, but such testimony should have been considered.

Wyoming law does not currently allow for that to happen. The Legislature should see the inherent unfairness of the situation and correct it.

We support the jury's decision to sentence Rolle to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

What do you think?

We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.]]->



District Court

OCTOBER 04, 2008 12:00 AM

Here is the activity in the Seventh District Court.

New Civil Cases Filed

- *Sophia Grace McDaniels v. Harold Robert McDaniels, divorce/annulment
- *Sherry M. Draper v. Shane P. Draper, divorce/annulment
- *Wyoming DFS and two minors v. Martin D. Palmer, child support
- *Annita Ealum Neubauer v. Bradley A. McCoy, collections
- *Sarah Hunt v. Richard Hunt, divorce/annulment
- *Collectioncenter v. Sharon M. Benson, collections
- *Sean M. Hendrickson v. Jacqueline M. Hendrickson, divorce/annulment

Civil Dismissals Granted

- *Joseph Michael Vigneri Jr. v. Lloria Michelle Vigneri, matter is dismissed
- *Wyoming DFS and Brittany M. Woods v. Anthony J. Coughlin II, matter is dismissed

Civil Judgments Granted

- *Gaye Michelle Lutkins v. Curtis Alan Lutkins, divorce/annulment
- *Wyoming DFS and one minor v. Mark W. Boatman v. Dorene Jeannette Whiting, paternity or parental rights, judgment granted
- *Wyoming DFS and one minor v. Talcon L. Lebeda and Beth Bowman, paternity or parental rights, judgment granted
- *Kimberly Louise Dalgarn v. Russell Shane Dalgarn, divorce/annulment, defendanted awarded judgment against plaintiff

New Criminal Cases Filed

- *Wyoming v. Leslie Diane Leslie
- *Wyoming v. Christopher Allen Bordeau

*Wyoming v. Danirl R. Gerken

*Wyoming v. Joseph Scott McNaughton (2 cases)

Criminal Judgments Granted

*Wyoming v. Dale W. Eaton, mandate affirming judgments

*Wyoming v. Tyler W. Tille, first offender status, 1-5 years supervised probation



Judge sets execution date for Eaton

OCTOBER 14, 2008 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

A Natrona County district judge Monday set a December execution date for Wyoming's only death row inmate, who was convicted of the 1988 kidnapping, rape and murder of a teenager.

Dale Wayne Eaton, 63, is set to be put to death before sunrise on Dec. 19, although future appeals will almost certainly push back that date.

"It is very difficult to say, but just based on other cases, I would say we are less than halfway through that process," said District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who prosecuted the case against Eaton.

A jury in March 2004 sentenced Eaton to die for the murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, who disappeared in 1988 while driving from Colorado to Cody. Fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River eight days later, but it was not until 2003 that prosecutors, with the help of DNA evidence, charged Eaton with her death.

Kimmell had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed before being thrown from Government Bridge, off State Highway 220.

The Wyoming Supreme Court rejected Eaton's appeal in August and directed the trial court set a new date for his execution.

That task was completed during a short hearing Monday morning in Natrona County District Court. Eaton is being held at the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins but was transported to Casper for the proceedings.

Eaton, dressed in an orange jail uniform, sat at the defense table and rested his shackled hands on his belly during the hearing. He showed no emotion and declined an opportunity to address the court.

Judge David Park acknowledged there was a "substantial possibility" the execution would not take place on the date he set. But, the judge added, the Supreme Court's ruling and state law directed him to set it regardless.

Reached Monday afternoon, Kimmell's mother, Sheila Kimmell, declined to comment.

Blonigen said chances are low the execution will happen on Dec. 19, unless Eaton forgoes further appeals. There has been no indication he plans to do that, the prosecutor added.

"Unfortunately, this process has become very drawn out throughout not only Wyoming, but the United States," Blonigen said. "And it is something you have to deal with in cases like that."

At this point in the process, the defense typically files a motion to "stay" the execution pending additional legal proceedings, Blonigen said. After that, Eaton's attorneys could file a petition with District Court that argues he was convicted in violation of his constitutional rights. That petition must be submitted to the court by May.

If that is rejected, the case could enter the federal court system. The entire process could be complicated, with multiple filings proceeding through the legal system at the same time.

"It is not always a neat and simple progression of one remedy to the next," Blonigen said.

Mark Hopkinson, the last person executed in Wyoming, was put to death by lethal injection in 1992 after 13 years on death row. He is the only person to be executed in the state since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976.

Reach crime reporter Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@trib.com.

News Tracker

Last we knew: The Wyoming Supreme Court rejected the appeal of Dale Wayne Eaton, the state's sole death row inmate.

The latest: A Natrona County district judge set Eaton's execution for Dec. 19.

What's next: Several more years of appeals on Eaton's behalf are expected.

Last we knew: The Wyoming Supreme Court rejected the appeal of Dale Wayne Eaton, the state's sole death row inmate.

The latest: A Natrona County district judge set Eaton's execution for Dec. 19.

What's next: Several more years of appeals on Eaton's behalf are expected.]]->



Eaton's guilt is not in question

OCTOBER 15, 2008 12:00 AM

Star-Tribune Editorial Board

How long should justice be delayed?

It's been more than four and a half years since a Natrona County jury sentenced Dale Wayne Eaton to death for the 1988 murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell. District Judge David Park on Monday set Eaton's execution date as Dec. 19, but it will be many years before the state of Wyoming puts the killer to death - if it ever happens.

Mark Hopkinson, the last inmate executed in Wyoming, spent 13 years on death row at the State Penitentiary before he was put to death by lethal injection in 1992.

The national average time on death row before an inmate's sentence is carried out is 12 years. In some states, it's much longer. In California, where 670 people are on death row, the last five inmates to be executed each waited 20 to 25 years.

If the appeals process for Eaton takes as long as it did for Hopkinson, he won't face execution until 2017, when he'll be 72. That's 29 years after the crime.

In March 2004, when Eaton's death sentence was handed down, our editorial board concluded that the jury made a just decision. The members on the board have changed, but the facts of the case remain the same.

There is no doubt that Eaton killed Kimmell. DNA evidence and other physical evidence linked him directly to the crime. Her car was buried on his property in an effort to cover up the murder. Eaton, through his attorney, even admitted he murdered the woman.

Jurors found the killing to be especially atrocious or cruel. They found Eaton killed Kimmell purposely and with premeditated malice, after he kidnapped and sexually assaulted the victim.

Moreover, Eaton had killed an inmate in a Colorado prison while doing time for a different crime. He posed a danger to others even during his incarceration.

We realize that in death penalty cases, the courts need to make certain that the proper procedures have been followed. The penalty is final and can't be undone. No one wants to see an innocent person executed.

But it has been thoroughly established through the court system that Eaton is not an innocent man. After state appeals are exhausted - which nationally takes an average of three years - why should the federal appeals process take an additional decade?

The California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice released its final report in June. It noted: "The system's failures create cynicism and disrespect for the rule of law ... weaken any possible deterrent benefits of capital punishment, and increase the emotional trauma experienced by murder victims' families."

Whether one is for or against the death penalty, it is self-evident that it becomes moot as a deterrent to capital crimes if it is not applied in a reasonable and timely manner.

In Eaton's case, each appeal will further remind Kimmell's family of the pain and suffering she endured at the hands of the person who unquestionably killed her. For them, justice has already been delayed far too long. The problem shouldn't be compounded by a federal process that makes it much more likely that a death row inmate will die in prison of natural causes before the state carries out its punishment.



District Court

OCTOBER 21, 2008 12:00 AM

Here is the activity in the Seventh District Court.

New Civil Cases Filed

- *Patricia A. Chase v. Terry D. Chase Sr., UIFSA
- *Judy Valdez v. Sharon D. Stimmel, UIFSA
- *Jennifer Marie Hodgkins v. Richard Sanchez, UIFSA
- *WYHY Federal Credit Union v. Gerardo Escarsega, contract actions
- *Wyoming DFS, two minors and Sally Martinez v. Saleeda L. Martinez, child support

Civil Judgments Granted

- *Heidi Janette Hedstrom v. Kevin Alan Hedstrom, divorce/annulment, child support modified as set forth in order
- *NPRD Federal Credit Union v. Harold Mike Mundell, contract actions, plaintiff awarded attorney fees and costs as set forth in order
- *Jill M. Reiling v. Chad R. Reiling, divorce/annulment, defendant is current in his child support obligation through 10/2008
- *Wyoming DFS and one minor v. Christine A. Jager, child support, plaintiff awarded judgment against defendant
- *Rocky Mountain Pipeline System LLC v. Jonce B. Eccles Jr., Bertha Ann Eccles and Eccles Land & Livestock, injunction, permanent injunction granted as set forth in order
- *Patricia A. Chase v. Terry D. Chase Sr., UIFSA, respondent to pay child support
- *Jennifer Marie Hodgkins v. Richard Sanchez, UIFSA, respondent to pay child support, judgment entered against respondent
- *Jessica L. Simmons v. Matthew B. Labate, paternity/UIFSA

New Criminal Cases Filed

- *Wyoming v. Christopher L. Spurlin

*Wyoming v. Jimmie Neal Herron

Criminal Dismissals Granted

*Wyoming v. Jeremy Lee Lorenz, order of dismissal

Criminal Judgments Granted

*Wyoming v. Shane L. Ingram, defendant discharged from probation and conviction entered as a matter of law

*Wyoming v. Dale W. Eaton, warrant of execution

*Wyoming v. Desiree Dawn Martin, order for discharge from probation

*Wyoming v. Michelle Renee Burgien, split sentence - 45 days NCDL and 3 years supervised probation

*Wyoming v. Nicholas Goddard Garrison, order for sentence reduction, 36 months supervised probation



Eaton attorneys seek to delay execution

OCTOBER 28, 2008 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Attorneys representing Wyoming's lone death row inmate have filed a motion with the state supreme court to delay his Dec. 19 execution.

The motion, filed Friday on behalf of Dale Wayne Eaton, asked for the stay pending future legal proceedings, said Tina Kerin, appellate counsel for the state Public Defender's Office. Eaton was convicted four years ago of the 1988 kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Eaton's attorneys will be filing a petition with the U.S. Supreme Court and will also seek legal relief in the state court system, Kerin added.

A copy of the motion to stay the execution was unavailable Monday because the Wyoming Supreme Court was moving to another building.

Attorneys filed the motion less than two weeks after a Natrona County district judge set a formal date for Eaton, 63, to be put to death. The Wyoming Supreme Court rejected Eaton's appeal in August and directed the trial court to set a new date for his execution.

However, it remains likely that date will be pushed back as Eaton's attorneys seek relief in multiple legal venues. Natrona County District Attorney Michael Blonigen earlier this month estimated the legal process surrounding Eaton's death sentence is less than halfway through.

The case itself is already two decades old. Kimmell, 18, disappeared in 1988 while driving from Colorado to Cody. Fisherman found her body floating in the North Platte River eight days later.

She had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed before being thrown from Government Bridge near Highway 220.

Prosecutors, with the help of DNA evidence, charged Eaton with her murder in 2003. A jury convicted him and sentenced him to death the following year.

Reach crime reporter Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@trib.com.



Supreme Court delays Eaton's execution

NOVEMBER 14, 2008 12:00 AM • [THE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF](#)

The Wyoming Supreme Court halted the execution of Dale Wayne Eaton in a ruling on Friday.

The ruling, written by Chief Justice Barton Voigt, delayed Eaton's execution pending his application for appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. It also ordered the appeal be filed within 90 days.

A jury in March 2004 sentenced Eaton to die for the murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, who disappeared in 1988 while driving from Colorado to Cody. Fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River eight days later, but it was not until 2003 that prosecutors, with the help of DNA evidence, charged Eaton with her death.

Kimmell had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed before being thrown from Government Bridge, off State Highway 220.

The Wyoming Supreme Court rejected Eaton's appeal in August and directed the trial court set a new date for his execution. In October, Eaton's death was scheduled for "no later than December 19, 2008."

For more on this story, see Saturday's Star-Tribune.



State supreme court delays Eaton's execution

NOVEMBER 15, 2008 12:00 AM • [THE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF](#)

The Wyoming Supreme Court halted the execution of Dale Wayne Eaton in a ruling on Friday.

The ruling, written by Chief Justice Barton Voigt, delayed Eaton's execution pending his application for appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

A jury in March 2004 sentenced Eaton to die for the murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, who disappeared in 1988 while driving from Colorado to Cody. Fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River eight days later, but it was not until 2003 that prosecutors, with the help of DNA evidence, charged Eaton with her death.

Kimmell had been sexually assaulted, hit in the head and stabbed before being thrown from Government Bridge, off State Highway 220.

The Wyoming Supreme Court rejected Eaton's appeal in August and directed Natrona County District Court to set a new date for his execution. In October, Eaton's death was scheduled for "no later than December 19, 2008."

That wording required the Wyoming Supreme Court to vacate the execution warrant because a specific date was not set. In the same ruling, the court set an execution date of Dec. 19, then delayed the execution, as it did with the state's case against James Harlow in 2003.

Harlow is serving a life sentence after spending almost a decade on death row for killing a guard at the Wyoming State Penitentiary during an escape attempt.

"This Court believes that setting a new date of execution, rather than remanding to the district court to set a new date of execution, may help avoid some inherent delays in this case, as well as conserve resources of the courts and the parties," Voigt wrote.

The appeal options available are numerous.

Eaton's attorneys were also ordered to notify the Wyoming Supreme Court and prosecutors when they file their appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court.

Eaton also has until May to file an appeal with the District Court on the grounds his constitutional rights were violated. An appeal on that basis would enter the federal court system.

The entire process could be complicated, with multiple filings proceeding through the legal system at the same time.

Mark Hopkinson, the last person executed in Wyoming, was put to death by lethal injection in

1992 after 13 years on death row. He is the only person to be executed in the state since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976.

News Tracker

Last we knew: A Natrona County district judge set Dale Wayne Eaton's execution for "no later than December 19, 2008."

The latest: The Wyoming Supreme Court vacated the district judge's warrant, set a firm date of Dec. 19 and then delayed the execution pending an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

What's next: Several more years of appeals on Eaton's behalf are expected.



Rolle letter recalls attorney rift

NOVEMBER 26, 2008 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

A letter penned by Donald Rolle to the judge who oversaw his trial reveals the murderer's gripes about his attorneys didn't end with his conviction.

In the letter, which was dated Oct. 28 and found recently in Rolle's court file by a Star-Tribune reporter, Rolle complains about his lead trial attorney, public defender Vaughn Neubauer. He also advises Natrona County District Judge Thomas Sullins, who presided over the case, of his intention to appeal his conviction.

It's not unprecedented for defendants to speak out against their attorneys. During his trial, Dale Wayne Eaton, Wyoming's lone death row inmate, lashed out at his lawyer. Eaton's appeals following his conviction have argued his counsel was ineffective at trial.

A jury in September convicted Rolle, 47, of first-degree murder in the brutal killing of Jennifer Randel, a Casper woman he had an on-again, off-again relationship with. Prosecutors sought the death penalty, but jurors chose a sentence of life without parole instead.

Rolle criticized his attorneys during his three-week trial and in other court appearances. At one point, he refused to allow deputies to remove his handcuffs until Neubauer sat farther away from him.

In his post-trial letter, Rolle returned to some of the same themes that played out at trial and asked for a "conflict attorney" to review his case.

Rolle also criticized Neubauer over the circumstances surrounding an evaluation Rolle underwent this summer.

"After the evaluation, court failed to follow recommendation of evaluation [sic] and address the conflicts between council [sic] and defendant," he wrote.

Rolle was visibly agitated with Neubauer at a hearing in June where the attorney requested his client undergo a mental evaluation. The doctor who performed the evaluation determined Rolle was fit for trial.

Neubauer, who now works at the Laramie Public Defender's office, was unavailable for comment Wednesday.

In the letter, Rolle said his Constitutional rights were violated and claimed Neubauer was the only public defender who went to high school with Randel, whom he referred to as the "alleged victim."

"I have rights to have a fair trial and this should be upheld no matter what community the trial

is held," Rolle wrote.

Sullins responded to Rolle's letter in early November. In the judge's response, addressed to lawyers on both sides of the case, Sullins asked defense attorneys to review Rolle's concerns, confer with him, and bring any legal motion that may be necessary.

Rolle remains held at Natrona County Detention Center pending his formal sentencing.

Reach crime reporter Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@trib.com.



Issues catch in the mind

DECEMBER 11, 2008 12:00 AM

Editor:

My new updates on the world:

1. For Billy Lee Ackerley, I agree with his prediction of bad times under Democratic control but am willing to wait and see. Maybe not.
2. Isn't it amazing that now with Democrats in control, they all want total unity and cooperation and suggest we start lowering our expectations? I told you so.
3. An observation to anti-Palin morons; on either side, she was the class act and bright spot of the entire process.
4. President-elect Obama's return to Camelot? I wasn't that impressed with the last one. Obama and Michelle are no King Arthur and Guinevere, or even John F. and Jackie.
5. Communist China's \$586 billion stimulus package slashing taxes, easing credit and subsidizing low incomes should be carefully monitored by Obama just in case he forgets his own election promises.
6. Dale Wayne Eaton has breathed free air longer than Lisa Marie Kimmell was allowed to live, after hideously killing her in 1988 and his lawyers think his "rights" have been violated? On fair treatment of murderers (including even the abortionists), I stand 6 feet to the right of Genghis Khan.
7. It's ironic that our now president-elect couldn't get a job with the FBI or CIA due to his known links to terrorists, but he can be president. Only in America.

CURT WARTICK, Casper



Casper briefs

DECEMBER 17, 2008 12:00 AM • [THE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF](#)

Eaton wants Supreme Court review

Attorneys for Dale Wayne Eaton, Wyoming's lone death row inmate, have filed a petition asking the U.S. Supreme Court to review his case.

The petition, filed earlier this month by an attorney with the state public defender's office, came a month after the Wyoming Supreme Court delayed Eaton's execution date, scheduled for Friday, pending future appeals.

A jury sentenced Eaton to die for the murder, rape and kidnapping of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, who disappeared in 1998 while driving to Cody from Colorado. With the help of DNA evidence, prosecutors charged Eaton with her death in 2003. He was convicted a year later.

Man pleads not guilty to arson, burglary

A Casper man pleaded not guilty Wednesday to charges alleging he tried to set fire to a sheet metal business he'd been fired from months earlier.

Michael Shane Ball, 35, entered the plea during his arraignment in Natrona County District Court. He faces charges of first-degree arson, property destruction and burglary.

Officers arrested Ball on Oct. 31 following a fire at Sheet Metal Specialties on Yellowstone Highway in Casper. Police say his roommate told them Ball came into her bedroom on the morning of the fire asking to borrow her vehicle. She claimed he bragged about burning down the business.

Ball has prior convictions in North Carolina for breaking and entering, robbery, escape and drug possession.

Fraud suspect appears in court

A woman police suspect was at the center of a Casper area fraud ring pleaded not guilty Wednesday to conspiracy to commit forgery.

Police arrested Teresa Marie Porter in October as part of a fraud investigation that stemmed from a man who alleged tried to cash a forged Wyoming State Auditor's check.

Officers searched Porter's home in September and found items they say can be used to make fraudulent checks and IDs.





U.S. Supreme Court won't hear Eaton appeal

Death row inmate has other appeal options

FEBRUARY 26, 2009 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The U.S. Supreme Court this week refused to hear an appeal from Wyoming's lone death row inmate.

Attorneys for Dale Wayne Eaton had petitioned the nation's highest court in December to consider his case. On Monday, the petition was denied.

Eaton, who was convicted of the kidnapping, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, still has other options for appeals.

The next step will be for him to file a petition for post conviction relief in Natrona County District Court, said Attorney Tina Kerin, who has represented Eaton during the appeals process. Such petitions ask for a review of alleged constitutional errors.

That petition must be filed within five years of his sentencing. A judge signed Eaton's death warrant in May 2004.

Kerin said she won't be representing Eaton in the future, but he will continued to be represented by the Wyoming Public Defender's Office.

In addition to state appeals, Eaton also has the option of seeking relief at the federal district court level, Kerin said.

Natrona County District Attorney Michael Blonigen said he doesn't expect Eaton will be executed soon.

"It certainly isn't imminent," the prosecutor said. "We can say that with some confidence."

The Supreme Court's decision to reject Eaton's petition isn't unusual. The court receives thousands of requests each year to hear cases and grants a relative few.

State and federal courts have already heard and decided on the legal issues raised in Eaton's case, Blonigen said.

"From a legal point of view, it did not have any issues of great consequence in it or great originality in them," he said.

In March 2004, a jury convicted Eaton and sentenced him to die for murdering Kimmell, who disappeared in 1988 while driving from Colorado to Cody. Fisherman found her body floating in the North Platte River eight days later, but it was not until 2003 that prosecutors, with the help

of DNA evidence, charged Eaton with her death.

She had been raped, hit in the head and stabbed before being thrown from Government Bridge off State Highway 220.

Wyoming last executed a prisoner in 1992, when Mark Hopkinson was put to death by lethal injection. He spent 13 years on death row and is the only person executed in the state since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976.

Reach crime reporter Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@trib.com. Read his blog at www.trib.com/blog.



Eaton execution will remain on hold, court says

Inmate still has appeal options

MARCH 11, 2009 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The Wyoming Supreme Court on Wednesday ordered that the execution of the state's lone death row inmate should remain on hold pending additional appeals.

The order comes less than a month after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected a petition to hear the appeal of Dale Wayne Eaton, who was convicted in 2004 of kidnapping, rape and murder.

Following that rejection, Eaton's attorneys notified the state supreme court they plan to file a petition for post-conviction relief in Natrona County District Court. Such petitions ask for a review of alleged constitutional errors.

The petition must be filed within five years of sentencing. A judge signed Eaton's death warrant in May 2004.

Although Eaton has been on death row for almost five years, he is not expected to be executed soon. In addition to his appeal in Natrona County, he can also seek relief at the federal district court level.

In March 2004, a jury convicted Eaton of murdering 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, who disappeared in 1988 while driving from Colorado to Cody. Fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River eight days after she vanished, but it was not until 2003 that prosecutors, with the help of DNA evidence, charged Eaton with her death.

Eaton had raped Kimmell, hit her in the head and stabbed her multiple times before throwing her body from Government Bridge off State Highway 220.

At trial, Eaton's attorney admitted his client had raped and killed Kimmell, but argued Eaton had been overcharged. During his state appeal - which was rejected by the Wyoming Supreme Court - Eaton asserted his trial counsel offered ineffective assistance and that jury selection had been unconstitutional.

Wyoming last executed a prisoner in 1992, when Mark Hopkinson was put to death by lethal injection. His execution came 13 years after his sentence.

Hopkinson is the only person executed in Wyoming since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976.

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Wyo Supreme Court: Eaton execution will remain on hold

MARCH 11, 2009 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

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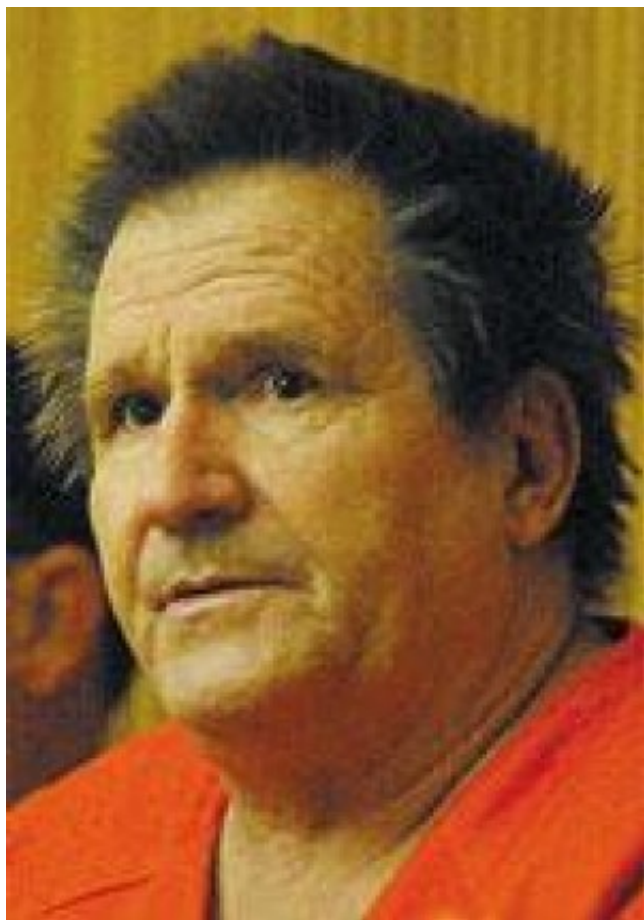
Read Thursday's Star-Tribune for more on this story.





Death row inmate files new appeal

Eaton was convicted of killing in 2004



JUNE 04, 2009 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The Wyoming Supreme Court failed to adequately review the appeal of the state's lone death row inmate, his attorney argues in a newly filed petition.

The state's highest court erred in concluding Dale Wayne Eaton received effective legal representation at trial and failed to address all the claims made in his earlier appeal, defense attorney Michael Reese wrote in his petition to Natrona County District Court.

"The findings of the Wyoming Supreme Court are so undefined, so murky and in general so unanalyzed that (Eaton) will almost certainly be prejudiced in the future as he attempts to obtain review of his claims in the federal court system," Reese wrote in the 79-page petition, which was filed Wednesday.

Reese asked the District Court to throw out his client's 2004 conviction and death sentence for the kidnapping, rape and murder of 18-year-old

Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Eaton's latest petition comes less than four months after the U.S. Supreme Court refused to consider his case. Wyoming's highest court reviewed his case last year and denied his appeal.

Wednesday's petition was expected. The Wyoming Supreme Court in March ordered that Eaton's execution should remain on hold pending further appeals. This week's appeal, a petition for post-conviction relief, asks for a review of alleged constitutional errors.

In the petition, Reese argues that Wyoming's high court "repeatedly hinted at error but did not make clear rulings" and failed to offer proper explanations of its conclusions. He offered several examples to bolster his assertions and focused considerable attention on perceived failures by Eaton's trial attorneys.

At trial, Eaton's lead attorney admitted his client kidnapped, sexually assaulted and murdered

Kimmell. However, he argued that Eaton hadn't committed first-degree murder, and was therefore ineligible for the death penalty.

Eaton signed a document before trial that gave his attorneys permission to concede he held some criminal responsibility for the killing, but not for first-degree murder.

By admitting to both the kidnapping and the killing, Eaton's trial attorneys effectively admitted to felony murder, Reese argues.

"Felony murder is first-degree (ie. death eligible) murder," he wrote in the petition. "Defense counsel did not have consent to concede (Eaton's) guilt to first-degree murder."

The Wyoming Supreme Court, he went on, violated Eaton's due process rights by endorsing the trial attorneys' actions.

In addition to claims that the state Supreme Court failed to provide an adequate review, Eaton's attorney argues the death penalty in Wyoming violates the Eighth Amendment prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment.

He further contends that Eaton's behavior during the trial - which included outbursts in front of jurors - suggests he lacks a rational understanding of the link between his criminal actions and the reason he has been sentenced to death. The U.S. Supreme Court has held that an inmate's inability to make such a connection renders him incompetent for execution.

Eaton has been on Wyoming's death row since 2004, when a jury sentenced him to die for Kimmell's murder.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving from Colorado to Cody. Eight days after she vanished, fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River.

Prosecutors, with the help of DNA evidence, charged Eaton with the killing in 2003.

Eaton had raped Kimmell, hit her in the head and stabbed her multiple times before throwing her body from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

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County coroner resigns

County GOP must nominate potential replacements

AUGUST 05, 2009 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Natrona County Coroner Dr. James Thorpen submitted his formal letter of resignation to the Natrona County Commission on Tuesday.

"Dear Rob Hendry: I hereby am giving notice of my plan to retire August 31, 2009," was all it said.

The forensic pathologist's simple note marked a quiet end to a nearly three-decade career, during which his person became synonymous with the position to which he was re-elected every four years since 1982.

Thorpen played key roles in solving many murder cases, including the 2006 conviction of Rita Ann Humphrey in the shooting death of husband Jack Humphrey in 1977; his testimony in 2004 that helped convict Dale Eaton of the 1988 murder of Lisa Marie Kimmel; and in 2008 with the research of Donald Rolle's murder of Jennifer Randel in 2007.

"Thank you for the 27 years of service to the county," Natrona County Commission Chairman Rob Hendry said, followed by a round of applause from the commissioners and county staff at the work session.

Thorpen, the state's only forensic pathologist who is a coroner, had announced in February he would retire probably by May, but stayed because he was asked to do contract work, he said.

His announcement will trigger a replacement process when the commission notifies the Natrona County Republican Party's central committee, which has 15 days to meet and select three people qualified to fill the vacancy. The committee then gives those names to the county commissioners, who have five days to appoint one of the three nominees.

While the process is political, Thorpen told commissioners he'll make it personal, too.

"I don't want to see anyone step in who doesn't have a clue what a coroner does," he said.

Thorpen wants the Natrona County GOP central committee to consider chief deputy coroner Wayne Reynolds and forensic nurse Connie Jacobson, both of whom attended the work session.

"I want to tell you how lucky we are to have Connie and Wayne on our side," Thorpen said.

Reynolds had worked with Thorpen, then the Natrona County Sheriff's Office, and returned to the coroner's office about eight months ago.

Jacobson worked with Thorpen from 1998 through 2001, then with Dr. Jim Anderson at the Wyoming Medical Center in trauma care. She resigned from the hospital in July, she said.

"Wayne brings the law enforcement (experience) and Connie brings the medical," Thorpen said.

To emphasize the importance of the job, he asked the commissioners to raise the salary of the coroner.

"The commission realizes that salary has to go up," Hendry said. "We don't have that figure yet."

The request recalled a tumultuous time in 2005 and 2006, when the county commissioners began investigating concerns about former chief deputy coroner Gary Hazen.

Because Thorpen is an elected official who has hiring and firing power over employees, the commissioners could not oust Hazen.

But the commissioners had the power of the purse strings, and voted in December 2005 to cut the coroner's salary from \$60,000 to \$25,000, and make the coroner position a part-time job.

Seven months later, they voted to cut the funding for Hazen about the same time he agreed to leave the office.

The commission's actions outraged voters, who elected three candidates in November 2006 who said they would support Hazen and Thorpen.

Hazen retained his job.

But in early 2008, the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation began interviewing people who said Hazen had confiscated drugs, cash, pornography and other items from homes where people had died.

He was placed on leave that month, and was fired in December.

In February, a special prosecutor filed 10 felony charges against Hazen, including eight for drug possession.

Last week, Hazen pleaded guilty to possessing hydrocodone and methadone as part of a plea agreement to drop eight other charges.

On Tuesday, Thorpen said his former chief deputy coroner had a great career ahead and squandered the opportunity. "He blew it all away."

Reach Tom Morton at (307) 266-0592, or at tom.morton@trib.com. Read his blog at tribtown.trib.com/TomMorton/blog.





Eaton's mental state declines

Killer of Lisa Marie Kimmell can't help his own defense, lawyer says

SEPTEMBER 05, 2009 12:00 AM • [TOM MORTON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

Convicted murderer Dale Eaton's deteriorating mental condition has made him incapable of helping in his own defense, an attorney said Friday.

"After his conviction, his doctor indicated he cannot assist counsel," Michael Reese said after a procedural hearing at 7th District Court.

"He has certain cognitive issues; he's declining," Reese said.

Eaton's mental fitness was an issue during his trial at which he was sentenced to death in 2004 on three felony murder counts for the kidnapping, robbery, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell near Casper in 1988.

His depression was cited during the trial, during which he sometimes would yell at his attorneys and witnesses.

But he was competent enough to be at the trial, unlike during Friday's hearing when Reese told District Judge David Park that Eaton waived his right to be present.

Since his conviction, Eaton has filed a number of appeals that have been rejected by state courts and the U.S. Supreme Court in February. The Wyoming Supreme Court then placed Eaton's execution on hold pending more appeals, including the "petition for post-conviction relief" filed by Reese.

The petition process is necessary for a further appeal to the federal court on constitutional grounds because of the ultimate sentence, he told Park. "The death penalty is different."

In his 79-page petition filed in early June, Reese wrote the Wyoming Supreme Court failed to adequately review Eaton's appeal that his legal representation at his trial was inadequate.

"The findings of the Wyoming Supreme Court are so undefined, so murky and in general so unanalyzed that [Eaton] will almost certainly be prejudiced in the future as he attempts to obtain review of his claims in the federal court system," Reese wrote.

Furthermore, Eaton's behavior during the trial suggested he lacked a rational understanding of the link between his criminal actions and the reason he was sentenced to death, Reese wrote.

In the petition, he identified six reasons Eaton should receive post-conviction relief, including:

* The Eighth Amendment bans the death penalty for individuals who are so mentally ill that they

do not understand the reason for their execution. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld that opinion in *Panetti v. Quarterman* in 2007.

* He was deprived of a meaningful appellate review.

* The death penalty, as used in Wyoming, is cruel and unusual punishment under the Eighth and 14th amendments.

* Wyoming law about administering capital punishment is unconstitutional.

* Wyoming law on post-conviction relief is unconstitutional and should be overturned.

The Wyoming Supreme Court, Reese said, could have done a better job of reviewing Eaton's appeal, and Park should do something about that.

Park seemed taken aback by Reese's comment.

"What would you have me do, require the Wyoming Supreme Court write better opinions?" he asked.

"Yes," Reese replied.

"Do you have any authority [for me] to do that?" Park asked.

"No," Reese said.

But Park's court, where Eaton was tried, has at least some clout, he added. "I think you have the right to say there wasn't adequate review."

However, Wyoming Senior Assistant Attorney General David Delicath told Park that Reese's claims cannot be tried in state District Court because they addressed the sentencing portion of Eaton's case.

Reese's claims would be valuable only if they dealt with Eaton's guilt or innocence, Delicath said. "None of [Reese's] claims allege constitutional issues in the trial."

The law also bars many of these claims on procedural grounds, he said.

Park said he would take the petition under advisement and issue an opinion soon.

After the hearing, Reese said he is pursuing every possible way to appeal the sentence of Eaton, Wyoming's lone death-row inmate.

"What we're doing here is exhaustion," he said. "There's always a chance that Mr. Eaton should not have the death penalty."

Reach Tom Morton at (307) 266-0592, or at tom.morton@trib.com. Read his blog at tribtown.trib.com/TomMorton/blog.



Judge rejects latest death row appeal

Case stems from 1988 murder

OCTOBER 17, 2009 12:00 AM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON - STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

A judge has denied the latest appeal from Wyoming's lone death row inmate, rejecting claims Dale Wayne Eaton's case didn't receive a meaningful review from the state's highest court.

Natrona County District Judge David Park also rejected arguments Eaton lacked an effective appeals attorney and shouldn't be executed because of his mental state.

Park, who served as Eaton's trial judge, announced his findings in a 19-page decision letter released Thursday. The ruling came in response to a June petition by Eaton's attorney that asked for a review of alleged constitutional errors.

Eaton has been on death row since 2004, when a jury concluded he should die for the kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell. He hit the 18-year-old in the head and stabbed her multiple times before throwing her body from Government Bridge west of Casper.

In the petition, Cheyenne attorney Michael Reese called the Wyoming Supreme Court review of Eaton's case "so undefined, so murky and in general so unanalyzed" that it would hurt his chances in future federal appeals. Such an assertion, Park wrote, didn't merit much discussion.

"Suffice it to say this issue clearly has nothing to do with the proceedings that resulted in Eaton's conviction, and it would be highly inappropriate, to say the least, for the court to presume to issue any directions or ruling to the supreme court," Park wrote.

The supreme court rejected Eaton's appeal last year. In their ruling, the justices said they were satisfied the evidence in the case supported the jury's verdict.

Reese also argued Eaton's mental status should make him ineligible for execution. At a hearing last month, Reese said his client's deteriorating mental condition prevented him from helping in his own defense.

In response, Park noted Reese hadn't supplied affidavits, records or other documentation to back his claims.

"If the question is Eaton's current mental status, [Reese] has done nothing to support a contention that Eaton is currently incompetent," the judge wrote.

Park further noted such claims were outside the scope of the petition, which is supposed to focus on constitutional issues that arose from Eaton's court proceedings.

An execution date for Eaton has not been set. The Wyoming Supreme Court in March ordered

his execution to remain on hold pending further appeals.

The next step in Eaton's appeal process wasn't clear. Reese did not immediately return a message left Friday seeking comment.

Earlier this year, Natrona County District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who prosecuted the case, said he didn't expect Eaton would be put to death soon.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving from Denver to Billings, Mont. Eight days after she vanished, fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River.

Prosecutors, with the help of DNA evidence, charged Eaton with the killing in 2003. Authorities found her car on property Eaton owned near Moneta.

At trial, Eaton's trial attorney did not contest his guilt in Kimmell's murder. But he asserted the killing was not premeditated and that a second-degree murder conviction was more appropriate.

Reach crime reporter Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@trib.com. Visit tribtown.trib.com/JoshuaWolfson/blog to read his blog.



Kimmells form unique bond with Eaton's sister

'I call them victims in the third degree'

NOVEMBER 04, 2009 12:00 AM • [BY CHRIS CASEY - GREELEY \(COLO.\) TRIBUNE](#)

GREELEY, Colo. -- Closure never comes to parents who've lost a child. Sheila and Ron Kimmell know this firsthand. Their 18-year-old daughter, Lisa, was brutally murdered in 1988 on her way to the family's home in Montana.

But they also learned, during an agonizing 14-year wait to learn who killed Lisa, that there is another layer of victims in violent crimes who never get closure -- the family members of the attacker.

The Kimmells spoke Monday to a Victims Studies class at the University of Northern Colorado. The couple, who now live in Canon City, were joined in the discussion about their struggle for justice by Judy Mason, sister of Dale Wayne Eaton. Eaton is on death row in the Wyoming State Penitentiary for the murder of the Kimmells' oldest daughter.

The Kimmells and Mason, who lives near Greeley, have formed what could be considered an unlikely friendship over the past seven years. But the trio, sitting in front of the class of about 25 criminal justice students, explained that they actually share a kinship.

"Lisa was the ultimate victim," Sheila Kimmell said. "We're [herself, Ron and their family] considered the secondary victims. But there isn't [a definition] for Judy and her family -- the other people who were affected by Dale's crime. I call them victims in the third degree."

As a 16-year-old, Eaton, who at one time lived in Greeley, was convicted of stabbing a Greeley woman (she recovered) who complained the watermelon he sold her was rotten.

He later moved to Wyoming and was identified by DNA match in July 2002 as Lisa's murderer. Lisa took a road trip in late March 1988 from Denver, where she worked, toward Montana. She was to stop in Cody to meet with her boyfriend before continuing on to Billings, Mont. She never reached Cody, sparking a widespread search. On April 2, searchers found her body in the North Platte River near Casper.

Nothing linked Eaton to Lisa's death until he was arrested in July 1998 in Grand Teton National Park for being a felon in possession of a firearm (he'd been convicted in April 1998 of aggravated assault and battery). The arrest ultimately put his DNA into a federal database, which led to the match.

Sheila Kimmell and Mason met and became friends in fall 2002 when Eaton was on trial in Denver for the punching death of his cellmate at a prison in Florence, Colo.. Mason was the only member of her large family to attend the trial, which ended in Eaton being cleared on a manslaughter charge.

In their talks, Mason told Sheila Kimmell that she was from a family of seven kids. Eaton was the second- and she was the fourth-oldest. She explained that they were a closeknit family and lived on farms and ranches. When they were young, Eaton pulled his brother who suffered from cerebral palsy (who died last November) by wagon to school each day.

Sheila Kimmell didn't need the full explanation. She already felt that the family of Jeffrey Dahmer, for example, had been unfairly victimized by his crimes.

"I wanted to make it clear to her that I wasn't trying to take her love for her brother away," Sheila Kimmell said. "Not everything in their life was sad. No matter how bad a family can get, some love will remain."

The Kimmells told the UNC class that it was generally difficult for them to get information about the investigation. Sheila Kimmell chronicled the ordeal in her 2006 book, "The Murder of Lil Miss." "We didn't have a support system," she told the students. "There were no victim advocates to explain to us this very foreign, complicated legal system."

But as bad as the information vacuum can be for secondary victims, it's far worse for family members of the accused.

"If I wanted to know anything, I contacted Sheila," Mason told the class. "Even to this day, if I want to know something I can get it from Sheila. And that's so sad. I should have the rights of anyone else to know what's going on."

Ron Kimmell said his family never held Eaton's actions against the rest of his family. "They're people like us," he said. "They don't have any shame to bear, but that's how society looks at things."

Although the couple had difficulties working with some law enforcement officials -- especially the Natrona County Sheriff's Department -- there were many other officials who were extremely helpful.

"We're pleased to say we've seen the justice system evolve immensely over the last 20 years," Sheila Kimmell said. "But there's still much work to be done."

During Eaton's 2004 trial, the Kimmells gave their blessings to prosecutors to seek the death penalty. Sheila Kimmell said they would have pulled the death-penalty request if Eaton had given answers to families of other women, possibly murdered, in other parts of Wyoming and the West.

There are "as many as 12 that they still haven't identified the murderer, and in some cases there's a very close connection [to Eaton]," she said.

Ron Kimmell shook his head. "I don't know how they cope," he said of the families.

Mason is sympathetic to those families who don't have the peace of at least knowing what happened to their daughters. She is working to arrange a meeting between herself, Sheila Kimmell and Eaton at the Wyoming Penitentiary. In working through Sheila Kimmell, she got

word to Eaton that she'd like to meet with him. She made the request after the death of their brother who had cerebral palsy.

Eaton has agreed to meet with Mason, she said, and she wants Sheila Kimmell to be there when she greets her brother for the first time since he was imprisoned for Lisa's death.

After Eaton abducted Lisa at a rest stop outside Casper, it was discovered that he raped her repeatedly and held her hostage for six days in an old school bus. He has been diagnosed as a sociopath.

"I love my brother. He is my brother," Mason said. "What he did was wrong, and I can never forgive him for that. ... I can't let it go out of my mind."

She also can't let go of the notion that he may hold information that will bring a measure of solace to people such as the Kimmells.

"If he decides not to talk to Sheila, I'm going to talk to him, and I'm going to beg him to tell me if there was anybody else" he harmed, Mason said.



Hate crime laws are prejudicial

NOVEMBER 05, 2009 12:00 AM

Editor:

Let's take a look at two of the more infamous murders in the state of Wyoming. In March 1988, Lisa Marie Kimmell was abducted, raped and murdered. In April 2003 her murderer, Dale Wayne Eaton, was brought to justice, and is currently on death row. Matthew Shepard was brutally beaten and left for dead in October 1998. That following year his murderers were brought to justice and are currently serving life in prison.

Both crimes were especially heinous, displaying the worst of mankind. However, both crimes were investigated, indicted, prosecuted under existing laws. The key point is, in both cases, justice was served with the same laws for both victims. Murder is murder!

On Oct. 28, Barack Obama signed the Matthew Shepard Act. Obama is quoted before signing: "After more than a decade of opposition we passed inclusive hate crimes legislation to help protect our citizens from violence based on what they look like, who they love, how they pray or who they are."

The bill defines hate crimes as those motivated by prejudice against race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and disability. Furthermore the bill allows the U.S. attorney general to assist in the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes.

Laws passed to protect any one segment of society are inherently prejudicial! (Think affirmative action here.) Let's rewind to the search for Miss Kimmell 21 years ago. "I am sorry Mr. and Mrs. Kimmell, if only your daughter were a lesbian, we could get some help from the U.S. attorney general, are you sure she is only a single, heterosexual, Caucasian, able-bodied female? Anything will work, a lisp, prays to a strange god, anything and we can have the help, manpower, databases, profilers, choppers, you name it. I am sorry then, we'll just have to do it on our own." This law intrinsically places more value on the life of Matthew Shepard than it does on the life of Lisa Marie Kimmell! How is that not prejudicial?

People, you cannot legislate morality; our Founding Fathers knew this. The laws that we have, that have stood for over 200 years, worked then and they work now. My only hope is that nothing ever happens to your Caucasian, heterosexual, Christian, able-bodied children. They just won't be worth the U.S. attorney general's time.

ROBERT C. SNYDER JR., Casper



Unlikely friendship may help families

NOVEMBER 05, 2009 1:00 AM • [STAR-TRIBUNE EDITORIAL BOARD](#)

A tragedy -- the 1988 brutal murder in Wyoming of their 18-year-old daughter -- brought a Colorado couple and the sister of the convicted killer together. They are hopeful that their unlikely friendship can help other victims' families.

Sheila and Ron Kimmell have no animosity toward Judy Mason, which may be difficult for some people to understand. Mason's brother, Dale Wayne Eaton, was convicted in 2004 of the murder, rape and kidnapping of Lisa Marie Kimmell and sentenced to death in a Casper courtroom.

But to the Kimmells, Mason and her family are also Eaton's victims. "They're people like us," Ron Kimmell explained Monday to a victims' studies class at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colo. "They don't have any shame to bear, but that's how society looks at things."

Eaton has never expressed any remorse for killing the teenager, whose car was discovered buried on his Moneta property in 2002 after a DNA match finally linked him to the murder. He's also been considered a possible suspect in the deaths of up to 12 other women in Wyoming and the West, but there hasn't been enough evidence to charge him in any of those cases. If he was involved, barring a confession, he might take that knowledge to the grave.

But Mason, who said she still loves her brother but can't forgive him for what he did, asked for a meeting at the Wyoming State Penitentiary with Eaton, who agreed. Mason wants Sheila Kimmell by her side, but Eaton hasn't decided if he will talk to her.

The women's goal is to see if Eaton might at least bring some peace to the families of any other victims by letting them know what happened to the women. "If he decides not to talk to Sheila, I'm going to talk to him, and I'm going to beg him to tell me if there was anybody else" he harmed, Mason said.

We can't imagine how difficult it would be for Sheila Kimmell to face her daughter's killer, but being willing to do it to help other families is perfectly in character for her. She has demonstrated an amazing strength throughout her own family's ordeal. Any one would have understood if she had shunned Eaton's family, but instead she and her husband embraced the opportunity to become friends with Mason.

It's ironic that a case that highlights the absolute worst of human behavior has a flip side that displays so much compassion for others.



Wyoming briefs

NOVEMBER 20, 2009 12:00 AM • [FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS](#)

Former cop faces charges

RAWLINS -- A former Rawlins Police Department captain is scheduled to return to Carbon County today to face criminal charges.

The Carbon County Attorney's office filed multiple felony and misdemeanor counts against Adam "Lee" Meacham on Oct. 28. However, Meacham couldn't be found and a warrant for his arrest was issued.

On Nov. 5, Meacham was found working as a civilian contractor in Kabul, Afghanistan.

The nature of the charges against Meacham have not been made public.

A former Rawlins resident filed a civil lawsuit against Meacham and the city of Rawlins in 2007. The lawsuit alleged that Meacham had sexually assaulted her when she was a teenager. The lawsuit was settled for \$250,000.

Meacham also is a former Carbon County commissioner.

Eaton's death warrant hearing set

A death warrant hearing is scheduled for Dec. 14 for Dale Wayne Eaton, the only inmate on Wyoming's death row.

Eaton was sentenced to death for the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell. The U.S. Supreme court has declined to review his case.

Eaton's attorney asked the court earlier this year to bar his execution because of Eaton's mental status, but the judge said that there was no indication that Eaton isn't currently competent, nor was there any indication that he wasn't competent at the time of his trial.

Flu death toll reaches 10

CHEYENNE -- The Wyoming Department of Health reports that swine flu activity is decreasing across the state but officials say residents still need to take precautions.

Ten people have died in Wyoming from flu-related causes since the emergence of the H1N1 flu in the state earlier this year.

A Natrona County man who died in late October and a Park County man who died last week are the latest flu-related deaths.

Dr. Tracy Murphy is state epidemiologist. Murphy said that people still need to take precautions against the flu such as getting vaccines as recommended, staying home when they're sick and washing their hands frequently.

Woman kills husband, gets 20 years

SUNDANCE -- A 50-year-old Moorcroft woman has been sentenced to serve 16 to 20 years in prison for stabbing her husband to death.

Sandie Akers pleaded no contest in August to voluntary manslaughter.

In July 2008, Michael Akers was found dead near the front seat of the couple's motor home in Moorcroft. An autopsy showed he was stabbed six times in his chest, side and back and had several cuts on his neck.

Akers contended she killed her husband in self-defense.

Akers had been charged with first-degree murder, but prosecutors accepted the involuntary manslaughter plea.



Death row inmate asks feds for attorneys

Eaton to appear in death warrant hearing on Dec. 14

NOVEMBER 22, 2009 12:00 AM • BY TOM MORTON - STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Convicted murderer Dale Wayne Eaton has filed a request for the Wyoming U.S. District Court to appoint an attorney for him while his case is under review by the Wyoming state courts.

Eaton has been on death row since 2004 after his conviction of first degree premeditated murder, three counts of felony murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, and first degree sexual assault in the 1988 killing of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

The Wyoming Supreme Court upheld his conviction and sentence last year, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear his appeal in February, and in October Natrona County District Judge David Park denied his petition claiming he did not receive a meaningful review from the state supreme court.

These appeals included stays of execution.

Eaton has since filed a petition with the Wyoming Supreme Court to review Park's decision, which also rejected the claim he lacked an effective appeals attorney and that he shouldn't be executed because of his mental state.

That review is pending.

Meanwhile, Natrona County District Attorney Mike Blonigen has filed a warrant to carry out the execution, as well as a request to have Eaton transported from the Wyoming State Penitentiary to Natrona County for the Dec. 14 hearing about this warrant.

On Tuesday, Eaton filed his response to the death warrant request with the help of Diane Courselle, director of the Defender Aid Program of the University of Wyoming's College of Law.

The Wyoming Supreme Court has the jurisdiction over the stay of execution, according to Eaton's response filed in Natrona County District Court.

"As the Wyoming Supreme Court granted the last stay of execution, any motion to issue a warrant of execution must be addressed to the Wyoming Supreme Court, not this Court.

"Moreover, Mr. Eaton currently has pending in the Wyoming Supreme Court a petition for writ of review seeking review of this Court's decision on the post-conviction petition. Thus issuing a warrant of execution also would be premature," according to Eaton's response.

On Thursday, Eaton filed his request in federal court for an attorney to handle these issues, also with Courselle's help.

"As there are no other state court avenues of relief for Mr. Eaton to pursue after the Wyoming Supreme Court rules on the pending petition, Mr. Eaton respectfully asks that this Court appoint counsel at the earliest opportunity," according to his federal court motion.

Eaton also submitted a financial affidavit showing he could not afford an attorney.

The filings are the latest round of court maneuvers in the case that started in 1988 when Kimmell disappeared while driving from Colorado to Cody. Eight days after she vanished, fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River.

Prosecutors, with the help of DNA evidence, charged Eaton with the killing in 2003.

Eaton had raped Kimmell, hit her in the head and stabbed her multiple times before throwing her body from Government Bridge off Wyoming Highway 220.

Reach Tom Morton at (307) 266-0592, or at tom.morton@trib.com.



Wyo high court denies Eaton petition

NOVEMBER 25, 2009 3:40 PM • [JOSHUA WOLFSON STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The Wyoming Supreme Court has denied the latest petition from the state's lone death-row inmate.

The court also lifted its yearlong stay on Dale Wayne Eaton's execution and ordered a Natrona County judge to issue a new death warrant for the convicted murderer and rapist.

Eaton had asked the justices to examine a ruling made by Natrona County District Judge David Park, who rejected an appeal last month that claimed Eaton didn't receive a meaningful Supreme Court review. The appeal also claimed Eaton shouldn't be executed because of his mental status.

In a one-page order filed Tuesday, the justices declined to review Park's decision. They did not explain their reasoning.

A Dec. 14 hearing has already been scheduled in Natrona County District Court to consider Eaton's death warrant. However, District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who successfully prosecuted Eaton, said he doesn't expect the execution to happen soon.

"What this probably marks is an end to the state phase (of appeals)," he said. "The usual next step is a federal review."

Last week, Eaton asked a U.S. District Court judge to appoint an attorney to help him pursue additional appeals. He also submitted an affidavit showing he can't afford his own attorney.

Diane Courselle, director of the University of Wyoming's Defender Aid Program, assisted Eaton with the request, but told the court she didn't have the time or expertise in capital cases to serve as his attorney. Courselle did not respond to a message left for her Wednesday at the Defender Aid Program.

Eaton has been on death row since 2004, when a jury determined he should die for the kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell. He hit the 18-year-old in the head and stabbed her multiple times before throwing her body from Government Bridge west of Casper.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving from Denver to Billings, Mont. Fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River eight days after she vanished.

Prosecutors charged Eaton with the killing in 2003 after finding her car buried on property Eaton once owned near Moneta.

Reach reporter Joshua Wolfson at (307) 266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@trib.com. Visit tribtown.trib.com/JoshuaWolfson/blog to read his blog.



Wyo high court denies Eaton petition

Death-row inmate asks federal court for attorney

NOVEMBER 26, 2009 12:00 AM • BY JOSHUA WOLFSON - STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

The Wyoming Supreme Court has denied the latest petition from the state's lone death-row inmate.

The court also lifted its yearlong stay on Dale Wayne Eaton's execution and ordered a Natrona County judge to issue a new death warrant for the convicted murderer and rapist.

Eaton had asked the justices to examine a ruling made by Natrona County District Judge David Park, who rejected an appeal last month that claimed Eaton didn't receive a meaningful Supreme Court review. The appeal also claimed Eaton shouldn't be executed because of his mental status.

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Casper briefs

DECEMBER 01, 2009 12:00 AM • [BY THE STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF](#)

Eaton asks to not attend hearing

The only inmate on Wyoming's death row doesn't want to be present at a death warrant hearing scheduled for Dec. 14 at the Natrona County Courthouse.

In court documents filed last week, Dale Wayne Eaton asks the court to allow him to waive his presence at the hearing.

Eaton, through his attorneys, claims that transporting him to the proceedings would be "an unnecessary and injudicious use" of the Wyoming Department of Corrections staff.

District Attorney Michael Blonigen, in a response to the motion also filed last week, said the presence of Eaton at the death warrant hearing "is particularly appropriate in this case."

Blonigen notes that Eaton's attorneys have "repeatedly suggested he is incompetent to be executed."

"The court should address Mr. Eaton personally to evaluate these concerns," Blonigen states in the motion.

A hearing on the matter is scheduled for Wednesday.

Eaton was sentenced to death in 2003 for the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell. The U.S. Supreme Court has declined to review his case.

Library offers 'Food for Fines'

Would you like a chance to forget your library fines and help less-fortunate community members at the same time?

The Natrona County Public Library has teamed up with Joshua's Storehouse to continue the "Food for Fines" program beginning Saturday and concluding Dec. 19.

Library patrons can bring one or several items of nonperishable food to any library branch or the bookmobile to clear their accounts of fines on overdue books, movies and other library materials. Community members who have no fines, but want to donate canned food, are welcome to join in.

Canned food can also be used to pay for replacement library cards if yours is lost. Collection accounts and charges for missing or damaged items do not apply to this program.

For more information, call 577-READ.

Senate program taps NCHS junior

Natrona County High School junior Brandon Rosty has been selected for the U.S. Senate Youth Program.

This program brings the highest level officials from each branch of government together with a group of high school students to participate in a weeklong government and leadership education program in Washington, D.C. Only 104 students nationwide are selected for the honor.

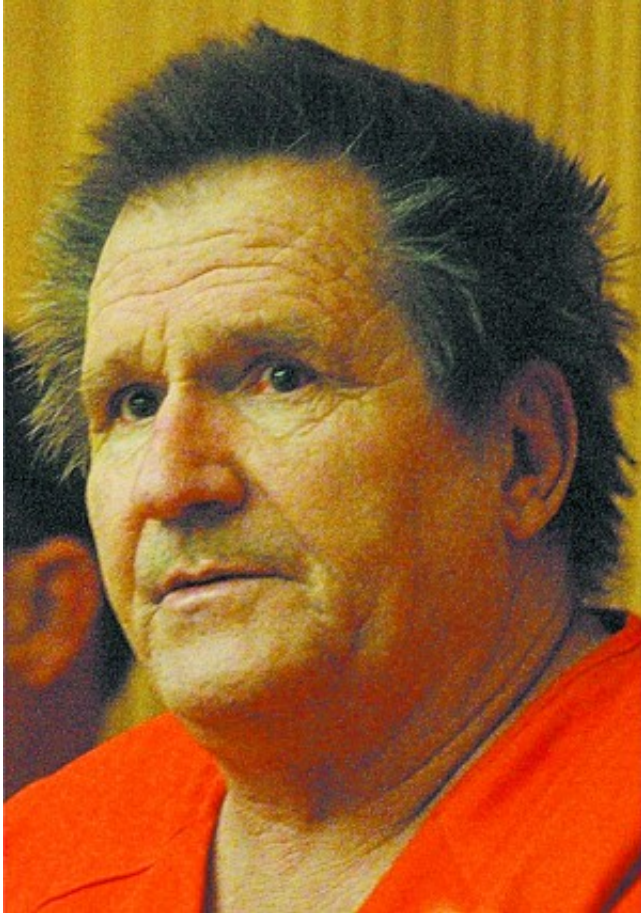
Rosty will attend the program March 6-13. In addition, he will receive a \$5,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to pursue coursework in history and political science.

The program is funded by the Hearst Foundations.



Eaton won't attend court hearing

Judge rules killer doesn't have to be present for death-warrant proceeding



DECEMBER 03, 2009 12:00 AM • [BY WILLIAM BROWNING - STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

The state's lone death-row inmate does not have to be present when prosecutors seek a new death warrant later this month, a judge ruled Wednesday.

In court filings last week, District Attorney Michael Blonigen asked that Dale Wayne Eaton be transported from the Wyoming State Penitentiary to Casper for the Dec. 14 hearing.

But Eaton, in court documents, asked to waive his right to attend.

At a hearing to address the issue Wednesday, Natrona County District Judge David Park ruled that Eaton's presence at the hearing is not required by law.

"I won't order him to be here," Park said.

Diane Courselle, director of the University of Wyoming's Defender Aid Program, told Park during the hearing she had met with Eaton in prison and he simply "does not want to be transported."

"I don't think there's anything nefarious about him wanting to waive his presence," she said via teleconference.

Blonigen argued at the hearing that "when the state of Wyoming says we're going to take your life ... we should be able to look at him in the eye and say those things."

In court documents, Blonigen said Eaton's presence at the death warrant hearing "is particularly appropriate in this case."

The prosecutor noted that Eaton's attorneys have "repeatedly suggested he is incompetent to be executed."

"The court should address Mr. Eaton personally to evaluate these concerns," Blonigen wrote.

On Wednesday, Courselle noted that Eaton's execution won't happen anytime soon.

"His current competency is not that compelling," she said.

Both sides agreed the decision was up to the presiding judge.

Eaton has been on death row since 2004, when a jury determined he should die for the kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell. He hit the 18-year-old in the head and stabbed her multiple times before dropping her body from Government Bridge west of Casper.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving from Denver to Billings, Mont. Fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River eight days after she vanished.

Eaton was charged with the killing in 2003 after authorities found her car buried on property Eaton once owned near Moneta.

Reach crime reporter William Browning at (307) 266-0534 or at william.browning@trib.com.





Judge sets Eaton execution date

It's not likely to happen Feb. 12, though

DECEMBER 15, 2009 12:00 AM • [BY WILLIAM BROWNING - STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

An execution date for the state's lone death-row inmate has been set.

Dale Wayne Eaton is scheduled to be put to death on Feb. 12. Law requires his death take place "before the hour of sunrise" on that date.

The date, though, probably won't stick.

Diane Courselle, director of the University of Wyoming's Defender Aid Program, filed a motion before Monday's death warrant hearing asking Natrona County District Judge David Park for a stay of execution.

Park denied the request and set a date, but Courselle is expected to file a federal appeal.

"We urge this court to issue a delay, but if you don't, we're going to go to federal court and ask them to," she said Monday in court.

Natrona County District Attorney Michael Blonigen, speaking after the hearing, said it's important to have an actual date of execution set. Doing so, the prosecutor said, helps offset the "glacial" pace at which capital appeals usually move.

Eaton has been on death row since 2004, when a jury concluded he should die for the kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving from Denver to Billings, Mont. Eight days after she vanished, fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River.

Prosecutors, using DNA evidence, charged Eaton with the killing in 2003 after authorities found her car on property Eaton owned near Moneta.

The state Supreme Court has twice rejected appeals filed by Eaton's attorneys.



Federal judge halts Eaton execution

DECEMBER 17, 2009 12:25 PM • [WILLIAM BROWNING STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

A federal court has granted the state's lone death-row inmate a stay of execution.

In a motion filed today, attorneys for Dale Wayne Eaton urged the U.S. District Court of Wyoming to halt his execution as they continue to challenge his murder conviction and subsequent death sentence.

Not long after that motion was filed, U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson signed an order granting Eaton's request.

"Upon review. ... the court finds that additional time is necessary to enable court-appointed counsel an adequate opportunity to investigate and develop Mr. Eaton's constitutional claims," the order states.

Eaton has been on death row since 2004, when he was sentenced to death for the kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Natrona County District Judge David Park issued a death warrant for Eaton on Monday, setting his execution to occur "before the hour of sunrise" on Feb. 12.

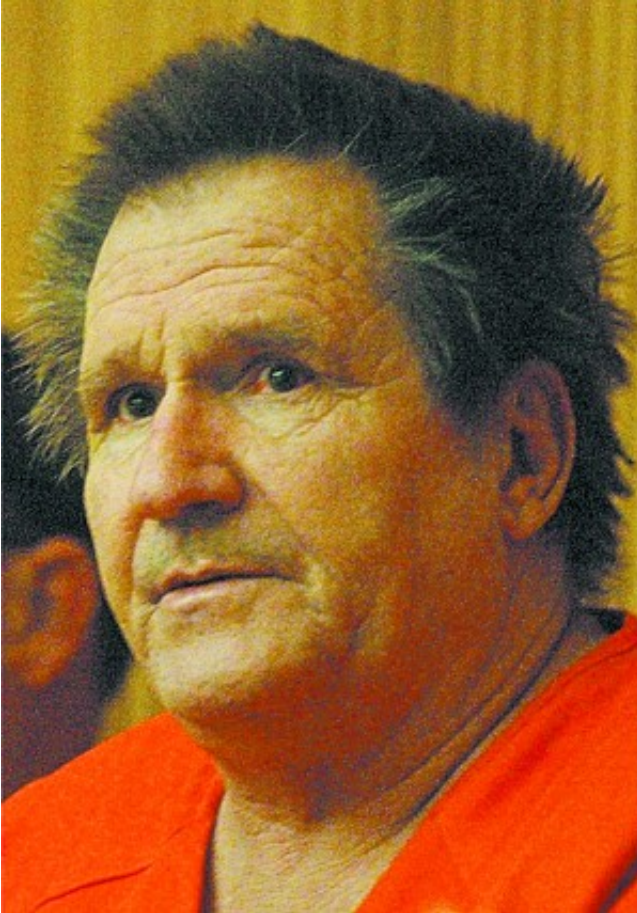
With the federal court's order today, that date has been vacated.

See Friday's Star-Tribune for more on this story.



Federal court halts Eaton execution

Judge vacates Feb. 12 date



DECEMBER 18, 2009 12:00 AM • BY WILLIAM BROWNING - STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

A federal court granted the state's lone death row inmate a stay of execution.

In a motion filed Thursday, attorneys for Dale Wayne Eaton asked the U.S. District Court of Wyoming to halt his execution as they continue to challenge his murder conviction and subsequent death sentence.

Not long after that motion was filed, U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson signed an order granting Eaton's request.

"Upon review. ... the court finds that additional time is necessary to enable court-appointed counsel an adequate opportunity to investigate and develop Mr. Eaton's constitutional claims," the order states.

Eaton has been on death row since 2004, when he was sentenced to death for the kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Natrona County District Judge David Park issued a death warrant for Eaton on Monday, setting his execution to occur "before the hour of sunrise" on Feb. 12. With the federal court's order, that date has been vacated.

Defense attorneys Sean O'Brien and Terry Harris alleged in their motion Thursday that several of Eaton's rights were violated on his way to conviction and death sentence.

"It is clear from the face of the record that Mr. Eaton has meritorious claims that he was convicted and sentenced to death in violation of the Constitution," the motion asking for the stay reads.

Some of the alleged violations Eaton's attorneys cite include their client being "mentally incompetent" when he stood trial and his "numerous allegations of ineffective assistance of trial counsel."

The Wyoming Supreme Court upheld Eaton's conviction and sentence last year, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear his appeal in February, and two months ago Park denied his petition claiming he did not receive a meaningful review from the state Supreme Court.

In 1988, Eaton hit the 18-year-old Kimmell in the head and stabbed her multiple times before tossing her body from Government Bridge west of Casper.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving from Denver to Billings, Mont. Fishermen found her body floating in the North Platte River eight days after she vanished.

Prosecutors charged Eaton with her murder in 2003 after finding her car buried on property Eaton once owned near Moneta.

It has been 17 years since Wyoming's last execution.

Mark Hopkinson was executed in 1992 after being convicted of ordering four murders in the 1970s.

Reach crime reporter William Browning at (307) 266-0534 or at william.browning@trib.com.



Mercy undeserved

DECEMBER 22, 2009 12:00 AM

Editor:

If only Lisa Marie Kimball was shown the same mercy as Mr. Eaton is getting with his stay of execution. Hopefully the end result will be the same.

MARY JO HIBSCHWEILER, Casper



Are more bodies buried?

JANUARY 22, 2010 12:00 AM

Editor:

I have a gut feeling that Dale Wayne Eaton has more victims than Lisa Marie Kimmell and the failed attempt of the couple with a baby. I would call him a sexual predator rather than just a sex offender. If he could bury something as big as Kimmell's car, what else might he have buried on his property?

The missing runner from Lander that made national news, and, I understand, others are missing from that area. He could have been patrolling for someone to satisfy his lust and forced them into his vehicle and thus leave no evidence. Lots of crimes have been solved years after they were committed just by some piece of evidence showing up. What kind of cars did Eaton have over the years?

I had a dog that I really thought a lot of disappear, and I was haunted not knowing what had happened to her. It was such a relief to me when I did find out, so I can imagine what it would be like if it were a member of your family. What a closure it would be if they could find out what happened to their loved ones.

I understand that Eaton is pleading for his life. I suppose Lisa Marie Kimmell pleaded for hers, too, and any other victims if there are any.

If he were to "fess" up to more victims if given his life, I, and I'm sure others, would be willing to feed him until he died naturally.

I hope there has been or will be a thorough investigation of this possibility.

PHYLLIS OSBORNE, Jackson



Wyoming connection discovered in Nevada cold case

FEBRUARY 28, 2010 12:00 AM • BY WILLIAM BROWNING - STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Found near a lonesome Nevada interstate, she gave little away for more than 15 years.

Authorities believe her body -- posed like a cross, nude, shot once in the back, once in the chest -- went unnoticed for roughly a week. An Interstate 80 traveler stopped to stretch his legs and stumbled across the lurid scene on a fall afternoon in 1993.

A month later, locals put her in the indigent section of the Elko County cemetery. And she's laid there since, silent and unknown -- a victim of a violent end with any notion of justice as faint as headlights thrown out across a Great Basin Desert night.

Late last year, though, with the help of forensic technology, the woman whose donated headstone asks, "Who am I?" whispered from her grave a clue authorities hope may finally answer that question.

In October, a detective with the Elko County Sheriff's Office sent a hair sample from the woman to a Salt Lake City laboratory. By matching isotope sequences in the specimen with that of drinking water, technicians were able to pinpoint an area in the country where the woman had lived.

The lab concluded that for the last seven months of her life, she resided in Lincoln County, Wyo., near the town of Afton.

"Maybe she was a seasonal worker there," Detective Dennis Journigan said. "Maybe she had family there. Who knows?"

Whatever the circumstances may be, Journigan said pinning an identity to the woman -- an act that would unseal her history, family and friends -- could one day help reveal a killer.

"We're hoping that someone somewhere recognizes her, or remembers her in some way, and can help us figure out who she was."

A California geologist driving across northern Nevada on Nov. 16, 1993, found the site where someone had tucked blond, pretty "Shafter Jane Doe" in sagebrush. The name history pinned on her came about because she was found near the Interstate 80 exit for Shafter, a near-ghost town in northeast Nevada.

An autopsy produced a few vague, but important details.

She was 5 feet 7 inches tall, weighed roughly 140 pounds and had given birth to at least one

child.

Her teeth -- she had all of them -- showed her to be roughly 27 years old at the time of her death. She was in the process of having a root canal.

While that information has led authorities to dentist offices and hospitals, her fingertips have them seeking out beauty parlors. "It looks like they were professionally done," Journigan said of the woman's fingernails, which were painted bright pink.

Each ear had been pierced once, though she was found with no jewelry.

A medical examiner said a 2-inch by 4-inch mark on the back of the woman's right calf was a burn scar. Journigan, however, thinks it may actually have been a birth mark.

She was shot twice with a medium-caliber handgun. She had also been severely beaten, but Journigan said there were no signs of sexual assault.

There were trace amounts of alcohol and marijuana in her system.

Since the body had sat in desert elements for at least six days -- "She was fairly well degraded," Journigan said -- investigators managed only a partial fingerprint from her right thumb. That print, bounced through every database available, has led nowhere.

A portion of her skull sits today in the Minnesota State Crime Lab. DNA tests are being run, as investigators wait for results with crossed fingers.

He points out the investigation's official stance is that there are "no suspects" in the case at the moment. But Journigan, a law enforcement veteran of 30-plus years, harbors a titillating theory.

The detective said authorities have placed convicted murderer Dale Wayne Eaton in the Elko area from 1992 to 1995.

"We've got him here when she was found and prior to that," he said, adding he was arrested there in 1992 for domestic violence.

Eaton has been on death row since 2004, when a Natrona County jury determined he should die for the 1988 kidnapping, rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Granted, Eaton -- the only man on Wyoming's death row today -- has become something of a 'go-to-guy' when it comes to unsolved murders in the western United States. Journigan, though, thinks the trail is worth following.

"If he's not good for this one, he certainly might be good for some others," Journigan said.

Authorities say not long after Shafter Jane Doe's body was found, someone reported having spoken to a white male "at about sunrise Nov. 9 in Oasis. ... [i]nvestigators believe the homicide occurred around that time," according to reports.

The town of Oasis, Nev., is approximately 12 miles north of Shafter.

Authorities searched in vain for the man the witness claimed to have spoken to. In 1993, not long after the body was found, the Elko daily newspaper reported the man to be "6 feet 1 inch tall with brown hair and a short beard."

According to the Wyoming Department of Corrections, Eaton, a 56-year-old white male, is 5 feet 9 inches tall with brown hair and eyes.

What piques Journigan's interest, though, is the description of the vehicle the man seen in Oasis was allegedly driving -- "a mid-1970s station wagon," possibly painted green and brown.

Journigan believes the vehicle, which he described as a "camper van," might be connected to Eaton, whose 2004 trial revealed he owned a 1979 Dodge pickup, a 1963 Ford truck and a passenger van.

If Eaton is behind the murder, though, Journigan doubts he will ever confess.

"He's not talking," he said of the condemned man.

Elko County has had 19 unsolved homicides since 1972. Shafter Jane Doe's case, though, sunk deep in Elko.

Journigan, who chips away at the unsolved murder with every clue he drums up, said his department has spent more time and money trying to identify her than other.

"The town has, in a way, adopted her, made her one of us," said Yvette Waters.

The executive director of the Elko County Committee Against Domestic Violence, Waters still tears-up when talking about the case. In 2003, roughly 10 years after the body was found, she took part in a memorial service at the gravesite. A local funeral home donated a headstone that was placed at the burial site. It reads, "Shafter Jane Doe. Found Nov. 16, 1993. Who am I?"

"For me, its a reminder for people that there is an answer out there," Waters said. "There are very few people around here now who actually were here when she was found. When we're gone, no one is going to be here to remind people what happened."

She keeps an FBI-generated portrait of the dead woman on her office wall for the same reason.

"I've looked at her face everyday since March 15, 1996."

Waters travels to the Elko County Cemetery each month to visit the gravesite. The last time she left flowers was Nov. 16, the anniversary of the day the body was found.

She describes the emergence of the new Wyoming-connection as "phenomenal," and hopes it leads to the unknown woman's biography being colored in.

"It's my hope," Waters said. "That we can replace her headstone one day with one that begins, 'I am...'"

Anyone who believes they may have information on the case is asked to call the Elko County Sheriff's Office in Nevada at (775) 738-HELP.

Reach crime reporter William Browning at (307) 266-0534 or at william.browning@trib.com.



Eaton lawyers allege errors

They're seeking papers to probe defense, prosecution

JUNE 04, 2010 1:30 AM • BY BEN NEARY - ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CHEYENNE -- Lawyers representing Wyoming's lone death row inmate are seeking subpoenas to help them investigate their claims that both the original prosecutor and defense lawyer mishandled his first trial.

Dale Wayne Eaton, 56, was sentenced to death in the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont., who disappeared while driving from Colorado to Cody.

His lawyers, Terry Harris of Cheyenne and Sean O'Brien of Missouri, asked U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson this week to grant them court orders to secure papers allowing them to investigate alleged problems with Eaton's state prosecution and defense.

Harris and O'Brien say Eaton's original lawyer, Wyatt Skaggs of Laramie, presented no evidence to the jury of Eaton's emotional or cognitive disabilities to support his argument that Kimmell's murder wasn't premeditated.

They also say that after Eaton's conviction, Skaggs' presentation during the penalty phase of the trial "was shallow and riddled with factual mistakes, revealing his failure to conduct a 'thorough' investigation of the client's life history."

Skaggs said Thursday he hadn't seen the lawyers' court filing and had no comment.

Harris and O'Brien also allege that Natrona County District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who prosecuted Eaton, misled the court about his relationship with another inmate.

That inmate testified at Eaton's trial that he was in the Natrona County Jail with Eaton and that Eaton discussed Kimmell's slaying with him.

Eaton's lawyers say Blonigen claimed the inmate made no deals with prosecutors in exchange for his testimony, although they allege the inmate later got a break at sentencing on a federal gun charge in part because of his assistance in Eaton's case.

Blonigen said Thursday that Eaton's lawyers were "implying something that just never happened."

"I know it's a capital case, so I know you're going to take some shots, but I was disappointed in some of the allegations in the paperwork," Blonigen said.

He also defended Skaggs, saying that the lawyers' accusations were "misleading."

"Wyatt Skaggs, in my experience with him, always worked very hard dealing with cases that nobody else would take. And that were very, very difficult cases. And I still have a high opinion of Wyatt's professional abilities," he said.

The Wyoming Supreme Court has upheld Eaton's death sentence. Johnson ordered a halt to Eaton's execution, which was scheduled for February, to give allow time to consider Eaton's federal appeal.

Wyoming Attorney General Bruce Salzburg, who is representing the state in seeking to uphold Eaton's death, said Thursday he had no comment on Harris and O'Brien's claims.



Lawyers: Eaton's first trial flawed

Wyoming AG's office asks judge to deny condemned inmate's investigation request

JULY 06, 2010 1:00 AM • BY BEN NEARY - ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CHEYENNE -- The Wyoming attorney general's office has asked a federal judge to deny a request from lawyers representing the state's lone death row inmate for permission to investigate how the original prosecutor and defense lawyer handled his trial.

Dale Wayne Eaton, 56, was sentenced to death in the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont. She disappeared while driving from Colorado to Cody. The Wyoming Supreme Court already has upheld Eaton's death sentence.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson ordered a halt to Eaton's execution, which was scheduled for February, to allow lawyers Terry Harris of Cheyenne and Sean O'Brien of Missouri time to prepare Eaton's federal appeal.

Harris and O'Brien recently asked Johnson to approve subpoenas that would allow them to secure papers concerning what they say were problems with Eaton's state prosecution and defense.

Harris and O'Brien have claimed that Eaton's original lawyer, Wyatt Skaggs of Laramie, presented no evidence to the jury of Eaton's emotional or cognitive disabilities to support his argument that Kimmell's murder wasn't premeditated. Skaggs has declined to comment on the lawyers' claims.

Harris and O'Brien also alleged that Casper District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who prosecuted Eaton, misled the court about how the state dealt with another inmate who testified against Eaton.

Harris and O'Brien say the inmate, who testified that Eaton discussed Kimmell's slaying with him, later got a break at sentencing on a federal gun charge in exchange for his assistance.

Blonigen has disputed Harris and O'Brien's claim, saying they were "implying something that just never happened."

The Wyoming attorney general's office last week filed a response to Eaton's lawyers' request, urging Johnson to deny the subpoenas. Wyoming Attorney General Bruce Salzburg declined to comment on the case.

The AG's office states in its written filing to Johnson that federal court rules generally don't allow a defense team to get records in death penalty appeals cases before the defense has filed its main written brief with the court. Eaton's team hasn't filed its main brief yet.

The AG's office stated Johnson shouldn't allow Eaton's team to raise concerns about how the state treated the inmate who testified against him because the claim didn't come up in the state courts. The AG's office also stated that the judge shouldn't allow Eaton's lawyers to undertake a "fishing expedition" for materials based only on speculation of what they might find.



Eaton attorneys seek records

Defense wants judge to force state to hand over documents from first trial

JULY 20, 2010 7:42 AM • BY MATT JOYCE - ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CHEYENNE -- Lawyers for Wyoming's only death row inmate asked a judge Monday to force the state to provide records they say would help their investigation into alleged problems in the condemned man's state trial.

Dale Wayne Eaton was convicted in 2004 and sentenced to death for kidnapping, raping and murdering Lisa Marie Kimmell, 18, of Billings, Mont., in 1988.

The Wyoming Supreme Court rejected Eaton's appeal, but U.S. District Judge Alan Johnson agreed in December to delay Eaton's execution pending a review of his case in federal court.

His attorneys, Terry Harris and Sean O'Brien, are seeking records related to the prosecution and defense of Eaton's original trial.

They want Johnson to issue subpoenas for all records of communication among state and federal prosecutors, law enforcement and inmate Joe Dax, who testified that Eaton detailed the crime to him while they were jailed.

Eaton's attorneys say Casper District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who prosecuted Eaton, misled the court about his relationship with Dax. They also allege Dax later got a break at sentencing on a federal gun charge in part because of his assistance in Eaton's case, although Blonigen claimed the inmate made no deals with prosecutors.

The lawyers also are seeking the records related to their claim that Eaton's original attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, presented no evidence to the jury of Eaton's emotional or cognitive disabilities to show that Kimmell's murder wasn't premeditated. They want records from the Wyoming Division of Family Services, Wyoming attorney general's office, Department of Corrections and county jails.

"This is not a broad request," O'Brien said. "It is actually a fairly surgical request."

David Delicath, senior assistant attorney general, called the requests a "fishing expedition." He said the defense team shouldn't get the records before it files its claim with the court, which hasn't happened yet.

"We need to know exactly what the claim is before we evaluate whether the discovery is appropriate," he said.

Johnson's ruling on the request is pending.



Judge denies death row inmate's documents request

JULY 27, 2010 9:06 AM • BY BEN NEARY ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CHEYENNE -- A federal judge has denied a request from Wyoming's lone death row inmate to force the state to turn over documents as part of his federal appeal.

Lawyers for inmate Dale Eaton had asked Judge Alan B. Johnson to order the state to produce documents Eaton's lawyers say would show that both the original prosecutor and defense lawyer mishandled his trial.

Johnson denied the request last week, saying the Eaton's lawyers can request documents after they file their main legal brief next month.

The 56-year-old Eaton was sentenced to death in the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont.

Wyoming Attorney General Bruce Salzburg declined comment Tuesday on Johnson's ruling. An attempt to reach Eaton lawyer wasn't successful.



Judge denies death row inmate's documents request

JULY 28, 2010 12:00 AM • BY BEN NEARY - ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CHEYENNE -- A federal judge has denied a request from Wyoming's lone death row inmate to force the state to turn over documents as part of his federal appeal.

Lawyers for inmate Dale Eaton had asked Judge Alan B. Johnson to order the state to produce documents that Eaton's lawyers say would show that both the original prosecutor and defense lawyer mishandled his trial.

Johnson denied the request last week, saying Eaton's lawyers can request documents after they file their main legal brief next month.

Eaton, 56, was sentenced to death in the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont. The Wyoming Supreme Court has upheld his conviction but Johnson halted his execution last December pending federal review.

Wyoming Attorney General Bruce Salzburg declined to comment Tuesday on Johnson's ruling. An attempt to reach lawyer Terry Harris of Cheyenne, who is representing Eaton, was unsuccessful.

Harris and co-counsel Sean O'Brien of Missouri had asked Johnson to order the state to produce papers concerning the performance of Eaton's original lawyer, Wyatt Skaggs of Laramie.

Harris and O'Brien argued that Skaggs had presented no evidence to the jury to support his argument that Kimmell's murder wasn't premeditated. The lawyers also had criticized Skaggs' presentation to the jury during the penalty phase of the trial.

Harris and O'Brien also alleged that Casper District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who prosecuted Eaton, misled the court about whether another inmate who testified at Eaton's trial received a break in another criminal case. The other inmate had testified that Eaton had discussed Kimmell's slaying with him.

Blonigen said Tuesday he doesn't believe that Johnson's denial of Eaton's lawyers' request will have any effect on the ultimate outcome of the federal appeal.

Blonigen said he expects Eaton's legal team will raise their claims in federal court after they file their main legal brief. He said the lawyers' allegation concerning the other inmate's testimony isn't true and will be easy for the state to address.

Blonigen said it's impossible to tell at this stage of the federal proceeding how long it will take to run its course.



Dale Wayne Eaton lawyers petition court

They say he didn't receive fair trial

AUGUST 21, 2010 1:15 AM • BY BEN NEARY - ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CHEYENNE -- Lawyers for Wyoming death row inmate Dale Eaton have filed a 300-page petition in federal court claiming he didn't get a fair trial.

Eaton is sentenced to die for the 1988 rape and murder in Natrona County of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Billings, Mont.

His appellate lawyers, Terry Harris and Sean O'Brien, have asked U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson to overturn the death sentence. They claim Eaton's trial lawyer, Wyatt Skaggs of Laramie, failed to develop a good relationship with Eaton, violating his right to effective legal assistance.

Among other complaints that Harris and O'Brien level against Skaggs, they claim he failed to investigate Eaton's background and therefore wasn't able to present effective witnesses in the trial's death penalty phase. The lawyers say some witnesses could have testified that Eaton suffered a tortured childhood and likely was mentally ill when Kimmell was killed.

Harris and O'Brien also criticize Skaggs for not allocating more resources to the defense investigation for financial reasons. And they say Skaggs should have pushed to move the trial out of Casper due to heavy pretrial publicity.

Skaggs declined to comment Friday. "Even if I did have a reaction, I couldn't tell you what that was. It's in litigation," he said.

An attempt to reach Harris for comment was unsuccessful Friday.

The Wyoming attorney general's office will file a response to Eaton's petition in the coming weeks. Attorney General Bruce Salzburg declined to comment Friday.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving from Colorado to Cody. A fisherman later found her body in the North Platte River. Investigators made little progress until 2002, when DNA evidence linked Eaton to the case while he was in prison on unrelated charges.

Investigators later unearthed Kimmell's car on Eaton's property near Moneta. The Wyoming Supreme Court has already upheld his death sentence.

Harris and O'Brien allege in their petition that Natrona County District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who prosecuted Eaton, misled the trial court about whether an inmate who testified against Eaton got a break in another criminal case. The inmate claimed Eaton discussed Kimmell's slaying with him.

Blonigen said Friday he hasn't seen Eaton's petition. However, he said he was familiar with similar claims that Harris and O'Brien leveled earlier this year when they unsuccessfully asked Johnson to allow them to subpoena state records to support their claims.

On the issue of the other inmate's testimony, Blonigen said, "They basically try to make it sound like there was some secret plea agreement, and there just never was. That's just not true."

Blonigen said the lawyers' claims are typical in death penalty defense cases. "They say whatever they want to say, and then we have to spend years combatting them," he said.

Blonigen said the state's case against Eaton was one of the strongest criminal cases he's ever seen at any level.

"It's just a very incredibly strong job done by the forensic people and the sheriff's office," he said.



Wyoming briefs

SEPTEMBER 04, 2010 12:00 AM • [FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS](#)

Eaton's appeal may take years

CHEYENNE -- The judge handling Wyoming death row inmate Dale Eaton's federal appeal indicates it could take years to work through his case.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson this week released the schedule for Eaton's appeal. If it's necessary to hold a hearing on evidence, the judge says it would be in the summer of 2012.

Eaton is Wyoming's only death row inmate. He claims he didn't get a fair trial for the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving across Wyoming and her body was later found in the North Platte River. Investigators in 2002 tied Eaton to her death through DNA evidence and later found her car buried on his property.

Yellowstone reminds hunters of closure

CHEYENNE -- Yellowstone National Park officials are reminding hunters that the park is closed to hunting.

Hunting seasons are starting in lands surrounding Yellowstone. Park officials say most of the boundary is well marked, but they also say it's hunters' responsibility to know where they are and make sure they don't enter the park.

Federal laws prohibit the killing or removal of any animals from Yellowstone. That includes animals that may be shot outside the park and cross into the park before they die. Taking shed antlers from Yellowstone is also prohibited.

Violators are subject to penalties that can include fines as well as the forfeiture of vehicles, equipment and personal property.

YNP plans roadwork at Grand Canyon

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK -- Visitors to Yellowstone National Park can expect traffic delays at Grand Canyon starting next week.

Work to repave the road out to Artist Point is scheduled to begin Tuesday.

Yellowstone officials say visitors can expect delays up to 30 minutes while the road is repaved. Some temporary road closures also will be necessary.

The road will be closed between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. each night Wednesday through Friday. The road also will be closed between noon and 8 p.m. Sept. 13-16.

The work is scheduled to be done by late September, weather permitting. The work won't affect traffic on the canyon's north side.

Law enforcement girds for Labor Day

CHEYENNE -- Wyoming Highway Patrol troopers will be out in force over the holiday weekend to enforce laws against drunken driving.

The Wyoming Highway Patrol says it wants the public to know that state troopers will be participating in "Operation CARE." The nationwide effort stands for "Combined Accident Reduction Effort."

Wyoming troopers will be working to crack down on drunken drivers to reduce the number of fatalities during the holiday. Troopers will be conducting saturation patrols at night at places where alcohol-related crashes are most likely.



Longtime Natrona County coroner dies

NOVEMBER 01, 2010 11:36 AM • [BY STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF](#)

Dr. Jim Thorpen, who served as coroner for Natrona County for nearly three decades, died at his Casper home on Saturday.

Thorpen, 80, served as coroner from 1982 until his retirement in 2009. For many years he was the only pathologist in Wyoming to hold a coroner's post. He also served on the Wyoming Board of Coroner Standards and was instrumental in establishing training requirements for coroners.

Thorpen's peers said he helped raise the bar for death investigators in Wyoming.

"An exceptional gentleman. Natrona County should be proud of him," Sweetwater County Coroner Dale Majhanovich said of him last year. "He put in a lot of hours and time that people don't know about."

During his career, Thorpen performed nearly 1,300 autopsies and worked on more than 100 homicides. He played key roles in solving many noteworthy murder cases, including the 2006 conviction of Rita Ann Humphreys in the shooting death of her husband and Dale Eaton's 2004 conviction for the murder of Lisa Marie Kimmel.

Upon Thorpen's retirement in 2009, District Attorney Michael Blonigen told the Star-Tribune, "This is a man who has certainly guided me for 20 years. He is a remarkable asset to the community."

Read Tuesday's Star-Tribune for more on this story.



Longtime Natrona County Coroner Jim Thorpen dies

Longtime coroner Thorpen leaves legacy

NOVEMBER 02, 2010 1:45 AM • [BY TOM MORTON - STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER](#)

For a man who frequently dealt with death, sometimes horrible evil-driven death, former Natrona County Coroner Dr. Jim Thorpen lived exuberantly.

"You had to remind yourself that he was older than he appeared," District Attorney Mike Blonigen said Monday.

"Doc" Thorpen, 80, died at his home Saturday and left central Wyoming a legacy of solving crimes, comforting bereaved families, performing professionally in hard circumstances, and playing the tuba.

Today, election day, in fact marks the first time since 1982 -- when the coroner became an elected and not appointed official -- his name has not appeared on the ballot. The Republican ran unopposed because nobody could seriously compete with the forensic pathologist, probably the only coroner in Wyoming with that qualification.

Over time, he became thoroughly identified with the office.

"We're so used to having Doc," Blonigen said. "We got spoiled in Casper."

Thorpen grew up in Cody, served in the U.S. Navy, studied medicine at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire and completed his graduate work at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and moved to Casper with his wife Ellen and their young family from Denver to Casper in 1961 to establish his pathology practice.

He and his colleagues began conducting autopsies then, and donated that time and effort for free, Blonigen said. "He gave all that to the county."

Thorpen's son, Jim, remembered the on-call, 24-7 schedule his father had to keep.

He enjoyed the investigative side of the job, and was able to maintain a professional attitude about death with his family, he said. "He put on his game face and did his job."

Except when it came to children, Jim said.

He remembered when the body of a girl -- named Baby Jane Doe -- was found compressed in bales at the city dump in March 1996, and his father examined it to determine that it was stillborn, he said. "That really tore him out."

Jim also remembered how his father treated everyone with respect, from the crews that cut the

trees at their South Poplar Street residence to the physicians in the medical community.

Besides Jim, Thorpen had two other sons, Charles and James.

His wife died in November 2008 after he cared for her for years during a long illness.

That tragedy came within a few days of the release of the affidavits detailing the behavior and drug abuse of the county's Chief Deputy Coroner Gary Hazen.

Thorpen had been training Hazen for years, but the county commissioners began raising questions about the coroner's office in late 2005. The only control commissioners can exercise over the department of an elected official is to trim the budget, which led to hard feelings between the commission and Thorpen.

However, the affidavits, arrest and Hazen's eventual plea to felony counts of drug possession deeply hurt Thorpen, especially because of his implicit faith in his employees, Blonigen said. "I know he was terribly disappointed."

Despite the hardships of the job, Thorpen gave his time to teach law enforcement, attorneys and anyone who would listen the finer points of his job, Blonigen and Sheriff Mark Benton said.

"Doc was a scientist and teacher all at the same time," Benton said.

After Thorpen formally became coroner in 1983, he named Benton as chief deputy coroner, he said. "Every day to come to work [with him] was a pleasure."

Of course, the job often was not, especially with homicides. "If you worked with Doc on any case, you always took something away from it."

Thorpen conducted the forensic work that helped convict Dale Wayne Eaton in 2004 of murdering Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988, and Rita Humphrey in 2006 of murdering her husband Jack Humphrey in 1977, among other cases.

Coroner Connie Jacobson, appointed by the Natrona County Commission after Thorpen retired in 2009, began working with him through their connections at the Wyoming Medical Center, she said.

"He was my mentor and became my peer, and in my personal life he was my friend," Jacobson said. "He's like an icon, and left a huge legacy for all of us."

She did an internship under Thorpen after her studies at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, and he then hired her as an investigator, she said. "With his medical background and my medical background, we could bounce things off each other."

During his long career, Thorpen learned to distance himself from his work by playing the tuba, friend Wayne McIntire said.

Thorpen performed with the Casper City Band and with the Salt Creek Jazz Band from 1970 to 1985, McIntire said.

They played their Wyoming version of Dixieland jazz locally and performed in regional and national competitions, with a lot of tongue-in-cheek stories from band leader and former Natrona County Attorney Jack Burk, he said. "We held our own among some big-time bands."

Songs were composed by mythological sheepherder composers, and the band members adopted stage names with Thorpen's being "Blizzard Mouth Balstrap," McIntire said.

While never losing sight of the importance of his work, Thorpen knew how to cut loose while he and the band were on the road, he said. "He wouldn't talk about the coroner's duties."

Reach Tom Morton at (307) 266-0592, or at tom.morton@trib.com.

Crime buster

Natrona County Coroner Dr. Jim Thorpen's investigations and testimony helped in the convictions of the perpetrators of a number of murders in the past two decades, according to Star-Tribune archives:

- Rita Humphrey in 2006 of the murder of her husband Jack Humphrey in November 1977.
- Jeffrey Smith in 2007 of the murder of Tammy Dively in April 1986.
- Dale Wayne Eaton in 2004 of the murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell in March 1988.
- Mark Thompson and other defendants of the murder of homeless man Bradley Allen Huminik in March 1992.
- Victor Madrid and other defendants of the murder of elderly woman Velma May Filener in November 1993.
- Amy Katherine Doerr of the murder of her daughter, Justice Doerr, in March 1995.
- Daniel Johnson of the murder of his 2-month-old son, Thomas Johnson, in August 1995.
- Phil Wohl in the murder of his wife, Jerrie Wohl, in September 1995.
- Lorrie Lin Hood of the murder of her 5-year-old daughter, Ashlea Nicole Hood, in late 1997.
- Martin Shipman of the murder of Barbara Jean Wilson in May 1998
- Justin Walker Sincoc of the murder of Rebecca Ann Horkan in July 1998.
- Joe Thomas of the murder of Dennis Fisher Sr. in December 2000.
- Rehan Bhutto of the murder of Valerie McCarthy in April 2001.
- William C. Crook for the murder of his mother, Kathy Keeney, in November 2002.
- Timothy Martinez of the murder of his wife Melissa Martinez in September 2003.
- Brandon Butcher of the murder of John Dilorio Jr. in June 2003.

- Justin Drew Janpol of the murder of David Maggiacomo in November 2005.
- Michael Lott of the murder of Bruce Tucker in October 2007.
- Donald Rolle of the murder of Jennifer Randel in November 2007.

Funeral

The funeral for Dr. James W. Thorpen will be held at the Highland Park Community Church at 11 a.m. Friday. Interment will be in Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery. Military honors will be accorded by the Natrona County United Veterans Council and the Wyoming Army National Guard.

Bustard's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



Wyoming Attorney General rejects death row inmate Eaton's appeal

NOVEMBER 16, 2010 12:57 PM • BY BEN NEARY ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CHEYENNE -- Lawyers for the state of Wyoming are denying death row inmate Dale Eaton's claims that he didn't get a fair trial.

Eaton is the only person on Wyoming's death row. He's sentenced to die for the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Montana

Eaton's lawyers this summer filed a 300-page petition in federal court claiming he didn't get a fair trial.

The Wyoming Attorney General's Office on Monday filed a response denying Eaton's claims. The state also urges U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne to deny Eaton's request for more court hearings.

Johnson has stated that the case could take years to resolve if it's necessary to hold a hearing on evidence.



AG asks court to reject Eaton's appeal

NOVEMBER 17, 2010 12:00 AM • BY BEN NEARY - ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE -- Death row inmate Dale Eaton doesn't deserve lengthy federal appeals hearings before the state executes him, lawyers for the state of Wyoming told a federal judge.

Eaton, the only person on Wyoming's death row, is challenging the constitutionality of the state death sentence he received in the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont.

Eaton's lawyers this summer filed a 300-page petition in federal court claiming he didn't get a fair trial.

Lawyers Terry Harris of Cheyenne and Sean O'Brien of Missouri represent Eaton. They have asked U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson to grant them hearings to develop evidence in Eaton's case.

Johnson has stated it could take years to resolve the appeal if it's necessary to hold hearings on the evidence.

The Wyoming Attorney General's Office filed its response Monday to Eaton's petition. The state discounts Eaton's claims that his state court trial was flawed. The state says Eaton doesn't deserve evidentiary hearings in federal court.

The attorney general's office said the Wyoming Supreme Court already considered and shot down many of Eaton's claims and said his other claims have other flaws.

Wyoming Attorney General Bruce Salzburg declined comment Tuesday. An attempt to reach Harris for comment was unsuccessful.

Kimmell disappeared while driving from Colorado to Cody and her body was later found in the North Platte River. The case languished until 2002, when DNA evidence linked Eaton to the case while he was in prison on unrelated charges.

Investigators later unearthed Kimmell's car on Eaton's property near Moneta.

The federal petition Harris and O'Brien filed this summer criticized the performance of Eaton's trial lawyer, Wyatt Skaggs of Laramie. Skaggs this summer declined comment.

Harris and O'Brien charged that Skaggs failed to develop a good relationship with Eaton, which they said violated Eaton's right to effective legal assistance.

Harris and O'Brien also criticized Skaggs for not allocating more resources to the defense investigation for financial reasons. They claimed Skaggs should have pushed to move the trial

out of Casper due to heavy pretrial publicity.

Harris and O'Brien also claimed Skaggs failed to investigate Eaton's background, preventing him from presenting effective witnesses in the trial's death penalty phase. The lawyers say some witnesses could have testified that Eaton had a bad childhood and probably was mentally ill when Kimmell was killed.

Harris and O'Brien also leveled criticism against Casper District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who prosecuted Eaton.

Eaton's lawyers essentially charged that Blonigen misled the trial court about whether an inmate who testified against Eaton got a break in another criminal case. The inmate had claimed Eaton discussed Kimmell's slaying with him.

Blonigen has said there's no truth to the claim from Harris and O'Brien that the other inmate received a break in exchange for testimony.

Blonigen said the case against Eaton was one of the strongest criminal cases he's ever seen at any level.



Wyoming death row inmate Eaton challenges conviction

MARCH 25, 2011 12:30 AM • BY BEN NEARY ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CHEYENNE — Lawyers representing Wyoming death row inmate Dale Wayne Eaton in his federal appeal are hammering on the Wyoming public defender's office, saying it failed to provide him an adequate defense at trial.

Eaton, 68, is challenging the constitutionality of the state death sentence he received in the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont. Eaton is the only man on death row in Wyoming.

Eaton's lawyers last week filed a 107-page brief with U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson in Cheyenne. The lawyers want Johnson to grant them an evidentiary hearing, which would allow them to call witnesses to try to bolster their claim that Eaton didn't receive an adequate defense.

Without disputing that Eaton killed Kimmell, Eaton's lawyers Terry Harris of Cheyenne and Sean O'Brien of Missouri claim Eaton's trial lawyer, Wyatt Skaggs of the public defender's office, failed to provide him effective legal assistance.

Harris and O'Brien claim Skaggs failed to investigate Eaton's background and therefore wasn't able to present effective witnesses in the trial's death penalty phase. The lawyers say some witnesses could have testified that Eaton suffered a tortured childhood and likely was mentally ill when Kimmell was killed.

Harris and O'Brien argue that Skaggs tried to save money for the public defender's office by scrimping on the investigation into Eaton's background.

Skaggs, of Laramie, declined comment Thursday. He has previously said he can't respond to the Eaton's lawyers' claims about his performance while the appeal is pending.

Wyoming Attorney General Greg Phillips also declined comment on Eaton's lawyers' claims Thursday. His office filed papers with Johnson late last year disputing Eaton's claims that he didn't receive a fair trial and saying he doesn't deserve lengthy federal appeals hearings before the state executes him.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving from Colorado to Cody. A fisherman later found her body in the North Platte River.

The investigation stalled until 2002, when DNA evidence linked Eaton to the case while he was in prison on unrelated charges. Investigators later unearthed Kimmell's car on Eaton's property near Moneta.

The Wyoming Supreme Court has already upheld Eaton's death sentence. Harris and O'Brien, in their recent filing with Johnson, argue that Eaton wasn't allowed to raise some constitutional claims in his state appeal.

Harris and O'Brien are the same legal team that successfully represented former Wyoming death row inmate James Harlow. The claims the lawyers are raising now on Eaton's behalf are similar to those that brought them victory a few years ago in Harlow's case.

Harris on Thursday declined to comment on any similarities between the two cases.

U.S. District Judge Clarence Brimmer of Cheyenne in early 2008 set aside the death sentence Harlow had received in the stabbing death of Cpl. Wayne Martinez at the state penitentiary in Rawlins.

In his ruling, Brimmer agreed with Harris and O'Brien's arguments that Harlow was denied a fair trial in state court because conflicts between his trial lawyer, Keith Goody, and the former state public defender Sylvia Hackl. The judge said that Goody was made to fear he would be fired for doing his job and insisting on more resources to defend Harlow.

Brimmer also ruled that the state public defender's office failed to give Harlow's team enough money to investigate the circumstances of the case.

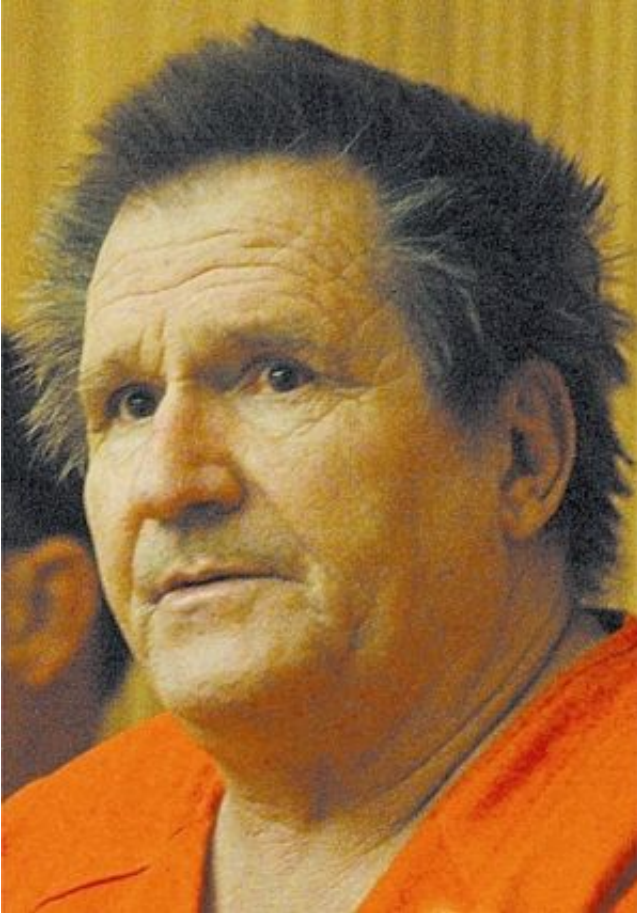
Judge Johnson set a schedule for handling Eaton's case last year. He said that if he decides to order an evidentiary hearing on Eaton's claims, it would likely be held in the summer of 2012.







Wyoming death row inmate's attorneys allege more errors in sentencing



OCTOBER 12, 2011 7:00 AM • BY JEREMY PELZER STAR-TRIBUNE CAPITAL BUREAU

Attorneys for Wyoming's only death row inmate have made additional claims in federal court that he didn't receive a fair trial when he was sentenced to death for killing a Montana teenager in 1988.

The new allegations, filed Sept. 30 in U.S. District Court, say that Dale Wayne Eaton should get a new sentencing hearing because of an error his trial attorney made and because Natrona County District Attorney Mike Blonigen didn't disclose a working relationship he had with a key prosecution witness.

State of Wyoming attorneys have repudiated both claims, claiming they are without merit and wouldn't have affected Eaton's death sentence.

The claims were added to a 300-page petition filed by Eaton's attorneys in August alleging his trial attorney, Wyatt Skaggs of Laramie, didn't provide effective legal assistance as required by the U.S. Constitution.

The full petition, scheduled to be heard starting in December, is among the last legal recourses for Eaton to avoid being executed for the 1988 rape and murder in Natrona County of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Billings, Mont.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving from Colorado to Cody. A fisherman later found her body in the North Platte River. Investigators made little progress until 2002, when DNA evidence linked Eaton to the case while he was in prison on unrelated charges.

Investigators later unearthed Kimmell's car on Eaton's property near Moneta. The Wyoming Supreme Court has already upheld his death sentence.

Eaton's petition only requests a new sentencing process; it doesn't seek to overturn his conviction.

In the Sept. 30 supplemental brief, Eaton's attorneys claimed Blonigen never disclosed that witness Joe Dax was assisting him in another murder trial, nor that Blonigen told others that he planned to recommend that Dax's state aggravated burglary sentence run concurrent with his federal firearms sentence.

During Eaton's trial, Dax testified that while they were both in jail, Eaton recounted the story of how Eaton got a ride from Kimmell and attacked her after she rejected his sexual advances. Dax's testimony was a key part of the prosecution's case, Eaton's attorneys stated.

In their response, state attorneys said Dax's relationship with Blonigen was irrelevant, as there's no evidence it would have affected Eaton being sentenced to death instead of life in prison.

Eaton's attorneys also claim that Skaggs failed to make a hearsay objection during the trial when Natrona County Detective Dan Tholson testified that Eaton confessed his guilt to federal inmate Bret Hudson.

State attorneys responded that Tholson never made that claim during his testimony.

If Eaton's petition is rejected, he could appeal to U.S. Circuit Court and to the U.S. Supreme Court before his legal options would be exhausted.



Sick of killer's appeals

DECEMBER 30, 2011 12:00 AM

Editor:

I'm sick of seeing the face of a murderer in our newspapers.

I am a member, self-appointed, to the court of last resort of America.

The Wyoming Supreme Court has upheld the death sentence of Dale Wayne Eaton for the murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988.

His defense lawyers say he should not be executed because of mental illness.

If he were a mad, out-of-control dog of any kind he would have been executed after 10 days of observation in confinement.

Has has apparently more than one lawyer, paid by the state of Wyoming, to defend this mad dog's civil rights.

He surrendered his civil rights when he took away the right to life of that innocent young woman.

We are keeping this mad dog alive by providing him with his lawyers, in training, using the Constitution which is becoming less recognizable every day.

Set the date for his execution and I will gladly pull the switch or drop the capsule or do the injection. Get it done!



Hijacked by legal minutiae

MAY 09, 2012 12:00 AM

Editor:

Our society and in particular our judicial branch are on the cusp of being dysfunctional in their ability to deal with mentally competent sociopaths such as Dale Wayne Eaton.

Eaton was judged responsible for killing two people that we are aware of. Many of our lawyers and judges have become so enamored with the letter of the law that they fail to acknowledge or even attempt to achieve our country's desired goal -- justice for all.

The United States is based upon the rule of law but somehow many of our judges' common sense has been hijacked by legal minutiae. U.S. District Judge Alan Johnson has served competently for decades and has exercised mostly commendable judgment in his courtroom.

If his performance in this appeal is indicative of observing legal minutiae or perhaps an underlying vendetta against the death penalty, it is time for him to step down and allow our federal judicial system to be unfettered by personal activism.





Town Crier for WEDNESDAY, March 6, 2013

MARCH 06, 2013 12:00 AM

Today's Highlights

Fun stuff to do today.

Reveille hears of patient safety

Reveille Rotary Club meets at 7 a.m., at the Senior Center, 1831 E. 4th St. The next speaker will be Shawna Wilcox of the Wyoming Medical Center discussing the patient safety journey.

Lions hear O'Hearn

The following are the guest speakers at the Casper Lions Club meetings. Anyone wishing to speak to the group, please contact Lisa Cormier by calling 265-2227 or email Lisa@wyobbbs.org. All meetings are held at noon on Wednesdays at the Parkway Plaza. Today's speaker is Dick O'Hearn, assistant superintendent Natrona County Parks & Rec.

MV food bank

A food distribution will take place each Wednesday afternoon from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at Mountain View Southern Baptist Church in the fellowship hall (basement). If you or someone you know is in need of some help, please come to 4250 Poison Spider Rd., in the Mountain View area. For more information, call Jan at 237-8318.

Jan Roggow -- 237-8318

Spring break at Wagon Wheel

School's out bounce n' skate at the Wagon Wheel Roller Skating, today through Friday, March 8, 1 to 4 p.m. Admission with own skates \$5, admission with any rental, \$7. Bounce inflates are free.

Regular sessions Friday 7 to 9 and 9 to 11 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to noon ages 8 & under, 12

to 2 or 2:30 to 4:30; Saturday night, 7 to 9 and 9 to 11; Sunday afternoon 1 to 3 and 3:30 to 5:30. Regular session admission \$5 with own skates and \$7 admission with any rental. \$3 more includes wristband for inflates. Personal skates must be clean and in good repair.

Sessions include games, prizes, Disco light show. Check our rates have a Birthday on Skates. We do the work, we clean the mess, you have the fun! NEW for children under 12 years, www.kidsskatrefree.com

More information call 265-4214 or www.wwskate.com or www.facebook.com/wagonwheelrollerskating

Free tax help

Wyoming Free Tax Service (VITA) will again offer free income tax preparation and e-filing. All tax preparers are trained and certified by the Internal Revenue Service. We serve low to moderate-income taxpayers with incomes of \$65,000 or less. We can be found at the following locations: Douglas Senior Center (to March 20): Wednesday, 1 to 4 p.m.

School's out movie at library

Children invited to the library for "School's Out" movies the week of spring break. Come spend an afternoon with friends at the library, then stock up on books, movies, music and more to keep busy over the rest of spring break! The final movie will be shown today for all elementary-age children at 2 p.m. in the Crawford Room. Snacks are provided by the Friends of the Library. Call 577-READ (7323) for movie titles or additional details.

Spirit championships

The Wyoming State High School Activities Association Spirit Championships will be held at the Casper Events Center, beginning at 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 adults, \$4 students.

Trophies will be presented in the following categories: Girls Cheer Stunt, 3A and 4A; Girls Non-Stunt, 3A and 4A; Co-Ed Stunt, 4A; Dance, 3A and 4A.

UU hosts potluck

The public is invited to attend the services and other events of the Unitarian Universalist Community of Casper. The monthly Share N Care Potluck is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the church, 1511 S. Melrose. Participants are asked to bring a dish to share, their own table service and beverage, as well as donations to benefit the Coats and Coffee program for the Central Wyoming Rescue Mission. For more information about these events or Unitarian Universalism, visit uucasper.org or contact Laura at 259-4469.

Salad at the Elks

Wednesday Night Special at the Casper Elks Lodge is Salad Bar. All you can eat for \$6, with all the salad fixins. Children 5 to 12 are \$3, serving from 6 to 7 p.m., or until gone. Members, significant other and guest accompanied by a member. For more information, call 234-4839.

Spiritual reading

A Weavings Reading Group has formed on Wednesday evenings, 5:45 p.m. to 7 p.m., at First United Methodist Church of Casper. The group reads articles, written by Catholic, Episcopalian and other mainline spiritual directors, on the spiritual life from the quarterly Upper Room periodical, "Weavings." The public is welcomed, both older youth and adults. Contact Rev. Steve at 234-9385. Cost is \$6 to \$10 per quarter for materials.

Grace Based Parenting

Grace Based Parenting is not another manual full of impossible standards; rather it is a new map for learning to see ourselves and our children through God's limitless tenderness -- to raise our kids the way God raises us. This program is good for all who interact with children, not just parents. This class is being offered at Highland Park Community Church. It will begin Wednesday, March 6, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. It will be held in Rm. 1320. For questions, please call Wendy at 258-2214.

Compassionate Friends meets

The Central Wyoming Chapter of the Compassionate Friends, a non-profit, self-help support organization for parents who are grieving the death of a child of any age, from any cause, will have its spring meeting from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. We will meet at the Natrona County Public Library in the Crawford Room in the library's basement. For more information, please call Gail, 235-0702 or Sheila, 237-0735.

English for Hispanics

We are holding an English class, free for anyone who speaks Spanish and wants to sharpen their English or even start speaking English from scratch. This will be provided by Missionaries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Classes will be held each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evening at 7:30 p.m., at the LDS Meeting house, 1922 S. Poplar (east entrance). Day classes will be optional as well and can be scheduled by calling the Missionaries at 473-1542.

The classes are 60 minutes each, and in them you'll learn basic and valuable skills for real-life scenarios such as how to use the bank, how to use public transit, how to get a job, how to meet people, how to shop and many, many more.

Fun, interactive, and easy learning environment.

For questions or directions to the class, call the Missionaries at 473-1542. Thank you.

NC photo exhibit at Metro

A collection of photographs created by NCHS photography students will be featured at Metro Coffee Company. The photo exhibit will run through March 31 at the Metro Coffee Company. Professional photographer Ken Stoecklin from Beartooth Photography volunteered his time to work with our class again this year. Students have chosen to exhibit photos that represent the Yellowstone Photo trip they took in the fall and images that they composed from local Casper outings throughout the year.

Wednesday soup at OSL

"Facing the Cross" Lenten Mid-Week Services at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, will be held through Mar. 20, 2013.

These mid-week soup suppers are sponsored by the Casper Lutheran Youth Ministry (CLYM). Youth lead this year's worship services at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church (OSL, 318 E 6th) and strive to deepen one's understanding of what it means to be baptized into Christ. This year's main theme is "Facing the Cross" with the following weekly messages:

Week 3: "Facing Our Worldliness," Matthew 6:19-21, accepting we are often all too dependent on worldly goods opens the door to seeing the value of everlasting blessings.

Week 4: "Facing One Another," Ephesians 4:31-32, confessing that we have not always treated each other in a Christ like manner helps to build better relationships.

Week 5: "Facing Suffering," Romans 8:18-19, enduring suffering in this world connects us to Christ and points us to the joy to come.

Please join us at OSL for all 6pm Wednesday evening dinners and 7 p.m. worship services. A good will offering is available with all proceeds going to CLYM. For details, please call the CLYM director at 237-9087.

Lent at Christ Episcopal

Join us at Christ Episcopal Church, 415 West Cedar in Glenrock, for prayer, scripture, and fellowship as part of your Lenten discipline. Sunday services with Sunday School start at 9:30 a.m. Stations of the Cross with Bible study and soup supper will begin at 6 p.m. every Wednesday, through March 20. For info, call 436-8804 or 258-2524. The Episcopal Church welcomes you.

Lent at Trinity Lutheran

Join us at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1240 S. Missouri, for our Midweek Lenten Services at 7 p.m. every Wednesday through March 20. Soup supper at 6 p.m.

Lent at Good Shepherd

Good Shepherd Lutheran launches its Wednesday evening Lenten services with a 6 p.m., fellowship hour, followed by a 7 p.m., worship service, with the theme, "God Is With Us." We will retell stories from the life of Christ at the 7 p.m., Wednesday night services -- teaching the beatitudes, healing the lame man at Peter's house, feeding the five thousand, in the kitchen with Mary and Martha, and raising Lazarus from the dead. Join us for great fellowship, lively singing, and inspiring preaching each Wednesday night at 7 p.m. Good Shepherd is located at 51 Primrose Street, behind Shepherd of the Valley Healthcare Center. For more information, call the church office at 237-3503.

New discussion group begins

Great Decisions is a think tank on foreign policy sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association. It is America's largest discussion group concerning foreign policy. Groups all over the country study and discuss issues involving our relationships to many of the hot spots around the world. The results of these discussions are shared with those in the foreign service who are in a position to act on the information generated.

There is a video produced by PBS on each topic along with study materials. Each session will consist of viewing a video, discussing data and information, and examining policy options. Each session is facilitated by an individual who has studied the material enough to lead the discussion. We will be the first such group in Casper.

Sessions are Wednesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at the United Church of Christ (on the corner of 15th and Melrose). We will meet each Wednesday for eight weeks.

The discussion topics for this year are Future of the Euro by Erik Jones, Egypt by Bruce Rutherford, NATO by Mark Webber, Myanmar and Southeast Asia by Barbara Crossette, Humanitarian intervention by Thomas Weiss, Iran by John Limbert, China in Africa by David Shinn, Threat assessment by Gregory Treverton.

Details can be found on www.fpa.org/greatdecisions

For more information, you may contact Jim Boal, jboal@bresnan.net, or Rev. Dee Lundberg at the United Church of Christ casperucc@aol.com

Bingo at the Eagles

Bingo is back at the Eagles on Wednesdays, in our new smoke-free environment and better than ever. Payouts have increased. Bring a friend to play Bingo and receive \$5 off your Bingo cards. Chairman Angie invites you to Evening Bingo with Early Bird Bingo at 6 p.m., and Regular Bingo at 6:30 p.m. Speed Ball is every Wednesday night with a \$100 winner. The Auxiliary has the Snack Bar open each Wednesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Come join us at 306 N. Durbin, 235-5130. This month's charity is our Memorial Foundation. Did you know that the Eagles Memorial Foundation provides medical and education benefits for you children should

you die or get killed at work, at a cost of only \$35 per year? Interested in becoming a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles?

This Just In

New to Town Crier.

Downtown market has new manager

In a show of true community collaboration, the Wyoming Food for Thought Project is happy to announce that they will now be managing the Downtown Casper Community Farmer's Market.

"We're honored to have been chosen and trusted with such an incredible integral part of the downtown summer activities. Taking on the Farmer's Market is directly in line with the work we are doing to bring equitable food access to everyone. The Farmers Market is a great way to build community, bring people directly to the farmers growing the food, and add healthy food options to our local food system," said Jamie Purcell, executive director for the Wyoming Food for Thought Project. "We're working to set dates for the market as soon as possible and grow the number of growers selling at the market."

Look for an even greater number of food vendors as well as an increased presence of food resources like Cent\$ible Nutrition.

Future plans include a senior weekend food bag program, community garden project coordination, a seed library, and expanding the Farmers Market.

Please direct questions to Jamie Purcell, executive director for Wyoming Food for Thought Project, 267-2421 or email wyofoodforthought@gmail.com.

St. Patrick's Party at the Elks

St. Patty's Day party at the Casper Elks Lodge on Saturday, March 16, from 6:30 p.m. until?? Serving corned beef and cabbage. Cost is \$6 a plate, drink special and green beer. Come down and enjoy fun times with some good friends! Members, significant other and guest accompanied by a member. For more information, call 234-4839.

Casino Night at Elks

It's time again for the Casper Elks Casino Night in the Ballroom of the Casper Elks Lodge on Saturday, March 23. Members and guest are welcome to come on down and enjoy some delicious hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and fun and games. You will have a chance to will \$1,000 and other prizes throughout the evening. Only 200 tickets will be sold at \$30 each. No tickets at the door. All proceeds of the evening will be going to the Elk Charities. Tickets on sale now at the bar or call the lodge at 234-4839 for more information.

Easter brunch at Elks

Easter Brunch at the Casper Elks Lodge from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Sunday, March 31. Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, Biscuits & Gravy, French Toast, Fried Potatoes, Baked Ham, Baron Beef, Mashed Potatoes with brown gravy, Hard Boiled Eggs, Vegetable Tray, Tossed Salad, Fruit Salad, Crepes, Coffee, Tea and Juice. Cost is Adults \$12, Children 6-12 is \$6.00 and 5 & under Free If with a paying Adult. Please make reservations for parties larger than six (6) people! Open to the public. For more information call 234-4839.

Steak at the Elks

Friday Night Steak Feed at the Elks on Friday, March 8. Sirloin steak with potatoes, tossed salad and roll. Cost is \$6 per person, serving from 6 to 7 p.m., or until gone. Members, significant other and guest accompanied by a member. For more information, call 234-4839.

Survivors meet March 25

ASCA (Adult Survivors of Child Abuse) meetings will begin from 6:30 to 8 p.m., on Monday, March 25, 2013, at the United Church of Christ, 1511 S. Melrose. Thereafter, the plan is for the group to meet every other Monday.

This is a peer support group based meeting, co-facilitated by fellow abuse survivors. The purpose of ASCA is to bring together within a nurturing and supportive community, those who were abused as children either physically, sexually, or emotionally. ASCA meetings empower individuals to transform their identities from victims, to survivors, to thrivers.

The meeting is based on the ASCA recovery step program designed by Dr. J. Patrick Gannon. There are other free printed ASCA recovery resource materials available at the meeting. Meetings offer the (optional) opportunity to speak about experiences in a safe, confidential, and nonjudgmental forum. These meetings are co-ed. Only first names are used.

For more information, please call Tia, 307-333-2039.

200 Club in Glenrock

St. Louis Catholic Church in Glenrock hosts its annual 200 Club fundraiser at 6:30 p.m., on Saturday, March 16, at the parish hall. The evening is Western themed. Tickets are \$100, which includes two dinners. Call 436-9809 for more information or tickets.

NC '63 has meeting

The NCHS 1963 50th Reunion Committee will meet on Wednesday, March 13, at 11 a.m., at the First Christian Church, 525 CY Ave., (park and enter on north side of building). Please join us to assist with the planning for this exciting event, scheduled for July 26-28, 2013. Contact Janice (Adams) Burnett at 259-2869 if you have new contact information for yourself or classmates.

Outdoor circus comes to Events Center

The Bar Nunn Fire Department proudly presents the Carson & Barnes Circus, coming to the Casper Events Center grounds on May 28 and 29, 2013. For four generations, the Carson & Barnes family has toured North America with the most traditional of American big top circuses.

The Carson & Barnes Circus brings first class family entertainment to all parts of America — small towns to big cities, border to border and coast to coast and will be making a two-day stop in Casper with four performance, 4:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m., on both Tuesday, May 28, and Wednesday, May 29.

Each year, Carson & Barnes Circus searches for the best acts from around the globe and presents them along with their world famous animal acts, to produce the world's biggest big top show. Be sure to catch this memorable family experience while it is here in Casper.

Tickets are on-sale March 8, 2013 and are available by calling the Casper Events Center Box Office at 577-3030, 800-442-2256 or by logging on to www.CasperEventsCenter.com.

Republican women hear legislators

Natrona County Republican Women will host the Natrona County Republican legislators on Thursday, March 14, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the Casper Petroleum Club. Representatives Stubson and Walters; and Senators Scott, Perkins and Landen will be in attendance. They will be giving an update of the key legislation that took place during the 2013 legislative session and have a brief question and answer session. Admission is free and donations appreciated. Meetings are open to all Republicans. Please RSVP to Liz Bishop, 529-0272 or to ncrwmember@gmail.com by Tuesday, March 12.

Students need host families

I am looking for host families for the 2013-14 school year, students like Audrey from France. She enjoys writing, swimming, gymnastics, volleyball, dancing shopping and watching movies; and Joao from Portugal, who enjoys soccer, boxing, movies, jogging, skating and American football. He wants to be a chemical scientist when he grows up. Students come from around the world. They come with health insurance and spending money. Host families provide a bed (bedrooms can be shared with same sex host siblings within four years of the students' age) and meals as well as transportation.

For more information, please call Barb Richards at 253-0002 or go to asse.com

Burgers at the Eagles

Come on down and relax after a hectic week on Friday night and let us do the cooking and dishes. We have \$6 burgers, \$7 chili dogs, \$7 steak sandwiches and the fixings. Special this week is \$7 Nachos Supreme. Relax and socialize with friends. 235-5130, Fraternal Order of Eagles, 306 N. Durbin.

Rotary presents peace forum

Explore Peace. The 2012-2013 theme for Rotary International (RI) is Peace Through Service. RI president Sakuji Tanaka brought Rotarians from around the world together through three

international peace forums. District 5440 is bringing the experience and discussion to the Rocky Mountains. The event is Friday, March 15, 2013, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Ramkota Best Western, \$50 admission (lunch included). Presenters will discuss forgiveness, building healthy relationships and healthy community locally and globally. A concert in the evening is scheduled with Inda Eaton as the featured performer. The cost is \$10 unless attending the forum, then there will not be an additional cost. Contact Debbie Mueller at debra_mueller@natronaschools.org or call (307) 253-5236 for more information.

First Presbyterian celebrates

It's a busy month at First Presbyterian Church at 8th and Wolcott, beginning with a performance on Saturday, March 9, at 3 p.m., by the University of Wyoming's Singing Statesmen, an elite group of talented young men.

Sunday, March 17, is a day-long celebration of the church's 100th anniversary with 10:30 a.m., and 4 p.m., worship services. Centennial activities will fill the time between worship services. Worshippers will gather in City Park at 3:30 p.m., and process into the sanctuary behind a bagpiper!

Palm Sunday, March 24, will begin with worship at 10:30. At 3 p.m., everyone is invited to the church's 4th annual Celtic Music Fest. Irish, Scottish, Welsh, and Manx music will be performed by a wide variety of musicians and instruments. Scones and "grog" will be served afterwards.

The month closes with a Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 7 p.m., and the Easter Sunday worship service on March 31.

237-9509 www.firstprescasper.com

Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Casper, WY

Safari Club meets

The Central Wyoming Safari Club International will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m., on Thursday, March 7, at the Casper Petroleum Club.

Local club member Scott Brownell will give a presentation on his caribou hunting safari in northern Canada. Please come and join us for an interesting evening. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, please call Dale Leatham at 797-2097.

Download books at library

Learn how to download free library eBooks to your Kindle, Nook, iPad or other mobile device Friday, March 15 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Natrona County Public Library. Group instructions and one-on-one help will be provided. Please bring your library card, your device, and any cables that came with it. You will also need to know any user IDs or passwords that apply to your eReader account. Call 577-READ (7323) ext. 2 for more information.

The law of attraction

Can changing your thoughts change your life? Business and life success coach Christa Sutton will present a free seminar on the Law of Attraction, Monday, March 18, at 6 p.m. at the Natrona County Public Library. In "It's Not Your Job: The Law of Attraction and Letting Go," Sutton will explain how the Law of Attraction works, clarifying the individual's role and responsibility in the process, and providing pointers for achieving success. Call 577-READ (7323) for more information.

Help Yourself

Stuff to help you.

Child and health care unite

If you are an employer, do you want reliable, focused, productive employees? If you are a family with young children, do you need access to quality child care information, as well as information on the health care providers in the community? Natrona County Integrated Child Care Resource and Referral is interested in your input. Share your thoughts and suggestions with us on how we can work together to create a system for employees/families which connects quality child care and the medical community. A focus group meeting is Thursday, March 7, at the UW Outreach Center, 951 N. Poplar from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Drinks and snacks provided. Supported through a grant from the American Academy of Pediatrics. For more information, contact Dianna Webb, project coordinator, at 259-4238.

SME offers scholarships

The Central Wyoming Section of SME is again offering scholarships to area high school graduating seniors. It is intended for students who will be majoring in a physical science (chemistry, geology, or physics), math, or engineering. It is open to students at Natrona County High School, Kelly Walsh, Roosevelt, Midwest, Glenrock, and Douglas schools. A minimum of a 3.0 GPA is required.

Applications have been sent directly to the local schools, and the deadline to submit applications is April 5. Please contact JoAnn True (joann.true@truecos.com) for additional information.

JoAnn True -- 265-4925

Free computer classes at library

The Natrona County Public Library offers basic computer classes monthly to help you navigate the computer, the internet, and basic programs such as Microsoft Word. Additional classes are given periodically on topics like social media, using Google and genealogy. All classes are held in the Tech Center at the main library in downtown Casper, offered free on a first come, first served basis. Please stop by the library's Reference Desk or call 577-READ ext. 2 to learn more about computer classes at your library.

Classes for March 2013:

Friday, March 8, Intro to the Internet, 2-4 p.m.; Wednesday, March 13, Intro to Word, 5-7 p.m.; Friday, March 15, Downloading Library eBooks, 10 a.m.-noon; Tuesday, March 19, Intro to PowerPoint, 3-5 p.m.' Thursday, March 21, Intro to Excel, 2-4 p.m.

NAMI Caring and Sharing

NAMI-Casper is excited to invite the community of people who have loved ones with serious mental illness to come to our monthly support meeting. At this time we discuss the various situations that family and friends are dealing with and positive solutions that have worked from the lived experience of the group and the science based information NAMI provides. Confidentiality is a priority. Everything NAMI offers is always "free" to the community and is run by volunteers. We care, and understand the difficulties families and loved ones struggle with in the journey of mental illness. We always hope for recovery and for our loved ones to be stable and to be able to care for themselves to the best of their individual abilities. Our meeting is on the third Tuesday of every month, this month on March 19, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the little brick building at 133 W.6th St. just off S. Center St. For further information, call the office at 234-0440 or 333-5758.

Epilepsy support for parents

The Epilepsy Support Group will meet on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 5:30 to 7 p.m., at the Special Education Services Center, 500 South Jefferson St. (former Jefferson School building). We will have a discussion on the impact of epilepsy on the family, utilizing two brief movies entitled 'Sleepless Nights' and 'Small World'. A light meal will be served and free respite/child care will be available on site. The public is invited to participate. For more info, please call the Parent Resource Center at 253-4627.

Cent\$ible Nutrition starts

The Cent\$ible Nutrition Program has new sessions starting up! If you want to learn about nutrition, how to save money at the grocery store and cook healthy meals from scratch, then this program is for you! We will teach you that and much more. We have both afternoon and

evening sessions available, so you can pick the time that works best for you. Afternoon sessions run from 1 to 2:30 p.m., and the evening sessions run from 5:30 to 7 p.m. We will meet every Thursday from March 7 through April 25. We spend half the time in the foods lab, cooking recipes from the Cent\$ible Nutrition Cookbook. Participants will receive a cookbook and many kitchen gadgets. Register soon as classes fill up quickly. Free for those who qualify. Contact Kate at 235-9400 or kboss@natronacounty-wy.gov for more information or to register.

Oasis Food Pantry open

The Oasis Food Pantry, inside the College Heights Community Center, 1927 S. Walnut (the old Garfield School) has moved across the hall in the same building. The pantry is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Thursdays. Use the main entrance to the building on Walnut Street, or the entrance on the south side of the building.

Talk Senior Olympics

Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions invites the community to our Thoughtful Thursdays series, a brown-bag discussion featuring topics related to health care, aging and end-of-life issues.

March 14, Carolyn Griffith will present, "Trails to a Healthy State: The Wyoming Senior Olympics." The next Wyoming Senior Olympics will take place July 10-13 in Casper.

Master Gardeners Julie Clouser and Wendi Stull will present on March 28 about vertical and container gardening.

Thoughtful Thursdays starts at noon at Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions Resource Center, 319 South Wilson Street. These discussions are free and open to the public and take place bi-weekly.

To learn more about Thoughtful Thursdays or Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions call 577-4832 or visit us online at www.cwhp.org.

Shoes for your horses

Horses needing to have their hoofs shod or trimmed are needed by the Casper College Agriculture Department for its spring horseshoeing class.

The class, which begins Monday, March 25 will run for two weeks from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday, according to Tom Parker, agriculture instructor.

The class will need three to four horses to shoe or trim each night beginning March 27, according to Parker.

Parker noted that owners would be charged only for the materials used on each horse. "It's

good timing for those wanting to get their horses shod or trimmed up for the spring,” he said.

Anyone interested in signing up for “Horseshoeing” (AGTK 1570 80), or in providing horses for the class should call Parker at 268-2262.

Bereavement support starts

Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions is starting a six-week support group for those grieving the loss of a loved one. The group starts Thursday, March 14, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

This free group offers a safe, therapeutic environment to support the grieving process. The group will discuss topics such as the stages of grief, coping skills and handling special events.

Group size is limited. The group meets in the Resource Building, 319 South Wilson Street. To enroll in the group or learn more about our support groups or Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions call 577-4832.

Free college prep program

Upward Bound has six openings for Casper high School students in grades 9 to 11 that must be filled by March 30. This non-profit education program, funded by the Department of Education, offers FREE tutoring, ACT prep, academic counseling, a FREE six-week summer program at the University of Wyoming, incentive stipends for keeping grades up, and much more! If you want to go to college, and your parents do not have a 4 year college degree, call now! Lori Brown-Wirth at 237-2410. More information can be found at www.uwyo.edu/seo/upward-bound.

Job fair March 19

The Parkway Plaza and the Casper Workforce Center are sponsoring a job fair at the Parkway Plaza in Casper on Tuesday, March 19. From 9 to 11 a.m., the job fair is **for veterans only**. The general public is invited to attend from 1 to 3 p.m. Employers from the fields of energy, manufacturing, construction, transportation, medical, retail and more will be there with job openings. Free seminars on resume writing, interviewing and workplace expectations will be held. Veteran and community-wide service providers will also be there. All job seekers need to bring resumes and dress for an interview. Questions? Call Ken Johnson at the Casper Workforce Center at 234-4591/Ext. 611.

Let's talk FAFSA

If you are planning to attend college next year and need financial aid, it is time to fill out a Free

Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Assistance with this important task will be available in the Tech Center at the Natrona County Public Library, Saturday, March 23, from 10 a.m. to noon.

A representative from the UW/CC Educational Opportunities Center will help students and their families through this important step in the college admissions process. Please bring all W2s and tax information for 2012. Call 577-READ ext. 101 to learn more.

Senior Center offers computer classes

Computer classes will be offered again in the Casper Senior Center Computer Lab at 1831 E. 4th St. Please join us for these enjoyable, informative classes taught in a very relaxed atmosphere! The cost for each class is \$50 for eight hours of instruction. All ages are welcome and class sizes are very small to allow for individual attention. You may bring your own laptop or use one of the laptops in the lab. Please bring a 2 GB jump/USB drive to your first class (available at local office supply stores). Contact Jan Burnett, instructor at 259-2869 for more information and registration.

March 18 & 21: Microsoft Windows 7* 1-5 p.m., Hands-on introduction to the Windows 7 operating system. *Textbook required.

March 25 & 28: E-Mail Basics 1-5 p.m., Topics include creating an e-mail account or using your own to create & send new e-mails, replying to or forwarding messages, deleting, printing, sending and receiving attachments, contacts/address book management, junk mail, "netiquette", and downloading messages and photos. No book required.

Controlling issues

Lifeline Connection is a division of Teen Challenge USA. We will be offering Christian support and recovery groups now in Casper. Eight groups will be offered with more to come. Right now we will be focusing on a Christian 12-step program, peacemaking "handling conflict biblically", eating disorders, post abortions, abusive relationships, depression, and professionals in recovery. All being Christ-centered groups to build a more meaning relationship with Christ and with others.

For more information or to register for a group, please call Brenda at 235-9100 ext. 223 or Pat at 258-5397.

Free tax help

Wyoming Free Tax Service (VITA) will again offer free income tax preparation and e-filing. All tax preparers are trained and certified by the Internal Revenue Service. We serve low to moderate-income taxpayers with incomes of \$65,000 or less. We can be found at the following locations:

*Casper College, Thorson Business Building, Room 129 (to April 9): Tuesday, 6:30 to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to noon

*Restoration Fellowship Church, food pantry entrance (to April 11): Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Natrona County Library Crawford Room (to April 12): Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Douglas Senior Center (to March 20): Wednesday, 1 to 4 p.m.

Family Stuff

Fun stuff for the whole family.

Home and Garden Show

The 2013 annual Home and Garden Show will be held March 15 to 17 at the Casper Events Center. Doors open at 10 a.m. each day. The show is free to attend and the community is invited to come and check out the participating businesses displaying the latest ideas in building and remodeling. Register to win \$500 in "home show bucks" to be given away each day; a child's play house, wishing well or an arbor with bench and planters. There are 142 exhibitors on three levels of the Casper Events Center. The show is sponsored and presented by the Central Wyoming Home Builders Association.

Ray Ebert -- 267-1741

Journey to the Cross

Rocky Mountain Men of Integrity sponsors the annual Journey to the Cross at 7 a.m., on Saturday, March 30, 2013, at and near the Casper Faith Assembly of God Church, 4301 Casper Mountain Rd. Women and older children of all faiths are welcome, as well as men. There is no charge for the event, however there will be a free will offering to help with the expenses of the breakfast. Participants who wish to walk to the cross should dress warmly, with solid footwear, as the cross is located about one-quarter mile north of the church. Our aim for the event is to be reverent, with prayer and worship singing, during the opening remarks and walk to the cross, but joyous in fellowship during the breakfast. Participants may remain in the sanctuary to pray and fellowship if they wish. Our theme for these events has been "...though millions have come, there's still room for one. Yes, there's room at the cross for you ..."

The men and women who have participated in this event have said they were deeply moved. There is something special and exhilarating about worshiping God outdoors, before that cross, and remembering the excruciating sacrifice on our behalf on that day.

For more information, call 267-6138 or see rockymtnmen.org

Easter musical at Restoration

Restoration Church, 411 S. Walsh Dr., will be performing two evenings of the original Easter production, "The Veil," Friday and Saturday, March 29 and 30, at 7 p.m. Free tickets are available at the church offices, K2 Radio, the Galilean, Hill Music and Wyoming Music, or by

calling 235-9100.

"The Veil," is a two-hour musical theatre production developed by members of Restoration Church. It follows the story of a young religious leader who comes in contact with Jesus during the last week of His life and begins to question things he has always believed.

This year's production has all new music and sets. Several members of past productions, including Ryan Limmer as Phineas and Eleanor Benson as Hannah, have returned to the cast, as well as many new participants.

The production is directed by Caleb Palmer.

Autism awareness March 14

The NCSD Parent Resource Center and the Casper Autism Society proudly present a celebration of disAbilities and Autism Awareness with an evening featuring the new "Life And Spectrum" book, with special guests, C.G. Meloy, author, and Zachary Pullen, illustrator. This celebration will take place on Thursday, March 14, 6:30 p.m. at the Special Education Services Center, 500 South Jefferson St. (former Jefferson Elementary School).

The evening will include a presentation on their new book, and a presentation on what it means to live with high functioning autism and Asperger's syndrome. A reception, book purchase, and autograph session will follow the presentation.

Families, educators, providers, support staff, and anyone interested is invited to join the celebration. For more information, please call the Parent Resource Center at 253-4627.

Summer pool plan

The City of Casper announces that during the summer of 2013, city pools including Paradise Valley Pool, Washington Park Pool, and Marion Kreiner Park Pool will be open to the public.

East Casper Community Pool will be demolished this summer, to make way for the Kelly Walsh High School expansion project, and will not be re-built at its current location. The City is in the process of locating a site for a future east side pool. The goal is to have a pool on the east side of Casper similar in size to that of the Paradise Valley Pool.

Mike Sedar Pool is in the process of being replaced this summer and a new pool will hopefully be ready for a grand opening at the same location of Memorial Day 2014. Mike Sedar Pool has been selected by staff and City Council as the pool most desperately in need of renovation.

Swimming lessons that have traditionally been offered at Mike Sedar Pool will be offered at Washington Park, Paradise Valley and Marion Kreiner Pools. Once Mike Sedar reopens, plans are to reinstate a full schedule of lessons at the new facility.

Any renovations or remodels of other city pools, including Marion Kreiner Pool and Washington

Pool, will be considered by City Council at a later date.

Laser light shows at planetarium

The Casper Planetarium, 904 N. Poplar St., plans several laser light shows in the month of March. Admission is \$6 per person per show. Advanced ticket purchase at the planetarium is recommended. For info, call 577-0310.

March 14-16, 7 p.m.: "Laseretro", music by Tears for Fears, Duran Duran, Depeche Mode & others. 8 p.m., Pink Floyd's "The Wall", music from the Iconic Album.

March 19-21, 4 p.m., "iPop", music by Justin Bieber, Lady Gaga, Katy Perry & others.

March 21-23, 7 p.m., "Laseropolis", music by No Doubt, Boston, Creed & others. 8 p.m., "Laser X" music by Smashing Pumpkins, Foo Fighters, Rammstein & others.

Fish at St. Anthony

The BEST fish dinners in town are served on Friday evenings during Lent at St. Anthony Church. Dinners are served from 6 to 7 p.m. All you can eat buffet with special prices for seniors and families. Enter at the ramp at the front of the church. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus #1563. For further info, call Norm at 265-5656.

Tween Mondays at library

Tween Mondays are fun and educational after school activities for students in grades 4-6, happening weekly at the Natrona County Public Library. All Tween Monday events are free and open to students in grades 4-6. Call 577-READ ext. 122 for more information. March events include: Monday, March 11, 4 p.m., "Green" Day: Celebrate the color green in honor of St. Patrick's Day; Monday, March 18, 4 p.m., Recycling Old Books: Give old books a new look; Monday, March 25, 4 p.m., Tween Book Club discusses "Victory," by Susan Cooper. Pick up a copy in the children's department anytime, then join us at the end of the month for a discussion.

After school at library

After School at the Library programs are free, fun and educational activities for elementary-age kids to enjoy throughout the school year. They are held weekly on Wednesdays at the main library and open to all children (and parents) who wish to attend. For more information, please call 577-READ ext. 122.

March events include: Wednesday, March 13, 4 p.m., National "Plant-a-Flower" Day; Wednesday, March 20, 4 p.m., E.T. Day; Wednesday, March 27, 4 p.m., EGG-Stravaganza!

Note for train lovers

Kurt Brown, a member of the Central Wyoming Model Railroad Association, is hosting an Operating Session on his home layout on Saturday, March 9, at 1 p.m. He will have 10 trains ready for dispatch on his system. He models a railroad with one terminal at Denver and the

other at Billings, or Laurel. The tracks pass through Wyoming localities like Cheyenne, Wheatland, Douglas, Casper and Worland. Each train will leave the yard with a Switch List and a two-way radio. The dispatcher, Kurt, has no visible contact with the layout and so engineers must rely on radio contact for instructions. The sessions take about 2 to 2 1/2 hours to complete the turns. We invite interested and wannabe engineers to come and join us. Call Homer at 266-6439, Harry at 235-4950, Scott at 473-1121 or Kurt at 235-7019 for more information. See you there.

Bank has new art

The hallways of the downtown Bank of the West are filled with new artwork by three of our local artists.

Stop by during normal banking hours to see the wonderful art created by Connie Atkinson, Barb Barella, and Michelle Myers, all members of the Casper Artists' Guild.

Their artwork will be on display from March 5 through the month of April.

For more information about these artists or their artwork, please contact the West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th St. during gallery hours, Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m., phone 265-2655.

Unitarian Universalist events

The public is invited to attend the services and other events of the Unitarian Universalist Community of Casper. Services are Sundays at 9 a.m. at the UCC Church at 1511 S. Melrose.

Long-time Unitarian Stan Kidder will be visiting from Colorado and present the service on March 10.

Jim Brown will present "Clouds, Love, Life, and God" on March 17, and Rev. Leslie Kee will speak on March 24. A youth religious education program and childcare are available, and discussion and refreshments will follow each service.

The next monthly Share N Care Potluck is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Participants are asked to bring a dish to share, their own table service and beverage, as well as donations to benefit the Coats and Coffee program for the Central Wyoming Rescue Mission. For more information about these events or Unitarian Universalism, visit uucasper.org or contact Laura at 259-4469.

Symphony, Artcore present 'Swan Lake'

The Wyoming Symphony Orchestra and Artcore have joined forces to present the Eugene Ballet who will perform Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake," on Saturday, March 16, 2013, at 7:30 p.m., at the John F. Walsh Auditorium at Natrona County High School. Join us and be mesmerized by a classic production of one of the most famous ballets of all time.

Today, patrons rarely have the opportunity to see a ballet performance accompanied by a full symphony orchestra. You have the chance to experience this special moment right here in

Wyoming.

Tickets are going quickly, so please stop by or call the WSO office today or go to one of our ticket outlets: Wind City Books (downtown), Sadler's Hallmark (Eastridge Mall), Cadillac Cowgirl (Sunrise Shopping Center). Wyoming Symphony Office at 225 S. David, Ste. B. For more information call 266-1478 or visit the website at www.wyomingsymphony.org

Casper Charla

Would you like to practice conversational Spanish, or help others to learn? Join the Casper Charla! We are a group of current and lifelong Spanish language learners, seeking others to join us for food, conversation, and camaraderie at local Mexican restaurants on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. All levels are welcome, from beginning to fluent. Our spring meetings are scheduled, all on Tuesdays from 5 to 7 p.m.: March 12, Tacos Mexico; March 26, at La Costa; April 9 at Guadalajara; and April 23 at Tacos Mexico. Drop in, say "hola" and stay for as long or as little as you'd like. For more information, please contact Eric Atkins at 268-3116 or Joanne Theobald at 268-2848.

4H Carnival March 9

4H members are planning a "Beach Bonanza" for the 2013 4-H Carnival. Entertainment for kids of all ages with pick a duck, minnow races, ring toss, cake walk, fishing, basketball, giant air slide, bouncy room, a bake sale and much more. Lunch is available too! Playing tickets are 10 cents each, and booths range from 4 to 12 tickets. Stop by the Extension office at 2011 Fairgrounds Road and buy a \$5 coupon that will be worth \$6 of tickets at the carnival. Proceeds support the 4-H programs. Bring the kids to the 4-H Carnival, Saturday, March 9 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Fairgrounds Industrial Building. Call for more information, 265-1995 or 235-9400.

Duct tape duel set

The 8th Annual Father-Son Duct Tape Duel will be hosted at Crest Hill Elementary School on March 23 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Fathers, sons, grandfathers, grandsons, uncles and nephews of elementary school age boys are invited to participate in this fun event.

Usable building materials will be donated by sponsors of the event: Sutherlands, Kistler Tent and Awning, the Home Depot, What's In Store, Bushwell's Sporting Goods, Aaker Signs, Prairie Pella of Wyoming, S.A.M.E. Sportswear, PPS Janitorial Services, Key Energy Services, The Doorman LLC and Peden's Inc. Each sponsor will choose a "Best of Show" award recipient at the end of the event.

Tickets are \$20 per two-person team. A meal will be served. Seating is limited. Tickets must be purchased by March 20. No tickets will be available at the door.

The Father-Son Duct Tape Duel is a program of Wyoming CARES. Wyoming CARES is a 501

(c)(3) not for profit agency with a mission: to provide assistance to Wyoming residents in need.

For more information, contact the office of Wyoming CARES at 237-7035.

Lent at Holy Family

February at the Church of the Holy Family, 4100 S.E. Wyoming Blvd., includes morning prayer at 8:45 a.m., on Sundays and Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m.

All people are welcome in this parish. For information, please call Bishop Ken Kinner, 473-2200; Fr. Jim Dean, 262-6875; or Deacon Bill Brummet, 259-4205.

St. Mark's has new schedule

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 7th and Wolcott, has announced a new service schedule, which will include Sunday school at 8:50 a.m., and Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m., followed by a fellowship time.

An adult Sunday school, focusing on a six-week study of the Gospel of John, one of the most powerful and challenging books in the New Testament which is especially relevant for Christians in the 21st century, is scheduled for 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. each Sunday. Also on Sunday, Evensong worship with Holy Eucharist will be held at 6 p.m.

Activities at St. Mark's during the week include a Bible study from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays; Youth Group for ages 11 to 18 at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and on Saturdays morning prayer at 7:30 a.m., followed by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

The Rev. Philip Major is rector of St. Mark's. For further information, call the church office, 234-0831 or check the church website, www.stmarkscasper.com.

Lent at Good Shepherd

A series of "Jesus Events" will be highlighted during Lent at the 10:45 a.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church's adult forum classes. Classes will discuss and make application to modern day life of events in Christ's life from the Gospels of Matthew, Luke and John. The incidents will include Jesus walking on water, the woman caught in adultery, Zacchaeus climbing the sycamore tree, the woman anointing Jesus' feet with perfume, and the calling of Matthew. The adult forum classes are preceded by the worship services, which start at 9:30 a.m. Good Shepherd is located at 51 Primrose Street, behind Shepherd of the Valley HealthCare Center. For more information, call the church office at 237-3503.

Lent at Christ Episcopal

Join us at Christ Episcopal Church, 415 West Cedar in Glenrock, for prayer, scripture, and fellowship as part of your Lenten discipline. Sunday services with Sunday School start at 9:30

a.m.

Steven Curtis Chapman here

Central Wyoming Rescue Mission (CWRM) is hosting Christian contemporary music singer and songwriter Steven Curtis Chapman, Sunday, March 24, at Highland Park Community Church in Casper. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the concert begins at 7 p.m. There will be an opportunity to make a contribution in support of CWRM's programs and services to assist the homeless and needy in central Wyoming.

Tickets \$35 for general admission, \$45 Gold Circle "up close" seating, \$75 Platinum "up front" seating with "meet and greet". Purchase tickets through www.CWRM.org, Mission outlets, Galilean or Highland Park. For more information, call 268-4474.

Year of Invitation

First Presbyterian Church at 8th and Wolcott has designated 2013, our 100th year, The Year of Invitation. If you are new to Casper, if you've been away from the church for awhile and put off returning, or if attending church is new to you, we invite you to join us!

We are blessed to be able to begin centennial restoration and renewal projects in our sanctuary and parlor areas this winter. In doing so, we realize this is also a wonderful time to restore and renew our faith in Jesus Christ and to reach out to others as Christ called us to do.

Sunday School is at 9:15, worship is at 10:30, and fellowship follows. Three Bible studies meet during the week, as well as vocal and hand bell choirs. Currently Pastor Paul Kuhn is preaching through the Book of Genesis.

237-9509 www.firstprescasper.com

Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Casper, WY

Progressive Sunday School curriculum

The United Church of Christ, Casper offers a Sunday School program for ages 5-11 (grades K-5). Based on curriculum from the Center for Progressive Christianity, we focus on virtues such as kindness, respect, tolerance, and equality. Children learn through stories and hands-on activities to be good citizens of our shared planet. Sunday School takes place during church services, at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday, September through May. Childcare is offered for children younger than 5 years of age. Contact Rev. Dee for questions, 266-4447.

Chamber music concerts

The Casper Chamber Music Society announces its 2012-2013 season. Concerts are at the Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church, 4600 S. Poplar. Tickets are available at the door. Individual concerts are \$8 adults, \$6 seniors and \$2 students. Season tickets are \$50 adults, \$35 seniors and \$12 students.

Concerts include: April 14, Rod Garnett, flute; May 19, Salsagrass, a little salsa and a little bluegrass.

The Chamber Music Society will also perform free outreach concerts at Winter Memorial Prebsyterian Church with easy listening music for first-time concert goers. Watch for those announcements.

Elks host breakfast

Breakfasts open to the public are held every Sunday at the Casper Elks Lodge downstairs in the dining room. Open from 8 to 11 a.m., serving pancakes, biscuits & gravy, bacon, sausage links, potatoes, scrambled eggs, french toast and omelets to order. Also served is toast, juice, tea and coffee. All you can eat for \$6, children 3 to 12 are \$3. For more information, call 234-4839.

Sunday breakfast at the Eagles

The Fraternal Order of Eagles, 306 N. Durbin, host Sunday Morning Breakfasts, serving from 8 to 11 a.m., and open to the public in a non-smoking atmosphere. We provide a full menu and sit-down service. Because it's not a buffet, plan to take a little more time.

This Sunday's Special is our Breakfast Platter served with cubed potatoes, sausage, bacon and ham topped with two eggs as you like and smothered in Green Chili or Sausage Gravy and choice of: Biscuit & Gravy or Toast. Coffee is always free. Our profit all goes to our many charities, this month's charity is our Memorial Foundation. Did you know that the Eagles Memorial Foundation provides medical and education benefits for you children should you die or get killed at work, at a cost of only \$35 per year? Interested in becoming a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles?

After school at the Nic

The Nicolaysen Art Museum announces a new after-school class on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m., "After-School Studio." Led by teaching artist Maria Rose Wimmer, this art class will take a closer look at creative process; prompt students to unlock their own creative minds and highlight how to make an idea into a work of art. Students will learn about different ways to record their creative ideas through drawing, collage, photography, and painting. This class is geared for Grades 6 to 8. Fees: \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members per student for each four-class session.

Afterschool Studio Sessions: Art Journaling; April 9 to 30, Drawing; May 7 to 28, Finding Your Creativity.

Clubs

[Service, hobbies, etc.](#)

Fine Arts meets

Casper Fine Arts Club will hold its regular meeting on Monday, March 11, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. at Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church.

A special program will be presented at 2 p.m. by Richard Burk, program director of Theatre and Dance at Casper College Krampert Theater, discussing the future play, "Quilters." Everyone welcome. Sheila Cooper, president, 234-6686.

Soroptimists meet

Women interested in learning about Soroptimist International of Central Wyoming are invited to the March Business meeting to be held at the Casper Petroleum Club, 1301 Wilkins Circle, at 12:10 p.m., on Monday, March 11, 2013.

Soroptimist is an international organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls in our local community and throughout the world. Our membership numbers nearly 95,000 and our clubs can be found in 120 countries and territories. Our volunteers contribute time and financial support to community-based and international projects that benefit women and girls. Our name "Soroptimist" means "Best for Women" and that is what our organization strives to achieve. Soroptimists are women at their best, working to help other women to be their best.

Please join us! For reservations please call Dyann at 237-1334 or email dyanndurst@aol.com.

Dyann Durst -- 237-1334

AAUW readers meet

The Tuesday, March 19, AAUW Readers Group luncheon will be held at the Casper Petroleum Club at noon. After a no-host lunch, the amazing and inspirational autobiography of Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayer, "My Beloved World," will be reviewed by Muriel McNeely. Please e-mail or call Muriel at 234-5688 if you have questions or to make a reservation.

Robin Broumley -- 473-9087

Dem men meet

The Democratic Men's Club will host its luncheon on Saturday, March 16, 2013. This is a one-time only Saturday date. We will be in the Champagne Room of the Parkway Plaza at noon. Jimmy Simmons, president of the Casper Branch of the NAACP, will speak. He has served in the office for about 10 years. The Casper Branch is the smallest -- but most effective -- in the CO-MT-WY State Conference. Jimmy will speak on the 103-year history of the NAACP, as well as the history and successful resolution of civil-rights cases brought by the Casper Branch. The NAACP works on behalf of civil-rights violations of all Americans. This is the third in our series on civil rights and liberties. Please join us. All Democrats and the general public are most welcome. Please RSVP to Joanne Tanner at 234-6266. For more information, call Tom Davis at

266-3015.

Voter ID topic of Democratic Forum

Marguerite Herman of Cheyenne, League of Women Voters lobbyist, will speak to the Democratic Women's Forum on Saturday, March 16, about Wyoming's voting laws and the current "Voter ID" issue.

Herman is a long-time student of state government, as a reporter and advocate. She will speak about voter ID initiatives in the Wyoming Legislature and related issues of residency requirements for electors.

She has a BA in English from Colorado College, a Master's of Arts in Teaching from the University of Chicago, and a Master's of Arts in Mass Communication from the University of South Carolina. Herman taught English in high school and community college before earning a journalism degree and reporting for the Associated Press.

Herman is author of the LWV-published "Look at Wyoming Government," 7th edition. She will be signing copies of "Look" at Wind City Books while in Casper for her talk to the Forum.

All persons interested may attend the Forum's buffet luncheon and program at the Casper Petroleum Club at 12 noon on Saturday, March 16. Cost of the buffet is \$15, which includes tax and gratuity. Reservations are needed, by calling Jerre at 234-8625 on Thursday prior to the meeting.

Lions set speakers

The following are the guest speakers at the Casper Lions Club meetings. Anyone wishing to speak to the group, please contact Lisa Cormier by calling 265-2227 or email Lisa@wyobbbs.org. All meetings are held at noon on Wednesdays at the Parkway Plaza.

March 6, Dick O'Hearn, assistant superintendent Natrona County Parks & Rec; March 13, Shawna Willcox, risk manager, Wyoming Medical Center, talk on patient safety; March 20, Jamie Purcell, executive director, Wyoming Food For Thought Project; March 27, business meeting, no guest speaker.

Quilters have new location

Piece by Piece Quilt Club will start the new year in a new location. They will meet at 1927 South Walnut, the former Garfield Grade School, on the first and third Fridays of the month. Please use the southeast entrance. The meetings will be 1 to 3 p.m. We welcome all quilters. For info, 237-7709.

Sports and Recreation

Fun stuff for your body.

Snow poker

The Casper Snow Gypsies are sponsoring a Poker Run on Saturday, March 9. This will be the first Poker Run of the year! Registration is from 9 a.m. to noon at Bear Trap Meadow parking lot. Cost is \$10 for each playing card and \$1 for dice. Last stop will be at the Casper Mountain Trails Center (payout will follow). For more information, call Ray at 472-0422.

Senior Olympics sets Casper theme

The Wyoming Senior Olympic Summer Games, to be held in Casper July 10-13, 2013 and again in July of 2014, has adopted the theme of "Trails to a Healthy State," to align with City of Casper Mayor Kenyne Schlager's Proclamation encouraging citizens to choose healthy, active lifestyles.

The "Trails to a Healthy State" slogan and logo was developed to recognize the importance of making healthy choices and participating in physical activity along with the significance of the four historic trails that pass through present day Casper: The Oregon Trail in 1843, the Mormon Pioneer Trail in 1847, the California Trail in 1849, and the Pony Express in 1860. The unique combination of Casper's historical background, combined with current efforts encouraging people to choose healthy lifestyles, made for an opportunity to take advantage of a play on words inviting participants locally and nationally to compete in the Wyoming Senior Olympics.

The Wyoming Senior Olympics Summer Games, an annual event in Wyoming for the past 26 years, provides opportunities for men and women, ages 50 and over, to participate and compete in archery, badminton, basketball, billiards, bowling, cycling, darts, disc golf, golf, horseshoes, mountain biking, Pickleball, racquetball, 5K and 10K road races, skeet shooting, softball, swimming, table tennis, tennis, track and field, trap shooting, triathlon, volleyball and weightlifting. Information about the Wyoming Senior Olympic Summer Games is available at www.wyseniorgames.com.

As recognized by the Centers for Disease Control, the benefits of physical activity are far reaching. Regular physical activity is one of the most important things that can be done for your health. It can help to: Control your weight, reduce your risk of cardiovascular disease, reduce your risk for type 2 diabetes and metabolic syndrome, reduce your risk of some cancers, strengthen your bones and muscles, improve your mental health and mood, improve

your ability to do daily activities and prevent falls, and, if you're an older adult, increase your chances of living longer.

200 Club tourney set

The 200 Club of Casper will hold its last tournament of the season on Saturday, March 16, at Sunrise Lanes. This is a members only, singles/doubles tournament. The annual meeting will also be held at that time. Judi will be out of town, so please call Donna at 472-5506.

Register for coed volleyball

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming is now accepting registrations for their co-ed Volleyball League. This league is available to all boys and girls between 3rd and 9th grade and will be held Monday through Thursday at the Main Boys & Girls Club. The cost for this league is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members. The registration deadline is **March 11, 2013** and the season will begin on March 18. For further questions, please contact Julia McCarthy at 235-5694 ext. 3.

Register for youth baseball

It's time to sign up for America's pastime-Baseball! Casper Youth Baseball offers baseball for boys & girls, ages 7 to 15. Practices start April 24 and games begin May 11. Managers, Coaches and umpires also needed. Call 234-7087 or go to www.cybaseball.com for more information. Sign up now! Deadline is March 28.

Fireball 500 results

The Fireball 500 Club held the 2013 Sweetheart Bowl four-person bowling tournament on Feb. 23, 2013, at Eagle Bowl.

Debbie Barton rolled both High Series, 565; and High Game, 234.

Team Results: 1. Debbie Barton, Ann Robinson, Tia Barton, Tressie Bourquin, 2,295; 2. Phyllis Rufenacht, Zelda Jensen, Michelle Hoover, Amy Royce, 2,239; 3. Jaime Moler, Renae Berlinger, Donna Morton, Jaclyn Morton, 2,226; 4. Sharon Mathis, Kathy Mathis, Colleen Freeman, Kristi Dudgeon, 2,204; 5. Lea Dole, Marla Whitaker, LaVone Bachler, Debbie Carbajal, 2,200.

St. Patrick's Skate

Stop by and hang out at the coolest place in town! The Casper Ice Arena is hosting a special St. Patty's Skate on Sunday, March 17, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is only \$4 per person and skate rental is \$2. Anyone wearing green will receive FREE skate rental! Children 4 and under are always free, with a paid adult.

The Casper Ice Arena has a full service concession stand, which is always open and will be offering specially priced green sno-cones and other themed treats during this fun event.

For additional information regarding this or any other upcoming special events, please call 235-8484 or 235-8383.

Come skate at the Casper Ice Arena, it truly is the coolest place in town.

Register for spring hockey

Spring hockey is coming back! The Casper Ice Arena is excited to announce registration for City Spring Hockey League. City Spring Hockey League is a non-checking hockey program designed for players of all levels over the age of 15 (birth year 1997 and older). City Spring League was formed to accommodate the growing number of hockey players in Casper that want to continue skating after the regular hockey season has ended. Play in the league requires no travel except to the ice arena. The format is one league, eleven games and championship games at the end of the mini-season.

Interested skaters should register early to ensure a spot. The registration deadline is **March 30** or until teams are full. League begins April 1 with games on Monday and Thursday nights beginning at 7:30 p.m. The registration fee is only \$75 per player and includes the use of a jersey. All participants must be current members of USA Hockey (www.usahockey.com).

Call 235-8484 for more information or check us out on the web at www.casperwy.gov.

Youth baseball umpire school

Casper Youth Baseball needs umpires. It's a great opportunity for those who enjoy baseball and make money having fun.

Most of our umpires are age 14 to 16 and play baseball. We need more umpires in that age group, plus more adults to fill the umpire shortage.

It's an opportunity for teens to earn money and also learn valuable life skills.

The Umpire School begins its six-week course March 19 at 7 p.m.,. at Casper College Thunderbird Gym Room 158. There is a \$30 registration fee. The Tuesday/Thursday course teaches baseball rules, field mechanics and handling game situations.

CYB also needs experienced umpires who have been away from baseball or are new to Casper and would like to umpire here. For adult veteran umpires, we recommend this optional course for teaching local mechanics.

Help Casper's baseball youth by contacting Kirk Nelson at Bush-Wells Sporting Goods, 235-6671, or Tammy at the CYB office, 234-7087. Mark March 19 on your calendar.

Note: There is a possibility that the first night's location may change if Casper College hosts a

regional tournament. Check with CYB, 234-7087 or playball@cybaseball.com, or call the above contacts.

Helping Others

Volunteer opportunities.

Casper area pets go online

Paws2Help Foundation, Casper has joined other animal welfare organizations in the area that list their homeless pets on Petfinder, the oldest and largest database of adoptable animals on the Internet. The site currently has over 375,000 homeless pets listed and is updated continuously.

More than 13,900 animal welfare organizations in the U.S., Canada and other countries post their pets on the site. Pets may be viewed at <http://www.petfinder.com>.

A potential adopter enters search criteria for the kind of pet he or she wants, and a list is returned that ranks the pets in proximity to the Zip code entered. Adoptions are handled by the animal placement group where the pet is housed, and each group has its own policies.

Petfinder.com was created in early 1996 as a grassroots project by Jared and Betsy Saul to end the euthanasia of adoptable pets. Since its inception, the site has facilitated approximately 20 million adoptions, making it the most life-saving initiative in animal welfare.

Sponsors include The Animal Rescue Site, BISSELL Homecare, Inc., a manufacturer of home cleaning and floor care products, Petco, a national pet supply retailer that sponsors in-store adoptions and provides coupon books for new adopters, PetFirst Healthcare, the exclusive pet insurance provider for Petfinder.com and HomeAgain, a microchip and pet recovery service.

Mission feels impact of homelessness

A recent article in "The New York Times" focused attention on the rising rate of homelessness here in Wyoming. The report reveals the state's homeless population grew by 67 percent -- from 1,083 people to 1,813 -- in 2011 and that social services workers attribute the increase to the growing number of migrants from states with high unemployment rates who come seeking jobs in the oil and gas drilling industry, but can't find a place to stay. Or if they do locate an available apartment, the rent is out of their reach.

According to Central Wyoming Rescue Mission executive director Brad Hopkins, his organization is feeling the impact of this trend, as many of these "homeless" families and individuals are making their way to the Mission when they have nowhere else to go.

Near capacity, the mission is currently sleeping 83 men, women and children every night and providing 110 meals on a daily basis. The staff also helps these displaced individuals locate the

resources they need to get on their feet here in central Wyoming or return to their previous homes.

“We at Central Wyoming Rescue Mission are concerned about the increase in Wyoming homelessness. We will continue what we have been doing for over twenty years in caring for the homeless, poor and needy of Central Wyoming,” said Hopkins. “This report further illustrates the urgency of our work and need to expand our services, particularly to homeless and vulnerable families in Casper and our region.” For more information go to www.CWRM.org

Counseling center gets grant

The Central Wyoming Counseling Center received \$25,000 from the Blue Envelope Health Fund in November 2012. The grant covered the costs for updated Automated External Defibrillators for CWCC buildings, as well as assisted in improving the care given to clients through Assessment and Treatment of Medical Condition.

Started in 1959, Central Wyoming Counseling Center is a nonprofit community behavioral health and substance abuse treatment center that is dedicated to helping residents of Wyoming.

Volunteers beyond ordinary

Caring, compassionate people are needed to assist Amedisys Hospice patients and their loved ones. Volunteers play an indispensable role in enable Amedisys to offer the best care possible for patients living with life-limiting illness, their families and caregivers. By sharing their time, our volunteers bring compassion and caring to the lives of those in need. If you could spare a few hours a week to be a companion, please call Linda at 266-9991.

Dementia Care in Senior Center

Wyoming Dementia Care has opened an office for Family Support Services at the Senior Center, 1831 East 4th Street, phone 265-4678.

Wyoming Dementia Care is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit founded in 2008 to help those with dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease, and their families experience, to the greatest extent possible, a better quality of life. Services to caregivers and families include providing information, leading support groups and advocating for their needs. The long-term goal of Wyoming Dementia Care is to build a specialty nursing home for those with dementia.

Wyoming Dementia Care’s Program Manager for Family Services Dani Mandelstam Guerttman will have responsibility for the Senior Center office as well as for facilitation of support groups and other duties related to offering assistance to those with dementia, their families and caregivers. The support groups meet at the Senior Center at 10 a.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month to offer encouragement, techniques and resources to meet the challenges of caring for their loved ones with Alzheimer’s or dementia. There is no cost to participate and all caregivers of those with dementia-related problems are welcome. Refreshments are provided by Central Wyoming Senior Services.

BBBS looks for alums

Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters is looking for former Bigs, Littles, board members and staff who have been involved in Big Brothers Big Sisters any place in the country. January is National Mentoring Month, and in an effort to share stories of inspiration, personal experiences and successes, the organization is searching for anyone who has been involved in the program and to reunite them with the program. Big Brothers Big Sisters has been in Wyoming for over 40 years and nationally for over 100 years. There are a lot of people in our community that have wonderful stories to share and we want to meet them.

With about 350 agencies across the country, Big Brothers Big Sisters currently serves nearly 630,000 children, volunteers and families. The organization is engaged in a nationwide search to reunite with alumni mentors, mentees, donors, and family, staff and board members. Big Brothers Big Sisters provides strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships that changes lives for the better, forever. This mission has been the cornerstone of the organization's 100-year history. There are many people that would be interested to hear how things turned out for the child that they met years ago. We are hoping that people may get the chance to reconnect through this new initiative.

Learn more at BigBrothersBigSisters.org or contact Lisa Cormier at 265-2227, email Lisa@wyobbbs.org, visit the website at wyobbbs.org, or link to our facebook site at Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters – Casper.

Reunions

[Meetings, dates.](#)

NC '53

Final plans have been made for the NCHS Class of 1953 reunion to be held on June 27 and 28, 2013, at the Parkway Plaza Hotel and Convention Center.

Registration will begin at 5 p.m., on Thursday, June 27. A casual get together and renewal of friendship. Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Friday, June 28, 6 p.m., cocktail hour with dinner buffet to follow at 7 p.m.

For questions or early registration, call Betty Jo, 237-3410; Dee, 333-5501 or email Shirley at gmabob@bresnan.net

NC '63

The NCHS Class of 1963 will hold its 50th Reunion on July 26-28, 2013 in Casper. Friday events include an afternoon golf tournament and evening ice-breaker party at the Casper Country Club. Saturday events are a 10 a.m. tour of NCHS, group photos on the steps of the school at 11:30 a.m. and the evening banquet/dance at 6 p.m. at the Parkway Plaza Hotel & Convention Center. Sunday will be a free day to spend with classmates and family. Registration forms will be mailed in April. Please join us for the wonderful celebration! If you have new contact information for yourself or classmates, contact Janice Adams Burnett at 259-2869.

NC '73

Our 40th reunion is planned for Friday, July 5, and Saturday, July 6, 2013. A golf tournament is planned for Friday at 11 a.m., at the Paradise Valley Country Club and evening ice breaker at the Petroleum Club. Saturday evening dinner and fun will also be at the Petroleum Club. Registration mailers will be sent out shortly. If you, or you know of someone, that has moved since our last reunion, please let us know of updates to Laurie at reesenest@bresnan.net or Debbie at debbisp@tribcsp.com Or you can text or call Debbie at 262-2624.

KW '73

The seventh graduating class of Kelly Walsh High School will have their 40-year reunion Labor Day weekend, August 30 and 31! Plans include an ice breaker Friday night at the Wonder Bar and golf and dinner Saturday at the Casper Country Club. A school tour and other fun events are also being planned. We're looking for our classmates and would appreciate any updates -- call Dan 266-3277, Becky 577-1955 or Cathy 234-1494 or email KWHS73@gmail.com.

Schools

Announcements.

District launches transformation website

The Natrona County School District is undertaking a transformation that will change the way we see the high school experience. This is many years in the making, but now the district wants to show the community how education can look different and how it can better prepare students for life after high school.

To help bring awareness to this project, parents, students, staff, community leaders, policy makers, anyone can log onto a website created just for this transformation. By visiting www.ncsdtransform.org, you will be able to learn more about the campus transformations planned at each of Casper's three high schools, you can find out how the academy approach to education can make a difference for so many students, and you will be able to get involved in planning for this new high school experience.

These are not just the district's high schools. These high schools belong to the community. These students are not just the district's students. They belong to the community as its future. This effort to “transform the high school experience” will take the ideas, engagement, and investment from the entire community.

You are invited to join us in the journey as “Pathways” are created and graduates are groomed for success.

IV therapy recert offered

A basic intravenous therapy class for all licensed practical nurses will be held at Casper College on June 15 and 16, 2013.

The Wyoming State Board of Nursing requires all LPNs licensed in the state of Wyoming to recertify every two years. “‘Basic Intravenous Therapy’ has been developed utilizing a Wyoming State Board of Nursing approved curriculum and will keep nurses up to date on the latest trends,” said Davina Drazick,” nurse educator.

The two-day class will cover topics such as anatomy and physiology; fluids and electrolytes; starting, maintaining, and discontinuing IV therapy; calculation of flow rates; complications of IV therapy; pharmacology; infection prevention; practice IV placement, priming tubing, advantage bags, calculations; and much more.

The class is limited to 15 participants and proof of licensure is required to be admitted. “All participants will have completed the course after attending two days of class, passing a final exam with a score of at least 80 percent, participating in 16 hours of clinical time, and successfully starting three IVs in the clinical setting,” Drazick said.

The cost to attend the two-day training is \$340 per person, which also includes the textbook, “IV Therapy Made Incredibly Easy.” To register or for more information contact Ann Dalton, workforce training specialist, at Casper College at 268-2085, adalton@caspercollege.edu, or caspercollege.edu/ceu.

OLLI hosts remembrance trip

A special two-day trip to Denver to learn about the significance of the Babi Yar Massacre, offered by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Casper College, will take place June 17 and 18, 2013.

Popular OLLI instructor Lance Jones will “give a talk about the Holocaust and the importance of museums such as the Mizel Museum during the drive down,” said Vicki Pollock, lifelong learning specialist.

The cost of the trip, \$450 for single accommodations and \$376 for double, includes a guided tour of the Babi Yar Memorial Park, a tour of the Mizel Museum, the opportunity to meet and

talk to a Holocaust survivor, a kosher cooking demonstration, and lunch at the Mizel Museum. The fee also includes a one-night stay at the Hilton Garden Inn in downtown Denver, transportation, two meals, and time to shop and dine in downtown Denver along the 16th Street Mall.

A deposit of \$50 is due on Monday, April 15, with full payment due on Wednesday, May 15.

For more information or to register contact Pollock at 268-2097 or vpollock@caspercollege.edu.

Extra packing dates for Food for Thought

The Natrona County Food for Thought Project is a partnership among the Casper Area Education Foundation, the Natrona County School District #1, and the Wyoming Food for Thought Project. Started two years ago as the Totes of Hope program, the project's weekend food program has grown to include almost 200 students per week. Currently, the program is working with local high schools to establish food pantries within the high schools. This new partnership will allow the program to deliver not only more of a variety of food but in larger quantities.

With this new partnership, two community packing events will occur twice each month on the second and fourth Wednesdays. This is an opportunity for volunteers to get involved in the program by helping pack bags to be distributed each week. The community events will start at 4 p.m. at 315 N. Wolcott and continue until all the bags are packed. Scheduled packing dates are March 13, March 27, April 10, April 24 and May 8.

Anyone interested in volunteering at one of these events should contact Jamie Purcell with the Wyoming Food for Thought Project at 267-2421. For more information on the Wyoming Food for Thought Project and the Natrona County Food for Thought Project please visit www.WyomingFoodForThoughtProject.org

Comedian/magician at CC

Daniel Martin, named 2012 Best Live Novelty Performer by Campus Activities Magazine, will present his blend of "insane magic," "exhilarating escapes," and "sarcastic improv" on Friday, March 22 at 7 p.m. Martin's comedy and magic performance is free and open to the public and will take place in Durham Recital Hall located in the Aley Fine Arts Center on the Casper College campus.

According to Campus Activities Magazine, "Martin has quickly become one of the highest rated performers in the college market" and has "record breaking attendance across campuses nationwide with consistent standing ovations." Martin is rated as one of the Top Three touring acts in the country, and is currently up for the magazine's 2013 Entertainer of the Year award.

Martin got his start at the age of 6. "When I was 6 years old, I got a lot of attention and into

some trouble because I would pickpocket people for fun. So my grandparents decided to put my skills to better use and bought me a magic kit.” By 12, Martin was performing and while in high school performed at a variety of venues in Chicago.

Martin has been featured performing his standup and magic on NBC, CBS, WGN, VH1, and ESPN, and constantly rates high praise and standing ovations from audiences at his live performances.

CC class to provide contest tips

A fun class designed to show students a step-by-step method to successfully enter their photography in the Natrona County Fair photo contest will be taught by a two-time state and county best of show award winner.

The class, “At the Fair” will run on Tuesday nights from 6 to 8, April 2 through the 30, said Vicki Pollock, lifelong learning specialist for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Casper College.

“I will take students from the beginning concepts of their photographs to submitting them for judging. We will review the photo categories, take photos, choose submissions, mat and frame the photos, and prepare the paperwork for submittal,” said Karel Mathisen, instructor.

Registration is currently taking place for “At the Fair” (OLLI 2060). OLLI members receive two complimentary classes during the spring semester. “If they have already signed up for their two complimentary classes, then the cost for this is only \$8,” said Pollock.

To sign up for the class, join OLLI, or for more information, contact Pollock at 268-2097 or vpollock@caspercollege.edu.

Quickbooks for contractors

A class that will show contractors how to customize QuickBooks and turn the software into a powerful tool for the construction industry will be offered by the Center for Training and Development at Casper College on Saturday, March 23 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Taught by Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor and CPA Heather Hudson, students will “learn how to efficiently set up required fields, track customer and vendor activity, better manage customer down payments, monitor subcontractor bids and payments, and manage payroll. In addition, we will discuss ways to allocate overhead to jobs and create job cost and other reports beneficial for contractors,” she said.

“QuickBooks for Contractors” (CEU 1150 80) is worth .6 continuing education units and registration is now taking place. To register, contact Casper College at 268-2085 or caspercollege.edu/ctd.

Open enrollment at FUMC preschool

First United Methodist Church Preschool is now enrolling children for the 2013-2014 school year, in addition to limited vacancies for the remainder of the spring semester. We offer a play-based curriculum in a nurturing atmosphere for children ages 2-1/2 to 5 years (pre-Kindergarten). For more information, contact Kat at 277-3511 or fumcpreschool@live.com or call the church office at 234-9385. \$10 registration fee if you mention this newspaper (\$25 value)!

School safety videos available

Your children's safety is a top priority while they are in school. Last month, we asked you for your questions and concerns regarding school safety and security. The response was impressive. We received numerous emails and Facebook comments from parents, the public, and our own staff. You shared ideas and asked thoughtful questions.

We gathered and organized the comments/questions into similar categories and presented them to NCSD Superintendent Dr. Joel Dvorak, NCSD Risk Manager Jeff Hauk and Casper Police Chief Chris Walsh. The three leaders addressed the different safety and security measures currently in place within the school system. In addition, they answered questions like "Is it possible to put an armed guard at every school?" "Will teachers be able to carry guns?" and "Why are schools unlocked?" Plus many other insightful questions that were submitted.

For your convenience and reference, these videos can be viewed through our website www.natronaschools.org, our blog www.natronaschoolsblog.org, and our Facebook page.

Science for home schoolers

The Casper Mountain Science School is offering a special session for home-school students March 11 through 14.

"Sixth through eighth grade home-schooled students have the opportunity to attend Casper Mountain Science School," said Jeana Lam-Pickett, program support specialist for the CMSS. "Students are invited to take part in day programs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, with the option to spend the night at camp on Wednesday," Lam-Pickett said.

The registration deadline for the special home-schooled student session is Monday, March 4. According to Lam-Pickett the normal fee for attending the session has been waived and funded through a grant.

The CMSS provides an opportunity for students to experience science in a unique and fun way in the outdoors. The science school is located near Casper, Wyoming on Casper Mountain at Camp Sacajawea.

For more information or to register, contact Lam-Pickett at 268-3113 or

jpickett@caspercollege.edu.

The CMSS is a partnership between the Natrona County School District, Casper College, the University of Wyoming/Casper College Center and BOCES.

Preschool fall 2013

Prince of Peace Lutheran Preschool has limited openings for the Fall 2013/2014 preschool year. Prince of Peace is located at 2300 East 15th and the phone number to call is 265-7016.

Prince of Peace offers a Christian program that prepares children for entering the school system excited to learn. The preschool provides a developmentally appropriate preschool curriculum which welcomes all children 2-5 years to a child centered environment that meets their social, emotional, cognitive, creative and spiritual needs. We are very proud of our preschool and try to be the best teachers for your child's first experience in school. For more information please call Gwen at 265-7016.

Gwen Quig -- 265-7016

Spring hours for adult learning

Spring 2013 hours for the Adult Learning Center at Casper College, which provides adult basic education instruction and English as a Second Language, have been announced. The new hours went into effect on Jan. 14.

The center will be open on Mondays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. A mandatory new student orientation for GED students will be held every Tuesday at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. The center is closed on Fridays and the weekends.

"The Adult Learning Center offers free assistance to out-of-school adult students, 16 years old and older, who need to improve their basic reading, writing, and math skills in order to reach their educational and employment goals," said Lisa Mixer, Adult Learning Center programs coordinator. Educational services are also available to speakers of other languages through the center's English as a Second Language program. All programs offered at the center, which is open-entry, open-exit, are free of charge.

The Adult Learning Center at Casper College is located in the Werner Technical Center on the Casper College campus.

For more information stop by the Casper College Adult Learning Center or call the center at 268-2230.

Host an exchange student

Amazing students like Phillip who loves the outdoors, Teresa who is very musical, Tim who wants to become a pilot, and Fanny who loves photography are looking to spend a year in

America. Hosting an exchange student for a school year is an experience that you and your family will always remember fondly. It opens up a whole new world for the student and your family. Please contact Suzanne Sandoval, 259-2221 or effoundation.org.

Preschool openings at FCC

There are limited openings in both the Playgroup and Pre-K classes for the Spring 2013 semester at First Christian Church Preschool, 520 CY Avenue. Playgroup is designed for 2 1/2 or young 3 year olds as an introduction to the preschool setting and meets two mornings a week. Social skills and establishing routines are stressed with this class. Pre-K is for 4-5 year olds planning on going to Kindergarten next fall. We meet all the kindergarten readiness skills as outlined by the NCSD. The Pre-K class meets daily from 9 a.m. to noon. We are celebrating our 20th year in 2013 as a licensed child preschool center and welcome families to call or come visit to inquire about our wonderful program. 234.8964 (church office) or 472.0649 (preschool).

Grownup Stuff

Fun stuff geared to adults.

Monthly jam March 10

Monthly Jam Session at Eagles Hall, 306 N. Durbin St., Sunday, March 10, 2013, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. All talents welcome whether musically talented, like to dance or to just have a good time. All talents, dancers and good listeners are welcome. No admission fee, but donations are accepted and needed. See you there.

Robbie -- 235-5130

Moses, Jesus & Muhammad

Much of our world today has been shaped by religious traditions ascribed to Moses, Jesus and Muhammad. What can we say about the history of these individuals? Thursday, March 7, at 6:30 p.m., Dr. Seth Ward of the University of Wyoming will present "Moses, Jesus and Muhammad" at the Natrona County Public Library. This informational session and community discussion will present parallels from the lives of the three individuals, illustrating aspects of contemporary research, religious piety, and the development of religious ideas over time.

Participants will be invited to raise questions and join in the discussion. Free and open to the public, this presentation and conversation is sponsored by the Wyoming Humanities Council. Call 577-READ (7323) for more information.

Dr. Seth Ward teaches Islamic History, Judaic Studies, and Religions of the Middle East: Judaism, Christianity and Islam, in the Religious Studies Program at the University of Wyoming.

Motorcycle show, swap meet set

The first Casper Iron Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet is set for the Central Wyoming Fairgrounds April 5 to 7, 2013.

For sponsors and booth rentals, contact Bobby Eldredge, 267-0380 or e-mail morderndrifter68@yahoo.com Eldredge is in charge of the swap meet.

The bike show contact is Mike Harrison at 577-9165; email mikemileage@aol.com

Portions of the proceeds will go to Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (one of the Wounded Warrior projects from Sheridan).

Machelle -- 259-2501

Watercolor at West Wind

The Casper Artists' Guild announces the latest in the Saturday morning watercolor sessions through the month of March.

These sessions are held at the West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th Street, on Saturday morning from 10 a.m. to noon.

Cost is \$10 per person per session.

March 9: Sumi-E - Japanese Painting (Claudette Mowery); March 16: Floral Vignette (Garnette Jones); MARCH 23 AND 30: --NO SESSIONS.

These will be great learning session. Hope to see you there.

For questions please contact Ellen Black at 265-6783 or contact the West Wind Gallery at 265-2655, Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

Sketch and Sounds

Bring your sketchpad and any drawing tool to use the museum as your personal inspiration. Sketch away to music in our galleries. All participants must bring their own supplies.

Admission to all Sketch and Sounds is \$5 per adult, \$8 per couple, \$3 for children 5 and under (children must be accompanied by an adult).

March 7: Amy Gieske and Cory McDaniel

March 21: Casper College Clarinet Ensemble

April 11: Casper College Latin Jazz Ensemble

Reception for Joshua Ray Smith

Join us at the Nicolaysen Art Museum as we celebrate the exhibition of Rawlins-based artist Josh Smith on Thursday, March 14, at 6 p.m.. FREE TO THE PUBLIC.

Canvas and Cocktails

Looking for a way to explore your artistic side but don't know where to start? Want a fun night out that is new and exciting? Canvas and Cocktails is an upbeat creative class at the Nicolaysen Art Museum on Thursday, March 28, from 6 to 8 p.m., for both the artistic and non-artistic. Come learn the basics of painting while enjoying the company of friends. We provide the supplies and you provide your favorite wine. Registration required. Please register by March 21. Fee: \$30 members, \$35 non-members per person.

Meet the new curator

Join us to meet and talk to the Nic's new curator, Eric Wimmer, formerly curator at the Veterans' Memorial Museum, at 6 p.m., on Thursday, April 4. Free to the public.

Are you Mrs. Central Wyoming?

Sheree Lynch, executive state director for the Mrs. Wyoming Pageant, said the pageant is seeking applicants for the title of Mrs. Central Wyoming. Once selected, the lucky lady will advance on to represent her community in the 2013 Mrs. Wyoming Pageant to be held on June 1 at Central Auditorium in Cheyenne.

Local titleholders will compete to win a prize package valued at over \$8,000 including an all expense paid trip to the nationally televised Mrs. America Pageant. Applicants must be at least 18 years old (no age limit), married at the time of competition and a Wyoming resident, no performing talent required.

Celebrating its 37th year, the Mrs. America pageant is the only competition to recognize the one person who contributes so much to modern day life, America's married woman.

To request the official application or for information, call Lynch, Wyoming's state director at 970-674-0944 or visit www.mrswyomingamerica.com.

Improvement district sets election

The North Mountain View Improvement District will hold an election on May 14, 2013, to elect one officer to serve as president of the board of directors.

The election poll will be held on May 14, 2013, from 2 to 7 p.m., at 4693 Lafayette St., in Mills/North Mountain View.

Absentee ballots will be available at the Natrona County Clerk's Office, 200 N. Center, or by calling 235-9217. Absentee ballots must be received at the County Clerk's office by 4 p.m., on May 14, 2013.

For more information, contact president Elsie Herbort at 234-7989.

Fundraisers

Helping folks raise money.

Douglas B&GC sets fundariser

The Douglas Boys & Girls Club presents "Cowboy Ethics," author Jim Owen at the "Commit to Kids" fundraiser Saturday, March 16, at 6 p.m., at the Fort Reno Building, Wyoming State Fair Park in Douglas. Wyoming State Sen. Jim Anderson of Glenrock is the master of ceremonies.

Tickets are \$30 a person or \$50 a couple. Corporate tables are available at \$1,000. Seating is limited, please purchase tickets in advance. Tickets are available at the Boys & Girls Club of Douglas, 135 S. 4th St., or from any board member.

Festivities include cash bar, silent auction, a prime rib dinner, raffles and Owen's keynote remarks.

Stage III's 'Medea' to help Relay team

If you are considering attending the Stage III play, "Medea," and would like to help out the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life, the ACS Board Team is selling tickets for the dress rehearsal on Thursday, March 7. Based on the Greek tragedy, the play is being directed by Tom Empey. Cost of the tickets is \$12 for adults, \$10 for students and senior citizens. Contact team captain Betty Gervais at 235-1794, or Jerre Jones at 234-8625.

Casper goes bald for childhood cancer

The St. Baldrick's Foundation will host one of its signature head-shaving events to raise funds and awareness for lifesaving childhood cancer research at The Eastridge Mall in the Center Court, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., on Saturday, March 16. St. Baldrick's is a volunteer-driven children's cancer charity that raises funds by hosting head-shaving events worldwide where

volunteers collect pledges to shave their heads in solidarity with children with cancer.

Along with the head shaving, there will be many amazing silent auction items to bid on that have been donated by local businesses.

Sign up at www.stbaldricks.org/events/Casper

For more information, contact Scott Cotton, 797-0369, cottonfire@gmail.com

'Art on the Range' benefits United Way

Three Crowns Golf Club and United Way of Natrona County announce a spectacular event to benefit United Way of Natrona County, "Art on the Range," with Michael Israel.

Michael Israel is a renowned artist whose performances have inspired audiences around the country, from presidential dinners to the Winter Olympics. Proceeds from the performance will support United Way of Natrona County and its Community Activity Program.

The event will be held on Saturday, June 8. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., with the performance to follow, all on the beautiful Three Crowns Golf Course. Following the performance, Michael's original artwork will be auctioned, a truly once in a lifetime experience.

For more information about sponsorships, reserved tables, or individual seats, please contact the United Way office at 237-9367 or Anne at Three Crowns Golf Club at 472-7696.

DU sold out

Thank you, Casper. The March 16 annual DU Banquet at Sonny's RV is sold out. Less than 50 truck raffle tickets are left. For truck raffle tickets, contact Dave, 259-2735.

Casper Baseball Casino Night

Casper Baseball Casino Night is Friday, March 15, from 7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m., at the Casper Elks Lodge, 108 E. 7th St. There will be food and a cash bar all night. Live and silent auction items, live music from Rogue Radio. Tickets are \$100 each, which admits two adults. Your ticket will also serve as your 2013 season pass for all Legion games, including tournaments. In addition, there will be reverse raffle cash prizes. The first ticket drawn wins \$1,000, must be present to win; every 30th ticket drawn wins \$100; the last ticket drawn wins \$10,000, based on the sale of 300 tickets.

For tickets or more information, call Kevin Taheri, 259-6305; Cole Chuman, 262-8575; Joan Caldwell, 258-8628; JC Kirk, 258-6148; Jim Gunderson, 258-3869; Mike Ridgeway, 259-8118; or Rod Aaker, 265-3284.

St. Anthony fundraiser April 13

St. Anthony Tri-Parish Catholic School will host its annual Partners in Education (PIE) Dinner and Auction fundraiser on Saturday, April 13, 2013, at the Parkway Hotel and Convention Center. Dr. Ray Guarendi, clinical psychologist, author, public speaker, and nationally syndicated radio and television host will be the keynote speaker. There are many exciting items up for bid in the Silent and Live Auctions. Highlights include a luxurious trip to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, a children's ATV with helmet, a beautiful custom-made dog mansion, Denver Broncos tickets, a guided Wyoming deer hunt, a fossil-hunting expedition, a chance to win a diamond earring and bracelet set, and much, much, more! To purchase tickets or a table, please visit the St. Anthony Tri-Parish Catholic School office at 1145 West 20th Street. For more information, please call the school at 234-2873.

Quilt raffle at senior center

The Casper Senior Center is sponsoring another quilt raffle until the end of February. Tickets are 1 for \$1 or 6 for \$5. The quilt was once again donated by the ladies associated with Kalico Kat Quilt Shop.

See's Candies for sale

St. Anthony Manor, 211 E. 6th St., is selling See's candies. All proceeds are a fundraiser for the residents' activities. Purchases may be made weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information or to check availability, call Karie or Janet at 237-0843.



CLUE

Officials: Killer said to camp where Wroe-Bechtel vanished in Wyoming



MARCH 06, 2013 5:00 AM • BY MEGAN CASSIDY STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

The brother of convicted murderer Dale Wayne Eaton had attempted to contact law enforcement earlier, but to little avail.

Shortly after the July 24, 1997 disappearance of Lander woman Amy Wroe-Bechtel, all eyes were on her husband, Steve Bechtel, said Detective John Zerga of the Fremont County Sheriff's Office.

"I think our detectives who were working the case were so adamant that it was Steve that they weren't looking in other directions," Zerga said. "That upset the brother and his wife. I think that's probably what happened."

Zerga said he and a colleague went to talk with Eaton's family members last summer, 15 years after Wroe-Bechtel vanished. Eaton's brother told

them that Eaton would often camp in the Burnt Gulch area around the time Wroe-Bechtel went missing.

Hours after her disappearance, Bechtel's car was found on the Burnt Gulch Road turnoff in the mountains above Lander, according to previous Star-Tribune reports. That was where she reportedly went running the day she disappeared.

Few camped in the area, and few outside of Lander even knew about the area, Zerga said.

"If we could prove that Dale was in the area, that puts him at the number one lead," he said.

Officials say they have no reason to not believe Eaton's brother — he has nothing to gain by sharing this information and his wife corroborated his claims.

The idea isn't a new one. Dale Wayne Eaton has been considered a suspect by officials and others for this and several other unsolved cases.

A month and a half after Bechtel's disappearance, Eaton attempted to kidnap a family that had stopped for car trouble — a crime that earned him two to five years of probation after 99 days

in jail, according to a Radford University study. It was after this incident that Eaton's brother became convinced that Eaton was also responsible for Wroe-Bechtel's disappearance, Zerga said.

On March 3, 2004, Eaton was found guilty of raping and murdering Lisa Marie Kimmell in 1988. A jury sentenced him to death but he has been appealing the conviction ever since.

He's also remained tight-lipped.

Zerga said officials tried once again to talk to Eaton about three or four months ago.

He had a few choice words for the officials. None of them were useful.

"It took longer for us to introduce ourselves," Zerga said. "Then he told us where to go."

Eaton's appeals aren't quite yet exhausted, Zerga said. The inmate's execution was stayed last year. The case is still tied up in federal court.

Zerga said he and others on his team have dabbled in unconventional investigative methods including the use of a psychic.

That person took authorities up to the Burnt Gulch area again in late October where she felt a "high energy." Zerga said he's received about a dozen of calls from psychics and takes all tips into consideration.

"I honestly believe there is someone out there with information," he said.

If law enforcement can prove Eaton was responsible, Zerga said he doubts the death row inmate will face any further charges.

"We're just looking for closure," he said.



Town Crier for THURSDAY, March 7, 2013

MARCH 07, 2013 12:00 AM

Today's Highlights

[Fun stuff to do today.](#)

Memorial service

Friends of Seton House founder Raymond Phillips are hosting a memorial service for him today at 11 a.m., at St. Anthony's Catholic Church. A luncheon will follow in O'Reilly Hall downstairs. Phillips, 66, died Feb. 24, 2013.

Oasis Food Pantry open

The Oasis Food Pantry, inside the College Heights Community Center, 1927 S. Walnut (the old Garfield School) has moved across the hall in the same building. The pantry is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Thursdays. Use the main entrance to the building on Walnut Street, or the entrance on the south side of the building.

Woman of Distinction luncheon

The 18th annual Woman of Distinction Luncheon is at 11:30 a.m., at the Parkway Plaza. Nine women have been nominated for the distinction: Bonnie Gilbertson, Alberta Giraldo, Ann Hines, Rita Livingston, Anne MacKinnon, Renee C. Penton-Jones, Christine Potter, Pastor Lynn Williamson, and Karen Zaback.

Four Casper area women's organizations, The American Association of University Women, The American Society of Women Accountants, Casper Alumnae Panhellenic, and Soroptimist International of Central Wyoming, sponsor the Casper Woman of Distinction Luncheon.

A very limited number of tickets may be available at the door for \$25 each.

Cent\$ible Nutrition starts

The Cent\$ible Nutrition Program has new sessions starting up! If you want to learn about nutrition, how to save money at the grocery store and cook healthy meals from scratch, then this program is for you! We will teach you that and much more. We have both afternoon and evening sessions available, so you can pick the time that works best for you. Afternoon sessions run from 1 to 2:30 p.m., and the evening sessions run from 5:30 to 7 p.m. We will meet every Thursday from today through April 25. We spend half the time in the foods lab,

cooking recipes from the Cent\$ible Nutrition Cookbook. Participants will receive a cookbook and many kitchen gadgets. Register soon as classes fill up quickly. Free for those who qualify. Contact Kate at 235-9400 or kboss@natronacounty-wy.gov for more information or to register.

Spring break at Wagon Wheel

School's out bounce n' skate at the Wagon Wheel Roller Skating, today through Friday, March 8, 1 to 4 p.m. Admission with own skates \$5, admission with any rental, \$7. Bounce inflates are free.

Regular sessions Friday 7 to 9 and 9 to 11 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to noon ages 8 & under, 12 to 2 or 2:30 to 4:30; Saturday night, 7 to 9 and 9 to 11; Sunday afternoon 1 to 3 and 3:30 to 5:30. Regular session admission \$5 with own skates and \$7 admission with any rental. \$3 more includes wristband for inflates. Personal skates must be clean and in good repair.

Sessions include games, prizes, Disco light show. Check our rates have a Birthday on Skates. We do the work, we clean the mess, you have the fun! NEW for children under 12 years, www.kidsskatrefree.com

More information call 265-4214 or www.wws skate.com or www.facebook.com/wagonwheelrollerskating

Free tax help

Wyoming Free Tax Service (VITA) will again offer free income tax preparation and e-filing. All tax preparers are trained and certified by the Internal Revenue Service. We serve low to moderate-income taxpayers with incomes of \$65,000 or less. We can be found at the following locations: Restoration Fellowship Church, food pantry entrance (to April 11): Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Moses, Jesus & Muhammad

Much of our world today has been shaped by religious traditions ascribed to Moses, Jesus and Muhammad. What can we say about the history of these individuals? Tonight at 6:30 p.m., Dr. Seth Ward of the University of Wyoming will present "Moses, Jesus and Muhammad" at the Natrona County Public Library. This informational session and community discussion will present parallels from the lives of the three individuals, illustrating aspects of contemporary research, religious piety, and the development of religious ideas over time. Participants will be invited to raise questions and join in the discussion. Free and open to the public, this presentation and conversation is sponsored by the Wyoming Humanities Council. Call 577-READ (7323) for more information.

Dr. Seth Ward teaches Islamic History, Judaic Studies, and Religions of the Middle East: Judaism, Christianity and Islam, in the Religious Studies Program at the University of Wyoming.

Sketch and Sounds

Bring your sketchpad and any drawing tool to use the Nicolaysen Art Museum as your personal inspiration. Sketch away to music in our galleries. All participants must bring their own supplies. The museum is open until 8 p.m., on Thursdays.

Admission to all Sketch and Sounds is \$5 per adult, \$8 per couple, \$3 for children 5 and under (children must be accompanied by an adult). Tonight's music is provided by Amy Gieske and Cory McDaniel.

Safari Club meets

The Central Wyoming Safari Club International will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m., at the Casper Petroleum Club.

Local club member Scott Brownell will give a presentation on his caribou hunting safari in northern Canada. Please come and join us for an interesting evening. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, please call Dale Leatham at 797-2097.

Child and health care unite

If you are an employer, do you want reliable, focused, productive employees? If you are a family with young children, do you need access to quality child care information, as well as information on the health care providers in the community? Natrona County Integrated Child Care Resource and Referral is interested in your input. Share your thoughts and suggestions with us on how we can work together to create a system for employees/families which connects quality child care and the medical community. A focus group meeting is at the UW Outreach Center, 951 N. Poplar from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Drinks and snacks provided. Supported through a grant from the American Academy of Pediatrics. For more information, contact Dianna Webb, project coordinator, at 259-4238.

Stage III's 'Medea' to help Relay team

If you are considering attending the Stage III play, "Medea," and would like to help out the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life, the ACS Board Team is selling tickets for the dress rehearsal tonight. Based on the Greek tragedy, the play is being directed by Tom Empey. Cost of the tickets is \$12 for adults, \$10 for students and senior citizens. Contact team captain Betty Gervais at 235-1794, or Jerre Jones at 234-8625.

NC photo exhibit at Metro

A collection of photographs created by NCHS photography students will be featured at Metro Coffee Company. The photo exhibit will run through March 31 at the Metro Coffee Company.

Professional photographer Ken Stoecklin from Beartooth Photography volunteered his time to work with our class again this year. Students have chosen to exhibit photos that represent the Yellowstone Photo trip they took in the fall and images that they composed from local Casper outings throughout the year.

This Just In

New to Town Crier.

Downtown market has new manager

In a show of true community collaboration, the Wyoming Food for Thought Project is happy to announce that they will now be managing the Downtown Casper Community Farmer's Market.

"We're honored to have been chosen and trusted with such an incredible integral part of the downtown summer activities. Taking on the Farmer's Market is directly in line with the work we are doing to bring equitable food access to everyone. The Farmers Market is a great way to build community, bring people directly to the farmers growing the food, and add healthy food options to our local food system," said Jamie Purcell, executive director for the Wyoming Food for Thought Project. "We're working to set dates for the market as soon as possible and grow the number of growers selling at the market."

Look for an even greater number of food vendors as well as an increased presence of food resources like Cent\$ible Nutrition.

Future plans include a senior weekend food bag program, community garden project coordination, a seed library, and expanding the Farmers Market.

Please direct questions to Jamie Purcell, executive director for Wyoming Food for Thought Project, 267-2421 or email wyofoodforthought@gmail.com.

St. Patrick's Party at the Elks

St. Patty's Day party at the Casper Elks Lodge on Saturday, March 16, from 6:30 p.m. until?? Serving corned beef and cabbage. Cost is \$6 a plate, drink special and green beer. Come down and enjoy fun times with some good friends! Members, significant other and guest accompanied by a member. For more information, call 234-4839.

Casino Night at Elks

It's time again for the Casper Elks Casino Night in the Ballroom of the Casper Elks Lodge on Saturday, March 23. Members and guest are welcome to come on down and enjoy some delicious hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and fun and games. You will have a chance to will \$1,000 and

other prizes throughout the evening. Only 200 tickets will be sold at \$30 each. No tickets at the door. All proceeds of the evening will be going to the Elk Charities. Tickets on sale now at the bar or call the lodge at 234-4839 for more information.

Easter brunch at Elks

Easter Brunch at the Casper Elks Lodge from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Sunday, March 31. Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, Biscuits & Gravy, French Toast, Fried Potatoes, Baked Ham, Baron Beef, Mashed Potatoes with brown gravy, Hard Boiled Eggs, Vegetable Tray, Tossed Salad, Fruit Salad, Crepes, Coffee, Tea and Juice. Cost is Adults \$12, Children 6-12 is \$6.00 and 5 & under Free If with a paying Adult. Please make reservations for parties larger than six (6) people! Open to the public. For more information call 234-4839.

Steak at the Elks

Friday Night Steak Feed at the Elks on Friday, March 8. Sirloin steak with potatoes, tossed salad and roll. Cost is \$6 per person, serving from 6 to 7 p.m., or until gone. Members, significant other and guest accompanied by a member. For more information, call 234-4839.

Survivors meet March 25

ASCA (Adult Survivors of Child Abuse) meetings will begin from 6:30 to 8 p.m., on Monday, March 25, 2013, at the United Church of Christ, 1511 S. Melrose. Thereafter, the plan is for the group to meet every other Monday.

This is a peer support group based meeting, co-facilitated by fellow abuse survivors. The purpose of ASCA is to bring together within a nurturing and supportive community, those who were abused as children either physically, sexually, or emotionally. ASCA meetings empower individuals to transform their identities from victims, to survivors, to thrivers.

The meeting is based on the ASCA recovery step program designed by Dr. J. Patrick Gannon. There are other free printed ASCA recovery resource materials available at the meeting. Meetings offer the (optional) opportunity to speak about experiences in a safe, confidential, and nonjudgmental forum. These meetings are co-ed. Only first names are used.

For more information, please call Tia, 307-333-2039.

200 Club in Glenrock

St. Louis Catholic Church in Glenrock hosts its annual 200 Club fundraiser at 6:30 p.m., on Saturday, March 16, at the parish hall. The evening is Western themed. Tickets are \$100, which includes two dinners. Call 436-9809 for more information or tickets.

NC '63 has meeting

The NCHS 1963 50th Reunion Committee will meet on Wednesday, March 13, at 11 a.m., at the First Christian Church, 525 CY Ave., (park and enter on north side of building). Please join us to assist with the planning for this exciting event, scheduled for July 26-28, 2013. Contact Janice (Adams) Burnett at 259-2869 if you have new contact information for yourself or

classmates.

Outdoor circus comes to Events Center

The Bar Nunn Fire Department proudly presents the Carson & Barnes Circus, coming to the Casper Events Center grounds on May 28 and 29, 2013. For four generations, the Carson & Barnes family has toured North America with the most traditional of American big top circuses.

The Carson & Barnes Circus brings first class family entertainment to all parts of America — small towns to big cities, border to border and coast to coast and will be making a two-day stop in Casper with four performance, 4:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m., on both Tuesday, May 28, and Wednesday, May 29.

Each year, Carson & Barnes Circus searches for the best acts from around the globe and presents them along with their world famous animal acts, to produce the world's biggest big top show. Be sure to catch this memorable family experience while it is here in Casper.

Tickets are on-sale March 8, 2013 and are available by calling the Casper Events Center Box Office at 577-3030, 800-442-2256 or by logging on to www.CasperEventsCenter.com.

Republican women hear legislators

Natrona County Republican Women will host the Natrona County Republican legislators on Thursday, March 14, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the Casper Petroleum Club. Representatives Stubson and Walters; and Senators Scott, Perkins and Landen will be in attendance. They will be giving an update of the key legislation that took place during the 2013 legislative session and have a brief question and answer session. Admission is free and donations appreciated. Meetings are open to all Republicans. Please RSVP to Liz Bishop, 529-0272 or to ncrwmember@gmail.com by Tuesday, March 12.

Students need host families

I am looking for host families for the 2013-14 school year, students like Audrey from France. She enjoys writing, swimming, gymnastics, volleyball, dancing shopping and watching movies; and Joao from Portugal, who enjoys soccer, boxing, movies, jogging, skating and American football. He wants to be a chemical scientist when he grows up. Students come from around the world. They come with health insurance and spending money. Host families provide a bed (bedrooms can be shared with same sex host siblings within four years of the students' age) and meals as well as transportation.

For more information, please call Barb Richards at 253-0002 or go to asse.com

Burgers at the Eagles

Come on down and relax after a hectic week on Friday night and let us do the cooking and dishes. We have \$6 burgers, \$7 chili dogs, \$7 steak sandwiches and the fixings. Special this week is \$7 Nachos Supreme. Relax and socialize with friends. 235-5130, Fraternal Order of Eagles, 306 N. Durbin.

Rotary presents peace forum

Explore Peace. The 2012-2013 theme for Rotary International (RI) is Peace Through Service. RI president Sakuji Tanaka brought Rotarians from around the world together through three international peace forums. District 5440 is bringing the experience and discussion to the Rocky Mountains. The event is Friday, March 15, 2013, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Ramkota Best Western, \$50 admission (lunch included). Presenters will discuss forgiveness, building healthy relationships and healthy community locally and globally. A concert in the evening is scheduled with Inda Eaton as the featured performer. The cost is \$10 unless attending the forum, then there will not be an additional cost. Contact Debbie Mueller at debra_mueller@natronaschools.org or call (307) 253-5236 for more information.

First Presbyterian celebrates

It's a busy month at First Presbyterian Church at 8th and Wolcott, beginning with a performance on Saturday, March 9, at 3 p.m., by the University of Wyoming's Singing Statesmen, an elite group of talented young men.

Sunday, March 17, is a day-long celebration of the church's 100th anniversary with 10:30 a.m., and 4 p.m., worship services. Centennial activities will fill the time between worship services. Worshippers will gather in City Park at 3:30 p.m., and process into the sanctuary behind a bagpiper!

Palm Sunday, March 24, will begin with worship at 10:30. At 3 p.m., everyone is invited to the church's 4th annual Celtic Music Fest. Irish, Scottish, Welsh, and Manx music will be performed by a wide variety of musicians and instruments. Scones and "grog" will be served afterwards.

The month closes with a Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 7 p.m., and the Easter Sunday worship service on March 31.

237-9509 www.firstprescasper.com

Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Casper, WY

Download books at library

Learn how to download free library eBooks to your Kindle, Nook, iPad or other mobile device Friday, March 15 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Natrona County Public Library. Group instructions and one-on-one help will be provided. Please bring your library card, your device, and any cables that came with it. You will also need to know any user IDs or passwords that apply to your eReader account. Call 577-READ (7323) ext. 2 for more information.

The law of attraction

Can changing your thoughts change your life? Business and life success coach Christa Sutton will present a free seminar on the Law of Attraction, Monday, March 18, at 6 p.m. at the

Natrona County Public Library. In "It's Not Your Job: The Law of Attraction and Letting Go," Sutton will explain how the Law of Attraction works, clarifying the individual's role and responsibility in the process, and providing pointers for achieving success. Call 577-READ (7323) for more information.

Men's golf league starts

Casper Men's Golf League needs all new and old members to get their membership dues in by April 1. Pick up applications at Durbin Street Golf, The Tile Center or Casper Municipal Golf Course. Call 472-7337 for more information.

Coin collectors meet

The Community Coin Club will meet the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Gateway Building on the Casper College Campus.

The club, which is open to all people and age groups, will discuss the older commemorative coins in the upcoming meeting on March 13. Tom Schellberg, president of the club, will begin the meeting by presenting a short program about the early commemorative coins. Come and bring any that you have and share with the group.

The next three meetings, March 13, April 10 and May 8, will all be held in room 218 of the Gateway Building. For questions, call Karen at 268-2099.

Church hosts symphonic band

The Moody Symphonic Band of the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, will be performing on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, at 7 p.m., at Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church, 4100 Casper Mountain Road. The Moody Symphonic Band is comprised of qualified students from the Institute's undergraduate division. Their repertoire includes band and orchestral concert music as well as hymn and gospel song arrangements of both traditional and contemporary styles. The Moody Bible Institute, founded in 1886 by evangelist D.L. Moody, is a non-denominational undergraduate and graduate level institution that educates and trains men and women for Christian service. For more information, contact Cornerstone Church at 235-6363.

Volunteer training at Reach 4A Star

Classes at Reach 4A Star Riding Academy, 4250 N. 6 Mile Rd., start April 1 and we need volunteers to make that happen. If you are interested in helping and are over 14, please join us for training on Saturday, March 23, at 9 a.m. No experience with horses or people with disabilities required as we will train you for "the job" but we appreciate a commitment for a six-week session. If you have volunteered in the past and are available to help this year, join us for lunch and the afternoon part of the session. We will provide lunch but you need to call 472-7827 or email director@reach4astar.org to let us know you are coming. We will be inside for the training but you will want to wear warm clothes.

Low vision support meets

CALVS, Casper Area Low Vision Support group will meet on Monday, March 11, at 1 p.m. at St.

Mark's Episcopal Parish Hall.

This month we will be having Interim Health Care updating us with their most recent services, including their local life line, which many of us have requested more information about. Please come and bring a family member or friend or support person.

We have many things lined up for April and May which you will find interesting and helpful which will be in our next article. Always the second Monday of the month.

Our convention will be in June and if you know of any visibly impaired student worthy of a scholarship for continuing education, let us know.

If you need a ride, call Lois by Friday, March 8, at 234-3980.

Red Hatters lunch

All Queen Bee Red Hatters are invited to attend the Wednesday, March 20, luncheon at the Caddie Shack Restaurant, 2120 Allendale at the municipal golf course, at 11:30 a.m. We will order from the menu.

For reservations or cancellations please call Lois Ashbury, 234-7718; Corrine Eckhart, 259-4379; or Donna Kerr, 234-7131, no later than Monday, March 18.

Jan Roggow -- 237-8313

Help Yourself

Stuff to help you.

MV food bank

A food distribution will take place each Wednesday afternoon from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at Mountain View Southern Baptist Church in the fellowship hall (basement). If you or someone you know is in need of some help, please come to 4250 Poison Spider Rd., in the Mountain View area. For more information, call Jan at 237-8318.

Jan Roggow -- 237-8318

English for Hispanics

We are holding an English class, free for anyone who speaks Spanish and wants to sharpen their English or even start speaking English from scratch. This will be provided by Missionaries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Classes will be held each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evening at 7:30 p.m., at the LDS Meeting house, 1922 S. Poplar (east entrance). Day classes will be optional as well and can be scheduled by calling the Missionaries at 473-1542.

The classes are 60 minutes each, and in them you'll learn basic and valuable skills for real-life scenarios such as how to use the bank, how to use public transit, how to get a job, how to meet people, how to shop and many, many more.

Fun, interactive, and easy learning environment.

For questions or directions to the class, call the Missionaries at 473-1542. Thank you.

SME offers scholarships

The Central Wyoming Section of SME is again offering scholarships to area high school graduating seniors. It is intended for students who will be majoring in a physical science (chemistry, geology, or physics), math, or engineering. It is open to students at Natrona County High School, Kelly Walsh, Roosevelt, Midwest, Glenrock, and Douglas schools. A minimum of a 3.0 GPA is required.

Applications have been sent directly to the local schools, and the deadline to submit applications is April 5. Please contact JoAnn True (joann.true@truecos.com) for additional information.

JoAnn True -- 265-4925

Free computer classes at library

The Natrona County Public Library offers basic computer classes monthly to help you navigate the computer, the internet, and basic programs such as Microsoft Word. Additional classes are given periodically on topics like social media, using Google and genealogy. All classes are held in the Tech Center at the main library in downtown Casper, offered free on a first come, first served basis. Please stop by the library's Reference Desk or call 577-READ ext. 2 to learn more about computer classes at your library.

Classes for March 2013:

Friday, March 8, Intro to the Internet, 2-4 p.m.; Wednesday, March 13, Intro to Word, 5-7 p.m.; Friday, March 15, Downloading Library eBooks, 10 a.m.-noon; Tuesday, March 19, Intro to PowerPoint, 3-5 p.m.' Thursday, March 21, Intro to Excel, 2-4 p.m.

NAMI Caring and Sharing

NAMI-Casper is excited to invite the community of people who have loved ones with serious mental illness to come to our monthly support meeting. At this time we discuss the various situations that family and friends are dealing with and positive solutions that have worked from the lived experience of the group and the science based information NAMI provides.

Confidentiality is a priority. Everything NAMI offers is always "free" to the community and is run by volunteers. We care, and understand the difficulties families and loved ones struggle with in the journey of mental illness. We always hope for recovery and for our loved ones to be stable and to be able to care for themselves to the best of their individual abilities. Our meeting is on the third Tuesday of every month, this month on March 19, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the little brick building at 133 W.6th St. just off S. Center St. For further information, call the office at 234-0440 or 333-5758.

Epilepsy support for parents

The Epilepsy Support Group will meet on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 5:30 to 7 p.m., at the Special Education Services Center, 500 South Jefferson St. (former Jefferson School building). We will have a discussion on the impact of epilepsy on the family, utilizing two brief movies entitled 'Sleepless Nights' and 'Small World'. A light meal will be served and free respite/child care will be available on site. The public is invited to participate. For more info, please call the Parent Resource Center at 253-4627.

Talk Senior Olympics

Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions invites the community to our Thoughtful Thursdays series, a brown-bag discussion featuring topics related to health care, aging and end-of-life issues.

March 14, Carolyn Griffith will present, "Trails to a Healthy State: The Wyoming Senior Olympics." The next Wyoming Senior Olympics will take place July 10-13 in Casper.

Master Gardeners Julie Clouser and Wendi Stull will present on March 28 about vertical and container gardening.

Thoughtful Thursdays starts at noon at Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions Resource Center, 319 South Wilson Street. These discussions are free and open to the public and take place bi-weekly.

To learn more about Thoughtful Thursdays or Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions call 577-4832 or visit us online at www.cwhp.org.

Shoes for your horses

Horses needing to have their hoofs shod or trimmed are needed by the Casper College Agriculture Department for its spring horseshoeing class.

The class, which begins Monday, March 25 will run for two weeks from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday, according to Tom Parker, agriculture instructor.

The class will need three to four horses to shoe or trim each night beginning March 27, according to Parker.

Parker noted that owners would be charged only for the materials used on each horse. "It's good timing for those wanting to get their horses shod or trimmed up for the spring," he said.

Anyone interested in signing up for "Horseshoeing" (AGTK1570 80), or in providing horses for the class should call Parker at 268-2262.

Bereavement support starts

Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions is starting a six-week support group for those grieving the loss of a loved one. The group starts Thursday, March 14, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

This free group offers a safe, therapeutic environment to support the grieving process. The group will discuss topics such as the stages of grief, coping skills and handling special events.

Group size is limited. The group meets in the Resource Building, 319 South Wilson Street. To enroll in the group or learn more about our support groups or Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions call 577-4832.

Free college prep program

Upward Bound has six openings for Casper high School students in grades 9 to 11 that must be filled by March 30. This non-profit education program, funded by the Department of Education, offers FREE tutoring, ACT prep, academic counseling, a FREE six-week summer program at the University of Wyoming, incentive stipends for keeping grades up, and much more! If you want to go to college, and your parents do not have a 4 year college degree, call now! Lori Brown-Wirth at 237-2410. More information can be found at www.uwyo.edu/seo/upward-bound.

Job fair March 19

The Parkway Plaza and the Casper Workforce Center are sponsoring a job fair at the Parkway Plaza in Casper on Tuesday, March 19. From 9 to 11 a.m., the job fair is **for veterans only**. The general public is invited to attend from 1 to 3 p.m. Employers from the fields of energy, manufacturing, construction, transportation, medical, retail and more will be there with job openings. Free seminars on resume writing, interviewing and workplace expectations will be held. Veteran and community-wide service providers will also be there. All job seekers need to bring resumes and dress for an interview. Questions? Call Ken Johnson at the Casper Workforce Center at 234-4591/Ext. 611.

Let's talk FAFSA

If you are planning to attend college next year and need financial aid, it is time to fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Assistance with this important task will be available in the Tech Center at the Natrona County Public Library, Saturday, March 23, from 10

a.m. to noon.

A representative from the UW/CC Educational Opportunities Center will help students and their families through this important step in the college admissions process. Please bring all W2s and tax information for 2012. Call 577-READ ext. 101 to learn more.

Senior Center offers computer classes

Computer classes will be offered again in the Casper Senior Center Computer Lab at 1831 E. 4th St. Please join us for these enjoyable, informative classes taught in a very relaxed atmosphere! The cost for each class is \$50 for eight hours of instruction. All ages are welcome and class sizes are very small to allow for individual attention. You may bring your own laptop or use one of the laptops in the lab. Please bring a 2 GB jump/USB drive to your first class (available at local office supply stores). Contact Jan Burnett, instructor at 259-2869 for more information and registration.

March 18 & 21: Microsoft Windows 7* 1-5 p.m., Hands-on introduction to the Windows 7 operating system. *Textbook required.

March 25 & 28: E-Mail Basics 1-5 p.m., Topics include creating an e-mail account or using your own to create & send new e-mails, replying to or forwarding messages, deleting, printing, sending and receiving attachments, contacts/address book management, junk mail, "netiquette", and downloading messages and photos. No book required.

Controlling issues

Lifeline Connection is a division of Teen Challenge USA. We will be offering Christian support and recovery groups now in Casper. Eight groups will be offered with more to come. Right now we will be focusing on a Christian 12-step program, peacemaking "handling conflict biblically", eating disorders, post abortions, abusive relationships, depression, and professionals in recovery. All being Christ-centered groups to build a more meaning relationship with Christ and with others.

For more information or to register for a group, please call Brenda at 235-9100 ext. 223 or Pat at 258-5397.

Free tax help

Wyoming Free Tax Service (VITA) will again offer free income tax preparation and e-filing. All tax preparers are trained and certified by the Internal Revenue Service. We serve low to moderate-income taxpayers with incomes of \$65,000 or less. We can be found at the following locations:

*Casper College, Thorson Business Building, Room 129 (to April 9): Tuesday, 6:30 to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to noon

*Restoration Fellowship Church, food pantry entrance (to April 11): Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Natrona County Library Crawford Room (to April 12): Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Douglas Senior Center (to March 20): Wednesday, 1 to 4 p.m.

Family Stuff

Fun stuff for the whole family.

Home and Garden Show

The 2013 annual Home and Garden Show will be held March 15 to 17 at the Casper Events Center. Doors open at 10 a.m. each day. The show is free to attend and the community is invited to come and check out the participating businesses displaying the latest ideas in building and remodeling. Register to win \$500 in "home show bucks" to be given away each day; a child's play house, wishing well or an arbor with bench and planters. There are 142 exhibitors on three levels of the Casper Events Cneter. The show is sponsored and presented by the Central Wyoming Home Builders Association.

Ray Ebert -- 267-1741

Journey to the Cross

Rocky Mountain Men of Integrity sponsors the annual Journey to the Cross at 7 a.m., on Saturday, March 30, 2013, at and near the Casper Faith Assembly of God Church, 4301 Casper Mountain Rd. Women and older children of all faiths are welcome, as well as men. There is no charge for the event, however there will be a free will offering to help with the expenses of the breakfast. Participants who wish to walk to the cross should dress warmly, with solid footwear, as the cross is located about one-quarter mile north of the church. Our aim for the event is to be reverent, with prayer and worship singing, during the opening remarks and walk to the cross, but joyous in fellowship during the breakfast. Participants may remain in the sanctuary to pray and fellowship if they wish. Our theme for these events has been "...though millions have come, there's still room for one. Yes, there's room at the cross for you ..."

The men and women who have participated in this event have said they were deeply moved. There is something special and exhilarating about worshipping God outdoors, before that cross, and remembering the excruciating sacrifice on our behalf on that day.

For more information, call 267-6138 or see rockymtnmen.org

Easter musical at Restoration

Restoration Church, 411 S. Walsh Dr., will be performing two evenings of the original Easter production, "The Veil," Friday and Saturday, March 29 and 30, at 7 p.m. Free tickets are available at the church offices, K2 Radio, the Galilean, Hill Music and Wyoming Music, or by calling 235-9100.

"The Veil," is a two-hour musical theatre production developed by members of Restoration Church. It follows the story of a young religious leader who comes in contact with Jesus during the last week of His life and begins to question things he has always believed.

This year's production has all new music and sets. Several members of past productions, including Ryan Limmer as Phineas and Eleanor Benson as Hannah, have returned to the cast, as well as many new participants.

The production is directed by Caleb Palmer.

Autism awareness March 14

The NCSD Parent Resource Center and the Casper Autism Society proudly present a celebration of disAbilities and Autism Awareness with an evening featuring the new "Life And Spectrum" book, with special guests, C.G. Meloy, author, and Zachary Pullen, illustrator. This celebration will take place on Thursday, March 14, 6:30 p.m. at the Special Education Services Center, 500 South Jefferson St. (former Jefferson Elementary School).

The evening will include a presentation on their new book, and a presentation on what it means to live with high functioning autism and Asperger's syndrome. A reception, book purchase, and autograph session will follow the presentation.

Families, educators, providers, support staff, and anyone interested is invited to join the celebration. For more information, please call the Parent Resource Center at 253-4627.

Summer pool plan

The City of Casper announces that during the summer of 2013, city pools including Paradise Valley Pool, Washington Park Pool, and Marion Kreiner Park Pool will be open to the public.

East Casper Community Pool will be demolished this summer, to make way for the Kelly Walsh High School expansion project, and will not be re-built at its current location. The City is in the process of locating a site for a future east side pool. The goal is to have a pool on the east side of Casper similar in size to that of the Paradise Valley Pool.

Mike Sedar Pool is in the process of being replaced this summer and a new pool will hopefully be ready for a grand opening at the same location of Memorial Day 2014. Mike Sedar Pool has been selected by staff and City Council as the pool most desperately in need of renovation.

Swimming lessons that have traditionally been offered at Mike Sedar Pool will be offered at Washington Park, Paradise Valley and Marion Kreiner Pools. Once Mike Sedar reopens, plans are to reinstate a full schedule of lessons at the new facility.

Any renovations or remodels of other city pools, including Marion Kreiner Pool and Washington Pool, will be considered by City Council at a later date.

Laser light shows at planetarium

The Casper Planetarium, 904 N. Poplar St., plans several laser light shows in the month of March. Admission is \$6 per person per show. Advanced ticket purchase at the planetarium is recommended. For info, call 577-0310.

March 14-16, 7 p.m.: "Laseretro", music by Tears for Fears, Duran Duran, Depeche Mode & others. 8 p.m., Pink Floyd's "The Wall", music from the Iconic Album.

March 19-21, 4 p.m., "iPop", music by Justin Bieber, Lady Gaga, Katy Perry & others.

March 21-23, 7 p.m., "Laseropolis", music by No Doubt, Boston, Creed & others. 8 p.m., "Laser X" music by Smashing Pumpkins, Foo Fighters, Rammstein & others.

Fish at St. Anthony

The BEST fish dinners in town are served on Friday evenings during Lent at St. Anthony Church. Dinners are served from 6 to 7 p.m. All you can eat buffet with special prices for seniors and families. Enter at the ramp at the front of the church. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus #1563. For further info, call Norm at 265-5656.

Tween Mondays at library

Tween Mondays are fun and educational after school activities for students in grades 4-6, happening weekly at the Natrona County Public Library. All Tween Monday events are free and open to students in grades 4-6. Call 577-READ ext. 122 for more information. March events include: Monday, March 11, 4 p.m., "Green" Day: Celebrate the color green in honor of St. Patrick's Day; Monday, March 18, 4 p.m., Recycling Old Books: Give old books a new look; Monday, March 25, 4 p.m., Tween Book Club discusses "Victory," by Susan Cooper. Pick up a copy in the children's department anytime, then join us at the end of the month for a discussion.

After school at library

After School at the Library programs are free, fun and educational activities for elementary-age kids to enjoy throughout the school year. They are held weekly on Wednesdays at the main library and open to all children (and parents) who wish to attend. For more information, please call 577-READ ext. 122.

March events include: Wednesday, March 13, 4 p.m., National "Plant-a-Flower" Day; Wednesday, March 20, 4 p.m., E.T. Day; Wednesday, March 27, 4 p.m., EGG-Stravaganza!

Note for train lovers

Kurt Brown, a member of the Central Wyoming Model Railroad Association, is hosting an Operating Session on his home layout on Saturday, March 9, at 1 p.m. He will have 10 trains ready for dispatch on his system. He models a railroad with one terminal at Denver and the other at Billings, or Laurel. The tracks pass through Wyoming localities like Cheyenne, Wheatland, Douglas, Casper and Worland. Each train will leave the yard with a Switch List and

a two-way radio. The dispatcher, Kurt, has no visible contact with the layout and so engineers must rely on radio contact for instructions. The sessions take about 2 to 2 1/2 hours to complete the turns. We invite interested and wannabe engineers to come and join us. Call Homer at 266-6439, Harry at 235-4950, Scott at 473-1121 or Kurt at 235-7019 for more information. See you there.

Bank has new art

The hallways of the downtown Bank of the West are filled with new artwork by three of our local artists.

Stop by during normal banking hours to see the wonderful art created by Connie Atkinson, Barb Barella, and Michelle Myers, all members of the Casper Artists' Guild.

Their artwork will be on display from March 5 through the month of April.

For more information about these artists or their artwork, please contact the West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th St. during gallery hours, Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m., phone 265-2655.

Unitarian Universalist events

The public is invited to attend the services and other events of the Unitarian Universalist Community of Casper. Services are Sundays at 9 a.m. at the UCC Church at 1511 S. Melrose.

Long-time Unitarian Stan Kidder will be visiting from Colorado and present the service on March 10.

Jim Brown will present "Clouds, Love, Life, and God" on March 17, and Rev. Leslie Kee will speak on March 24. A youth religious education program and childcare are available, and discussion and refreshments will follow each service.

For more information about these events or Unitarian Universalism, visit uucasper.org or contact Laura at 259-4469.

Symphony, Artcore present 'Swan Lake'

The Wyoming Symphony Orchestra and Artcore have joined forces to present the Eugene Ballet who will perform Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake," on Saturday, March 16, 2013, at 7:30 p.m., at the John F. Walsh Auditorium at Natrona County High School. Join us and be mesmerized by a classic production of one of the most famous ballets of all time.

Today, patrons rarely have the opportunity to see a ballet performance accompanied by a full symphony orchestra. You have the chance to experience this special moment right here in Wyoming.

Tickets are going quickly, so please stop by or call the WSO office today or go to one of our ticket outlets: Wind City Books (downtown), Sadler's Hallmark (Eastridge Mall), Cadillac Cowgirl (Sunrise Shopping Center). Wyoming Symphony Office at 225 S. David, Ste. B. For

more information call 266-1478 or visit the website at www.wyomingsymphony.org

Casper Charla

Would you like to practice conversational Spanish, or help others to learn? Join the Casper Charla! We are a group of current and lifelong Spanish language learners, seeking others to join us for food, conversation, and camaraderie at local Mexican restaurants on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. All levels are welcome, from beginning to fluent. Our spring meetings are scheduled, all on Tuesdays from 5 to 7 p.m.: March 12, Tacos Mexico; March 26, at La Costa; April 9 at Guadalajara; and April 23 at Tacos Mexico. Drop in, say “hola” and stay for as long or as little as you’d like. For more information, please contact Eric Atkins at 268-3116 or Joanne Theobald at 268-2848.

4H Carnival March 9

4H members are planning a “Beach Bonanza” for the 2013 4-H Carnival. Entertainment for kids of all ages with pick a duck, minnow races, ring toss, cake walk, fishing, basketball, giant air slide, bouncy room, a bake sale and much more. Lunch is available too! Playing tickets are 10 cents each, and booths range from 4 to 12 tickets. Stop by the Extension office at 2011 Fairgrounds Road and buy a \$5 coupon that will be worth \$6 of tickets at the carnival. Proceeds support the 4-H programs. Bring the kids to the 4-H Carnival, Saturday, March 9 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Fairgrounds Industrial Building. Call for more information, 265-1995 or 235-9400.

Duct tape duel set

The 8th Annual Father-Son Duct Tape Duel will be hosted at Crest Hill Elementary School on March 23 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Fathers, sons, grandfathers, grandsons, uncles and nephews of elementary school age boys are invited to participate in this fun event.

Usable building materials will be donated by sponsors of the event: Sutherlands, Kistler Tent and Awning, the Home Depot, What’s In Store, Bushwell’s Sporting Goods, Aaker Signs, Prairie Pella of Wyoming, S.A.M.E. Sportswear, PPS Janitorial Services, Key Energy Services, The Doorman LLC and Peden’s Inc. Each sponsor will choose a “Best of Show” award recipient at the end of the event.

Tickets are \$20 per two-person team. A meal will be served. Seating is limited. Tickets must be purchased by March 20. No tickets will be available at the door.

The Father-Son Duct Tape Duel is a program of Wyoming CARES. Wyoming CARES is a 501 (c)(3) not for profit agency with a mission: to provide assistance to Wyoming residents in need.

For more information, contact the office of Wyoming CARES at 237-7035.

Lent at Holy Family

February at the Church of the Holy Family, 4100 S.E. Wyoming Blvd., includes morning prayer at 8:45 a.m., on Sundays and Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m.

All people are welcome in this parish. For information, please call Bishop Ken Kinner, 473-2200; Fr. Jim Dean, 262-6875; or Deacon Bill Brummet, 259-4205.

St. Mark's has new schedule

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 7th and Wolcott, has announced a new service schedule, which will include Sunday school at 8:50 a.m., and Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m., followed by a fellowship time.

An adult Sunday school, focusing on a six-week study of the Gospel of John, one of the most powerful and challenging books in the New Testament which is especially relevant for Christians in the 21st century, is scheduled for 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. each Sunday. Also on Sunday, Evensong worship with Holy Eucharist will be held at 6 p.m.

Activities at St. Mark's during the week include a Bible study from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays; Youth Group for ages 11 to 18 at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and on Saturdays morning prayer at 7:30 a.m., followed by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

The Rev. Philip Major is rector of St. Mark's. For further information, call the church office, 234-0831 or check the church website, www.stmarkscasper.com.

Lent at Good Shepherd

A series of "Jesus Events" will be highlighted during Lent at the 10:45 a.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church's adult forum classes. Classes will discuss and make application to modern day life of events in Christ's life from the Gospels of Matthew, Luke and John. The incidents will include Jesus walking on water, the woman caught in adultery, Zacchaeus climbing the sycamore tree, the woman anointing Jesus' feet with perfume, and the calling of Matthew. The adult forum classes are preceded by the worship services, which start at 9:30 a.m. Good Shepherd is located at 51 Primrose Street, behind Shepherd of the Valley HealthCare Center. For more information, call the church office at 237-3503.

Lent at Christ Episcopal

Join us at Christ Episcopal Church, 415 West Cedar in Glenrock, for prayer, scripture, and fellowship as part of your Lenten discipline. Sunday services with Sunday School start at 9:30 a.m.

Steven Curtis Chapman here

Central Wyoming Rescue Mission (CWRM) is hosting Christian contemporary music singer and songwriter Steven Curtis Chapman, Sunday, March 24, at Highland Park Community Church in Casper. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the concert begins at 7 p.m. There will be an opportunity to make a contribution in support of CWRM's programs and services to assist the homeless and needy in central Wyoming.

Tickets \$35 for general admission, \$45 Gold Circle "up close" seating, \$75 Platinum "up front" seating with "meet and greet". Purchase tickets through www.CWRM.org, Mission outlets, Galilean or Highland Park. For more information, call 268-4474.

Year of Invitation

First Presbyterian Church at 8th and Wolcott has designated 2013, our 100th year, The Year of Invitation. If you are new to Casper, if you've been away from the church for awhile and put off returning, or if attending church is new to you, we invite you to join us!

We are blessed to be able to begin centennial restoration and renewal projects in our sanctuary and parlor areas this winter. In doing so, we realize this is also a wonderful time to restore and renew our faith in Jesus Christ and to reach out to others as Christ called us to do.

Sunday School is at 9:15, worship is at 10:30, and fellowship follows. Three Bible studies meet during the week, as well as vocal and hand bell choirs. Currently Pastor Paul Kuhn is preaching through the Book of Genesis.

237-9509 www.firstprescasper.com

Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Casper, WY

Progressive Sunday School curriculum

The United Church of Christ, Casper offers a Sunday School program for ages 5-11 (grades K-5). Based on curriculum from the Center for Progressive Christianity, we focus on virtues such as kindness, respect, tolerance, and equality. Children learn through stories and hands-on activities to be good citizens of our shared planet. Sunday School takes place during church services, at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday, September through May. Childcare is offered for children younger than 5 years of age. Contact Rev. Dee for questions, 266-4447.

Chamber music concerts

The Casper Chamber Music Society announces its 2012-2013 season. Concerts are at the Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church, 4600 S. Poplar. Tickets are available at the door. Individual concerts are \$8 adults, \$6 seniors and \$2 students. Season tickets are \$50 adults, \$35 seniors and \$12 students.

Concerts include: April 14, Rod Garnett, flute; May 19, Salsagrass, a little salsa and a little bluegrass.

The Chamber Music Society will also perform free outreach concerts at Winter Memorial Prebsyterian Church with easy listening music for first-time concert goers. Watch for those

announcements.

Elks host breakfast

Breakfasts open to the public are held every Sunday at the Casper Elks Lodge downstairs in the dining room. Open from 8 to 11 a.m., serving pancakes, biscuits & gravy, bacon, sausage links, potatoes, scrambled eggs, french toast and omelets to order. Also served is toast, juice, tea and coffee. All you can eat for \$6, children 3 to 12 are \$3. For more information, call 234-4839.

Sunday breakfast at the Eagles

The Fraternal Order of Eagles, 306 N. Durbin, host Sunday Morning Breakfasts, serving from 8 to 11 a.m., and open to the public in a non-smoking atmosphere. We provide a full menu and sit-down service. Because it's not a buffet, plan to take a little more time.

This Sunday's Special is our Breakfast Platter served with cubed potatoes, sausage, bacon and ham topped with two eggs as you like and smothered in Green Chili or Sausage Gravy and choice of: Biscuit & Gravy or Toast. Coffee is always free. Our profit all goes to our many charities, this month's charity is our Memorial Foundation. Did you know that the Eagles Memorial Foundation provides medical and education benefits for you children should you die or get killed at work, at a cost of only \$35 per year? Interested in becoming a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles?

After school at the Nic

The Nicolaysen Art Museum announces a new after-school class on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m., "After-School Studio." Led by teaching artist Maria Rose Wimmer, this art class will take a closer look at creative process; prompt students to unlock their own creative minds and highlight how to make an idea into a work of art. Students will learn about different ways to record their creative ideas through drawing, collage, photography, and painting. This class is geared for Grades 6 to 8. Fees: \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members per student for each four-class session.

Afterschool Studio Sessions: Art Journaling; April 9 to 30, Drawing; May 7 to 28, Finding Your Creativity.

Spiritual reading

A Weavings Reading Group has formed on Wednesday evenings, 5:45 p.m. to 7 p.m., at First United Methodist Church of Casper. The group reads articles, written by Catholic, Episcopalian and other mainline spiritual directors, on the spiritual life from the quarterly Upper Room periodical, "Weavings." The public is welcomed, both older youth and adults. Contact Rev. Steve at 234-9385. Cost is \$6 to \$10 per quarter for materials.

Wednesday soup at OSL

“Facing the Cross” Lenten Mid-Week Services at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, will be held through Mar. 20, 2013.

These mid-week soup suppers are sponsored by the Casper Lutheran Youth Ministry (CLYM). Youth lead this year’s worship services at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church (OSL, 318 E 6th) and strive to deepen one’s understanding of what it means to be baptized into Christ. This year’s main theme is “Facing the Cross” with the following weekly messages:

Week 4: "Facing One Another," Ephesians 4:31-32, confessing that we have not always treated each other in a Christ like manner helps to build better relationships.

Week 5: "Facing Suffering," Romans 8:18-19, enduring suffering in this world connects us to Christ and points us to the joy to come.

Please join us at OSL for all 6pm Wednesday evening dinners and 7 p.m. worship services. A good will offering is available with all proceeds going to CLYM. For details, please call the CLYM director at 237-9087.

Lent at Christ Episcopal

Join us at Christ Episcopal Church, 415 West Cedar in Glenrock, for prayer, scripture, and fellowship as part of your Lenten discipline. Sunday services with Sunday School start at 9:30 a.m. Stations of the Cross with Bible study and soup supper will begin at 6 p.m. every Wednesday, through March 20. For info, call 436-8804 or 258-2524. The Episcopal Church welcomes you.

Lent at Trinity Lutheran

Join us at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1240 S. Missouri, for our Midweek Lenten Services at 7 p.m. every Wednesday through March 20. Soup supper at 6 p.m.

Lent at Good Shepherd

Good Shepherd Lutheran launches its Wednesday evening Lenten services with a 6 p.m., fellowship hour, followed by a 7 p.m., worship service, with the theme, “God Is With Us.” We will retell stories from the life of Christ at the 7 p.m., Wednesday night services -- teaching the beatitudes, healing the lame man at Peter’s house, feeding the five thousand, in the kitchen with Mary and Martha, and raising Lazarus from the dead. Join us for great fellowship, lively singing, and inspiring preaching each Wednesday night at 7 p.m. Good Shepherd is located at 51 Primrose Street, behind Shepherd of the Valley Healthcare Center. For more information, call the church office at 237-3503.

New discussion group begins

Great Decisions is a think tank on foreign policy sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association. It is America’s largest discussion group concerning foreign policy. Groups all over the country study and discuss issues involving our relationships to many of the hot spots around the world. The results of these discussions are shared with those in the foreign service who are in a position to act on the information generated.

There is a video produced by PBS on each topic along with study materials. Each session will consist of viewing a video, discussing data and information, and examining policy options. Each session is facilitated by an individual who has studied the material enough to lead the discussion. We will be the first such group in Casper.

Sessions are Wednesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at the United Church of Christ (on the corner of 15th and Melrose). We will meet each Wednesday for eight weeks.

The discussion topics for this year are Future of the Euro by Erik Jones, Egypt by Bruce Rutherford, NATO by Mark Webber, Myanmar and Southeast Asia by Barbara Crossette, Humanitarian intervention by Thomas Weiss, Iran by John Limbert, China in Africa by David Shinn, Threat assessment by Gregory Treverton.

Details can be found on www.fpa.org/greatdecisions

For more information, you may contact Jim Boal, jboal@bresnan.net, or Rev. Dee Lundberg at the United Church of Christ casperucc@aol.com

Bingo at the Eagles

Bingo is back at the Eagles on Wednesdays, in our new smoke-free environment and better than ever. Payouts have increased. Bring a friend to play Bingo and receive \$5 off your Bingo cards. Chairman Angie invites you to Evening Bingo with Early Bird Bingo at 6 p.m., and Regular Bingo at 6:30 p.m. Speed Ball is every Wednesday night with a \$100 winner. The Auxiliary has the Snack Bar open each Wednesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Come join us at 306 N. Durbin, 235-5130. This month's charity is our Memorial Foundation. Did you know that the Eagles Memorial Foundation provides medical and education benefits for you children should you die or get killed at work, at a cost of only \$35 per year? Interested in becoming a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles?

Clubs

[Service, hobbies, etc.](#)

Fine Arts meets

Casper Fine Arts Club will hold its regular meeting on Monday, March 11, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. at Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church.

A special program will be presented at 2 p.m. by Richard Burk, program director of Theatre and Dance at Casper College Krampert Theater, discussing the future play, "Quilters." Everyone welcome. Sheila Cooper, president, 234-6686.

Soroptimists meet

Women interested in learning about Soroptimist International of Central Wyoming are invited to the March Business meeting to be held at the Casper Petroleum Club, 1301 Wilkins Circle, at 12:10 p.m., on Monday, March 11, 2013.

Soroptimist is an international organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls in our local community and throughout the world. Our membership numbers nearly 95,000 and our clubs can be found in 120 countries and territories. Our volunteers contribute time and financial support to community-based and international projects that benefit women and girls. Our name "Soroptimist" means "Best for Women" and that is what our organization strives to achieve. Soroptimists are women at their best, working to help other women to be their best.

Please join us! For reservations please call Dyann at 237-1334 or email dyanndurst@aol.com.

Dyann Durst -- 237-1334

AAUW readers meet

The Tuesday, March 19, AAUW Readers Group luncheon will be held at the Casper Petroleum Club at noon. After a no-host lunch, the amazing and inspirational autobiography of Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayer, "My Beloved World," will be reviewed by Muriel McNeely. Please e-mail or call Muriel at 234-5688 if you have questions or to make a reservation.

Robin Broumley -- 473-9087

Dem men meet

The Democratic Men's Club will host its luncheon on Saturday, March 16, 2013. This is a one-time only Saturday date. We will be in the Champagne Room of the Parkway Plaza at noon. Jimmy Simmons, president of the Casper Branch of the NAACP, will speak. He has served in the office for about 10 years. The Casper Branch is the smallest -- but most effective -- in the CO-MT-WY State Conference. Jimmy will speak on the 103-year history of the NAACP, as well as the history and successful resolution of civil-rights cases brought by the Casper Branch. The NAACP works on behalf of civil-rights violations of all Americans. This is the third in our series on civil rights and liberties. Please join us. All Democrats and the general public are most welcome. Please RSVP to Joanne Tanner at 234-6266. For more information, call Tom Davis at 266-3015.

Voter ID topic of Democratic Forum

Marguerite Herman of Cheyenne, League of Women Voters lobbyist, will speak to the Democratic Women's Forum on Saturday, March 16, about Wyoming's voting laws and the current "Voter ID" issue.

Herman is a long-time student of state government, as a reporter and advocate. She will speak about voter ID initiatives in the Wyoming Legislature and related issues of residency requirements for electors.

She has a BA in English from Colorado College, a Master's of Arts in Teaching from the University of Chicago, and a Master's of Arts in Mass Communication from the University of South Carolina. Herman taught English in high school and community college before earning a journalism degree and reporting for the Associated Press.

Herman is author of the LWV-published "Look at Wyoming Government," 7th edition. She will be signing copies of "Look" at Wind City Books while in Casper for her talk to the Forum.

All persons interested may attend the Forum's buffet luncheon and program at the Casper Petroleum Club at 12 noon on Saturday, March 16. Cost of the buffet is \$15, which includes tax and gratuity. Reservations are needed, by calling Jerre at 234-8625 on Thursday prior to the meeting.

Lions set speakers

The following are the guest speakers at the Casper Lions Club meetings. Anyone wishing to speak to the group, please contact Lisa Cormier by calling 265-2227 or email Lisa@wyobbbs.org. All meetings are held at noon on Wednesdays at the Parkway Plaza.

March 13, Shawna Willcox, risk manager, Wyoming Medical Center, talk on patient safety; March 20, Jamie Purcell, executive director, Wyoming Food For Thought Project; March 27, business meeting, no guest speaker.

Quilters have new location

Piece by Piece Quilt Club will start the new year in a new location. They will meet at 1927 South Walnut, the former Garfield Grade School, on the first and third Fridays of the month. Please use the southeast entrance. The meetings will be 1 to 3 p.m. We welcome all quilters. For info, 237-7709.

Sports and Recreation

[Fun stuff for your body.](#)

Snow poker

The Casper Snow Gypsies are sponsoring a Poker Run on Saturday, March 9. This will be the first Poker Run of the year! Registration is from 9 a.m. to noon at Bear Trap Meadow parking lot. Cost is \$10 for each playing card and \$1 for dice. Last stop will be at the Casper Mountain Trails Center (payout will follow). For more information, call Ray at 472-0422.

Senior Olympics sets Casper theme

The Wyoming Senior Olympic Summer Games, to be held in Casper July 10-13, 2013 and again in July of 2014, has adopted the theme of "Trails to a Healthy State," to align with City of Casper Mayor Kenyne Schlager's Proclamation encouraging citizens to choose healthy, active lifestyles.

The "Trails to a Healthy State" slogan and logo was developed to recognize the importance of making healthy choices and participating in physical activity along with the significance of the four historic trails that pass through present day Casper: The Oregon Trail in 1843, the Mormon Pioneer Trail in 1847, the California Trail in 1849, and the Pony Express in 1860. The unique combination of Casper's historical background, combined with current efforts encouraging people to choose healthy lifestyles, made for an opportunity to take advantage of a play on words inviting participants locally and nationally to compete in the Wyoming Senior Olympics.

The Wyoming Senior Olympics Summer Games, an annual event in Wyoming for the past 26 years, provides opportunities for men and women, ages 50 and over, to participate and compete in archery, badminton, basketball, billiards, bowling, cycling, darts, disc golf, golf, horseshoes, mountain biking, Pickleball, racquetball, 5K and 10K road races, skeet shooting, softball, swimming, table tennis, tennis, track and field, trap shooting, triathlon, volleyball and weightlifting. Information about the Wyoming Senior Olympic Summer Games is available at www.wyseniorgames.com.

As recognized by the Centers for Disease Control, the benefits of physical activity are far reaching. Regular physical activity is one of the most important things that can be done for your health. It can help to: Control your weight, reduce your risk of cardiovascular disease, reduce your risk for type 2 diabetes and metabolic syndrome, reduce your risk of some cancers, strengthen your bones and muscles, improve your mental health and mood, improve your ability to do daily activities and prevent falls, and, if you're an older adult, increase your chances of living longer.

200 Club tourney set

The 200 Club of Casper will hold its last tournament of the season on Saturday, March 16, at Sunrise Lanes. This is a members only, singles/doubles tournament. The annual meeting will also be held at that time. Judi will be out of town, so please call Donna at 472-5506.

Register for coed volleyball

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming is now accepting registrations for their co-ed Volleyball League. This league is available to all boys and girls between 3rd and 9th grade and will be held Monday through Thursday at the Main Boys & Girls Club. The cost for this league is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members. The registration deadline is **March 11, 2013** and the season will begin on March 18. For further questions, please contact Julia McCarthy at 235-5694 ext. 3.

Register for youth baseball

It's time to sign up for America's pastime-Baseball! Casper Youth Baseball offers baseball for

boys & girls, ages 7 to 15. Practices start April 24 and games begin May 11. Managers, Coaches and umpires also needed. Call 234-7087 or go to www.cybaseball.com for more information. Sign up now! Deadline is March 28.

Fireball 500 results

The Fireball 500 Club held the 2013 Sweetheart Bowl four-person bowling tournament on Feb. 23, 2013, at Eagle Bowl.

Debbie Barton rolled both High Series, 565; and High Game, 234.

Team Results: 1. Debbie Barton, Ann Robinson, Tia Barton, Tressie Bourquin, 2,295; 2. Phyllis Rufenacht, Zelda Jensen, Michelle Hoover, Amy Royce, 2,239; 3. Jaime Moler, Renae Berlinger, Donna Morton, Jaclyn Morton, 2,226; 4. Sharon Mathis, Kathy Mathis, Colleen Freeman, Kristi Dudgeon, 2,204; 5. Lea Dole, Marla Whitaker, LaVone Bachler, Debbie Carbajal, 2,200.

St. Patrick's Skate

Stop by and hang out at the coolest place in town! The Casper Ice Arena is hosting a special St. Patty's Skate on Sunday, March 17, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is only \$4 per person and skate rental is \$2. Anyone wearing green will receive FREE skate rental! Children 4 and under are always free, with a paid adult.

The Casper Ice Arena has a full service concession stand, which is always open and will be offering specially priced green sno-cones and other themed treats during this fun event.

For additional information regarding this or any other upcoming special events, please call 235-8484 or 235-8383.

Come skate at the Casper Ice Arena, it truly is the coolest place in town.

Register for spring hockey

Spring hockey is coming back! The Casper Ice Arena is excited to announce registration for City Spring Hockey League. City Spring Hockey League is a non-checking hockey program designed for players of all levels over the age of 15 (birth year 1997 and older). City Spring League was formed to accommodate the growing number of hockey players in Casper that want to continue skating after the regular hockey season has ended. Play in the league requires no travel except to the ice arena. The format is one league, eleven games and championship games at the end of the mini-season.

Interested skaters should register early to ensure a spot. The registration deadline is **March 30** or until teams are full. League begins April 1 with games on Monday and Thursday nights beginning at 7:30 p.m. The registration fee is only \$75 per player and includes the use of a jersey. All participants must be current members of USA Hockey (www.usahockey.com).

Call 235-8484 for more information or check us out on the web at www.casperwy.gov.

Youth baseball umpire school

Casper Youth Baseball needs umpires. It's a great opportunity for those who enjoy baseball and make money having fun.

Most of our umpires are age 14 to 16 and play baseball. We need more umpires in that age group, plus more adults to fill the umpire shortage.

It's an opportunity for teens to earn money and also learn valuable life skills.

The Umpire School begins its six-week course March 19 at 7 p.m., at Casper College Thunderbird Gym Room 158. There is a \$30 registration fee. The Tuesday/Thursday course teaches baseball rules, field mechanics and handling game situations.

CYB also needs experienced umpires who have been away from baseball or are new to Casper and would like to umpire here. For adult veteran umpires, we recommend this optional course for teaching local mechanics.

Help Casper's baseball youth by contacting Kirk Nelson at Bush-Wells Sporting Goods, 235-6671, or Tammy at the CYB office, 234-7087. Mark March 19 on your calendar.

Note: There is a possibility that the first night's location may change if Casper College hosts a regional tournament. Check with CYB, 234-7087 or playball@cybaseball.com, or call the above contacts.

Helping Others

[Volunteer opportunities.](#)

Casper area pets go online

Paws2Help Foundation, Casper has joined other animal welfare organizations in the area that list their homeless pets on Petfinder, the oldest and largest database of adoptable animals on the Internet. The site currently has over 375,000 homeless pets listed and is updated continuously.

More than 13,900 animal welfare organizations in the U.S., Canada and other countries post their pets on the site. Pets may be viewed at <http://www.petfinder.com>.

A potential adopter enters search criteria for the kind of pet he or she wants, and a list is returned that ranks the pets in proximity to the Zip code entered. Adoptions are handled by the

animal placement group where the pet is housed, and each group has its own policies.

Petfinder.com was created in early 1996 as a grassroots project by Jared and Betsy Saul to end the euthanasia of adoptable pets. Since its inception, the site has facilitated approximately 20 million adoptions, making it the most life-saving initiative in animal welfare.

Sponsors include The Animal Rescue Site, BISSELL Homecare, Inc., a manufacturer of home cleaning and floor care products, Petco, a national pet supply retailer that sponsors in-store adoptions and provides coupon books for new adopters, PetFirst Healthcare, the exclusive pet insurance provider for Petfinder.com and HomeAgain, a microchip and pet recovery service.

Mission feels impact of homelessness

A recent article in "The New York Times" focused attention on the rising rate of homelessness here in Wyoming. The report reveals the state's homeless population grew by 67 percent -- from 1,083 people to 1,813 -- in 2011 and that social services workers attribute the increase to the growing number of migrants from states with high unemployment rates who come seeking jobs in the oil and gas drilling industry, but can't find a place to stay. Or if they do locate an available apartment, the rent is out of their reach.

According to Central Wyoming Rescue Mission executive director Brad Hopkins, his organization is feeling the impact of this trend, as many of these "homeless" families and individuals are making their way to the Mission when they have nowhere else to go.

Near capacity, the mission is currently sleeping 83 men, women and children every night and providing 110 meals on a daily basis. The staff also helps these displaced individuals locate the resources they need to get on their feet here in central Wyoming or return to their previous homes.

"We at Central Wyoming Rescue Mission are concerned about the increase in Wyoming homelessness. We will continue what we have been doing for over twenty years in caring for the homeless, poor and needy of Central Wyoming," said Hopkins. "This report further illustrates the urgency of our work and need to expand our services, particularly to homeless and vulnerable families in Casper and our region." For more information go to www.CWRM.org

Counseling center gets grant

The Central Wyoming Counseling Center received \$25,000 from the Blue Envelope Health Fund in November 2012. The grant covered the costs for updated Automated External Defibrillators for CWCC buildings, as well as assisted in improving the care given to clients through Assessment and Treatment of Medical Condition.

Started in 1959, Central Wyoming Counseling Center is a nonprofit community behavioral health and substance abuse treatment center that is dedicated to helping residents of Wyoming.

Volunteers beyond ordinary

Caring, compassionate people are needed to assist Amedisys Hospice patients and their loved

ones. Volunteers play an indispensable role in enable Amedisys to offer the best care possible for patients living with life-limiting illness, their families and caregivers. By sharing their time, our volunteers bring compassion and caring to the lives of those in need. If you could spare a few hours a week to be a companion, please call Linda at 266-9991.

Dementia Care in Senior Center

Wyoming Dementia Care has opened an office for Family Support Services at the Senior Center, 1831 East 4th Street, phone 265-4678.

Wyoming Dementia Care is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit founded in 2008 to help those with dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, and their families experience, to the greatest extent possible, a better quality of life. Services to caregivers and families include providing information, leading support groups and advocating for their needs. The long-term goal of Wyoming Dementia Care is to build a specialty nursing home for those with dementia.

Wyoming Dementia Care's Program Manager for Family Services Dani Mandelstam Guerttman will have responsibility for the Senior Center office as well as for facilitation of support groups and other duties related to offering assistance to those with dementia, their families and caregivers. The support groups meet at the Senior Center at 10 a.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month to offer encouragement, techniques and resources to meet the challenges of caring for their loved ones with Alzheimer's or dementia. There is no cost to participate and all caregivers of those with dementia-related problems are welcome. Refreshments are provided by Central Wyoming Senior Services.

BBBS looks for alums

Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters is looking for former Bigs, Littles, board members and staff who have been involved in Big Brothers Big Sisters any place in the country. January is National Mentoring Month, and in an effort to share stories of inspiration, personal experiences and successes, the organization is searching for anyone who has been involved in the program and to reunite them with the program. Big Brothers Big Sisters has been in Wyoming for over 40 years and nationally for over 100 years. There are a lot of people in our community that have wonderful stories to share and we want to meet them.

With about 350 agencies across the country, Big Brothers Big Sisters currently serves nearly 630,000 children, volunteers and families. The organization is engaged in a nationwide search to reunite with alumni mentors, mentees, donors, and family, staff and board members. Big Brothers Big Sisters provides strong and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships that changes lives for the better, forever. This mission has been the cornerstone of the organization's 100-year history. There are many people that would be interested to hear how things turned out for the child that they met years ago. We are hoping that people may get the chance to reconnect through this new initiative.

Learn more at BigBrothersBigSisters.org or contact Lisa Cormier at 265-2227, email Lisa@wyobbbs.org, visit the website at wyobbbs.org, or link to our facebook site at Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters – Casper.

Reunions

Meetings, dates.

NC '53

Final plans have been made for the NCHS Class of 1953 reunion to be held on June 27 and 28, 2013, at the Parkway Plaza Hotel and Convention Center.

Registration will begin at 5 p.m., on Thursday, June 27. A casual get together and renewal of friendship. Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Friday, June 28, 6 p.m., cocktail hour with dinner buffet to follow at 7 p.m.

For questions or early registration, call Betty Jo, 237-3410; Dee, 333-5501 or email Shirley at gmabob@bresnan.net

NC '63

The NCHS Class of 1963 will hold its 50th Reunion on July 26-28, 2013 in Casper. Friday events include an afternoon golf tournament and evening ice-breaker party at the Casper Country Club. Saturday events are a 10 a.m. tour of NCHS, group photos on the steps of the school at 11:30 a.m. and the evening banquet/dance at 6 p.m. at the Parkway Plaza Hotel & Convention Center. Sunday will be a free day to spend with classmates and family. Registration forms will be mailed in April. Please join us for the wonderful celebration! If you have new contact information for yourself or classmates, contact Janice Adams Burnett at 259-2869.

NC '73

Our 40th reunion is planned for Friday, July 5, and Saturday, July 6, 2013. A golf tournament is planned for Friday at 11 a.m., at the Paradise Valley Country Club and evening ice breaker at the Petroleum Club. Saturday evening dinner and fun will also be at the Petroleum Club. Registration mailers will be sent out shortly. If you, or you know of someone, that has moved since our last reunion, please let us know of updates to Laurie at reesenest@bresnan.net or Debbie at debbisp@tribcsp.com Or you can text or call Debbie at 262-2624.

KW '73

The seventh graduating class of Kelly Walsh High School will have their 40-year reunion Labor Day weekend, August 30 and 31! Plans include an ice breaker Friday night at the Wonder Bar

and golf and dinner Saturday at the Casper Country Club. A school tour and other fun events are also being planned. We're looking for our classmates and would appreciate any updates -- call Dan 266-3277, Becky 577-1955 or Cathy 234-1494 or email KWHS73@gmail.com.

Schools

Announcements.

District launches transformation website

The Natrona County School District is undertaking a transformation that will change the way we see the high school experience. This is many years in the making, but now the district wants to show the community how education can look different and how it can better prepare students for life after high school.

To help bring awareness to this project, parents, students, staff, community leaders, policy makers, anyone can log onto a website created just for this transformation. By visiting www.ncsdtransform.org, you will be able to learn more about the campus transformations planned at each of Casper's three high schools, you can find out how the academy approach to education can make a difference for so many students, and you will be able to get involved in planning for this new high school experience.

These are not just the district's high schools. These high schools belong to the community. These students are not just the district's students. They belong to the community as its future. This effort to "transform the high school experience" will take the ideas, engagement, and investment from the entire community.

You are invited to join us in the journey as "Pathways" are created and graduates are groomed for success.

IV therapy recert offered

A basic intravenous therapy class for all licensed practical nurses will be held at Casper College on June 15 and 16, 2013.

The Wyoming State Board of Nursing requires all LPNs licensed in the state of Wyoming to recertify every two years. "Basic Intravenous Therapy" has been developed utilizing a Wyoming State Board of Nursing approved curriculum and will keep nurses up to date on the latest trends," said Davina Drazick," nurse educator.

The two-day class will cover topics such as anatomy and physiology; fluids and electrolytes;

starting, maintaining, and discontinuing IV therapy; calculation of flow rates; complications of IV therapy; pharmacology; infection prevention; practice IV placement, priming tubing, advantage bags, calculations; and much more.

The class is limited to 15 participants and proof of licensure is required to be admitted. "All participants will have completed the course after attending two days of class, passing a final exam with a score of at least 80 percent, participating in 16 hours of clinical time, and successfully starting three IVs in the clinical setting," Drazick said.

The cost to attend the two-day training is \$340 per person, which also includes the textbook, "IV Therapy Made Incredibly Easy." To register or for more information contact Ann Dalton, workforce training specialist, at Casper College at 268-2085, adalton@caspercollege.edu, or caspercollege.edu/ceu.

OLLI hosts remembrance trip

A special two-day trip to Denver to learn about the significance of the Babi Yar Massacre, offered by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Casper College, will take place June 17 and 18, 2013.

Popular OLLI instructor Lance Jones will "give a talk about the Holocaust and the importance of museums such as the Mizel Museum during the drive down," said Vicki Pollock, lifelong learning specialist.

The cost of the trip, \$450 for single accommodations and \$376 for double, includes a guided tour of the Babi Yar Memorial Park, a tour of the Mizel Museum, the opportunity to meet and talk to a Holocaust survivor, a kosher cooking demonstration, and lunch at the Mizel Museum. The fee also includes a one-night stay at the Hilton Garden Inn in downtown Denver, transportation, two meals, and time to shop and dine in downtown Denver along the 16th Street Mall.

A deposit of \$50 is due on Monday, April 15, with full payment due on Wednesday, May 15.

For more information or to register contact Pollock at 268-2097 or vpollock@caspercollege.edu.

Extra packing dates for Food for Thought

The Natrona County Food for Thought Project is a partnership among the Casper Area Education Foundation, the Natrona County School District #1, and the Wyoming Food for Thought Project. Started two years ago as the Totes of Hope program, the project's weekend food program has grown to include almost 200 students per week. Currently, the program is working with local high schools to establish food pantries within the high schools. This new partnership will allow the program to deliver not only more of a variety of food but in larger quantities.

With this new partnership, two community packing events will occur twice each month on the second and fourth Wednesdays. This is an opportunity for volunteers to get involved in the program by helping pack bags to be distributed each week. The community events will start at 4 p.m. at 315 N. Wolcott and continue until all the bags are packed. Scheduled packing dates are March 13, March 27, April 10, April 24 and May 8.

Anyone interested in volunteering at one of these events should contact Jamie Purcell with the Wyoming Food for Thought Project at 267-2421. For more information on the Wyoming Food for Thought Project and the Natrona County Food for Thought Project please visit www.WyomingFoodForThoughtProject.org

Comedian/magician at CC

Daniel Martin, named 2012 Best Live Novelty Performer by Campus Activities Magazine, will present his blend of “insane magic,” “exhilarating escapes,” and “sarcastic improv” on Friday, March 22 at 7 p.m. Martin’s comedy and magic performance is free and open to the public and will take place in Durham Recital Hall located in the Aley Fine Arts Center on the Casper College campus.

According to Campus Activities Magazine, “Martin has quickly become one of the highest rated performers in the college market” and has “record breaking attendance across campuses nationwide with consistent standing ovations.” Martin is rated as one of the Top Three touring acts in the country, and is currently up for the magazine’s 2013 Entertainer of the Year award.

Martin got his start at the age of 6. “When I was 6 years old, I got a lot of attention and into some trouble because I would pickpocket people for fun. So my grandparents decided to put my skills to better use and bought me a magic kit.” By 12, Martin was performing and while in high school performed at a variety of venues in Chicago.

Martin has been featured performing his standup and magic on NBC, CBS, WGN, VH1, and ESPN, and constantly rates high praise and standing ovations from audiences at his live performances.

CC class to provide contest tips

A fun class designed to show students a step-by-step method to successfully enter their photography in the Natrona County Fair photo contest will be taught by a two-time state and county best of show award winner.

The class, “At the Fair” will run on Tuesday nights from 6 to 8, April 2 through the 30, said Vicki Pollock, lifelong learning specialist for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Casper College.

“I will take students from the beginning concepts of their photographs to submitting them for judging. We will review the photo categories, take photos, choose submissions, mat and frame the photos, and prepare the paperwork for submittal,” said Karel Mathisen, instructor.

Registration is currently taking place for "At the Fair" (OLLI 2060). OLLI members receive two complimentary classes during the spring semester. "If they have already signed up for their two complimentary classes, then the cost for this is only \$8," said Pollock.

To sign up for the class, join OLLI, or for more information, contact Pollock at 268-2097 or vpollock@caspercollege.edu.

Quickbooks for contractors

A class that will show contractors how to customize QuickBooks and turn the software into a powerful tool for the construction industry will be offered by the Center for Training and Development at Casper College on Saturday, March 23 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Taught by Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor and CPA Heather Hudson, students will "learn how to efficiently set up required fields, track customer and vendor activity, better manage customer down payments, monitor subcontractor bids and payments, and manage payroll. In addition, we will discuss ways to allocate overhead to jobs and create job cost and other reports beneficial for contractors," she said.

"QuickBooks for Contractors" (CEU 1150 80) is worth .6 continuing education units and registration is now taking place. To register, contact Casper College at 268-2085 or caspercollege.edu/ctd.

Open enrollment at FUMC preschool

First United Methodist Church Preschool is now enrolling children for the 2013-2014 school year, in addition to limited vacancies for the remainder of the spring semester. We offer a play-based curriculum in a nurturing atmosphere for children ages 2-1/2 to 5 years (pre-Kindergarten). For more information, contact Kat at 277-3511 or fumcpreschool@live.com or call the church office at 234-9385. \$10 registration fee if you mention this newspaper (\$25 value)!

School safety videos available

Your children's safety is a top priority while they are in school. Last month, we asked you for your questions and concerns regarding school safety and security. The response was impressive. We received numerous emails and Facebook comments from parents, the public, and our own staff. You shared ideas and asked thoughtful questions.

We gathered and organized the comments/questions into similar categories and presented them to NCSD Superintendent Dr. Joel Dvorak, NCSD Risk Manager Jeff Hauk and Casper Police Chief Chris Walsh. The three leaders addressed the different safety and security measures currently in place within the school system. In addition, they answered questions like "Is it possible to put an armed guard at every school?" "Will teachers be able to carry guns?" and "Why are schools unlocked?" Plus many other insightful questions that were submitted.

For your convenience and reference, these videos can be viewed through our website www.natronaschools.org, our blog www.natronaschoolsblog.org, and our Facebook page.

Science for home schoolers

The Casper Mountain Science School is offering a special session for home-school students March 11 through 14.

“Sixth through eighth grade home-schooled students have the opportunity to attend Casper Mountain Science School,” said Jeana Lam-Pickett, program support specialist for the CMSS. “Students are invited to take part in day programs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, with the option to spend the night at camp on Wednesday,” Lam-Pickett said.

The registration deadline for the special home-schooled student session is Monday, March 4. According to Lam-Pickett the normal fee for attending the session has been waived and funded through a grant.

The CMSS provides an opportunity for students to experience science in a unique and fun way in the outdoors. The science school is located near Casper, Wyoming on Casper Mountain at Camp Sacajawea.

For more information or to register, contact Lam-Pickett at 268-3113 or jpickett@caspercollege.edu.

The CMSS is a partnership between the Natrona County School District, Casper College, the University of Wyoming/Casper College Center and BOCES.

Preschool fall 2013

Prince of Peace Lutheran Preschool has limited openings for the Fall 2013/2014 preschool year. Prince of Peace is located at 2300 East 15th and the phone number to call is 265-7016.

Prince of Peace offers a Christian program that prepares children for entering the school system excited to learn. The preschool provides a developmentally appropriate preschool curriculum which welcomes all children 2-5 years to a child centered environment that meets their social, emotional, cognitive, creative and spiritual needs. We are very proud of our preschool and try to be the best teachers for your child’s first experience in school. For more information please call Gwen at 265-7016.

Gwen Quig -- 265-7016

Spring hours for adult learning

Spring 2013 hours for the Adult Learning Center at Casper College, which provides adult basic education instruction and English as a Second Language, have been announced. The new hours went into effect on Jan. 14.

The center will be open on Mondays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. A mandatory new student orientation for GED students will be held every Tuesday at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. The center is closed on Fridays and the weekends.

“The Adult Learning Center offers free assistance to out-of-school adult students, 16 years old and older, who need to improve their basic reading, writing, and math skills in order to reach their educational and employment goals,” said Lisa Mixer, Adult Learning Center programs coordinator. Educational services are also available to speakers of other languages through the center’s English as a Second Language program. All programs offered at the center, which is open-entry, open-exit, are free of charge.

The Adult Learning Center at Casper College is located in the Werner Technical Center on the Casper College campus.

For more information stop by the Casper College Adult Learning Center or call the center at 268-2230.

Host an exchange student

Amazing students like Phillip who loves the outdoors, Teresa who is very musical, Tim who wants to become a pilot, and Fanny who loves photography are looking to spend a year in America. Hosting an exchange student for a school year is an experience that you and your family will always remember fondly. It opens up a whole new world for the student and your family. Please contact Suzanne Sandoval, 259-2221 or effoundation.org.

Preschool openings at FCC

There are limited openings in both the Playgroup and Pre-K classes for the Spring 2013 semester at First Christian Church Preschool, 520 CY Avenue. Playgroup is designed for 2 1/2 or young 3 year olds as an introduction to the preschool setting and meets two mornings a week. Social skills and establishing routines are stressed with this class. Pre-K is for 4-5 year olds planning on going to Kindergarten next fall. We meet all the kindergarten readiness skills as outlined by the NCSD. The Pre-K class meets daily from 9 a.m. to noon. We are celebrating our 20th year in 2013 as a licensed child preschool center and welcome families to call or come visit to inquire about our wonderful program. 234.8964 (church office) or 472.0649 (preschool).

Grownup Stuff

[Fun stuff geared to adults.](#)

Monthly jam March 10

Monthly Jam Session at Eagles Hall, 306 N. Durbin St., Sunday, March 10, 2013, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. All talents welcome whether musically talented, like to dance or to just have a good time. All talents, dancers and good listeners are welcome. No admission fee, but donations are accepted and needed. See you there.

Robbie -- 235-5130

Motorcycle show, swap meet set

The first Casper Iron Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet is set for the Central Wyoming Fairgrounds April 5 to 7, 2013.

For sponsors and booth rentals, contact Bobby Eldredge, 267-0380 or e-mail moderndrifter68@yahoo.com Eldredge is in charge of the swap meet.

The bike show contact is Mike Harrison at 577-9165; email mikemileage@aol.com

Portions of the proceeds will go to Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (one of the Wounded Warrior projects from Sheridan).

Machelle -- 259-2501

Watercolor at West Wind

The Casper Artists' Guild announces the latest in the Saturday morning watercolor sessions through the month of March.

These sessions are held at the West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th Street, on Saturday morning from 10 a.m. to noon.

Cost is \$10 per person per session.

March 9: Sumi-E - Japanese Painting (Claudette Mowery); March 16: Floral Vignette (Garnette Jones); MARCH 23 AND 30: --NO SESSIONS.

These will be great learning session. Hope to see you there.

For questions please contact Ellen Black at 265-6783 or contact the West Wind Gallery at 265-2655, Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

Sketch and Sounds

Bring your sketchpad and any drawing tool to use the museum as your personal inspiration. Sketch away to music in our galleries. All participants must bring their own supplies.

Admission to all Sketch and Sounds is \$5 per adult, \$8 per couple, \$3 for children 5 and under (children must be accompanied by an adult).

March 21: Casper College Clarinet Ensemble

April 11: Casper College Latin Jazz Ensemble

Reception for Joshua Ray Smith

Join us at the Nicolaysen Art Museum as we celebrate the exhibition of Rawlins-based artist Josh Smith on Thursday, March 14, at 6 p.m.. FREE TO THE PUBLIC.

Canvas and Cocktails

Looking for a way to explore your artistic side but don't know where to start? Want a fun night out that is new and exciting? Canvas and Cocktails is an upbeat creative class at the Nicolaysen Art Museum on Thursday, March 28, from 6 to 8 p.m., for both the artistic and non-artistic. Come learn the basics of painting while enjoying the company of friends. We provide the supplies and you provide your favorite wine. Registration required. Please register by March 21. Fee: \$30 members, \$35 non-members per person.

Meet the new curator

Join us to meet and talk to the Nic's new curator, Eric Wimmer, formerly curator at the Veterans' Memorial Museum, at 6 p.m., on Thursday, April 4. Free to the public.

Are you Mrs. Central Wyoming?

Sheree Lynch, executive state director for the Mrs. Wyoming Pageant, said the pageant is seeking applicants for the title of Mrs. Central Wyoming. Once selected, the lucky lady will advance on to represent her community in the 2013 Mrs. Wyoming Pageant to be held on June 1 at Central Auditorium in Cheyenne.

Local titleholders will compete to win a prize package valued at over \$8,000 including an all expense paid trip to the nationally televised Mrs. America Pageant. Applicants must be at least 18 years old (no age limit), married at the time of competition and a Wyoming resident, no performing talent required.

Celebrating its 37th year, the Mrs. America pageant is the only competition to recognize the one person who contributes so much to modern day life, America's married woman.

To request the official application or for information, call Lynch, Wyoming's state director at 970-674-0944 or visit www.mrswyomingamerica.com.

Improvement district sets election

The North Mountain View Improvement District will hold an election on May 14, 2013, to elect one officer to serve as president of the board of directors.

The election poll will be held on May 14, 2013, from 2 to 7 p.m., at 4693 Lafayette St., in Mills/North Mountain View.

Absentee ballots will be available at the Natrona County Clerk's Office, 200 N. Center, or by calling 235-9217. Absentee ballots must be received at the County Clerk's office by 4 p.m., on May 14, 2013.

For more information, contact president Elsie Herbort at 234-7989.

Fundraisers

Helping folks raise money.

Douglas B&GC sets fundariser

The Douglas Boys & Girls Club presents "Cowboy Ethics," author Jim Owen at the "Commit to Kids" fundraiser Saturday, March 16, at 6 p.m., at the Fort Reno Building, Wyoming State Fair Park in Douglas. Wyoming State Sen. Jim Anderson of Glenrock is the master of ceremonies.

Tickets are \$30 a person or \$50 a couple. Corporate tables are available at \$1,000. Seating is limited, please purchase tickets in advance. Tickets are available at the Boys & Girls Club of Douglas, 135 S. 4th St., or from any board member.

Festivities include cash bar, silent auction, a prime rib dinner, raffles and Owen's keynote remarks.

Casper goes bald for childhood cancer

The St. Baldrick's Foundation will host one of its signature head-shaving events to raise funds and awareness for lifesaving childhood cancer research at The Eastridge Mall in the Center Court, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., on Saturday, March 16. St. Baldrick's is a volunteer-driven children's cancer charity that raises funds by hosting head-shaving events worldwide where volunteers collect pledges to shave their heads in solidarity with children with cancer.

Along with the head shaving, there will be many amazing silent auction items to bid on that have been donated by local businesses.

Sign up at www.stbaldricks.org/events/Casper

For more information, contact Scott Cotton, 797-0369, cottonfire@gmail.com

'Art on the Range' benefits United Way

Three Crowns Golf Club and United Way of Natrona County announce a spectacular event to benefit United Way of Natrona County, "Art on the Range," with Michael Israel.

Michael Israel is a renowned artist whose performances have inspired audiences around the country, from presidential dinners to the Winter Olympics. Proceeds from the performance will support United Way of Natrona County and its Community Activity Program.

The event will be held on Saturday, June 8. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., with the performance to follow, all on the beautiful Three Crowns Golf Course. Following the performance, Michael's original artwork will be auctioned, a truly once in a lifetime experience.

For more information about sponsorships, reserved tables, or individual seats, please contact the United Way office at 237-9367 or Anne at Three Crowns Golf Club at 472-7696.

DU sold out

Thank you, Casper. The March 16 annual DU Banquet at Sonny's RV is sold out. Less than 50 truck raffle tickets are left. For truck raffle tickets, contact Dave, 259-2735.

Casper Baseball Casino Night

Casper Baseball Casino Night is Friday, March 15, from 7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m., at the Casper Elks Lodge, 108 E. 7th St. There will be food and a cash bar all night. Live and silent auction items, live music from Rogue Radio. Tickets are \$100 each, which admits two adults. Your ticket will also serve as your 2013 season pass for all Legion games, including tournaments. In addition, there will be reverse raffle cash prizes. The first ticket drawn wins \$1,000, must be present to win; every 30th ticket drawn wins \$100; the last ticket drawn wins \$10,000, based on the sale of 300 tickets.

For tickets or more information, call Kevin Taheri, 259-6305; Cole Chuman, 262-8575; Joan Caldwell, 258-8628; JC Kirk, 258-6148; Jim Gunderson, 258-3869; Mike Ridgeway, 259-8118; or Rod Aaker, 265-3284.

St. Anthony fundraiser April 13

St. Anthony Tri-Parish Catholic School will host its annual Partners in Education (PIE) Dinner and Auction fundraiser on Saturday, April 13, 2013, at the Parkway Hotel and Convention Center. Dr. Ray Guarendi, clinical psychologist, author, public speaker, and nationally syndicated radio and television host will be the keynote speaker. There are many exciting items up for bid in the Silent and Live Auctions. Highlights include a luxurious trip to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, a children's ATV with helmet, a beautiful custom-made dog mansion, Denver Broncos tickets, a guided Wyoming deer hunt, a fossil-hunting expedition, a chance to win a diamond earring and bracelet set, and much, much, more! To purchase tickets or a table,

please visit the St. Anthony Tri-Parish Catholic School office at 1145 West 20th Street. For more information, please call the school at 234-2873.

Quilt raffle at senior center

The Casper Senior Center is sponsoring another quilt raffle until the end of February. Tickets are 1 for \$1 or 6 for \$5. The quilt was once again donated by the ladies associated with Kalico Kat Quilt Shop.

See's Candies for sale

St. Anthony Manor, 211 E. 6th St., is selling See's candies. All proceeds are a fundraiser for the residents' activities. Purchases may be made weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information or to check availability, call Karie or Janet at 237-0843.



Judge: no state mental evaluation of Eaton

MARCH 22, 2013 2:41 PM • BY BEN NEARY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE — A federal judge has denied a request from the State of Wyoming to have a mental health expert examine the state's lone death row inmate.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne on Friday ruled that lawyers for the state can review a report from a psychiatrist retained by inmate Dale Wayne Eaton's legal team once it's finished in coming months.

Johnson said he wouldn't let the state's own expert examine Eaton. Johnson has set a hearing for this summer on Eaton's claims he didn't get a fair trial.

The 59-year-old Eaton is challenging the constitutionality of the death sentence he received for the 1988 rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont. Eaton's lawyers don't dispute that he killed the 18-year-old woman.



Lawyers for death row inmate Eaton explore new defense

JUNE 17, 2013 1:14 PM • BY BEN NEARY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE — A judge has approved medical testing for Wyoming's lone death row inmate to determine whether he should be covered by a federal ban against executing people with intellectual disabilities.

Dale Wayne Eaton is challenging the constitutionality of the state death sentence he received in the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Billings, Mont.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson on Monday approved a request from Eaton's lawyers for testing to determine whether he has intellectual disabilities that would preclude putting him to death.

Johnson plans a hearing this summer on Eaton's claim that his original defense team didn't develop "mitigation evidence." Such evidence would have been information about Eaton's past that underscored his humanity to try to convince the jury not to sentence him to death.



EATON

Lawyers for Wyoming's lone death row inmate explore new defense

Lawyers for death row inmate explore new defense



JUNE 18, 2013 6:00 AM • BY BEN NEARY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE — A federal judge on Monday approved more testing for Dale Wayne Eaton, Wyoming’s lone death row inmate, after his lawyers said his IQ may be low enough that he could be covered by a federal ban against executing people with intellectual disabilities.

Monday’s announcement from Eaton’s team that they intend to investigate whether he has a mental disability lays out a new possible avenue of attack on his death sentence after nearly a decade of state and federal appeals.

The U.S. Supreme Court in 2002 banned the execution of a “mentally retarded offender” on the grounds that it violates the Constitution’s prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment.

Eaton, 68, is challenging the constitutionality of the state death sentence he received in 2004 for the

rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Billings, Mont. The Wyoming Supreme Court already has upheld his conviction and his life hangs on the success of his federal appeal.

Eaton’s lawyers don’t dispute he killed Kimmell. She disappeared in 1998 while driving across Wyoming, and her body was found later in the North Platte River.

The investigation stalled until 2002, when DNA

evidence linked Eaton to the case while he was in prison on unrelated charges. Investigators then found Kimmell’s car buried on Eaton’s property in Moneta, west of Casper.

Until now, Eaton’s lawyers in his federal appeal have hammered on their claim that Eaton’s original state court defense team didn’t develop “mitigation evidence.” They say his lawyers failed in their constitutional obligation to present information about Eaton’s past that would have underscored his humanity and possibly convinced at least one juror not to sentence him

to death.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne has blocked out several weeks for a hearing later this summer to hear evidence that Eaton's legal team has unearthed about his tortured family background and legal and personal history.

Eaton's lawyers have filed statements in court from many people who knew him, saying he lived a tough life and was living alone in filth and poverty in an old school bus on the Moneta property around the time Kimmell was killed.

At the end of this summer's hearing, Johnson will have to decide whether Eaton's original state court jury might have spared him the death penalty if his original legal team had done a better job of presenting his personal history. More federal appeals appear likely, regardless.

Missouri lawyer Sean O'Brien, a law professor and death penalty specialist, is on the team of lawyers representing Eaton. O'Brien told Johnson on Monday that recent expert review of tests performed on Eaton raised the intellectual disability concern.

O'Brien said one expert in San Diego reviewed the results and concluded that Eaton's IQ may be in the 70s. A score of 100 is average intelligence.

"Our experts are telling us that they can't rule out intellectual disability," O'Brien said. The experts say they need to perform more tests and investigations, O'Brien said.

Johnson approved Eaton's lawyers' request for \$14,000 for further testing to determine whether his IQ is low enough that his execution would be barred. Depending what further testing shows, O'Brien said Eaton's team may file more legal paperwork which he said could lead to more legal proceedings possibly later this year.

Eaton's lawyers said they filed a written motion with Johnson last week laying out their concerns about Eaton's possible disability and stating the need for more testing. They said they marked the filing so that only the judge and lawyers for the state — not the public — could review it.

Lawyer David Delicath of the Wyoming Attorney General's Office told Johnson that he hadn't seen the motion before Monday's court hearing. He said that the state courts already had ruled that Eaton was competent to stand trial.

"If the issue is that he's not competent to face execution, then there's a state procedure to address that," Delicath said. "And I think the state should have the first opportunity to address that."



Death penalty hearing begins for Dale Wayne Eaton

JULY 30, 2013 3:37 PM • BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE — A lengthy hearing has begun in Cheyenne as Wyoming's only death row inmate challenges the constitutionality of his death sentence.

Attorneys for Dale Wayne Eaton say he might not have received the death penalty if his trial defense team had offered jurors more details about his tortured life.

The public defender who represented Eaton at trial was the first witness called as the hearing began Tuesday. Scores more are scheduled to testify over the next two weeks.

Eaton was sentenced to death in 2004 for the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont. Kimmell disappeared while driving across Wyoming.

DNA evidence linked Eaton to Kimmell's death. His attorneys don't dispute that Eaton killed Kimmell, whose body was found in the North Platte River.



Don't worry, Cindy

AUGUST 02, 2013 12:00 AM

Editor:

I can't wait each morning to read our daily paper to see what new charges they have found against you.

You used the governor's jet to fly into Jackson Hole. Didn't you know that jet's use is for only a few of the privileged?

And somehow you are bad for our economy. Don't you know that we need welfare, food stamps, Medicare and housing for more of the privileged?

You spend a terrible amount of money. I can't see that as a problem with you--all our politicians seem to know how to spend money.

And the latest! Sexual harassment! Shame! (I'm an old lady and I get occasional hugs and a few back rubs. From now on I'm going to slap their face and say, "Don't you get fresh with me!")

But there's hope for you, too. When you go to prison for all your many crimes, and maybe you'll be on death row with you-know-who. Some hungry Wyoming lawyer will say you have a low IQ.

You're saved! You'll get a nice warm cell with food, water, clothes, medical care and TV.



Judge may decide on Eaton execution next year

AUGUST 12, 2013 2:39 PM • BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE — A federal judge has given lawyers until early next year to submit written arguments about whether Wyoming's lone death row inmate should be put to death.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson wrapped up a two-week evidentiary hearing on Saturday on claims from lawyers representing death row inmate Dale Wayne Eaton. The hearing featured testimony from relatives and mental health professionals about Eaton's background.

The 68-year-old Eaton was convicted in 2004 of the 1988 rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Mont. His lawyers don't dispute that he killed her, but claim he didn't get an adequate defense from the Wyoming Public Defender's Office.

Johnson plans to rule after Eaton's lawyers and lawyers for the state file briefs, the last of which is due in late February.



Abolish the death penalty

AUGUST 13, 2013 12:00 AM

Editor:

The Aug. 8 online edition of the Casper Tribune featured another update in the now decade-long saga of appeals for Wyoming's only death row inmate, Dale Eaton.

There is no execution date for Mr. Eaton in the foreseeable future, as has been the case. No one, not even his defense team, disputes Mr. Eaton's guilt in the brutal rape and murder of a young woman 25 years ago, but they have nevertheless been very effective in appealing the sentence time and time again, much to the chagrin of readers of the Star-Tribune who howl for justice in the comments section of every latest article.

They are missing the issue. It is not Mr. Eaton nor the intransigence of his lawyers but the broken system of capital punishment in Wyoming and the U.S. as a whole. Taxpayers have spent millions on this scoundrel, when it would have been far less expensive to simply assign a sentence of life without parole, thereby giving the family of the victim closure and denying Eaton all the attention.

How do Gov. Matt Mead and the state legislators justify the energy and expense in continuing to pursue this case when in all likelihood the now 66-year-old Eaton will never actually be executed? Assuming that years from now an execution date is ever set, the state would lack the means and protocol to even carry it out. A shortage of lethal injection drugs has left other states which routinely carry out executions with dwindling supplies and no way of obtaining more. Any attempt to circumvent this problem with other methods would naturally lead to another series of appeals anyway.

The only solution is to abolish the death penalty in Wyoming. It's easy to suggest Eaton be taken out of his cell and shot, but since this is not a possibility, it really does no good talking about it. We as the taxpayers must stop paying for nothing and tell our brilliant leaders in Cheyenne to eliminate this expensive and failed law from our statutes.



Killing mugshots

AUGUST 18, 2013 12:00 AM

In the newspaper business, it's called a "kill."

It's an order to eliminate a story or a photo from the system to make sure it doesn't make it into print or online. Ever.

Thankfully, editors' kill orders are rare. Rarely is something so inaccurate or explicit that we order it wiped and banished.

And so I understand Linda Miller's request: Kill the photos of the killer Dale Wayne Eaton in any future stories about him. Make it so that his picture never finds its way into the paper.

In her letter, which runs next to this column, Miller opens, "I find myself getting extremely angry when I see a picture of Dale Wayne Eaton on the front page of this newspaper."

Linda, I do, too.

As a kid growing up in Billings, Mont., the city in which Kimmel lived, the story and her name are burned into my memory. Because no one knew what happened to her, and kids just weren't abducted from a place like Billings, the community panicked. What I remembered most was that all of a sudden, my grandparents, who had never once locked their doors, used the deadbolts. It wasn't just kids who were afraid.

Part of the reason any newspaper runs a mug shot of a murderer on the front page (or any page) is to let everyone remember just who committed this heinous act. Just ask anyone who has ever had their picture next to a story of a crime -- no matter how minor -- the public shaming is real.

Then again, asking shame from a man who brutally beat, raped and killed a young woman is probably too much to ask.

One of the other reasons we run what are called "mugshots" -- that is, a picture of a person's face from the neck up -- is because often people associate faces of criminals with stories even more than they do names. Put a headline on a story that says, "Murderer to have sentence hearing," and few might notice. Put Eaton's face on the story and many folks think, "Oh, that monster. I remember him."

Sadly, what is not remembered in this story -- or any story -- are the victims. For every Lisa Marie Kimmel, there are hundreds of victims whose names don't become known, let alone household names. Truly that is one of the shortcomings of journalism: The criminal gets more attention than the victim.

As a former crime reporter, I can say that most victims want closure, healing, justice and then to move on. Therefore, most would have it no other way than anonymity. That's as it should be. We try hard not to identify crime victims who, by no fault of their own and terrible circumstance, have become the target of a criminal. For those victims who find the deep-soul courage to tell their stories, I am always moved by their bravery.

Linda, I am sorry that I can't promise the Star-Tribune will never run Eaton's picture again. I am sorry I don't have a more satisfactory answer to why people recognize criminals' faces like they do. For those who claim we do it to sell papers: I don't know that Eaton has helped us sell a paper in decades.

Even if I could guarantee that we would kill Eaton's mugshot from our pages and website, we wouldn't stop running the stories. And really, the stories about his pleas for mercy are much more disturbing than the standard-issue prison mug shot.

Our job is to tell Wyoming's story -- and part of that are the successes, the tragedies and even the monsters among us. Any journalist or editor shouldn't necessarily pick and choose what stories or photos to run because he or she finds the person or topic repulsive, even if it's not explicit.

In fact, in some way, I hope that most people have the same reaction as you, Linda. I hope they look at the picture of Eaton, remember the almost unspeakable horror of what he did and then vow to do everything we can to make sure our children are safe. I hope every time we run a criminal mug shot like Eaton's, folks remember the victims.

I know I'll never forget Kimmel. Or what her disappearance did to my hometown. Every time I see Eaton, that's what I remember.



Town Crier for THURSDAY, Aug. 22, 2013

AUGUST 21, 2013 12:30 PM

Thursday's Highlights

Fun stuff to do Thursday.

Muni ladies golf pairings

Aug. 22, 2013

Park And Links

8 a.m. Shotgun

Park #1 Meyer, Boyle, Barrett; Links #9A Schmidt, Pfiefer, Santoni; Links #9B Marsh, Ortiz, Fancher; Links #8A Bain, Farmer, Clark; Links #8B Andreen, Miller, Dressor; Links #7A Watters, Turk, Warren; Links #6A Wheatley, Hamann, Hill, M.; Links #5A Schneider, Moyer, Vermedahl.

For changes or additions, please call Pro Shop at 233-6620.

Free classes at health dept.

The City of Casper-Natrona County Health Department in partnership with the Blue Envelope Health Fund and the Natrona County Medical Reserve Corps will be offering free* CPR and first aid classes at our facility, 475. S. Spruce, during the following dates and times: Heartsaver CPR and first aid for the general public and childcare providers: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday.

Please sign up at <http://casperhealth.eventbrite.com> or call 577-9751. If you need a class for a large group, please call 577-9751.

*Cost for the class is free for initial certification and on a sliding scale for renewal classes.

Guns and hoses blood drive

United Blood Services is proud to partner with the local law enforcement and fire departments for the first annual Natrona County Guns and Hoses Blood Drive competition at our new location, 2801 East Second Street (in front of Hobby Lobby) on Thursday. The event blood drive will kick off with a media advisory at noon. immediately followed by a Tug-Of-War

between the fire and police departments.

The team that recruits the most blood donors during the four days will receive a traveling trophy and bragging rights. Get ready to pick your team and give back to the community, Team Police or Fire Department that is!

The Guns and Hoses competition allows donors to choose which organization they want to donate blood on behalf of -- Natrona County law enforcement or local fire departments. Donors will receive a free T-shirt and can register to win an iPad 3.

To donate blood, volunteers must be at least 16 years old (16-year-old donors need minor donor permits which are available at the blood drive) and be in good health.

To schedule an appointment call 237-2328 or go to www.bloodhero.com – sponsor code: caspergunsandhoses

Sniffin at Five Trails

The Five Trails Rotary club will host a presentation by Bill Sniffin at noon on Thursday at the Casper Petroleum Club. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Sniffin's new book "Wyoming's 7 Greatest Natural Wonders" has sold 10,000 copies in the last six months. It is the first coffee table book about Wyoming in the last five years. The book involved 30 photographers, seven writers, the governor and U. S. Senator Mike Enzi. It has been a huge hit and he will be telling some interesting stories about how the project came into being and some of the amazing stories around the project. Mr. Sniffin will be available to sell and sign books after the meeting and he will donate \$5 from each sale to the Rotary Club.

If you or someone you know of would like to present at a future Five Trails Rotary Club Meeting, please contact Mike Glickman at 265-6928.

Genealogy class at library

Learn about the tools and techniques for tracing your family tree at the Natrona County Public Library, Thursday at 2 p.m. A Genealogy Class will be held in the NCPL Tech Center, presented by members of the Natrona County Genealogical Society. Participants will learn how to get started on family research, where to look for genealogical information, and about online tools available for their use. The hands-on class will allow individuals time to start their research, and each participant is encouraged to bring a flash drive to save their findings. The class is offered for free, with seating limited to 16 on a first come, first served basis. Call 577-READ (7323) ext. 2 for more information.

Vaccination clinics set

Attention Kindergartners and 7th graders, and all others who will need vaccinations for school. The Casper/Natrona County Health Department will hold Back-to-School vaccination clinics on Thursday, 3 to 6 p.m.; Aug. 27, 3 to 6 p.m.; Sept. 5, 3 to 6 p.m.; Sept. 10, 3 to 6 p.m.; Sept. 17,

8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All clinics are held at the Casper/Natrona County Health Department, 475 South Spruce Street.

Exclusion Day Sept. 18: If your child does not have the required immunization by this date, he/she will be excluded from school until you provide proof of updated immunizations.

The Back-to-School vaccination clinics are for school-aged children, ages 5 to 18 years. These are walk-in clinics and no appointment is needed. Vaccinations available are: DTaP, Polio, MMR, Chickenpox, TDaP, Hepatitis B.

Cost is \$12 per immunization, the student's parent or guardian must be present, and students must have vaccination records.

For more information, please contact NCSD's Nursing Coordinator, Suzey Delger RN FNP, at (307) 253-3169.

Historic home open

The Historic Bishop Home, 818 East 2nd Street, is open every Monday and Thursday in August. Hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursdays.

The Bishop family home, Casper's only historic home open for touring and events, was constructed in 1907 in the Capitol Hill Addition during the city's first boom time. The home is the first multi-story brick house built in Casper, moving the building trend of modest bungalows to larger, more upscale homes (considered mansions in 1907). The home resides in its original location on a hill overlooking downtown Casper. The contractor was W. T. Evans, founder of Evansville, Wyoming. The Bishop Home is believed to be his first venture into large-scale family homes. Step into this beautiful Four-Square Prairie Style home and learn some of Casper's most fascinating history about the life and times of one of the city's original pioneer families.

Parking is available on Lincoln and Jefferson Street. Limited parking is available in the home's driveway for people with disabilities.

Register for RMSD dance

The 2013-2014 Dance Season is here. RMSD accepts registrations all year.

Rocky Mountain School of Dance offers Kinder Dance (for ages 2-5), Kinder Hop & Kinder Combo (for ages 4-5) Ballet, Pointe, Jazz, Tap, Contemporary, Modern, for students age 6-18, and both Latin & Standard Ballroom for students age 10-18. In addition we offer Adult Ballet, and Ballroom.

If you'd like a tour of our studio or would like to try a free class, please call us at 237.6792.

RMSD is the ONLY dance school in Casper that offers both Standard & Latin Ballroom for students age 10 to adult. Adults, bring a partner and receive a couples discount!

If you would like to register for dance classes please stop by the studio at 736 N. Glenn Road in Casper, or give us a call us at 237.6792

Registration Days: Thursday, 5 to 8 p.m., @ The RMSD Studio; Sunday, August 25, 2013, 3 to 5 p.m. @ The RMSD Studio.

And of course you can register any time after the season starts on September 3, 2013 between 5 and 9 p.m., at the RMSD Studio, 736 N. Glenn Road.

Free vision screenings

Jensen Eye Care is offering a no-cost, no-obligation vision screening for school-age children (5 to 18) every Thursday afternoon between 3 and 5 p.m. through the month of August.

Vision is so important to the learning process and because many school-age children have undiagnosed vision problems, Jensen Eye Care has committed Thursday afternoon's to screening school age children for vision problems. Even though the school systems screen for vision problems, there are vision problems that can't be diagnosed with in-school testing programs.

Farsighted children are often the children who work below their potential in school and sometimes are misdiagnosed as having attention deficit disorders or hyperactivity issues. School screenings do a pretty good job of detecting nearsighted children, but farsighted children are very difficult to diagnose without proper equipment and training.

If you would like your child to participate in this free screening, call 265-7008 to reserve a time.

Disabilities seminar set

Family members, parents, guardians and advocates of people with disabilities will have an opportunity to discuss their concerns about proposed cuts in services to the State of Wyoming's Home and Community Based Waiver program. The Wyoming Department of Health has proposed "redesigning" services for over 2200 children and adults with disabilities and acquired brain injuries which will result in cuts in services to current participants of the program.

Legislators from Natrona and Converse counties have been invited to gather with constituents and hear about the impact these cuts will have on their family member on Thursday at 6:45 p.m. at NOWCAP Services, 345 North Walsh Drive. People attending are asked to RSVP at 307-233-0411 to ensure adequate seating. The discussion will be informational in nature so as to provide legislators with input as to how these cuts will affect participants.

"We hope to educate legislators at this event about how people view this proposal and how it will impact their fellow Wyoming citizens, particularly those with intellectual disabilities or acquired brain injuries.", said Chris Boston, executive director of NOWCAP Services who is hosting this event. Boston continued by saying, "We believe once legislators learn what is in this proposal they will not be comfortable with the impact of these changes and say this is not

what the legislature intended with the Medicaid reform bill this past session.”

The event is free and open to the public.

Register for fall classes at children's theatre

The Casper Children’s Theatre is excited to announce their fall classes. Each class is tailored for a specific age group, providing the perfect opportunity for all ages to discover self-expression and gain self-confidence. All students help create and produce their own show, while learning life skills through theater skills.

“Thoroughly Modern Millie Junior” is a fast-paced jazz musical that takes place in 1920’s New York. All interested students, age 12 through high school seniors, are invited to sign up for this production. Classes meet on Tuesday and Thursdays from August 27 to October 15 from 6 to 8 p.m., with performances October 16 to 20. Fee for the class is \$219.

Scenes from classic Roald Dahl stories, like “James and the Giant Peach” and “Matilda,” will be brought to stage for students age 8 through 11. Classes meet on Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. from September 7 through November 9, with performances November 14 through 16. Fee for the class is \$175.

“Dynamite – a Dinosaur Tail” features stories, poems and songs with a dinosaur theme for ages 4 through 7. Classes meet on Saturdays from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for students ages 4 to 5, and 10:30 to noon for ages 6 to 7 from September 14 through November 23, with performances December 6 through 8. Fee for the class is \$125.

Register for classes from noon to 6 p.m. through August 26 upstairs at the Commissary Mall on 138 South Kimball. For more information, please call 473-8470.

Audition for Alla Breve

Alla Breve, the select women's choir sponsored by the Children's Chorale, is holding auditions through Monday, August 26. Alla Breve is made up of 40 talented singers, many of whom sang in their high school or college choirs, and who are interested in performing challenging literature with a caring and fun group of ladies! Alla Breve rehearses on Monday evenings, 5:30 to 7 p.m, and presents a Holiday Concert, Spring Concert, and a weekend performance tour to Denver in April. For an audition time, please call 262-4709.

Not too late to ride the bus

Natrona County School District Transportation is still accepting bus requests. You can fill out a request on our website. Please allow 48 hours for the request to be processed. Please plan accordingly for the first few days of school and look for alternate transportation until your child has been scheduled.

Once it is processed, you will receive an email. You can also view your child's transportation schedule online through your Parent Portal in Infinite Campus.

If you need help with parent portal, you may call 253-5306 for assistance. Parent portal also gives you the option to update your address and other contact information including cell phone numbers and email addresses.

Please send any bus schedule questions to bus_help@natronaschools.org.

This Just In

[New to Town Crier.](#)

Gold prospectors meet

The monthly meeting of the Casper chapter of the Gold Prospectors Association of America is Wednesday, Aug. 28, at 7 p.m., at the new meeting place, the Wyoming Oil and Gas Commission Building, 2211 King Blvd. We will discuss the outings that took place in August and planning outings for September. For those people only interested in metal detecting, we will plan a special outing for them.

The result of July elections are Rick Messina, president; George Vandell, vice president; Terry Kipp, treasurer, and Carla Tillman, secretary.

Anyone interested in prospecting or metal detecting is welcome. If you have any questions, call Rick Messina at 234-0244.

Wolf dancers at trails Sept. 4

The National Historic Trails Interpretive Center is celebrating Native American culture and art with the Wolf Dancers of Wyoming Indian High School.

The event, free and open to the public, will take place Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 1 p.m. The celebration features approximately 10 Native American dancers and drummers.

The dancers and drummers will celebrate the closing of the Trails Center's temporary art show, "Resurgence of Native Spirit." The art show runs through Sept. 4, and includes 20 prints and 30 ceramic sculptures created by Wyoming Indian High School students.

Cleve Bell, art teacher at Wyoming Indian High School, coordinated the exhibit with his art students.

Bell worked closely with staff at the Trails Center to produce "Resurgence of Native Spirit." "This exhibit provided us the opportunity to show off the talent and creativity of young Native American artists," said Alex Rose, an interpreter at the Trails Center.

The art work is available for sale, with part of the proceeds benefiting the National Historic

Trails Center Foundation.

This exhibit was made possible in part by the Rocky Mountain Nature Association.

For more information about the event, contact Alex Rose at 261-7780.

Open house, register at 307

If you're looking to start dance, try something new, or get back into dance, come to our Open House! If you are looking for a studio to belong to, then please take a look at 307 Dance Academy. You'll be hooked. We're holding an afternoon just for you and your dancer(s).

Sunday, August 25, from 2 to 4 p.m. at 225 N. Wolcott, you can meet our executive director Tina Silva, get a tour of our facility, enjoy some refreshments, face painting, and lots of information. You can meet some of our older dancers, watch some videos from past recitals and competitions too. We are the place for you. With drive, dedication, and determination, 307 Dance Academy is the place to dance in Casper.

If you are an existing dancer, then be at the studio for registration. Back to school isn't as much fun as back-to-dance! Come August 28 and 29 from 4 to 8 p.m. at 225 N. Wolcott. Register, get your information, meet up with dance friends, grab a t-shirt and more. Meet the new staff and meet the new teachers. Get your dress codes, get your packet of information and get excited for the 2013-2014 dance season!

Cultural dinners at CC

The first cultural dinner for the 2013-2014 school year at Casper College will feature foods from Portugal on Thursday, Sept. 26 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Roberts Commons Cafeteria.

The dinner will feature what many consider to be Portugal's national dish, Caldo Verde, a delicious soup featuring thinly sliced kale, pureed potatoes and smoky pork sausage; Salada De Grao, a salad featuring chickpeas; Portuguese Vina Dosh, a main course featuring wine and garlic pork; Paella, a hearty main dish featuring chicken and a variety of colorful vegetables; Jagacita, a vegetarian main course featuring onions, rice, and beans; green beans and squash; and for desert, Portuguese Rice Pudding, a creamy and sweet dish garnished with cinnamon.

Other dinners scheduled for the school year are Indian on October 24, Japanese on February 13, Dutch on March 20, Lebanese on April 10, and Russian on May 1.

Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 3, both individual and ticket packages will go on sale, and remain on sale until Friday, Sept. 20. The cost for a ticket package, which includes tickets for all six meals, will be \$55 for adults and \$37.50 for children ages 7 to 12. Tickets for individual dinners are \$9.50 for adults and \$7 for children ages 7 to 12 when purchased in advance, and \$11 at the door. There is no charge for children 6 and under. Sales tax will be added to all ticket purchases.

According to Janet de Vries, Casper College Diversity Committee member, tickets may be purchased at the Casper College Business Office or the Gateway Café, both located on the third floor of the Gateway Building, as well as at Roberts Commons Cafeteria during regular

meal times. Cash is accepted at all locations and credit cards are also accepted at the cafeteria and café.

Those attending the dinner are encouraged to use the new parking lots located to the southwest of Roberts Commons.

The cultural dinner series is sponsored by the Casper College Diversity Committee.

Pet Fest

Join the Casper Recreation Division and the Community Recreation Foundation in celebration of the furry, slimy or scaly loved ones in your life at the 2013 Pet Fest. This FREE event is open to all pets and their people and will include a costume contest at 10:30 a.m., pet talent contest and other surprises. The Pet Fest will be held at Washington Park in the grassy area southeast of the outdoor pool on Saturday, September 14, from 10 a.m. to noon. Pets must be under control and on a leash or in a kennel and must be accompanied by owner at all times.

In addition to the contests for pets and their owners, pet-related vendors are invited to come and show their wares, provide information booths, or have demonstrations throughout the event. Prospective vendors may contact Lori Spearman by phone at 235-8473 or email lspearman@cityofcasperwy.com for more information.

For additional information about this event, please call the Casper Recreation Center at 235-8383 or visit the City of Casper's website, www.casperwy.gov.

Be a responsible dog owner

Those with dogs are invited to stick around and celebrate AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day with the Central Wyoming Kennel Club on September 14, 10 a.m., to 4 p.m.

The goal of this initiative, supported by the American Kennel Club, is to educate first time dog owners about the responsibilities of dog ownership and help current owners enhance their relationships with their pets.

Dogs and their owners can participate in doggie games with great prizes, raffles, a Conformation and Obedience and Rally Fun Match, micro chipping from 8:00-10:00 am for only \$15 and CGC (Canine Good Citizen) Testing from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$10.

AKC RDO Day is a month-long celebration that involves hundreds of organizations around the country holding free events filled with fun and engaging activities every dog owner can enjoy. To learn more about AKC RDO Day, visit www.akc.org or www.centralwyomingkennelclub.org.

Volunteer for hungry kids Friday

Did you know that there are more than 2,500 kids right here in Casper who suffer from hunger? It's difficult to imagine, but we are working to change that.

Would you like to help? If you have an hour or more to give, we need you this Friday!

It's our first Casper Cares Radiothon sponsored by Subway and Townsquare Media. This Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., we will be broadcasting live from both Albertsons locations, asking folks to commit to giving \$20 a month. That \$20 will insure hungry kids get a weekend food bag full of good things to eat.

We need volunteers to man donation booths at both Albertsons and answer calls that come in to donate.

Call Jamie at 267-2421 to volunteer.

This is a great volunteer activity for groups, families, and all ages.

Family movie at library

Family Movie Night will be held at the Natrona County Public Library Tuesday, August 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the Crawford room. Monthly Family Nights include family-friendly activities and dinner provided by the Friends of the Library. Both families and individuals are welcome to attend. Your library is committed to offering programs that strengthen families and our community. For this month's movie title please call 577-READ ext. 2.

Grow It Forward judging

Grow It Forward ends with a container gardening and patio flower competition.

Casper Housing Authority's tenants received seeds and soil in late May 2013, and created their own vegetable and/or floral garden, which will be judged by our Board of Commissioners, (appointed by the City of Casper).

The purpose of the project is to encourage healthy eating, and knowledge of food production. Five winning participants will receive nearly \$3,000 in prizes donated by Casper area businesses.

The Board of Commissioners will meet at the Casper Housing Authority office located at 1514 E. 12th St. Ste. 105 at 6 p.m., Thursday, August 29, 2013, and will then set out to judge the gardens.

For more information, please contact Amanda at ahuckabay@chaoffice.org or 266.1388 ex. 35.

Striders host free family run

The Windy City Striders will host a 3K (1.86 miles) River Fest family fun run/walk this Saturday, August 24, at 10 a.m. at Crossroads Park/Mike Lansing Field. All running/walking ability levels are welcome to participate in this run being held in conjunction with the River Fest and the Duck Derby. Registration will start at 9 a.m. There is no cost to participate in this run.

Thursday afternoon bowling

Thursday Bowling: Need teams (three lady) or individuals to bowl on our Thursday afternoon bowling league from 1 to 3 p.m. at El Marko Lanes. If you want to have fun during our long

winter days, please contact me soon at 262-1887 or 265-8824. Nadine Orszulak

Fall hours for adult learning

Fall 2013 hours for the Adult Learning Center at Casper College, which provides instruction in both adult basic education instruction and English as a Second Language, have been announced. The new hours will go into effect on Monday, Aug. 26.

The center will be open on Mondays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. A mandatory new student orientation for GED students will be held every Tuesday at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. The center is closed on Fridays and weekends.

“The Adult Learning Center offers free assessment and instruction to out-of-school adult students, 16 years old and older, who need to improve their basic reading, writing, science, social studies, and math skills in order to reach their educational and employment goals,” said Lisa Mixer, Adult Learning Center programs coordinator.

According to Mixer, assessment and instruction is also offered for those whose native language is not English through the center’s English as a Second Language program. “Individual and small group instruction is available for all levels of survival English and includes civics,” she noted.

All programs offered at the center, which is open-entry, open-exit, are free of charge. The Adult Learning Center at Casper College is located in the Werner Technical Center on the Casper College campus.

For more information stop by the Casper College Adult Learning Center or call the center at 268-2230.

Teen night Friday

The Boys & Girls Club of Central Wyoming will host the first Teen Night of the school year THIS Friday, August 23, from 8 to 11 p.m. Teen Nights are free and open to all teens in the community. Free food, prizes, games, and many activities, such as karaoke and dodgeball will be available! Come join us for some fun and find out what the Teen Program at the Boys & Girls Club has to offer. Thank you to Perkins for donating the food! Teen Nights will be held twice a month at the Boys & Girls Club’s Teen Center. For more information, call Julie McCarthy at 473-5553.

Beta Sigma Phi starts

"Beginning Day" is here for members of the Epsilon Master chapter of Beta Sigma Phi. A salad party will be held on Tuesday, August 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the home of President Louise Bishop. The upcoming year's activities will be discussed including the Wyoming State Convention to be held in Cody Sept. 13 to 15. Information: Louise, 265-5776.

Rib Fest Sept. 21

The Casper Shrine Club Boosters are sponsoring Rib Fest 2013 at the Casper Shrine Club located behind the Sunrise Shopping Center on Saturday, September 21, 2013, from 5 to 7 p.m. There will be a meet and greet from 4 to 5. For this event, the Boosters will be serving up succulent baby back pork ribs, beef ribs, and chicken along with all the fixings. This year's Pit Master, Jon Dannels (Cost Plus) along with Jake Crowder will be manning the grill to produce some of the best tasting ribs and chicken this side of the Mississippi River. The cost for this year's Rib Fest 2013 is \$20/person and children under 10 years old are half price. Tickets cannot be purchased at the door. To purchase your tickets to Rib Fest 2013 contact any Shrine Club Booster or call Dale at 262-9696 or Mike at 262-9005.

Shane Shatto walk/run Aug. 30

The 11th annual Shane Shatto Memorial Remember the Wyoming 8 Walk/Run is at the new Cross Country Track in Douglas on Friday, August 30. The 5k and 10k Walk/Run fee is \$20 and includes a T-shirt and you are eligible for the many door prizes. Registration is at the high school football field and begins at 6:30 p.m., and the Walk/Run starts at 7:30 p.m. This is a night run but not in total darkness and refreshments will be provided. Proceeds will help fund the Shane Shatto Memorial Scholarship, in the name of Shane Shatto, a Douglas graduate who died in 2001 by a drunk driver. The scholarship is awarded to a Douglas High School athlete. Morgan Squires was the 2013 recipient of the scholarship. For more information, call Kerry Shatto, 359-3211 or Margo Shatto at 359-0723.

Grownup Stuff

Fun stuff geared to adults.

Senior dance Aug. 24

Senior Dance is scheduled at the Eagles Hall, 306 N. Durbin St., Saturday, August 24, 2013, 7 to 10 p.m., with potluck snacks at 8 p.m. Coffee and ice water are available. Dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by Casper's own SwingSounds Band. SwingSounds Band provides dancing and listening entertainment featuring Western oldies, Western and Pop Swing, Oldies but Goodies, Pop and Jazz. Senior dances are not just for seniors but if you are not a senior be prepared to get a work out keeping up with these hearty seniors. Admission is \$5 per person. Entrance will be at the north door in the parking lot of the Eagles Lodge.

Robbie Daniels -- 235-5130

Ladies Nite Sept. 27

The 10th Ladies Nite is set for Friday, Sept. 27, from 6 to 9 p.m., at the Ramada Plaza Riverside. More than 30 vendors are expected for this evening of munching, shopping, networking and relaxing. Munchies are free and the first 50 women get a rose. Everyone gets a ticket for a complimentary drink and an entry into the grand prize drawing. Men are welcome, but leave the children and minors at home as this is an adult-oriented event. For more information, call Ann McDaniel at 258-2533.

Monthly vets ceremony Aug. 30

The Natrona County United Veterans Council, the staff of the Oregon Trail Wyoming State Veteran's Cemetery, and the Wyoming Army National Guard Honor Guard conduct a monthly memorial service for those known Wyoming veterans who have died since our last memorial service which was held on July 31, when we honored 63 Wyoming veterans.

This month's memorial service will be held at noon, Friday August 30, in the Tom Walsh Chapel at The Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery, Evansville. All are welcome to attend.

This memorial service is provided on behalf of a grateful state and nation as an expression of appreciation for the honorable and faithful service rendered by each of these veterans.

The veteran's name, Wyoming community, and branch of service is read at roll call. There is a rifle salute, taps, and the folding of a flag.

Civic Chorale sets season

Casper Civic Chorale will present three concerts in its first season under the baton of Steve Grussendorf. The first concert is to be held on October 22, 2013, featuring American folk songs and spirituals. The December 17, 2013, concert, "Christmas Music You Can Handel," features familiar Christmas selections and parts from Messiah. Chorale will end the season with the Spring 2014 Concert on April 29.

Casper Civic Chorale was established in 1972 by Wayne McIntire, along with Donna McIntire as the accompanist, as a non-profit, non-audition community chorus. The Chorale has presented three or four major concerts every season with a wide variety of music performed and accompaniments ranging from Chamber Orchestra to Pop/Swing ensembles.

We are a dedicated assembly of voices committed to presenting quality choral music for the pleasure and enrichment of our audiences in Casper and other communities. The Chorale has traveled to many cities and countries on concert tours. Members of the Chorale represent a wide spectrum of occupations and backgrounds. We do have a love of music and performance as a common interest. Our rehearsals are challenging, but lots of fun, too. Check us out on info@caspercivicchorale.com.

We are always in need of new singers and we would be happy to invite you to join us. The only requirements are having a knowledge of singing and a dedication to Tuesday night rehearsals at 7 p.m., in the NCHS choir room. For more information, call Mark at 237-1946.

Sing with Meadowlarks

Do you like to sing? Come join the Meadowlarks (senior singers). We have fun, fun. Meet on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m., at the Senior Center on 4th Street next to the Rec Center. To join the Senior Center, you must be 60 years old.

Evening in the Word

Evening in the Word, a women's nondenominational Bible Study, will be starting off on Tuesday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. with Beth Moore's "Sacred Secrets: A Living Proof Experience." Sacred Secrets is a new six-session study that explores secrets -- some forgiven, some covered, and some just between you and God. Meet us at Highland Park Community Church in room 1321. For more information, contact Gwen at 262-0719. "Like us" on Facebook.

New shows at gallery

The Casper Artists' Guild at the West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th Street, is pleased to present the Nineteenth Annual International Miniature Art Show and the 3rd Annual Photography Show. This wonderful display of photos by some of our very talented local photographers and miniature artwork by local and out of state artists will be on display until August 31.

Free and open to the public. Regular gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

Veterans and Obamacare

A recent bulletin from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs answers a big question that has been bothering veterans, namely whether they must comply with the new federal health law. Here is what the VA says about that subject.

What is the Affordable Care Act? The Affordable Care Act, also known as the health care law, was created to expand access to coverage, control health care costs and improve health care quality and care coordination. The health care law does not change VA health benefits or Veterans' out-of-pocket costs.

Three things you should know:

VA wants all veterans to receive health care that improves their health and well-being.

If you are enrolled in VA health care, you don't need to take additional steps to meet the health care law coverage standards. The health care law does not change VA health benefits or Veterans' out-of-pocket costs.

If you are not enrolled in VA health care, you can apply at any time.

Stan Lowe

Fundraisers

Helping folks raise money.

Harvest of Hope features Dravecky

Central Wyoming Rescue Mission invites the community to attend an evening of fellowship with other compassionate friends at their 2013 Harvest of Hope Banquet on Thursday, September 19.

The banquet will be held at Highland Park Church, 5725 Highland Drive, and begins at 6 p.m.

Guests will enjoy a delicious meal and an inspiring message from major league baseball pitcher, author and cancer survivor Dave Dravecky.

The event is the cornerstone of the Mission's Harvest of Hope campaign, through which the organization raises a significant portion of their annual donated income. The Mission hopes to secure \$80,000 toward the total campaign goal of \$400,000.

Those who wish to attend may contact our Development Staff at 268-4474 or tanya@cwrn.org for reservations, sponsorship opportunities and additional information.

Golf helps CASA, rescues

CK Mechanical is hosting the first Canines and Kids Golf Tournament on Friday, August 30, at the Paradise Valley Country Club, 9 a.m. shotgun start to a best ball tournament to benefit CASA of Natrona County and Black Dog Animal Rescue.

Get out, enjoy some golf and support a couple of awesome organizations at the same time. The weather should be great with an equally great cause. There will be hole prizes, cash awards to the top three teams and lots of other fun surprises throughout the day.

Teams are \$400 each (40 team max). To register your team, visit our website at www.ckmechanicalph.com. For information on how to sponsor the event, please call Shelly at 473.8448.

Woods holds parking lot sale

Woods Learning Center is holding a huge parking lot sale on Saturday, August 24, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., 500 S. Walsh. This is a fundraising event for the 4th & 5th grade students' 2014 trip to Washington D.C. You will find lots of books, clothing, household goods and homemade crafts. The students will also be selling flower bulbs, popcorn, pizza and other fun fundraising items. We are also seeking donations of items for the sale. If you're looking to finally get rid of that stuff in your garage, please call Jen at 277-5402 for pick up!!

Jen Miner -- 233-6603

Paint a bowl for Wyo CARES

Pottery By You, 1627 E. 2nd St., is hosting an opportunity to paint a miso or square bowl during the month of September for \$10. Bowls will be donated to the Wyoming CARES Ladies Soup Bowl Luncheon in November. Wyoming CARES is a statewide nonprofit agency with mission to provide assistance to Wyoming residents in need. For more information about the bowl painting, call Pottery By You at 472-9087.

Family Fun Day Sept. 7

Wyoming CARES hosts a Family Fun Day on Saturday, Sept. 7, that includes 18 holes of miniature golf at Old Town and or a one-mile route and a 5K walk/run route along the river. Check-in is at 8:30 a.m., and golfing and walking begins at 9:30 a.m. A minimum \$10 donation is requested to participate. Relay teams are welcome. Prizes start at \$25 in donations or pledges. For more information, call Wyoming CARES at 237-7035.

Quilt raffle at Pathfinder

The Pathfinder Boat and Fishing Club is raffling a designer quilt crafted of a fun variety of “flip flop” sandals, hand made by Mary Ellen Gorsuch of Torrington. It is on display at Pathy’s Pantry at the Pathfinder Marina. This quilt is truly an original piece of craftsmanship.

Tickets can be purchased at Pathy’s Pantry or by calling Dan Smallwood at 262-9825. The tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

The drawing for the quilt will be held Labor Day weekend during Pathfinder Marina’s Customer Appreciation Day on Sunday, September 1. There will be FREE hamburgers and hot dogs for the public, beginning at noon. You need not be present to win.

Pizza for Joshua's

High Plains Pizza, Inc. of Casper and Joshua’s Storehouse are offering a FUNdraiser Card for Casper and Wyoming only.

This is not part of the “National Campaign” that you see on TV.

That campaign is not valid in Wyoming.

A \$10 FUNdraiser Card is good for 1 large pizza with up to 3 toppings, or a specialty pizza, a \$15 value, for only \$10.

This is helping to raise money for Joshua’s Storehouse and their goal to help the hungry of Casper.

Please call 265-0242 for tickets and/or send a check to Joshua’s Storehouse for the number of cards that you would like. Your tickets will be sent to you in the next day’s mail.

Staples helps BGCCW

This summer, Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Staples are teaming up with teen actor Jake T. Austin, for the 6th annual Staples for Students national school supply drive, to help kids get the tools they need to build great futures.

Until September 28, Staples customers can donate \$1 or more at their local Staples store with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting local students at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming. Boys & Girls Clubs of America's mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need it most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. The Staples for Students school supply drive supports this mission by helping young people return to school prepared to learn and succeed.

The local Staples store to make a donation is located at 4160 E. 2nd Street.

To kick-start the campaign, Staples will donate \$125,000 worth of school supplies to the program this year. Staples and the Boys & Girls Clubs of America will ensure that all of the donations get to the local Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming in time for the new school year. Since 2008, the campaign has raised nearly \$3 million for hundreds of thousands of students in need throughout the country.

PEO sells Wyoming throws

PEO is selling Wyoming throws. The throw is a perfect gift for any occasion. The 100 percent cotton 4-foot by 6-foot throw designed by Casper PEO members, exhibits images of Wyoming in a multi-colored design. All proceeds from the sales support PEO projects to help educate women through grants, loans and scholarships. More than 80,000 women have been recipients of PEO projects. To purchase or order a Wyoming throw, call Becky at 259-3350.

Help Yourself

[Stuff to help you.](#)

Free yoga for veterans

Free Yoga classes for Veterans at Healthy Life Studio. You have served our country and we would like to show our appreciation by offering free Yoga classes every Wednesday at 3 p.m. Participate with other veterans in this hour-long practice and learn how to rest, relax and restore your energy and peace of mind. Join the thousands of Veterans all over the United States who have discovered the peaceful, calming, benefits of a yoga practice. Simple

breathing techniques, basic yoga poses, and meditation are used so that you can feel refreshed and calm after each practice. No previous experience is necessary. Classes are taught by Theresa Wiegand and are for all vets, combat or non. If you have questions please call Colleen Hilton at Healthy Life Studio, 472-1962.

Cancer support meets weekly

A Cancer Support Group meets every Tuesday from 6:45 to 8 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Casper, 332 E. 2nd, in the SonRise Room just inside the breezeway doors. This summer the group is reading "Chicken Soup for the Soul: The Cancer Book," for spiritual support of cancer clients/survivors. Rev. Steve Burnett facilitates the conversation. The public is welcomed, and there is no fee. Call 234-9385 for further information.

Bereavement support begins

Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions is starting a six-week support group for those grieving the loss of a loved one. The group starts Monday, September 23, from 6 to 7 p.m. at 319 S. Wilson Street.

This free group offers a safe and supportive place to process grief and learn coping strategies. Participants share experiences and learn they are not alone. The group will be led by bereavement coordinator Tisa Sucher, LCSW.

Group size is limited. To enroll in the group or learn more about Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions, call 577-4832.

Caregiver support meets

Wyoming Dementia Care offers both daytime and evening Alzheimer's Caregiver Support groups. The daytime support group for caregivers meets on the first and third Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at Central Wyoming Senior Services, 1831 E. 4th St. The evening group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Park Place Assisted Living, 1930 E. 12th St.

Caregivers are welcome to bring their loved ones along to the day and evening support group sessions. Professional staff from Caring Hands of Wyoming, Park Place and Meadow Wind will be on hand to offer separate activities and snacks for those who need care.

There is no charge for Wyoming Dementia Care's support groups or for the respite care provided during the approximately one hour long sessions.

For information, email wyodementia@casperseniorcenter.com or call Dani Guerttman at 265-4678.

Suicide Survivor's Support Group

A Suicide Survivor's Support Group meets the first and third Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 8 p.m., at 1032 E. First Street. For information, please contact Traci Gardner 233-4277.

Depression recovery starts Sept. 9

A depression recovery program starts Monday, September 9, 6:30 p.m., at the 12-24 Club, 500 S. Wolcott. Please join us for a nine session program that works! Learn how you can understand and manage your emotions. Learn how to recognize distorted thoughts, and correct them before problems arise. Learn how to know if depression or another cause is creating a lack of energy, and the best way to achieve restorative rest and rejuvenation. Learn the necessary conditions for the brain to produce serotonin adequately. Discover how emotional intelligence is more important in life than IQ and more! For more information, call Eric Mechalke at 251-1453.

Summer clearance at Methodist thrift

Fall is rapidly approaching with cooler temperatures and school activities.

However, there will be many warm days to wear summer clothes. So now is the time to shop the Methodist thrift store located at 611 W. Collins for items at clearance prices.

We begin our sale with all merchandise and clothing at half price. The prices get smaller with time BUT so does the selection. Watch the window signs for details.

We will be closed Monday, Sept. 2, to observe Labor Day, then open Sept. 3, 4, and 7.

We will close Sept. 9 to 14 to clean and stock fall merchandise with re-opening Monday, Sept 16.

Don't let the construction zone around us keep you away -- we are open.

Our hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Donations accepted during open store hours. For more information, call 234-6611.

LGTBQ AA/NA Group

A 12-Step AA/NA Recovery Group for gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual and questioning persons meets at the United Church of Christ, 15th and Melrose, every Friday at 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Rob J. at 259-5026.

Celebrate Recovery is for you

The guilty, sad, compulsive; the churched, the unchurched; the addicted and their families; those who have been hurt, those who have hurt someone else.

No matter what your hurts, habits, or hang-ups may be, there is HOPE. Celebrate Recovery offers a safe, welcoming, grace-filled, Christ-centered fellowship every Friday night from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Highland Park Community Church and is free to the community. 5:30 meal; 6:30 welcome & worship; 7:30 open share; 8:30 dessert & fellowship. Please join us! For questions, call 265-4073.

Breaking the Silence Walk

Saturday, September, 7, at Crossroads Park at 4 p.m., the 10th annual Breaking the Silence Walk will be held. Participants will be walking for suicide prevention, awareness, and support. There is a free barbecue from Johnny J's for the first 300. For more information, please contact Traci Gardner at 233-4277.

Task Force meets

The Natrona County Suicide Prevention Task Force meets the second Tuesday of each month at 8 a.m. at Mercer Family Resource Center, 535 W. Yellowstone. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Traci Gardner, 233-4277.

Free classes at health dept.

The City of Casper-Natrona County Health Department in partnership with the Blue Envelope Health Fund and the Natrona County Medical Reserve Corps will be offering free* CPR and first aid classes at our facility, 475. S. Spruce, during the following dates and times:

Healthcare Provider Course for nurses, EMT's, CNA's, etc.: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., September 26, October 17, December 12.

Heartsaver CPR and first aid for the general public and childcare providers: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5.

Please sign up at <http://casperhealth.eventbrite.com> or call 577-9751. If you need a class for a large group, please call 577-9751.

*Cost for the class is free for initial certification and on a sliding scale for renewal classes.

Beginning Experience Weekend

Beginning Experience of Wyoming is a weekend program that offers healing and renewal to divorced, widowed, and separated men and women. It is a nonprofit, faith-based comprehensive program offered to all persons, regardless of religious preference. The weekend can be a time for a real awakening, a re-evaluation and a new beginning. Beginning Experience is a positive experience of hope. You can anticipate an intense reflective, possibly painful but spiritually honest self-encounter.

The next Beginning Experience Weekend is in Douglas and starts at 7 p.m., on Friday, Sept. 13, and runs through Sunday afternoon, Sept. 15. Cost is \$150, which includes sleeping arrangements, meals and materials. Partial scholarships are available. Registration deadline is Sept. 10, 2013. For more information, call Curtis at 463-2677; Rick at 265-3201; Diane at 262-4142 or Sandi at 266-4340.

Free class at library

Natrona County Public Library offers basic computer classes monthly to help you navigate the computer, the internet, and basic programs such as Microsoft Word. Additional classes are given periodically on topics like social media, using Google and genealogy. All classes are held in the Tech Center at the main library in downtown Casper, offered free on a first come, first served basis. Please stop by the library's Reference Desk or call 577-READ ext. 2 to learn more about computer classes at your library.

Wednesday, Aug. 28, Facebook & Twitter, 3-5 p.m.

Women's Expo vendor space

Do you have a product or service that appeals to women? Exhibit space is now available for the 2013 Wyoming Women's Expo to be held at the Casper Events Center on Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5, 2013. Exhibitor booth reservation forms can be downloaded at www.WyomingWomensExpo.com.

This event is a great opportunity for women of all demographics to attend a show for inspiration, education, empowerment, health and beauty, food, fun, and of course, a little shopping. We know women attend the show for a variety of reasons and 2013 will again offer a diverse and balanced group of activities, resources, and of course you -- the exhibitor!

Space is limited, so don't delay in reserving your space. Regular booth prices start as low as \$255. Call Kendra Ziler at 235-8441, by email: kziler@cityofcasperwy.com; or visit www.WyomingWomensExpo.com to reserve your space now.

Wyoming Women's Expo hours are Friday, October 4, from 4 to 9:30 p.m., and Saturday, October 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday's activities include a professional development luncheon and seminars from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and 2 to 4 p.m.; trade show from 4 to 8 p.m.; Girls Night Out from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., and comedian Lisa Landry from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Saturday's activities include the Ta Ta Trot 5 K Breast Cancer Awareness Walk/Run registration at 7 a.m. and Walk/Run begins at 8 a.m., then the trade show, and Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$20 for Friday (all ages); \$5 for Saturday (Children ages 12 and under free); \$22 for two-day pass. For more information, please call 235-8441 or www.WyomingWomensExpo.com.

The Wyoming Women's Expo is produced by the Casper Star-Tribune, the Casper Events Center, and Townsquare Media.

Calling all crafters!

Garden Square Assisted Living will host the "Homemade with Love" craft fair and bake sale on Saturday, September 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables can be purchased for only \$20. All proceeds will benefit a local family struggling to pay medical expenses. We need crafters offering handmade items at reasonable prices. All baked goods must be non-perishable. All participants will be asked to donate an item for a raffle. The donation of a quilt for the raffle would be greatly appreciated! To reserve a table or for more information, please call 472-1153 and ask for Denise or Andrea. Be a participant in the first craft fair of the season and help a local family!

CC offers wilderness medicine

The Casper College Center for Training and Development is offering the two-day "Wilderness Medicine Institute" (CEU 0402 70) October 12 and 13, 2013 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

"Whether spending time in the backcountry is a person's passion or their profession, they should never have to ask, 'What do I do now,'" said Ann Dalton, workforce training specialist.

According to Dalton, the WMI is a "fast-paced, hands-on class for trip leaders, camp staff, outdoor enthusiasts, and people who spend time in remote locations."

The WMI will cover a wide range of wilderness medicine topics including advanced topics that other programs leave out such as dislocation reduction and epinephrine administration, said Dalton. "Students will gain the knowledge, skills, and ability to make sound decisions in an emergency."

The class will be taught by personnel from the National Outdoor Leadership School and is approved by the American Camping Association and the U.S. Forest Service. The cost of the class is \$250 per person.

For more information or to register contact Dalton 268-2085, or adalton@caspercollege.edu

'Hands on' massage therapy class

A hands-on class for both massage and movement therapists will be offered at Casper College September 27 through 29 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

According to Theresa Tobin Macy, instructor, the class, "Advanced Corrective Therapies" (CEU 1380 70), will focus "on learning a foundational cross fiber friction stroke with an emphasis on attaining depth not increasing pressure and to sequentially soften superficial muscles sinking to the level of restriction in the deeper layers."

According to Macy, the lecture portion "will include computerized animations as a visual tool to expand knowledge of muscle action, fiber direction, agonist/antagonist relationships and strain patterns. Once identified, the class will focus on navigating through superficial tissue to isolate and treat deep myofascial layers," she said.

Macy is a 2003 graduate of the Professional Massage Therapy Program at the Pennsylvania

School of Muscle Therapy and earned her certification in deep muscle cross fiber therapy from the Pfrimmer Institute. Macy has accrued more than 900 hours in continuing education credit with a focus in myofascial release for children and adults, deep tissue techniques, and assessment skills. She joined the faculty at Cortiva Institute in 2008 as an instructor of massage therapy and musculoskeletal anatomy and kinesiology and also teaches professional ethics, deep tissue refresher, and body mechanic in the Cortiva Institute Continuing Education Program.

The cost for the class is \$375 per person. Those successfully completing the seminar will earn 2.1 continuing education units. To register or for more information contact Macy at 610-730-3960 or Theresa@inhmassage.com.

Classes/workshops at West Wind

The watercolor classes will meet at the West Wind Gallery on the first Saturday of the month -- September 7, 9 a.m. to noon. No charge for these sessions as there will be no demonstrations. Just a good time to paint together. Please call Ellen Black at 265-6783 if you have questions about these sessions.

For more information or questions please contact: West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th St., 265-2655. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

Family Stuff

Fun stuff for the whole family.

Bloody Mary Festival

The first Bloody Mary Festival will be held in Glenrock's Kimball Park on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Adults 21 and older will choose the "People's Choice Award." There will be door prizes, live entertainment, food and beverage vendors, and a Kids Carnival. The \$10 cover charge allows you to sample from all of the contestants and their version of the Best Bloody Mary in Wyoming. Once you have found your favorite, tickets are available to purchase your favorite full-size Bloody or Virgin Mary. Don't forget to bring your ID!

Kids Carnival is a \$10 bracelet which entitles kids to all of the fun and activities of the carnival, including popcorn and cotton candy.

The event is sponsored by Glenrock Main Street and Grand Teton Vodka.

Master Gardeners Farmer's Market

Vegetables, fruits, herbs, plants, cut flowers, baked goods, olive oil, jam, garden decor, and much, much more are all available at the Master Gardeners Farmers' Markets. Each week, there will be new vendors with additional items for sale.

The Farmers' Market will be held every Saturday through September 28, from 7:30 a.m. until noon or sold out on the grounds of the Agricultural Resource Learning Center, 2011 Fairgrounds Rd.

There will be a Master Gardeners table staffed by Master Gardeners offering their expertise on all gardening questions and concerns. For more information, call the Master Gardeners at 235-9400, ext. 29. For vendor information, call Chrysty at 473-5738.

Trails Center adjusts hours

The National Historic Trails Interpretive Center has revised its schedule for August.

The NHTIC will be open Tuesday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for the month of August. The NHTIC will be closed on Sundays and Mondays.

For more information, please call the NHTIC at 261-7780.

Fort opens Hollywood in Wyoming exhibit

Hollywood's fascination with Wyoming is evident in its frequent use of the state's vast and beautiful landscape, which has been featured in more than 120 films to date. The rolling hills, snow-capped Tetons, and broad plains have served as a backdrop for movies starting in 1904 with Wyoming Roundup. Traditional Western themes represent a large percentage of the films made in Wyoming, however many movies with other themes have also used Wyoming as a backdrop.

Fort Caspar Museum, 4001 Fort Caspar Rd., has installed a temporary exhibit featuring thirty movie posters from films that were shot in Wyoming. The posters represent almost 100 years of movies, beginning with westerns such as the 1917 Douglas Fairbanks film, "The Man from Painted Post," and Tim McCoy's 1926 film, "Warpaint." There are posters from science fiction films like "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" (1977) and "Starship Troopers" (1997), comedies such as the Three Stooges' 1965 movie, "Outlaws is Coming," and contemporary films like "Powwow Highway" (1989) and "Flicka" (2006).

The posters are on view now through October 5, 2013. For more information, please contact the museum at 235-8462 or check the Fort Caspar Museum website, www.fortcasparwyoming.com. The museum is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily in August and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily in September. Admission fees are adults \$3; youth (13 to 18 years) \$2; and children 12 & under free.

Bar Nunn Market

The Park and Recreation Department of Bar Nunn is hosting a Market on Saturday, Aug. 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Antelope Park. Booth spaces are \$10. The purpose is to bring the

community together for a family fun event. Crafts, unique businesses, politicians, food vendors and others are welcome to participate. Bar Nunn is looking forward to showcasing local talent. For more information, call Laura Redmond at 406-570-4510.

9-11 ceremony Sept. 9

The Natrona County United Veterans Council will conduct a commemorative ceremony honoring 9-11 in the Tom Walsh Chapel at the Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2013.

The master of ceremonies will be Chief Kenny King of the Casper Fire Department, the invocation and benediction will be given by Dave Mondle, chaplain for the Casper Fire Department; the National Anthem will be performed by Mersadis Barells, the Pledge of Allegiance will be led by Cecil V. Barnes, president of the Veterans Council.

Comments will be made by Deputy State Fire Marshall Mark Young (former chief of the Casper Fire Department). Young's comments will be followed by Chief King and Chief Chris Walsh of the Casper Police Department honoring the fallen. They will read the names of all first responders across the nation that have fallen in the line of duty since the ceremony last year. There will be a rifle salute provided by the Natrona County High School JR. ROTC after which the Casper Fire Department Bagpipes will pipe the traditional "Amazing Grace."

The public is strongly encouraged to attend and honor all who come to mind in remembrance of 9-11.

UU events

The public is invited to attend the services and other events of the Unitarian Universalist Community of Casper. Services are held Sundays at 9 a.m. at the UCC Church at 1511 S. Melrose.

On August 25, in a change in location, the annual UU Casper fall kick-off picnic will be held at Sage Park at 2200 E. 15th Street (instead of Washington Park), and will start at 10:30 a.m. instead of the regular service time. Hamburgers will be served and participants are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

On September 1, guest speakers Judy Trohkemoinen and Josh Thompson will address Workers' Right and the spiritual implications of a fair workplace. During regular church services childcare and youth activities are available, with discussion and refreshments following the service.

The next monthly Share N Care Potluck is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Participants are asked to bring a dish to share and their own table service and beverage. For more information about these events or Unitarian Universalism, visit uucasper.org or call Laura at 259-4469.

High Holy Days observance

To those of the Jewish community and communion, as well as to those who are Torah observant and adhere strictly to the principle that God is One and His name is One; that God is not physical and that no physical attributes can apply to Him; and that God is the only One to whom it is proper to pray and that it is improper to pray to any other. Please note that the High Holy Days are early this year. Rosh Hashanah (the New Year) begins the evening of Sept. 4, the morning of Sept. 5, Sept. 6 (Sabbath evening) and that Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) begins the evening of Sept. 13 (Kol Nidrei) and concludes Sept. 14 (all day). Consult our website, (jewishcasper.org), for times of services at Temple Beth El and for related information on the Holy Days. Rabbi Sam Wiseman will speak on several disparate Torah portions which emphasize obedience to God's commandments and ordinances, their meaning and where they lead.

Sam Wiseman, General Secretary, Jewish Community Association of Casper and Rabbi,
Temple Beth El

Riverfest, Duck Derby Aug. 24

2013 Riverfest is scheduled for Saturday, August 24, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Crossroads Playground. Riverfest is Casper's very own river festival! Begun in 1992 as a celebration of the completion of the newest segment of riverfront trail, Riverfest is now a much anticipated community event that offers fantastic food, rockin live music, microbrew tasting, family fun activities AND Casper Rotary's Great Duck Derby.

Activities prior to 11 a.m. include Windy City Striders Fun Run – Denise Murphy - murphco7@juno.com; Casper Cycling Club Family Ride – caspercyclingclub@gmail.com; Fat Fish Casual Single Track Tour – Gordon Edwards – buzzwired@excite.com; Healthy Life Studio Morning Yoga at the Pumphouse – 472-1962; Casper Disk Golf 8 Hole Run.

Delicious food is always an important element of Riverfest. We have a variety of wonderful food vendors this year to choose from including Arrowhead Catering, La Cocina, The Dashing Dish, and Cold Stone Creamery.

This year's microbrew tasting has a little something for everyone. A 12-ounce microbrew is \$4 and a 4-ounce taster is \$1.

Steve Frame and his Western Rebels will kick off our musical lineup for Riverfest followed by Casper's favorite, Inda Eaton.

Casper Rotary's Great Duck Derby is an essential part of the fun at Riverfest. Purchase a duck ticket for \$20 and you have a chance to win great prizes. You can purchase your tickets through Platte River Trails at the Tate Pumphouse Trail Center, 1775 W. 1st St. or by e-mailing platteriver@wyoming.com or calling 577-1206.

Register for BGCCW

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming is now registering children and youth for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year! For elementary age members, we will have clubs at four school site locations (Verda James, Evansville, Mills and Paradise Valley). Our main club facility at 1701 East K Street will serve elementary members as well as teens. The teen program is free with a \$10 membership fee, while the elementary members have a \$25 weekly fee. Our clubs accept childcare reimbursement through DFS. Hours vary by site, as the main club closes at 8 p.m., Paradise Valley closes at 7 p.m. and all other sites close at 6 p.m. We offer programs in five key areas: character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, the arts, and sports, fitness and recreation. Free snacks are provided at all locations, and free dinner is provided at the main club. For more information on the "Positive Place for Kids" and our school year opportunities, please call 235-5694.

Public input on city parks plan

The city is seeking input on what needs to be done to make our overall park system more inviting. The city spends in excess of \$2.5 million per year to keep our 46 parks in good shape. Most of that effort goes into grounds maintenance while features like playgrounds and tables are being constantly repaired or replaced. Some Casper Parks receive a lot of use while others see relatively little. The city wants to find out what makes certain parks popular so we can take appropriate steps to increase the visitation in other parks.

For more information regarding the Park Plan or to participate in the survey log onto: www.casperwy.gov/PublicWorks/ or call 235-8367.

Uprising entertainment set

The Uprising has announced that chart-topping band Demon Hunter will headline the entertainment lineup for the second annual event on Saturday, September 14, at 1701 East K Street. Joining Demon Hunter will be Flame, Sidewalk Prophets and Cleanzed Soul.

A Christian metal band from Seattle, Demon Hunter has released six full-length albums.

Flame, is a Grammy-nominated and Billboard-topping Christian hip-hop artist.

Sidewalk Prophets is a contemporary Christian band from Nashville, Tenn.

Joining Demon Hunter, Flame and Sidewalk Prophets at The Uprising will be Casper band, Cleanzed Soul.

The Uprising is a day-long festival that was formed through a partnership between Youth for Christ and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming designed to reach and connect with the youth of the Casper-area community. Through music performances, skateboarding demonstrations, and basketball, baseball and boxing clinics, The Uprising will share the good

news of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

For more information, please visit www.uprisingwyoming.org or our facebook page.

CC theatre tickets online

Those wishing to purchase tickets for Casper College Department of Theatre and Dance productions will now have an additional way to do so: online, by simply going to caspercollege.edu/theatre.

The department is now working with University Tickets, a company that has been in the business of providing college campuses with a simple way to offer online ticket sales. "The wonderful thing about this is that theatergoers will have the convenience of purchasing tickets online, choosing their seats, and selecting the mode of delivery: U.S. Mail, or printing out their own 'e-tickets' just as one can do with an airline boarding pass," said William Conte, Casper College theatre instructor.

According to Conte, theatergoers "will also be able to enter contact information and receive e-blasts about Krampert Theatre productions, respond to surveys, and open their own secure accounts that will conveniently save their purchasing preferences to make buying tickets even easier."

Online ticket purchasing is now available for the college's summer production of the musical "Godspell" which runs July 20, and July 24 through 27 at 7:30 p.m. and July 28 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students ages 5 to 18. Tickets mailed will be charged an additional \$1 per order for handling. In addition, tickets purchased seven working days prior to any production will be held at will call.

Wild West Photo Fest Aug. 29-31

Wyoming Camera Outfitters, Canon and 307 Magazine are excited to announce the events schedule for the Third Annual Wild West Photo Fest. Headlining this year will be one of the biggest names in photography, famed western photographer David Stoecklein. David will present "Photographing the West" the evening of Thursday, August 29, at 7 p.m., at the America Theatre in downtown Casper.

The Wild West Photo Fest will continue Friday with Wyoming Camera Outfitters hosting Canon factory representative in store, with special sales on photo and printing equipment. Canon will host a downtown photo walk that evening and make test lenses and available for use, and WCO will provide instructors who will be at select locations to provide shooting tips.

On Saturday, special workshops will be held in downtown theatres ending at 3 p.m., when 2nd Street between Center and David will be closed. And the 307 exhibition tent will be set up to display the top 150 photo entries for the public to enjoy and vote on the People's Choice Award. Food vendors, musicians, entertainers and beer and drink gardens will take place until

7 p.m., when the winners of the photo competition will be announced. There will be a \$20 reservation fee which will cover Stoecklein, and all other workshops throughout the event (which will be offset with a \$20 Wyoming Camera Gift Card).

Admission to the street festival and photo exhibit will be free to the public.

Saturday drummin'

Casper Community Drum Circle will meet during the summer, with the exception of a few Saturdays. Here is the schedule for gathering from 10 a.m. to noon (unless otherwise noted) at 112 S. Beech. August 24 (3 to 5 p.m.), August 31. Questions? Call David, 259 -0350. Keep on drummin'!

Clubs

Service, hobbies, etc.

Soroptimists meet Aug. 26

The public is invited to attend the August program meeting of Soroptimist International of Central Wyoming. The meeting will be held on Monday, August 26 in the conference room of the Casper Senior Center at noon.

The program will be presented by our Vice President Donna Cuin. She will be discussing the various awards given by Soroptimists to women in our community. Soroptimist means "best for women". If you are interested in helping women and girls in our local community and throughout the world, please join us for lunch to meet our members and learn about our club and its activities. Cost of lunch is \$7 (\$4 for seniors).

For reservations please contact Dyann at 237-1334 or dyanndurst@aol.com

Dyann Durst -- 237-1334

Corvette Roundup Aug. 31

The tenth annual Corvette Roundup Show and Shine car show will be held in Casper, Saturday, August 31, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Sears parking lot at the Eastridge Mall. The public is invited to attend this free event.

Roundup participants will display their Corvettes and those in attendance will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite in each classification as well as an overall Best of Show.

All Corvettes are welcome for the entire event including a Rallye Saturday afternoon and an Autocross on Sunday. Registration for the event and car show will be Saturday in the Sears Parking lot from 8 to 9:30 a.m. The cost for car show only participants is \$10.

Owners who would like to show their cars and participate in the event are encouraged to contact Bill Rader at 265-6014 or visit our website at: www.centralwyomingcorvettes.com

Queen Bee Red Hatters luncheon

Thursday, August 29, Mary Climer and Pat Potter would like to invite you to Red Lobster at 11:30 a.m. Meals will be ordered from the lunch menu with the average cost being \$11 with tax and tip. RSVP either to Pat Potter, e-mail (pkpotter7@msn.com) or Mary Climer at 235-5365 by August 26. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Jan Roggow -- 237-8318

Toastmasters welcome new members

Learn communication, leadership, and public speaking in a friendly, supportive environment. You will enhance your career opportunities, learn how to run a meeting, prepare and deliver presentations (both planned and impromptu), as well as improve your general communication skills. Guests and new members are welcome.

Casper has three Toastmaster Clubs to choose from:

Morning Tour, Mondays, 6:30 a.m. to 7:40 a.m., Parkway Plaza, Adrian's Room (next to restaurant). Great way to start the week!

Pathfinder, Tuesdays, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Chamber of Commerce, 500 N. Center Street.

Pioneer, Wednesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Petroleum Club. Will begin meeting again in September.

For further information, contact Mary Ann at 234-0158 or email Toastmasterclubs3@yahoo.com

Sports and Recreation

[Fun stuff for your body.](#)

Lots to do at ice arena open house

Come kick off the fall season at the coolest place in town! The Casper Ice Arena is hosting a Fall Open House on Saturday, September 7, 2013 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To start things off, the Casper Amateur Hockey Club will have their annual Open Registration and Goalkeepers Skate Swap from 8 a.m. to noon, and will be offering ice time from 8:30 to 10:45 a.m.

After hockey, the Casper Figure Skating Club will have open registration with ice time from 11 a.m. to noon.

Finally, the Casper Skating School will be hosting a FREE Basic Skills Skating Clinic from 12:15 to 1 p.m., followed by FREE Public Skating session from 1 to 3 p.m. The free skating clinic is open to anyone interested ages 3 and older. Children should be accompanied by an adult to the rink. Helmets are available and encouraged for younger skaters and those with little or no skating experience. A 10 percent discount will be offered on all ice arena public skating season passes and all fall Casper Skating School class registrations during the open house from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To keep everyone satisfied, the ice arena offers a full service concession stand that is always open, offering snacks, meals and treats to quench your thirst and keep you energized for a great fall season!

For additional information regarding this exciting day or any other upcoming programs or special events, please call 235-8484.

PE for homeschoolers

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming is once again offering physical education classes for home school children. The classes will offer station work to improve motor activities, team sports involving skill development and sportsmanship, opportunities to participate in a wide range of activities and exercises for improved physical fitness and flexibility, lifetime skills and recreation development, as well as an active environment not based on competition. Classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 17 to December 12. Class times will be 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. for 5 to 9 year olds, and 1:15 to 2 p.m. for ages 10 and older. The cost for this program is \$25 for club members and \$35 for non members. To register, come to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming, 1701 E. K Street. For more information about this program or the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming, call Brian at 235-5694.

Fall activities guide available

The new 2013 Fall Activities Guide is available and is packed with a variety of programs, classes and recreation activities. Registration will also begin for all Fall classes offered through the Casper Recreation & Aquatics Center and the Casper Ice Arena. Fitness Classes begin with a week of FREE classes starting on August 26 and other classes in Ice Skating, Swimming, Dance, Martial Arts, Sports, and Arts & Crafts will start September 3 or later.

Along with the favorites, new classes and programs include Advanced Beginning Ballet, Intermediate Ballet, Weaving for Kids, Beads & Things, Ceramics, Zentangle Family, and Archery for Adults.

Make sure you register early to guarantee your spot in a class and insure your favorite class meets its minimum! Registration may be completed at the Recreation Center, 1801 East 4th St., by mail, by phone with credit card at 235-8383 or on-line at www.activecasper.com .

Helping Others

Volunteer opportunities.

Volunteer at food bank

The Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies (WFBR) needs volunteers to help sort food at our warehouse located at 2101 East 12th Street in Casper on Thursday, August 22, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Last year, the WFBR delivered over 8 million pounds of food around the state of Wyoming. The WFBR is the largest private hunger-relief organization in the state of Wyoming. You can help fight hunger in our community and state by volunteering and making a difference for others who are food insecure. For more information, contact Tonja Funch at 232-4011.

Pack food bags

The Wyoming Food for Thought Project is continuing the weekend food bags for kids going hungry.

"We are partnering with Summer Feeding sites, like the Boys and Girls Club, to distribute bags on Friday afternoons. The concept remains the same, but we are asking kids and families who need help to contact us," says Jamie Purcell, executive director of Wyoming Food for Thought Project.

If you would like to receive a bag, or if you would like to donate, please call 337-1703.

Packing dates remain the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month (August 28) at 4 p.m., 315 N. Wolcott.

Jamie Purcell -- 267-2421

Annual musical instrument swap

Got a musical instrument lying around gathering dust? Bring it to Wyoming Music's annual Instrument Swap and put it to good use. Instruments are being accepted now through September 30 at Wyoming Music in the Sunrise Shopping Center on consignment during regular business hours. This is a great opportunity to sell your instrument and help someone else get a good used instrument at an affordable price for band or orchestra. People can also donate an instrument to a needy student by dropping it off. Part of the proceeds from the consignment sales are used to help provide instruments to children who wish to participate in music in school. For more information, call Dean Lorimer at 237-7322.

Learn how to be a hospice volunteer

Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions is seeking caring individuals to become hospice volunteers.

The next volunteer training will meet on Tuesdays from September 10 to October 8 from 6 to 9 p.m. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and interested in providing companionship, respite, light housekeeping or occasional transportation.

As Natrona County's only non-profit hospice, volunteers are a vital part of our mission to help patients and families on the end-of-life journey.

Class size is limited to 20 participants so please call 577-4832 or e-mail volunteer@cwHP.org for more information or to register.

Volunteer for Uprising

The Uprising is in search of volunteers! The Uprising is a partnership between Youth for Christ and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming designed to reach and connect with the youth of our community. Through music performances, skateboarding demonstrations, basketball, baseball and boxing clinics, we attempt to share the good news of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Uprising is currently looking for volunteers to help with the event on September 14th, 2013. If you are interested in assisting with sports clinics, band hospitality or event set-up and tear down, please contact Lou Bruggman at 235-4079.

Poverty Resistance needs help

Poverty Resistance is seeking donations of automobiles, trucks, motor homes, camper trailers, living or dead. We fix them up. Give away some to needy persons, sell the rest to cover our expenses. We have given away more than 40 vehicles over the last 2-1/2 years. Some are being driven, some are being used as a home, some are used for both! For more information, call Mary Ann at 253-8955.

Family Stuff

[Fun stuff for the whole family.](#)

Market adds small grower spot

Come sell your extra produce at the Tuesday downtown Casper Farmers Market.

We've set up a "Community Table" in the center of the market to give smaller growers a chance to sell their bounty. \$2 secures you a 2'x2' space on the table.

Call us at 337-1703 today to sell at the next market!

Farmers Market Tuesday

The Downtown Casper Farmers Market takes place Tuesday nights on the grounds of the Nic and the Rails to Trails Park from 5 to 7:30 p.m., every Tuesday through September 17. Come out and enjoy live music, local food vendors, children's activities, and more. Perennial favorites

as well as new vendors will make the market the best yet. This is the market's sixth year!

Parking is available in the downtown parking garage, just a two-block stroll down rails-to-trails path, or along Collins Drive between Beech and Kimball. This year's market is sponsored in part by Greiner Motors and the McMurry Foundation.

To become a vendor, or for more information please call the market managers, Wyoming Food for Thought Project, at 337-1703.

Wednesday Night Live

The Nicolaysen Art Museum presents its free outdoor summer music series from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays. Take a chair or blanket, relax and listen to great entertainment. Food, drinks and alcohol available to purchase onsite. No outside alcohol allowed.

Aug. 28: John Kirlin and the High Plains Drifters and Jalan Crossland.

For specifics on each group, visit www.thenic.org

Reunions

Meetings, dates.

NC '58

The NCHS Class of 1958 will hold its 55th Class reunion on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013.

"Munchies and Memories" will be the theme at the Casper Country Club, 6 p.m. This reunion is a very casual affair and the cost is \$25 per person. Please RSVP by Sept. 2 by contacting Marilyn (Martin) Stafford, 258-4433, or Susan (Todd) Martin,

577-0742.

NC football reunion in Laramie

The NCHS football teams who played in the fall of 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952, will hold a reunion in Laramie on September 14, 2013, at the game between Wyoming and Northern Colorado. The youngest of the football players is 78; the oldest is 83. We presently have 10 players planning to attend. Those interested in attending are asked to contact Danny White at 503-246-4154; or dugandan2@gmail.com, or Dick Hartwell, rhartwell@bresnan.net

KW '73

It's almost time for KW's class of 1973 40-year reunion! We would like to invite fellow classmates from NCHS and from KWHS to join us for the icebreaker on Friday night, August 30, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Wonder Bar. Stop by and visit with old friends and classmates! Other reunion plans include golf and dinner Saturday at the Casper Country Club. A school tour and city tour will also be held on Saturday. Questions? Call Dan 266-3277, Becky 577-1955 or Cathy 234-1494 or email us at KWHS73@gmail.com. We hope to see you Labor Day weekend!!

NC '78

The NCHS Class of 1978 will hold its 35th Reunion Dinner on Saturday, Aug. 24, at 6 p.m., upstairs at the Wonder Bar. Cocktails start at 6 p.m., buffet dinner at 7 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person. Reserve with payment to David Dewald, 122 S. Elk St., Casper, 82601. For more info, phone 234-5941.

Schools

Announcements.

CC launches new certificate program

The first offering in Casper College's recently announced certificate program, "Cognitive Retraining," will be offered during the fall 2013 semester.

"Acquired Brain Injuries" (PSYC 2390) "is an introductory course that focuses on the major areas of research and treatment application in the field of acquired brain injuries (ABI). Various types of brain injuries, etiologies of these injuries, and treatments of these injuries will be presented," said Shawn Powell, Ph.D., ABPP.

Powell, instructor for the class, said that there are five main objectives of the course, which include the design of a comprehensive treatment plan for individuals with an ABI, and identifying community based services for individuals with ABIs.

Registration for the fall semester is currently underway. Students may register as degree or nondegree seeking. "Acquired Brain Injuries" will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 28.

OLLI fall signup Aug. 29

The "fabulous Fall Sign-Up" for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Casper College will be held on Thursday, August 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Gateway Building.

The sign up features a number system to assure that all those registering for fall classes will be taken care of in a quick and orderly manner, according to Karen Arnold, lifelong learning

specialist. Numbers will be available from 3:30 to 6 p.m.

This year's fall offerings include a trip, a number of new offerings, and a return of old favorites. "We have tried to come up with a wide variety of topics to appeal to as many folks as we can this fall," said Arnold.

"Amazing Aspens" taught by Wyoming Game and Fish biologist Keith Schoupe, who was the WGF's lead biologist on the Bates Creek Aspen Regeneration project, will provide OLLIs with "the genetic makeup of these fascinating trees in a lecture and field trip to an aspen grove on Muddy Mountain," Arnold said.

Andrew Young, Casper College physics instructor will return with a new class: "Exploring Astronomy Topics" to be taught at the Casper Planetarium. Young will use planetarium modules to explore a variety of astronomical topics from constellations to the planets and more, according to Arnold.

Other new offerings for the fall include "It's Your Genes;" "'Russian Ark': A Film Journey through Russian History;" "Taking Stock of our Fish," which will feature a field trip to watch a fish stocking operation; "Understanding the Weather," and "The Real Crawley Family: The Historical Context of 'Downton Abbey,'" which will be taught by Casper College President Walter Nolte, an expert in 19th century British history. "Our president was once a college history instructor, and during this OLLI class he will use clips from the series 'Downton Abbey' to prompt discussion about the historical events that occurred during the period covered in the first three seasons of the show," noted Arnold.

The OLLI Fabulous Fall Sign Up will be held on the second floor of the Gateway Building located on the Casper College campus. For those unable to attend the sign up, registrations will be taken by phone or in person after August 29. To register by phone members may call Arnold at 268-2099 or Vicki Pollock, lifelong learning specialist, at 268-2097. The OLLI office is located in Room 408B in the Gateway Building for those wishing to register in person.

CC theatre 'Everyman'

"Everyman," the third and final student production produced during the summer at Casper College, is currently being performed.

According to William Conte, theatre instructor, "Everyman" is a famous medieval morality play by an unknown author.

Directed by Paulina Strayer, a sophomore theatre performance major at Casper College, the summer production features Tom Empey as God, Conte as Death, Kegan Cara as Good Deeds, Nick McDill as Everyman, "and many students from both high schools in other allegorical roles," she said.

"I was personally drawn to this play because of the allegorical representations in the play. As a lifelong lover of pretentious metaphor and a good old-fashioned personification, this play was perfect. All of the characters are representations of virtues or concepts, and I have really

enjoyed creating their world on the stage,” said Strayer.

The play runs Aug. 23 and 24 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, August 25 at 2 p.m. in the Thomas H. Empey Studio Theatre, located in the Gertrude Krampert Theatre Complex. There is no admission fee, but donations will be accepted and will go to three Casper College student organizations, which benefit Casper College Department of Theatre and Dance Department students. Tickets will only be available at the door.

Meal reimbursement

The Natrona County School District also will participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which provides reimbursement for nutritious meals and snacks served to young children in childcare homes, childcare centers, head start and outside-school-hours programs.

The goal of the CACFP is to teach good eating habits and assure that well-balanced, nourishing meals are served to children. The same meals will be made available to all enrolled children at no separate charge regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability, and there is no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

The Income Eligibility Guidelines are used to determine if participants qualify for reimbursement. These guidelines are in effect from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. Please call 307-253-5205 for assistance.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

DC Dash

The DC Dash 5K Fun Run takes place at Tate Pump House on Saturday, Sept. 14, at 10 a.m. Costumes encouraged! Prizes

awarded and goody bags.

All proceeds go to the cost of the academic journey to DC and NY for Woods Learning Center 4th/5th grade students.

Registration (prior to noon Sept. 13) by mail or deliver to WLC at 500 South Walsh Drive.

All checks must be made out to Casper College Foundation (note DC Dash).

Registration at site at 9:30 a.m. at Tate Pump House, \$20 adults, \$10 for 13-18 year olds, and \$5 for 12 & under. Team of

any 8, \$100. No refunds.

Purchase DC Dash T-shirts by 9/3/13 for discount.

WLC -- 253-3900

Susan -- 258-3945

Free and reduced meals

The Natrona County School District has announced its policy for free and reduced price meals for children unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program, and School Breakfast Program. Each school and the office of the Food Services has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

Household size and income criteria will be used for determining eligibility. Children from households whose income is at or below the required levels are eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Applications are available online at www.natronaschools.org, school offices, mailed to households, and at the Food Services office at 970 North Glenn Road. If you need assistance, call 307-253-5205.



Town Crier for FRIDAY, Aug. 23, 2013

AUGUST 22, 2013 12:30 PM

Friday's Highlights

Fun stuff to do Friday.

Volunteer for hungry kids Friday

Did you know that there are more than 2,500 kids right here in Casper who suffer from hunger? It's difficult to imagine, but we are working to change that.

Would you like to help? If you have an hour or more to give, we need you this Friday!

It's our first Casper Cares Radiothon sponsored by Subway and Townsquare Media. This Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., we will be broadcasting live from both Albertsons locations, asking folks to commit to giving \$20 a month. That \$20 will insure hungry kids get a weekend food bag full of good things to eat.

We need volunteers to man donation booths at both Albertsons and answer calls that come in to donate.

Call Jamie at 267-2421 to volunteer.

This is a great volunteer activity for groups, families, and all ages.

A Taste of Ireland in Casper

Ha'Penny Bridge Irish Imports, founded in 1983, is known for its Branigan Woolens, Belleek China, Galway Crystal, Hanna Hats and Irish Jewelry and more, offering shoppers a wide selection of Irish and Celtic merchandise. Proprietors Al and Anne Gleine journey abroad to bring a taste of Ireland to their grateful Dublin, Ohio, clientele and for two days, we have the unique opportunity to share in this wealth from the Emerald Isle! This nationally known importer of Irish goods is visiting Casper exclusively for the Richens/Timm Academy of Irish Dance weekend, and will be onsite at Natrona County High School this Friday from 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. It's free to browse and shop.

If you love Irish dance, Irish music, or shopping bona fide Irish imports, all will be available as part of our Celtic Experience evening, sponsored by ARTCORE. Richens/Timm Academy of Irish Dance will be featured, as will championship level dancers from around the western U.S. region traveling in for our Cowboy State Feis (Irish dance competition) Saturday. Varieties of musical accompaniment (bagpipe, fiddle, voice, and more) will be presented with ever colorful and energetic Irish dance. Tickets are available at Cadillac Cowgirl, Ayers Jewelry, Hill Music,

the Shade Tree, and Sonic Rainbow.

Please join us for a Celtic evening Friday at 7 p.m., at John F. Welsh Auditorium at Natrona County High School, and drop in to view our (open to the public) Feis on Saturday to complete your experience!

LGTBQ AA/NA Group

A 12-Step AA/NA Recovery Group for gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual and questioning persons meets at the United Church of Christ, 15th and Melrose, every Friday at 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Rob J. at 259-5026.

Celebrate Recovery is for you

The guilty, sad, compulsive; the churched, the unchurched; the addicted and their families; those who have been hurt, those who have hurt someone else.

No matter what your hurts, habits, or hang-ups may be, there is HOPE. Celebrate Recovery offers a safe, welcoming, grace-filled, Christ-centered fellowship every Friday night from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Highland Park Community Church and is free to the community. 5:30 meal; 6:30 welcome & worship; 7:30 open share; 8:30 dessert & fellowship. Please join us! For questions, call 265-4073.

CC theatre: 'Everyman'

“Everyman,” the third and final student production produced during the summer at Casper College, is currently being performed.

According to William Conte, theatre instructor, “Everyman” is a famous medieval morality play by an unknown author.

Directed by Paulina Strayer, a sophomore theatre performance major at Casper College, the summer production features Tom Empey as God, Conte as Death, Kegan Cara as Good Deeds, Nick McDill as Everyman, “and many students from both high schools in other allegorical roles,” she said.

“I was personally drawn to this play because of the allegorical representations in the play. As a lifelong lover of pretentious metaphor and a good old-fashioned personification, this play was perfect. All of the characters are representations of virtues or concepts, and I have really enjoyed creating their world on the stage,” said Strayer.

The play runs Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Thomas H. Empey Studio Theatre, located in the Gertrude Krampert Theatre Complex. There is no admission fee, but donations will be accepted and will go to three Casper College student organizations, which benefit Casper College Department of Theatre and Dance Department students. Tickets will only be available at the door.

Teen night Friday

The Boys & Girls Club of Central Wyoming will host the first Teen Night of the school year THIS Friday from 8 to 11 p.m. Teen Nights are free and open to all teens in the community. Free food, prizes, games, and many activities, such as karaoke and dodgeball will be available! Come join us for some fun and find out what the Teen Program at the Boys & Girls Club has to offer. Thank you to Perkins for donating the food! Teen Nights will be held twice a month at the Boys & Girls Club's Teen Center. For more information, call Julie McCarthy at 473-5553.

Register for fall classes at children's theatre

The Casper Children's Theatre is excited to announce their fall classes. Each class is tailored for a specific age group, providing the perfect opportunity for all ages to discover self-expression and gain self-confidence. All students help create and produce their own show, while learning life skills through theater skills.

"Thoroughly Modern Millie Junior" is a fast-paced jazz musical that takes place in 1920's New York. All interested students, age 12 through high school seniors, are invited to sign up for this production. Classes meet on Tuesday and Thursdays from August 27 to October 15 from 6 to 8 p.m., with performances October 16 to 20. Fee for the class is \$219.

Scenes from classic Roald Dahl stories, like "James and the Giant Peach" and "Matilda," will be brought to stage for students age 8 through 11. Classes meet on Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. from September 7 through November 9, with performances November 14 through 16. Fee for the class is \$175.

"Dynamite – a Dinosaur Tail" features stories, poems and songs with a dinosaur theme for ages 4 through 7. Classes meet on Saturdays from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for students ages 4 to 5, and 10:30 to noon for ages 6 to 7 from September 14 through November 23, with performances December 6 through 8. Fee for the class is \$125.

Register for classes from noon to 6 p.m. through August 26 upstairs at the Commissary Mall on 138 South Kimball. For more information, please call 473-8470.

Audition for Alla Breve

Alla Breve, the select women's choir sponsored by the Children's Chorale, is holding auditions through Monday, August 26. Alla Breve is made up of 40 talented singers, many of whom sang in their high school or college choirs, and who are interested in performing challenging literature with a caring and fun group of ladies! Alla Breve rehearses on Monday evenings, 5:30 to 7 p.m, and presents a Holiday Concert, Spring Concert, and a weekend performance tour to Denver in April. For an audition time, please call 262-4709.

Not too late to ride the bus

Natrona County School District Transportation is still accepting bus requests. You can fill out a request on our website. Please allow 48 hours for the request to be processed. Please plan accordingly for the first few days of school and look for alternate transportation until your child has been scheduled.

Once it is processed, you will receive an email. You can also view your child's transportation schedule online through your Parent Portal in Infinite Campus.

If you need help with parent portal, you may call 253-5306 for assistance. Parent portal also gives you the option to update your address and other contact information including cell phone numbers and email addresses.

Please send any bus schedule questions to bus_help@natronaschools.org.

This Just In

[New to Town Crier.](#)

Register for RMSD dance

The 2013-2014 Dance Season is here. RMSD accepts registrations all year.

Rocky Mountain School of Dance offers Kinder Dance (for ages 2-5), Kinder Hop & Kinder Combo (for ages 4-5) Ballet, Pointe, Jazz, Tap, Contemporary, Modern, for students age 6-18, and both Latin & Standard Ballroom for students age 10-18. In addition we offer Adult Ballet, and Ballroom.

If you'd like a tour of our studio or would like to try a free class, please call us at 237.6792.

RMSD is the ONLY dance school in Casper that offers both Standard & Latin Ballroom for students age 10 to adult. Adults, bring a partner and receive a couples discount!

If you would like to register for dance classes please stop by the studio at 736 N. Glenn Road in Casper, or give us a call us at 237.6792

Registration Day: Sunday, August 25, 2013, 3 to 5 p.m. @ The RMSD Studio.

And of course you can register any time after the season starts on September 3, 2013 between 5 and 9 p.m., at the RMSD Studio, 736 N. Glenn Road.

Gold prospectors meet

The monthly meeting of the Casper chapter of the Gold Prospectors Association of America is

Wednesday, Aug. 28, at 7 p.m., at the new meeting place, the Wyoming Oil and Gas Commission Building, 2211 King Blvd. We will discuss the outings that took place in August and planning outings for September. For those people only interested in metal detecting, we will plan a special outing for them.

The result of July elections are Rick Messina, president; George Vandell, vice president; Terry Kipp, treasurer, and Carla Tillman, secretary.

Anyone interested in prospecting or metal detecting is welcome. If you have any questions, call Rick Messina at 234-0244.

Wolf dancers at trails Sept. 4

The National Historic Trails Interpretive Center is celebrating Native American culture and art with the Wolf Dancers of Wyoming Indian High School.

The event, free and open to the public, will take place Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 1 p.m. The celebration features approximately 10 Native American dancers and drummers.

The dancers and drummers will celebrate the closing of the Trails Center's temporary art show, "Resurgence of Native Spirit." The art show runs through Sept. 4, and includes 20 prints and 30 ceramic sculptures created by Wyoming Indian High School students.

Cleve Bell, art teacher at Wyoming Indian High School, coordinated the exhibit with his art students.

Bell worked closely with staff at the Trails Center to produce "Resurgence of Native Spirit." "This exhibit provided us the opportunity to show off the talent and creativity of young Native American artists," said Alex Rose, an interpreter at the Trails Center.

The art work is available for sale, with part of the proceeds benefiting the National Historic Trails Center Foundation.

This exhibit was made possible in part by the Rocky Mountain Nature Association.

For more information about the event, contact Alex Rose at 261-7780.

Open house, register at 307

If you're looking to start dance, try something new, or get back into dance, come to our Open House! If you are looking for a studio to belong to, then please take a look at 307 Dance Academy. You'll be hooked. We're holding an afternoon just for you and your dancer(s).

Sunday, August 25, from 2 to 4 p.m. at 225 N. Wolcott, you can meet our executive director Tina Silva, get a tour of our facility, enjoy some refreshments, face painting, and lots of information. You can meet some of our older dancers, watch some videos from past recitals and competitions too. We are the place for you. With drive, dedication, and determination, 307 Dance Academy is the place to dance in Casper.

If you are an existing dancer, then be at the studio for registration. Back to school isn't as

much fun as back-to-dance! Come August 28 and 29 from 4 to 8 p.m. at 225 N. Wolcott. Register, get your information, meet up with dance friends, grab a t-shirt and more. Meet the new staff and meet the new teachers. Get your dress codes, get your packet of information and get excited for the 2013-2014 dance season!

Cultural dinners at CC

The first cultural dinner for the 2013-2014 school year at Casper College will feature foods from Portugal on Thursday, Sept. 26 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Roberts Commons Cafeteria.

The dinner will feature what many consider to be Portugal's national dish, Caldo Verde, a delicious soup featuring thinly sliced kale, pureed potatoes and smoky pork sausage; Salada De Grao, a salad featuring chickpeas; Portuguese Vina Dosh, a main course featuring wine and garlic pork; Paella, a hearty main dish featuring chicken and a variety of colorful vegetables; Jagacita, a vegetarian main course featuring onions, rice, and beans; green beans and squash; and for desert, Portuguese Rice Pudding, a creamy and sweet dish garnished with cinnamon.

Other dinners scheduled for the school year are Indian on October 24, Japanese on February 13, Dutch on March 20, Lebanese on April 10, and Russian on May 1.

Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 3, both individual and ticket packages will go on sale, and remain on sale until Friday, Sept. 20. The cost for a ticket package, which includes tickets for all six meals, will be \$55 for adults and \$37.50 for children ages 7 to 12. Tickets for individual dinners are \$9.50 for adults and \$7 for children ages 7 to 12 when purchased in advance, and \$11 at the door. There is no charge for children 6 and under. Sales tax will be added to all ticket purchases.

According to Janet de Vries, Casper College Diversity Committee member, tickets may be purchased at the Casper College Business Office or the Gateway Café, both located on the third floor of the Gateway Building, as well as at Roberts Commons Cafeteria during regular meal times. Cash is accepted at all locations and credit cards are also accepted at the cafeteria and café.

Those attending the dinner are encouraged to use the new parking lots located to the southwest of Roberts Commons.

The cultural dinner series is sponsored by the Casper College Diversity Committee.

Pet Fest

Join the Casper Recreation Division and the Community Recreation Foundation in celebration of the furry, slimy or scaly loved ones in your life at the 2013 Pet Fest. This FREE event is open to all pets and their people and will include a costume contest at 10:30 a.m., pet talent contest and other surprises. The Pet Fest will be held at Washington Park in the grassy area southeast of the outdoor pool on Saturday, September 14, from 10 a.m. to noon. Pets must be under control and on a leash or in a kennel and must be accompanied by owner at all times.

In addition to the contests for pets and their owners, pet-related vendors are invited to come and show their wares, provide information booths, or have demonstrations throughout the

event. Prospective vendors may contact Lori Spearman by phone at 235-8473 or email lspearman@cityofcasperwy.com for more information.

For additional information about this event, please call the Casper Recreation Center at 235-8383 or visit the City of Casper's website, www.casperwy.gov.

Be a responsible dog owner

Those with dogs are invited to stick around and celebrate AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day with the Central Wyoming Kennel Club on September 14, 10 a.m., to 4 p.m.

The goal of this initiative, supported by the American Kennel Club, is to educate first time dog owners about the responsibilities of dog ownership and help current owners enhance their relationships with their pets.

Dogs and their owners can participate in doggie games with great prizes, raffles, a Conformation and Obedience and Rally Fun Match, micro chipping from 8:00-10:00 am for only \$15 and CGC (Canine Good Citizen) Testing from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$10.

AKC RDO Day is a month-long celebration that involves hundreds of organizations around the country holding free events filled with fun and engaging activities every dog owner can enjoy. To learn more about AKC RDO Day, visit www.akc.org or www.centralwyomingkennelclub.org.

Family movie at library

Family Movie Night will be held at the Natrona County Public Library Tuesday, August 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the Crawford room. Monthly Family Nights include family-friendly activities and dinner provided by the Friends of the Library. Both families and individuals are welcome to attend. Your library is committed to offering programs that strengthen families and our community. For this month's movie title please call 577-READ ext. 2.

Grow It Forward judging

Grow It Forward ends with a container gardening and patio flower competition.

Casper Housing Authority's tenants received seeds and soil in late May 2013, and created their own vegetable and/or floral garden, which will be judged by our Board of Commissioners, (appointed by the City of Casper).

The purpose of the project is to encourage healthy eating, and knowledge of food production. Five winning participants will receive nearly \$3,000 in prizes donated by Casper area businesses.

The Board of Commissioners will meet at the Casper Housing Authority office located at 1514 E. 12th St. Ste. 105 at 6 p.m., Thursday, August 29, 2013, and will then set out to judge the gardens.

For more information, please contact Amanda at ahuckabay@chaoffice.org or 266.1388 ex. 35.

Striders host free family run

The Windy City Striders will host a 3K (1.86 miles) River Fest family fun run/walk this Saturday, August 24, at 10 a.m. at Crossroads Park/Mike Lansing Field. All running/walking ability levels are welcome to participate in this run being held in conjunction with the River Fest and the Duck Derby. Registration will start at 9 a.m. There is no cost to participate in this run.

Thursday afternoon bowling

Thursday Bowling: Need teams (three lady) or individuals to bowl on our Thursday afternoon bowling league from 1 to 3 p.m. at El Marko Lanes. If you want to have fun during our long winter days, please contact me soon at 262-1887 or 265-8824. Nadine Orszulak

Fall hours for adult learning

Fall 2013 hours for the Adult Learning Center at Casper College, which provides instruction in both adult basic education instruction and English as a Second Language, have been announced. The new hours will go into effect on Monday, Aug. 26.

The center will be open on Mondays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. A mandatory new student orientation for GED students will be held every Tuesday at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. The center is closed on Fridays and weekends.

“The Adult Learning Center offers free assessment and instruction to out-of-school adult students, 16 years old and older, who need to improve their basic reading, writing, science, social studies, and math skills in order to reach their educational and employment goals,” said Lisa Mixer, Adult Learning Center programs coordinator.

According to Mixer, assessment and instruction is also offered for those whose native language is not English through the center’s English as a Second Language program. “Individual and small group instruction is available for all levels of survival English and includes civics,” she noted.

All programs offered at the center, which is open-entry, open-exit, are free of charge. The Adult Learning Center at Casper College is located in the Werner Technical Center on the Casper College campus.

For more information stop by the Casper College Adult Learning Center or call the center at 268-2230.

Beta Sigma Phi starts

"Beginning Day" is here for members of the Epsilon Master chapter of Beta Sigma Phi. A salad party will be held on Tuesday, August 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the home of President Louise Bishop.

The upcoming year's activities will be discussed including the Wyoming State Convention to be held in Cody Sept. 13 to 15. Information: Louise, 265-5776.

Rib Fest Sept. 21

The Casper Shrine Club Boosters are sponsoring Rib Fest 2013 at the Casper Shrine Club located behind the Sunrise Shopping Center on Saturday, September 21, 2013, from 5 to 7 p.m. There will be a meet and greet from 4 to 5. For this event, the Boosters will be serving up succulent baby back pork ribs, beef ribs, and chicken along with all the fixings. This year's Pit Master, Jon Dannels (Cost Plus) along with Jake Crowder will be manning the grill to produce some of the best tasting ribs and chicken this side of the Mississippi River. The cost for this year's Rib Fest 2013 is \$20/person and children under 10 years old are half price. Tickets cannot be purchased at the door. To purchase your tickets to Rib Fest 2013 contact any Shrine Club Booster or call Dale at 262-9696 or Mike at 262-9005.

Shane Shatto walk/run Aug. 30

The 11th annual Shane Shatto Memorial Remember the Wyoming 8 Walk/Run is at the new Cross Country Track in Douglas on Friday, August 30. The 5k and 10k Walk/Run fee is \$20 and includes a T-shirt and you are eligible for the many door prizes. Registration is at the high school football field and begins at 6:30 p.m., and the Walk/Run starts at 7:30 p.m. This is a night run but not in total darkness and refreshments will be provided. Proceeds will help fund the Shane Shatto Memorial Scholarship, in the name of Shane Shatto, a Douglas graduate who died in 2001 by a drunk driver. The scholarship is awarded to a Douglas High School athlete. Morgan Squires was the 2013 recipient of the scholarship. For more information, call Kerry Shatto, 359-3211 or Margo Shatto at 359-0723.

Special concert closes series

The final concert in the "Wednesday Night Live" concert series will feature the Jalan Crossland Band and John Kirlin and the High Plains Drifters on Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2013, beginning at 5:30 p.m. outside the Nicolaysen Art Museum. The concert, which is expected to last until 9:30 p.m., is free and vendors will also be on hand to sell food and beverages.

Raffle tickets for a chance to win a week's stay in a luxury Costa Rican condo, a \$100 Grant Street Grocery gift certificate, and a bottle of the premier edition of Wyoming Whiskey, will also be available for purchase. Proceeds from the sale will benefit both The Nic and the Casper College Alumni Association. The drawing will take place on September 28.

A perennial favorite of Casper audiences, Crossland and his band play what Crossland refers to as "Bottom 40 Country," a combination of Americana, folk, and roots country.

John Kirlin and the High Plains Drifters is a four-piece bluegrass band composed of Kirlin on mandolin and lead vocals, Gabe Dunbar on guitar, Chris Campbell on bass, and Andrew Boyle on drums. The band plays a combination of country, bluegrass, and roots music.

"We thought this would be a great opportunity to not only support The Nic and Casper College, but also to help provide a nice finale to this great concert series for the community. This will be a rare treat for the community to be able to come out and hear these two groups at the same

venue” said Elliott Ramage, associate director of donor relations for the Casper College Foundation.

“The End of Summer Wednesday Night Live Finale” concert is supported by Hilltop National Bank, The Nicolaysen Art Museum, the Casper College Alumni Association, and the Casper College Foundation.

Community fishing pond opens to public

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department announces the opening of a new community fishing pond now available to the public.

Jessica’s Pond, located next to Speas Fish Hatchery approximately 10 miles west of Casper, is now open for fishing. The pond is wheelchair accessible and has a fishing platform. Work is ongoing to develop a footbridge, benches and a path around the pond. The final stages should be completed in September. Anglers should park at the Wyoming Fly Casters Memorial Access Area parking lot just before the entrance to the fish hatchery.

Jessica’s Pond is stocked with rainbow, brook, brown, and cutthroat trout. The community fishery is open for all anglers. Statewide fishing regulations and general creel limits apply. Anglers over age 14 must possess a valid fishing license and conservation stamp.

A dedication of Jessica’s Pond is planned for later this fall.

Audition for 'Singin' in the Rain'

The Casper College Theatre and Dance Department will hold auditions for its fall musical “Singin’ in the Rain” on Tuesday, August 27 at 7 p.m. on the McMurry Mainstage.

According to Richard Burk, director, the stage musical is based on the now classic 1952 MGM musical of the same name. “Hollywood in the 1920s is the setting for this light-hearted romantic musical comedy about the early days of sound motion pictures. This musical features songs like ‘Fit as a Fiddle,’ ‘You are my Lucky Star’ and of course the title song. ‘Singin’ in the Rain’ is a faithful adaptation of the hit movie and is filled with hilarious situations, snappy dialogue, and great fun,” said Burk.

For those wanting to audition, two free workshops -- one on dancing and the other on singing -- will be offered on Monday, Aug. 26. Each workshop will be run twice, at 7 and again at 8:30 p.m. to allow those wishing to attend both the ability to do so.

No prior sign-up is required to audition, but those auditioning are asked to prepare a verse and refrain from any upbeat song. Roles are available for singers, dancers, and older nonsingers. Burk noted that there are no roles for children in the musical.

“Singin’ in the Rain” will be performed on the McMurry Mainstage October 10 through 12 and 16 through 19 at 7:30 p.m. with a 2 p.m. performance on October 20.

The McMurry Mainstage is located in the Gertrude Krampert Theatre Complex. For more information contact the front office at 268-2365 or email at arlish@caspercollege.edu.

Grownup Stuff

Fun stuff geared to adults.

Senior dance Aug. 24

Senior Dance is scheduled at the Eagles Hall, 306 N. Durbin St., Saturday, August 24, 2013, 7 to 10 p.m., with potluck snacks at 8 p.m. Coffee and ice water are available. Dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by Casper's own SwingSounds Band. SwingSounds Band provides dancing and listening entertainment featuring Western oldies, Western and Pop Swing, Oldies but Goodies, Pop and Jazz. Senior dances are not just for seniors but if you are not a senior be prepared to get a work out keeping up with these hearty seniors. Admission is \$5 per person. Entrance will be at the north door in the parking lot of the Eagles Lodge.

Robbie Daniels -- 235-5130

Ladies Nite Sept. 27

The 10th Ladies Nite is set for Friday, Sept. 27, from 6 to 9 p.m., at the Ramada Plaza Riverside. More than 30 vendors are expected for this evening of munching, shopping, networking and relaxing. Munchies are free and the first 50 women get a rose. Everyone gets a ticket for a complimentary drink and an entry into the grand prize drawing. Men are welcome, but leave the children and minors at home as this is an adult-oriented event. For more information, call Ann McDaniel at 258-2533.

Monthly vets ceremony Aug. 30

The Natrona County United Veterans Council, the staff of the Oregon Trail Wyoming State Veteran's Cemetery, and the Wyoming Army National Guard Honor Guard conduct a monthly memorial service for those known Wyoming veterans who have died since our last memorial service which was held on July 31, when we honored 63 Wyoming veterans.

This month's memorial service will be held at noon, Friday August 30, in the Tom Walsh Chapel at The Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery, Evansville. All are welcome to attend.

This memorial service is provided on behalf of a grateful state and nation as an expression of appreciation for the honorable and faithful service rendered by each of these veterans.

The veteran's name, Wyoming community, and branch of service is read at roll call. There is a rifle salute, taps, and the folding of a flag.

Civic Chorale sets season

Casper Civic Chorale will present three concerts in its first season under the baton of Steve Grussendorf. The first concert is to be held on October 22, 2013, featuring American folk songs and spirituals. The December 17, 2013, concert, "Christmas Music You Can Handel," features

familiar Christmas selections and parts from Messiah. Chorale will end the season with the Spring 2014 Concert on April 29.

Casper Civic Chorale was established in 1972 by Wayne McIntire, along with Donna McIntire as the accompanist, as a non-profit, non-audition community chorus. The Chorale has presented three or four major concerts every season with a wide variety of music performed and accompaniments ranging from Chamber Orchestra to Pop/Swing ensembles.

We are a dedicated assembly of voices committed to presenting quality choral music for the pleasure and enrichment of our audiences in Casper and other communities. The Chorale has traveled to many cities and countries on concert tours. Members of the Chorale represent a wide spectrum of occupations and backgrounds. We do have a love of music and performance as a common interest. Our rehearsals are challenging, but lots of fun, too. Check us out on info@caspercivicchorale.com.

We are always in need of new singers and we would be happy to invite you to join us. The only requirements are having a knowledge of singing and a dedication to Tuesday night rehearsals at 7 p.m., in the NCHS choir room. For more information, call Mark at 237-1946.

Sing with Meadowlarks

Do you like to sing? Come join the Meadowlarks (senior singers). We have fun, fun. Meet on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m., at the Senior Center on 4th Street next to the Rec Center. To join the Senior Center, you must be 60 years old.

Evening in the Word

Evening in the Word, a women's nondenominational Bible Study, will be starting off on Tuesday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. with Beth Moore's "Sacred Secrets: A Living Proof Experience." Sacred Secrets is a new six-session study that explores secrets -- some forgiven, some covered, and some just between you and God. Meet us at Highland Park Community Church in room 1321. For more information, contact Gwen at 262-0719. "Like us" on Facebook.

New shows at gallery

The Casper Artists' Guild at the West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th Street, is pleased to present the Nineteenth Annual International Miniature Art Show and the 3rd Annual Photography Show. This wonderful display of photos by some of our very talented local photographers and miniature artwork by local and out of state artists will be on display until August 31.

Free and open to the public. Regular gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

Veterans and Obamacare

A recent bulletin from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs answers a big question that has been bothering veterans, namely whether they must comply with the new federal health law. Here is what the VA says about that subject.

What is the Affordable Care Act? The Affordable Care Act, also known as the health care law, was created to expand access to coverage, control health care costs and improve health care quality and care coordination. The health care law does not change VA health benefits or Veterans' out-of-pocket costs.

Three things you should know:

VA wants all veterans to receive health care that improves their health and well-being.

If you are enrolled in VA health care, you don't need to take additional steps to meet the health care law coverage standards. The health care law does not change VA health benefits or Veterans' out-of-pocket costs.

If you are not enrolled in VA health care, you can apply at any time.

Stan Lowe

Fundraisers

[Helping folks raise money.](#)

Harvest of Hope features Dravecky

Central Wyoming Rescue Mission invites the community to attend an evening of fellowship with other compassionate friends at their 2013 Harvest of Hope Banquet on Thursday, September 19.

The banquet will be held at Highland Park Church, 5725 Highland Drive, and begins at 6 p.m.

Guests will enjoy a delicious meal and an inspiring message from major league baseball pitcher, author and cancer survivor Dave Dravecky.

The event is the cornerstone of the Mission's Harvest of Hope campaign, through which the organization raises a significant portion of their annual donated income. The Mission hopes to secure \$80,000 toward the total campaign goal of \$400,000.

Those who wish to attend may contact our Development Staff at 268-4474 or tanya@cwrm.org for reservations, sponsorship opportunities and additional information.

Golf helps CASA, rescues

CK Mechanical is hosting the first Canines and Kids Golf Tournament on Friday, August 30, at the Paradise Valley Country Club, 9 a.m. shotgun start to a best ball tournament to benefit CASA of Natrona County and Black Dog Animal Rescue.

Get out, enjoy some golf and support a couple of awesome organizations at the same time. The weather should be great with an equally great cause. There will be hole prizes, cash awards to the top three teams and lots of other fun surprises throughout the day.

Teams are \$400 each (40 team max). To register your team, visit our website at www.ckmechanicalph.com. For information on how to sponsor the event, please call Shelly at 473.8448.

Woods holds parking lot sale

Woods Learning Center is holding a huge parking lot sale on Saturday, August 24, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., 500 S. Walsh. This is a fundraising event for the 4th & 5th grade students' 2014 trip to Washington D.C. You will find lots of books, clothing, household goods and homemade crafts. The students will also be selling flower bulbs, popcorn, pizza and other fun fundraising items. We are also seeking donations of items for the sale. If you're looking to finally get rid of that stuff in your garage, please call Jen at 277-5402 for pick up!!

Jen Miner -- 233-6603

Paint a bowl for Wyo CARES

Pottery By You, 1627 E. 2nd St., is hosting an opportunity to paint a miso or square bowl during the month of September for \$10. Bowls will be donated to the Wyoming CARES Ladies Soup Bowl Luncheon in November. Wyoming CARES is a statewide nonprofit agency with mission to provide assistance to Wyoming residents in need. For more information about the bowl painting, call Pottery By You at 472-9087.

Family Fun Day Sept. 7

Wyoming CARES hosts a Family Fun Day on Saturday, Sept. 7, that includes 18 holes of miniature golf at Old Town and or a one-mile route and a 5K walk/run route along the river. Check-in is at 8:30 a.m., and golfing and walking begins at 9:30 a.m. A minimum \$10 donation is requested to participate. Relay teams are welcome. Prizes start at \$25 in donations or pledges. For more information, call Wyoming CARES at 237-7035.

Quilt raffle at Pathfinder

The Pathfinder Boat and Fishing Club is raffling a designer quilt crafted of a fun variety of "flip flop" sandals, hand made by Mary Ellen Gorsuch of Torrington. It is on display at Pathy's Pantry at the Pathfinder Marina. This quilt is truly an original piece of craftsmanship.

Tickets can be purchased at Pathy's Pantry or by calling Dan Smallwood at 262-9825. The tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

The drawing for the quilt will be held Labor Day weekend during Pathfinder Marina's Customer Appreciation Day on Sunday, September 1. There will be FREE hamburgers and hot dogs for the public, beginning at noon. You need not be present to win.

Pizza for Joshua's

High Plains Pizza, Inc. of Casper and Joshua's Storehouse are offering a FUNdraiser Card for Casper and Wyoming only.

This is not part of the "National Campaign" that you see on TV.

That campaign is not valid in Wyoming.

A \$10 FUNdraiser Card is good for 1 large pizza with up to 3 toppings, or a specialty pizza, a \$15 value, for only \$10.

This is helping to raise money for Joshua's Storehouse and their goal to help the hungry of Casper.

Please call 265-0242 for tickets and/or send a check to Joshua's Storehouse for the number of cards that you would like. Your tickets will be sent to you in the next day's mail.

Staples helps BGCCW

This summer, Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Staples are teaming up with teen actor Jake T. Austin, for the 6th annual Staples for Students national school supply drive, to help kids get the tools they need to build great futures.

Until September 28, Staples customers can donate \$1 or more at their local Staples store with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting local students at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming. Boys & Girls Clubs of America's mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need it most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. The Staples for Students school supply drive supports this mission by helping young people return to school prepared to learn and succeed.

The local Staples store to make a donation is located at 4160 E. 2nd Street.

To kick-start the campaign, Staples will donate \$125,000 worth of school supplies to the program this year. Staples and the Boys & Girls Clubs of America will ensure that all of the donations get to the local Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming in time for the new school year. Since 2008, the campaign has raised nearly \$3 million for hundreds of thousands of students in need throughout the country.

PEO sells Wyoming throws

PEO is selling Wyoming throws. The throw is a perfect gift for any occasion. The 100 percent cotton 4-foot by 6-foot throw designed by Casper PEO members, exhibits images of Wyoming in a multi-colored design. All proceeds from the sales support PEO projects to help educate women through grants, loans and scholarships. More than 80,000 women have been recipients of PEO projects. To purchase or order a Wyoming throw, call Becky at 259-3350.

Help Yourself

Stuff to help you.

Free yoga for veterans

Free Yoga classes for Veterans at Healthy Life Studio. You have served our country and we would like to show our appreciation by offering free Yoga classes every Wednesday at 3 p.m. Participate with other veterans in this hour-long practice and learn how to rest, relax and restore your energy and peace of mind. Join the thousands of Veterans all over the United States who have discovered the peaceful, calming, benefits of a yoga practice. Simple breathing techniques, basic yoga poses, and meditation are used so that you can feel refreshed and calm after each practice. No previous experience in necessary. Classes are taught by Theresa Wiegand and are for all vets, combat or non. If you have questions please call Colleen Hilton at Healthy Life Studio, 472-1962.

Free vision screenings

Jensen Eye Care is offering a no-cost, no-obligation vision screening for school-age children (5 to 18) every Thursday afternoon between 3 and 5 p.m. through the month of August.

Vision is so important to the learning process and because many school-age children have undiagnosed vision problems, Jensen Eye Care has committed Thursday afternoon's to screening school age children for vision problems. Even though the school systems screen for vision problems, there are vision problems that can't be diagnosed with in-school testing programs.

Farsighted children are often the children who work below their potential in school and sometimes are misdiagnosed as having attention deficit disorders or hyperactivity issues. School screenings do a pretty good job of detecting nearsighted children, but farsighted children are very difficult to diagnose without proper equipment and training.

If you would like your child to participate in this free screening, call 265-7008 to reserve a time.

Cancer support meets weekly

A Cancer Support Group meets every Tuesday from 6:45 to 8 p.m. at First United Methodist

Church of Casper, 332 E. 2nd, in the SonRise Room just inside the breezeway doors. This summer the group is reading "Chicken Soup for the Soul: The Cancer Book," for spiritual support of cancer clients/survivors. Rev. Steve Burnett facilitates the conversation. The public is welcomed, and there is no fee. Call 234-9385 for further information.

Bereavement support begins

Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions is starting a six-week support group for those grieving the loss of a loved one. The group starts Monday, September 23, from 6 to 7 p.m. at 319 S. Wilson Street.

This free group offers a safe and supportive place to process grief and learn coping strategies. Participants share experiences and learn they are not alone. The group will be led by bereavement coordinator Tisa Sucher, LCSW.

Group size is limited. To enroll in the group or learn more about Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions, call 577-4832.

Caregiver support meets

Wyoming Dementia Care offers both daytime and evening Alzheimer's Caregiver Support groups. The daytime support group for caregivers meets on the first and third Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at Central Wyoming Senior Services, 1831 E. 4th St. The evening group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Park Place Assisted Living, 1930 E. 12th St.

Caregivers are welcome to bring their loved ones along to the day and evening support group sessions. Professional staff from Caring Hands of Wyoming, Park Place and Meadow Wind will be on hand to offer separate activities and snacks for those who need care.

There is no charge for Wyoming Dementia Care's support groups or for the respite care provided during the approximately one hour long sessions.

For information, email wyodementia@casperseniorcenter.com or call Dani Guerttman at 265-4678.

Suicide Survivor's Support Group

A Suicide Survivor's Support Group meets the first and third Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 8 p.m., at 1032 E. First Street. For information, please contact Traci Gardner 233-4277.

Depression recovery starts Sept. 9

A depression recovery program starts Monday, September 9, 6:30 p.m., at the 12-24 Club, 500 S. Wolcott. Please join us for a nine session program that works! Learn how you can understand and manage your emotions. Learn how to recognize distorted thoughts, and correct them before problems arise. Learn how to know if depression or another cause is

creating a lack of energy, and the best way to achieve restorative rest and rejuvenation. Learn the necessary conditions for the brain to produce serotonin adequately. Discover how emotional intelligence is more important in life than IQ and more! For more information, call Eric Mechalke at 251-1453.

Summer clearance at Methodist thrift

Fall is rapidly approaching with cooler temperatures and school activities.

However, there will be many warm days to wear summer clothes. So now is the time to shop the Methodist thrift store located at 611 W. Collins for items at clearance prices.

We begin our sale with all merchandise and clothing at half price. The prices get smaller with time BUT so does the selection. Watch the window signs for details.

We will be closed Monday, Sept. 2, to observe Labor Day, then open Sept. 3, 4, and 7.

We will close Sept. 9 to 14 to clean and stock fall merchandise with re-opening Monday, Sept 16.

Don't let the construction zone around us keep you away -- we are open.

Our hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Donations accepted during open store hours. For more information, call 234-6611.

Breaking the Silence Walk

Saturday, September, 7, at Crossroads Park at 4 p.m., the 10th annual Breaking the Silence Walk will be held. Participants will be walking for suicide prevention, awareness, and support. There is a free barbecue from Johnny J's for the first 300. For more information, please contact Traci Gardner at 233-4277.

Task Force meets

The Natrona County Suicide Prevention Task Force meets the second Tuesday of each month at 8 a.m. at Mercer Family Resource Center, 535 W. Yellowstone. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Traci Gardner, 233-4277.

Free classes at health dept.

The City of Casper-Natrona County Health Department in partnership with the Blue Envelope Health Fund and the Natrona County Medical Reserve Corps will be offering free* CPR and first aid classes at our facility, 475. S. Spruce, during the following dates and times:

Healthcare Provider Course for nurses, EMT's, CNA's, etc.: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., September 26, October 17, December 12.

Heartsaver CPR and first aid for the general public and childcare providers: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.,

September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5.

Please sign up at <http://casperhealth.eventbrite.com> or call 577-9751. If you need a class for a large group, please call 577-9751.

*Cost for the class is free for initial certification and on a sliding scale for renewal classes.

Beginning Experience Weekend

Beginning Experience of Wyoming is a weekend program that offers healing and renewal to divorced, widowed, and separated men and women. It is a nonprofit, faith-based comprehensive program offered to all persons, regardless of religious preference. The weekend can be a time for a real awakening, a re-evaluation and a new beginning. Beginning Experience is a positive experience of hope. You can anticipate an intense reflective, possibly painful but spiritually honest self-encounter.

The next Beginning Experience Weekend is in Douglas and starts at 7 p.m., on Friday, Sept. 13, and runs through Sunday afternoon, Sept. 15. Cost is \$150, which includes sleeping arrangements, meals and materials. Partial scholarships are available. Registration deadline is Sept. 10, 2013. For more information, call Curtis at 463-2677; Rick at 265-3201; Diane at 262-4142 or Sandi at 266-4340.

Free class at library

Natrona County Public Library offers basic computer classes monthly to help you navigate the computer, the internet, and basic programs such as Microsoft Word. Additional classes are given periodically on topics like social media, using Google and genealogy. All classes are held in the Tech Center at the main library in downtown Casper, offered free on a first come, first served basis. Please stop by the library's Reference Desk or call 577-READ ext. 2 to learn more about computer classes at your library.

Wednesday, Aug. 28, Facebook & Twitter, 3-5 p.m.

Women's Expo vendor space

Do you have a product or service that appeals to women? Exhibit space is now available for the 2013 Wyoming Women's Expo to be held at the Casper Events Center on Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5, 2013. Exhibitor booth reservation forms can be downloaded at www.WyomingWomensExpo.com.

This event is a great opportunity for women of all demographics to attend a show for inspiration, education, empowerment, health and beauty, food, fun, and of course, a little shopping. We know women attend the show for a variety of reasons and 2013 will again offer a diverse and balanced group of activities, resources, and of course you -- the exhibitor!

Space is limited, so don't delay in reserving your space. Regular booth prices start as low as \$255. Call Kendra Ziler at 235-8441, by email: kziler@cityofcasperwy.com; or visit www.WyomingWomensExpo.com to reserve your space now.

Wyoming Women's Expo hours are Friday, October 4, from 4 to 9:30 p.m., and Saturday, October 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday's activities include a professional development luncheon and seminars from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and 2 to 4 p.m.; trade show from 4 to 8 p.m.; Girls Night Out from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., and comedian Lisa Landry from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Saturday's activities include the Ta Ta Trot 5 K Breast Cancer Awareness Walk/Run registration at 7 a.m. and Walk/Run begins at 8 a.m., then the trade show, and Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$20 for Friday (all ages); \$5 for Saturday (Children ages 12 and under free); \$22 for two-day pass. For more information, please call 235-8441 or www.WyomingWomensExpo.com.

The Wyoming Women's Expo is produced by the Casper Star-Tribune, the Casper Events Center, and Townsquare Media.

Calling all crafters!

Garden Square Assisted Living will host the "Homemade with Love" craft fair and bake sale on Saturday, September 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables can be purchased for only \$20. All proceeds will benefit a local family struggling to pay medical expenses. We need crafters offering handmade items at reasonable prices. All baked goods must be non-perishable. All participants will be asked to donate an item for a raffle. The donation of a quilt for the raffle would be greatly appreciated! To reserve a table or for more information, please call 472-1153 and ask for Denise or Andrea. Be a participant in the first craft fair of the season and help a local family!

CC offers wilderness medicine

The Casper College Center for Training and Development is offering the two-day "Wilderness Medicine Institute" (CEU 0402 70) October 12 and 13, 2013 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

"Whether spending time in the backcountry is a person's passion or their profession, they should never have to ask, 'What do I do now,'" said Ann Dalton, workforce training specialist.

According to Dalton, the WMI is a "fast-paced, hands-on class for trip leaders, camp staff, outdoor enthusiasts, and people who spend time in remote locations."

The WMI will cover a wide range of wilderness medicine topics including advanced topics that other programs leave out such as dislocation reduction and epinephrine administration, said Dalton. "Students will gain the knowledge, skills, and ability to make sound decisions in an emergency."

The class will be taught by personnel from the National Outdoor Leadership School and is approved by the American Camping Association and the U.S. Forest Service. The cost of the class is \$250 per person.

For more information or to register contact Dalton 268-2085, or adalton@caspercollege.edu

'Hands on' massage therapy class

A hands-on class for both massage and movement therapists will be offered at Casper College September 27 through 29 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

According to Theresa Tobin Macy, instructor, the class, "Advanced Corrective Therapies" (CEU 1380 70), will focus "on learning a foundational cross fiber friction stroke with an emphasis on attaining depth not increasing pressure and to sequentially soften superficial muscles sinking to the level of restriction in the deeper layers."

According to Macy, the lecture portion "will include computerized animations as a visual tool to expand knowledge of muscle action, fiber direction, agonist/antagonist relationships and strain patterns. Once identified, the class will focus on navigating through superficial tissue to isolate and treat deep myofascial layers," she said.

Macy is a 2003 graduate of the Professional Massage Therapy Program at the Pennsylvania School of Muscle Therapy and earned her certification in deep muscle cross fiber therapy from the Pfrimmer Institute. Macy has accrued more than 900 hours in continuing education credit with a focus in myofascial release for children and adults, deep tissue techniques, and assessment skills. She joined the faculty at Cortiva Institute in 2008 as an instructor of massage therapy and musculoskeletal anatomy and kinesiology and also teaches professional ethics, deep tissue refresher, and body mechanic in the Cortiva Institute Continuing Education Program.

The cost for the class is \$375 per person. Those successfully completing the seminar will earn 2.1 continuing education units. To register or for more information contact Macy at 610-730-3960 or Theresa@inhmassage.com.

Classes/workshops at West Wind

The watercolor classes will meet at the West Wind Gallery on the first Saturday of the month -- September 7, 9 a.m. to noon. No charge for these sessions as there will be no demonstrations. Just a good time to paint together. Please call Ellen Black at 265-6783 if you have questions about these sessions.

For more information or questions please contact: West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th St., 265-2655. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

Family Stuff

Fun stuff for the whole family.

Historic home open

The Historic Bishop Home, 818 East 2nd Street, is open every Monday and Thursday in August. Hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursdays.

The Bishop family home, Casper's only historic home open for touring and events, was constructed in 1907 in the Capitol Hill Addition during the city's first boom time. The home is the first multi-story brick house built in Casper, moving the building trend of modest bungalows to larger, more upscale homes (considered mansions in 1907). The home resides in its original location on a hill overlooking downtown Casper. The contractor was W. T. Evans, founder of Evansville, Wyoming. The Bishop Home is believed to be his first venture into large-scale family homes. Step into this beautiful Four-Square Prairie Style home and learn some of Casper's most fascinating history about the life and times of one of the city's original pioneer families.

Parking is available on Lincoln and Jefferson Street. Limited parking is available in the home's driveway for people with disabilities.

Bloody Mary Festival

The first Bloody Mary Festival will be held in Glenrock's Kimball Park on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Adults 21 and older will choose the "People's Choice Award." There will be door prizes, live entertainment, food and beverage vendors, and a Kids Carnival. The \$10 cover charge allows you to sample from all of the contestants and their version of the Best Bloody Mary in Wyoming. Once you have found your favorite, tickets are available to purchase your favorite full-size Bloody or Virgin Mary. Don't forget to bring your ID!

Kids Carnival is a \$10 bracelet which entitles kids to all of the fun and activities of the carnival, including popcorn and cotton candy.

The event is sponsored by Glenrock Main Street and Grand Teton Vodka.

Master Gardeners Farmer's Market

Vegetables, fruits, herbs, plants, cut flowers, baked goods, olive oil, jam, garden decor, and much, much more are all available at the Master Gardeners Farmers' Markets. Each week, there will be new vendors with additional items for sale.

The Farmers' Market will be held every Saturday through September 28, from 7:30 a.m. until noon or sold out on the grounds of the Agricultural Resource Learning Center, 2011 Fairgrounds Rd.

There will be a Master Gardeners table staffed by Master Gardeners offering their expertise on all gardening questions and concerns. For more information, call the Master Gardeners at 235-9400, ext. 29. For vendor information, call Chrysty at 473-5738.

Trails Center adjusts hours

The National Historic Trails Interpretive Center has revised its schedule for August.

The NHTIC will be open Tuesday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for the month of August. The NHTIC will be closed on Sundays and Mondays.

For more information, please call the NHTIC at 261-7780.

Fort opens Hollywood in Wyoming exhibit

Hollywood's fascination with Wyoming is evident in its frequent use of the state's vast and beautiful landscape, which has been featured in more than 120 films to date. The rolling hills, snow-capped Tetons, and broad plains have served as a backdrop for movies starting in 1904 with Wyoming Roundup. Traditional Western themes represent a large percentage of the films made in Wyoming, however many movies with other themes have also used Wyoming as a backdrop.

Fort Caspar Museum, 4001 Fort Caspar Rd., has installed a temporary exhibit featuring thirty movie posters from films that were shot in Wyoming. The posters represent almost 100 years of movies, beginning with westerns such as the 1917 Douglas Fairbanks film, "The Man from Painted Post," and Tim McCoy's 1926 film, "Warpaint." There are posters from science fiction films like "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" (1977) and "Starship Troopers" (1997), comedies such as the Three Stooges' 1965 movie, "Outlaws is Coming," and contemporary films like "Powwow Highway" (1989) and "Flicka" (2006).

The posters are on view now through October 5, 2013. For more information, please contact the museum at 235-8462 or check the Fort Caspar Museum website, www.fortcasparwyoming.com. The museum is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily in August and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily in September. Admission fees are adults \$3; youth (13 to 18 years) \$2; and children 12 & under free.

Bar Nunn Market

The Park and Recreation Department of Bar Nunn is hosting a Market on Saturday, Aug. 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Antelope Park. Booth spaces are \$10. The purpose is to bring the community together for a family fun event. Crafts, unique businesses, politicians, food vendors and others are welcome to participate. Bar Nunn is looking forward to showcasing local talent. For more information, call Laura Redmond at 406-570-4510.

9-11 ceremony Sept. 9

The Natrona County United Veterans Council will conduct a commemorative ceremony honoring 9-11 in the Tom Walsh Chapel at the Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2013.

The master of ceremonies will be Chief Kenny King of the Casper Fire Department, the invocation and benediction will be given by Dave Mondle, chaplain for the Casper Fire Department; the National Anthem will be performed by Mersadis Barells, the Pledge of

Allegiance will be led by Cecil V. Barnes, president of the Veterans Council.

Comments will be made by Deputy State Fire Marshall Mark Young (former chief of the Casper Fire Department). Young's comments will be followed by Chief King and Chief Chris Walsh of the Casper Police Department honoring the fallen. They will read the names of all first responders across the nation that have fallen in the line of duty since the ceremony last year. There will be a rifle salute provided by the Natrona County High School JR. ROTC after which the Casper Fire Department Bagpipes will pipe the traditional "Amazing Grace."

The public is strongly encouraged to attend and honor all who come to mind in remembrance of 9-11.

UU events

The public is invited to attend the services and other events of the Unitarian Universalist Community of Casper. Services are held Sundays at 9 a.m. at the UCC Church at 1511 S. Melrose.

On August 25, in a change in location, the annual UU Casper fall kick-off picnic will be held at Sage Park at 2200 E. 15th Street (instead of Washington Park), and will start at 10:30 a.m. instead of the regular service time. Hamburgers will be served and participants are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

On September 1, guest speakers Judy Trohkemoinen and Josh Thompson will address Workers' Right and the spiritual implications of a fair workplace. During regular church services childcare and youth activities are available, with discussion and refreshments following the service.

The next monthly Share N Care Potluck is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Participants are asked to bring a dish to share and their own table service and beverage. For more information about these events or Unitarian Universalism, visit uucasper.org or call Laura at 259-4469.

High Holy Days observance

To those of the Jewish community and communion, as well as to those who are Torah observant and adhere strictly to the principle that God is One and His name is One; that God is not physical and that no physical attributes can apply to Him; and that God is the only One to whom it is proper to pray and that it is improper to pray to any other. Please note that the High Holy Days are early this year. Rosh Hashanah (the New Year) begins the evening of Sept. 4, the morning of Sept. 5, Sept. 6 (Sabbath evening) and that Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) begins the evening of Sept. 13 (Kol Nidrei) and concludes Sept. 14 (all day). Consult our website, (jewishcasper.org), for times of services at Temple Beth El and for related information

on the Holy Days. Rabbi Sam Wiseman will speak on several disparate Torah portions which emphasize obedience to God's commandments and ordinances, their meaning and where they lead.

Sam Wiseman, General Secretary, Jewish Community Association of Casper and Rabbi, Temple Beth El

Riverfest, Duck Derby Aug. 24

2013 Riverfest is scheduled for Saturday, August 24, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Crossroads Playground. Riverfest is Casper's very own river festival! Begun in 1992 as a celebration of the completion of the newest segment of riverfront trail, Riverfest is now a much anticipated community event that offers fantastic food, rockin live music, microbrew tasting, family fun activities AND Casper Rotary's Great Duck Derby.

Activities prior to 11 a.m. include Windy City Striders Fun Run – Denise Murphy - murphco7@juno.com; Casper Cycling Club Family Ride – caspercyclingclub@gmail.com; Fat Fish Casual Single Track Tour – Gordon Edwards – buzzwired@excite.com; Healthy Life Studio Morning Yoga at the Pumphouse – 472-1962; Casper Disk Golf 8 Hole Run.

Delicious food is always an important element of Riverfest. We have a variety of wonderful food vendors this year to choose from including Arrowhead Catering, La Cocina, The Dashing Dish, and Cold Stone Creamery.

This year's microbrew tasting has a little something for everyone. A 12-ounce microbrew is \$4 and a 4-ounce taster is \$1.

Steve Frame and his Western Rebels will kick off our musical lineup for Riverfest followed by Casper's favorite, Inda Eaton.

Casper Rotary's Great Duck Derby is an essential part of the fun at Riverfest. Purchase a duck ticket for \$20 and you have a chance to win great prizes. You can purchase your tickets through Platte River Trails at the Tate Pumphouse Trail Center, 1775 W. 1st St. or by e-mailing platteriver@wyoming.com or calling 577-1206.

Register for BGCCW

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming is now registering children and youth for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year! For elementary age members, we will have clubs at four school site locations (Verda James, Evansville, Mills and Paradise Valley). Our main club facility at 1701 East K Street will serve elementary members as well as teens. The teen program is free with a \$10 membership fee, while the elementary members have a \$25 weekly fee. Our clubs accept childcare reimbursement through DFS. Hours vary by site, as the main club closes at 8 p.m., Paradise Valley closes at 7 p.m. and all other sites close at 6 p.m. We offer programs in five key areas: character and leadership development, education and career development,

health and life skills, the arts, and sports, fitness and recreation. Free snacks are provided at all locations, and free dinner is provided at the main club. For more information on the “Positive Place for Kids” and our school year opportunities, please call 235-5694.

Public input on city parks plan

The city is seeking input on what needs to be done to make our overall park system more inviting. The city spends in excess of \$2.5 million per year to keep our 46 parks in good shape. Most of that effort goes into grounds maintenance while features like playgrounds and tables are being constantly repaired or replaced. Some Casper Parks receive a lot of use while others see relatively little. The city wants to find out what makes certain parks popular so we can take appropriate steps to increase the visitation in other parks.

For more information regarding the Park Plan or to participate in the survey log onto: www.casperwy.gov/PublicWorks/ or call 235-8367.

Uprising entertainment set

The Uprising has announced that chart-topping band Demon Hunter will headline the entertainment lineup for the second annual event on Saturday, September 14, at 1701 East K Street. Joining Demon Hunter will be Flame, Sidewalk Prophets and Cleanzed Soul.

A Christian metal band from Seattle, Demon Hunter has released six full-length albums.

Flame, is a Grammy-nominated and Billboard-topping Christian hip-hop artist.

Sidewalk Prophets is a contemporary Christian band from Nashville, Tenn.

Joining Demon Hunter, Flame and Sidewalk Prophets at The Uprising will be Casper band, Cleanzed Soul.

The Uprising is a day-long festival that was formed through a partnership between Youth for Christ and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming designed to reach and connect with the youth of the Casper-area community. Through music performances, skateboarding demonstrations, and basketball, baseball and boxing clinics, The Uprising will share the good news of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

For more information, please visit www.uprisingwyoming.org or our facebook page.

CC theatre tickets online

Those wishing to purchase tickets for Casper College Department of Theatre and Dance productions will now have an additional way to do so: online, by simply going to caspercollege.edu/theatre.

The department is now working with University Tickets, a company that has been in the

business of providing college campuses with a simple way to offer online ticket sales. “The wonderful thing about this is that theatergoers will have the convenience of purchasing tickets online, choosing their seats, and selecting the mode of delivery: U.S. Mail, or printing out their own ‘e-tickets’ just as one can do with an airline boarding pass,” said William Conte, Casper College theatre instructor.

According to Conte, theatergoers “will also be able to enter contact information and receive e-blasts about Krampert Theatre productions, respond to surveys, and open their own secure accounts that will conveniently save their purchasing preferences to make buying tickets even easier.”

Online ticket purchasing is now available for the college’s summer production of the musical “Godspell” which runs July 20, and July 24 through 27 at 7:30 p.m. and July 28 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students ages 5 to 18. Tickets mailed will be charged an additional \$1 per order for handling. In addition, tickets purchased seven working days prior to any production will be held at will call.

Wild West Photo Fest Aug. 29-31

Wyoming Camera Outfitters, Canon and 307 Magazine are excited to announce the events schedule for the Third Annual Wild West Photo Fest. Headlining this year will be one of the biggest names in photography, famed western photographer David Stoecklein. David will present “Photographing the West” the evening of Thursday, August 29, at 7 p.m., at the America Theatre in downtown Casper.

The Wild West Photo Fest will continue Friday with Wyoming Camera Outfitters hosting Canon factory representative in store, with special sales on photo and printing equipment. Canon will host a downtown photo walk that evening and make test lenses and available for use, and WCO will provide instructors who will be at select locations to provide shooting tips.

On Saturday, special workshops will be held in downtown theatres ending at 3 p.m., when 2nd Street between Center and David will be closed. And the 307 exhibition tent will be set up to display the top 150 photo entries for the public to enjoy and vote on the People’s Choice Award. Food vendors, musicians, entertainers and beer and drink gardens will take place until 7 p.m., when the winners of the photo competition will be announced. There will be a \$20 reservation fee which will cover Stoecklein, and all other workshops throughout the event (which will be offset with a \$20 Wyoming Camera Gift Card).

Admission to the street festival and photo exhibit will be free to the public.

Saturday drummin'

Casper Community Drum Circle will meet during the summer, with the exception of a few Saturdays. Here is the schedule for gathering from 10 a.m. to noon (unless otherwise noted) at 112 S. Beech. August 24 (3 to 5 p.m.), August 31. Questions? Call David, 259 -0350. Keep on

drummin'!

Clubs

Service, hobbies, etc.

Soroptimists meet Aug. 26

The public is invited to attend the August program meeting of Soroptimist International of Central Wyoming. The meeting will be held on Monday, August 26 in the conference room of the Casper Senior Center at noon.

The program will be presented by our Vice President Donna Cuin. She will be discussing the various awards given by Soroptimists to women in our community. Soroptimist means "best for women". If you are interested in helping women and girls in our local community and throughout the world, please join us for lunch to meet our members and learn about our club and its activities. Cost of lunch is \$7 (\$4 for seniors).

For reservations please contact Dyann at 237-1334 or dyanndurst@aol.com

Dyann Durst -- 237-1334

Corvette Roundup Aug. 31

The tenth annual Corvette Roundup Show and Shine car show will be held in Casper, Saturday, August 31, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Sears parking lot at the Eastridge Mall. The public is invited to attend this free event.

Roundup participants will display their Corvettes and those in attendance will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite in each classification as well as an overall Best of Show.

All Corvettes are welcome for the entire event including a Rallye Saturday afternoon and an Autocross on Sunday. Registration for the event and car show will be Saturday in the Sears Parking lot from 8 to 9:30 a.m. The cost for car show only participants is \$10.

Owners who would like to show their cars and participate in the event are encouraged to contact Bill Rader at 265-6014 or visit our website at: www.centralwyomingcorvettes.com

Queen Bee Red Hatters luncheon

Thursday, August 29, Mary Climer and Pat Potter would like to invite you to Red Lobster at 11:30 a.m. Meals will be ordered from the lunch menu with the average cost being \$11 with tax and tip. RSVP either to Pat Potter, e-mail (pkpotter7@msn.com) or Mary Climer at 235-5365 by August 26. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Jan Roggow -- 237-8318

Toastmasters welcome new members

Learn communication, leadership, and public speaking in a friendly, supportive environment. You will enhance your career opportunities, learn how to run a meeting, prepare and deliver presentations (both planned and impromptu), as well as improve your general communication skills. Guests and new members are welcome.

Casper has three Toastmaster Clubs to choose from:

Morning Tour, Mondays, 6:30 a.m. to 7:40 a.m., Parkway Plaza, Adrian's Room (next to restaurant). Great way to start the week!

Pathfinder, Tuesdays, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Chamber of Commerce, 500 N. Center Street.

Pioneer, Wednesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Petroleum Club. Will begin meeting again in September.

For further information, contact Mary Ann at 234-0158 or email Toastmasterclubs3@yahoo.com

Sports and Recreation

[Fun stuff for your body.](#)

Lots to do at ice arena open house

Come kick off the fall season at the coolest place in town! The Casper Ice Arena is hosting a Fall Open House on Saturday, September 7, 2013 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To start things off, the Casper Amateur Hockey Club will have their annual Open Registration and Goalkeepers Skate Swap from 8 a.m. to noon, and will be offering ice time from 8:30 to 10:45 a.m.

After hockey, the Casper Figure Skating Club will have open registration with ice time from 11 a.m. to noon.

Finally, the Casper Skating School will be hosting a FREE Basic Skills Skating Clinic from 12:15 to 1 p.m., followed by FREE Public Skating session from 1 to 3 p.m. The free skating clinic is open to anyone interested ages 3 and older. Children should be accompanied by an adult to the rink. Helmets are available and encouraged for younger skaters and those with little or no skating experience. A 10 percent discount will be offered on all ice arena public skating season passes and all fall Casper Skating School class registrations during the open house from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To keep everyone satisfied, the ice arena offers a full service concession stand that is always

open, offering snacks, meals and treats to quench your thirst and keep you energized for a great fall season!

For additional information regarding this exciting day or any other upcoming programs or special events, please call 235-8484.

PE for homeschoolers

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming is once again offering physical education classes for home school children. The classes will offer station work to improve motor activities, team sports involving skill development and sportsmanship, opportunities to participate in a wide range of activities and exercises for improved physical fitness and flexibility, lifetime skills and recreation development, as well as an active environment not based on competition. Classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 17 to December 12. Class times will be 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. for 5 to 9 year olds, and 1:15 to 2 p.m. for ages 10 and older. The cost for this program is \$25 for club members and \$35 for non members. To register, come to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming, 1701 E. K Street. For more information about this program or the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming, call Brian at 235-5694.

Fall activities guide available

The new 2013 Fall Activities Guide is available and is packed with a variety of programs, classes and recreation activities. Registration will also begin for all Fall classes offered through the Casper Recreation & Aquatics Center and the Casper Ice Arena. Fitness Classes begin with a week of FREE classes starting on August 26 and other classes in Ice Skating, Swimming, Dance, Martial Arts, Sports, and Arts & Crafts will start September 3 or later.

Along with the favorites, new classes and programs include Advanced Beginning Ballet, Intermediate Ballet, Weaving for Kids, Beads & Things, Ceramics, Zentangle Family, and Archery for Adults.

Make sure you register early to guarantee your spot in a class and insure your favorite class meets its minimum! Registration may be completed at the Recreation Center, 1801 East 4th St., by mail, by phone with credit card at 235-8383 or on-line at www.activecasper.com .

Helping Others

[Volunteer opportunities.](#)

Pack food bags

The Wyoming Food for Thought Project is continuing the weekend food bags for kids going hungry.

"We are partnering with Summer Feeding sites, like the Boys and Girls Club, to distribute bags

on Friday afternoons. The concept remains the same, but we are asking kids and families who need help to contact us," says Jamie Purcell, executive director of Wyoming Food for Thought Project.

If you would like to receive a bag, or if you would like to donate, please call 337-1703.

Packing dates remain the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month (August 28) at 4 p.m., 315 N. Wolcott.

Jamie Purcell -- 267-2421

Annual musical instrument swap

Got a musical instrument lying around gathering dust? Bring it to Wyoming Music's annual Instrument Swap and put it to good use. Instruments are being accepted now through September 30 at Wyoming Music in the Sunrise Shopping Center on consignment during regular business hours. This is a great opportunity to sell your instrument and help someone else get a good used instrument at an affordable price for band or orchestra. People can also donate an instrument to a needy student by dropping it off. Part of the proceeds from the consignment sales are used to help provide instruments to children who wish to participate in music in school. For more information, call Dean Lorimer at 237-7322.

Learn how to be a hospice volunteer

Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions is seeking caring individuals to become hospice volunteers.

The next volunteer training will meet on Tuesdays from September 10 to October 8 from 6 to 9 p.m. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and interested in providing companionship, respite, light housekeeping or occasional transportation.

As Natrona County's only non-profit hospice, volunteers are a vital part of our mission to help patients and families on the end-of-life journey.

Class size is limited to 20 participants so please call 577-4832 or e-mail volunteer@cwHP.org for more information or to register.

Volunteer for Uprising

The Uprising is in search of volunteers! The Uprising is a partnership between Youth for Christ and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming designed to reach and connect with the youth of our community. Through music performances, skateboarding demonstrations, basketball, baseball and boxing clinics, we attempt to share the good news of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Uprising is currently looking for volunteers to help with the event on September 14t, 2013. If you are interested in assisting with sports clinics, band hospitality or event set-up and tear down, please contact Lou Bruggman at 235-4079.

Poverty Resistance needs help

Poverty Resistance is seeking donations of automobiles, trucks, motor homes, camper trailers, living or dead. We fix them up. Give away some to needy persons, sell the rest to cover our expenses. We have given away more than 40 vehicles over the last 2-1/2 years. Some are being driven, some are being used as a home, some are used for both! For more information, call Mary Ann at 253-8955.

Family Stuff

Fun stuff for the whole family.

Market adds small grower spot

Come sell your extra produce at the Tuesday downtown Casper Farmers Market.

We've set up a "Community Table" in the center of the market to give smaller growers a chance to sell their bounty. \$2 secures you a 2'x2' space on the table.

Call us at 337-1703 today to sell at the next market!

Farmers Market Tuesday

The Downtown Casper Farmers Market takes place Tuesday nights on the grounds of the Nic and the Rails to Trails Park from 5 to 7:30 p.m., every Tuesday through September 17. Come out and enjoy live music, local food vendors, children's activities, and more. Perennial favorites as well as new vendors will make the market the best yet. This is the market's sixth year!

Parking is available in the downtown parking garage, just a two-block stroll down rails-to-trails path, or along Collins Drive between Beech and Kimball. This year's market is sponsored in part by Greiner Motors and the McMurry Foundation.

To become a vendor, or for more information please call the market managers, Wyoming Food for Thought Project, at 337-1703.

Wednesday Night Live

The Nicolaysen Art Museum presents its free outdoor summer music series from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays. Take a chair or blanket, relax and listen to great entertainment. Food, drinks and alcohol available to purchase onsite. No outside alcohol allowed.

Aug. 28: John Kirilin and the High Plains Drifters and Jalan Crossland.

For specifics on each group, visit www.thenic.org

Reunions

Meetings, dates.

NC '58

The NCHS Class of 1958 will hold its 55th Class reunion on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013.

“Munchies and Memories” will be the theme at the Casper Country Club, 6 p.m. This reunion is a very casual affair and the cost is \$25 per person. Please RSVP by Sept. 2 by contacting Marilyn (Martin) Stafford, 258-4433, or Susan (Todd) Martin,

577-0742.

NC football reunion in Laramie

The NCHS football teams who played in the fall of 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952, will hold a reunion in Laramie on September 14, 2013, at the game between Wyoming and Northern Colorado. The youngest of the football players is 78; the oldest is 83. We presently have 10 players planning to attend. Those interested in attending are asked to contact Danny White at 503-246-4154; or dugandan2@gmail.com, or Dick Hartwell, rhartwell@bresnan.net

KW '73

It's almost time for KW's class of 1973 40-year reunion! We would like to invite fellow classmates from NCHS and from KWHS to join us for the icebreaker on Friday night, August 30, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Wonder Bar. Stop by and visit with old friends and classmates! Other reunion plans include golf and dinner Saturday at the Casper Country Club. A school tour and city tour will also be held on Saturday. Questions? Call Dan 266-3277, Becky 577-1955 or Cathy 234-1494 or email us at KWHS73@gmail.com. We hope to see you Labor Day weekend!!

NC '78

The NCHS Class of 1978 will hold its 35th Reunion Dinner on Saturday, Aug. 24, at 6 p.m., upstairs at the Wonder Bar. Cocktails start at 6 p.m., buffet dinner at 7 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person. Reserve with payment to David Dewald, 122 S. Elk St., Casper, 82601. For more info, phone 234-5941.

Schools

Announcements.

Vaccination clinics set

Attention Kindergartners and 7th graders, and all others who will need vaccinations for school. The Casper/Natrona County Health Department will hold Back-to-School vaccination clinics on Aug. 27, 3 to 6 p.m.; Sept. 5, 3 to 6 p.m.; Sept. 10, 3 to 6 p.m.; Sept. 17, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All clinics are held at the Casper/Natrona County Health Department, 475 South Spruce Street.

Exclusion Day Sept. 18: If your child does not have the required immunization by this date, he/she will be excluded from school until you provide proof of updated immunizations.

The Back-to-School vaccination clinics are for school-aged children, ages 5 to 18 years. These are walk-in clinics and no appointment is needed. Vaccinations available are: DTaP, Polio, MMR, Chickenpox, TDaP, Hepatitis B.

Cost is \$12 per immunization, the student's parent or guardian must be present, and students must have vaccination records.

For more information, please contact NCSD's Nursing Coordinator, Suzey Delger RN FNP, at (307) 253-3169.

CC launches new certificate program

The first offering in Casper College's recently announced certificate program, "Cognitive Retraining," will be offered during the fall 2013 semester.

"Acquired Brain Injuries" (PSYC 2390) "is an introductory course that focuses on the major areas of research and treatment application in the field of acquired brain injuries (ABI). Various types of brain injuries, etiologies of these injuries, and treatments of these injuries will be presented," said Shawn Powell, Ph.D., ABPP.

Powell, instructor for the class, said that there are five main objectives of the course, which include the design of a comprehensive treatment plan for individuals with an ABI, and identifying community based services for individuals with ABIs.

Registration for the fall semester is currently underway. Students may register as degree or nondegree seeking. "Acquired Brain Injuries" will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 28.

OLLI fall signup Aug. 29

The "fabulous Fall Sign-Up" for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Casper College will be held on Thursday, August 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Gateway Building.

The sign up features a number system to assure that all those registering for fall classes will be

taken care of in a quick and orderly manner, according to Karen Arnold, lifelong learning specialist. Numbers will be available from 3:30 to 6 p.m.

This year's fall offerings include a trip, a number of new offerings, and a return of old favorites. "We have tried to come up with a wide variety of topics to appeal to as many folks as we can this fall," said Arnold.

"Amazing Aspens" taught by Wyoming Game and Fish biologist Keith Schoupe, who was the WGF's lead biologist on the Bates Creek Aspen Regeneration project, will provide OLLIs with "the genetic makeup of these fascinating trees in a lecture and field trip to an aspen grove on Muddy Mountain," Arnold said.

Andrew Young, Casper College physics instructor will return with a new class: "Exploring Astronomy Topics" to be taught at the Casper Planetarium. Young will use planetarium modules to explore a variety of astronomical topics from constellations to the planets and more, according to Arnold.

Other new offerings for the fall include "It's Your Genes;" "Russian Ark': A Film Journey through Russian History;" "Taking Stock of our Fish," which will feature a field trip to watch a fish stocking operation; "Understanding the Weather," and "The Real Crawley Family: The Historical Context of 'Downton Abbey,'" which will be taught by Casper College President Walter Nolte, an expert in 19th century British history. "Our president was once a college history instructor, and during this OLLI class he will use clips from the series 'Downton Abbey' to prompt discussion about the historical events that occurred during the period covered in the first three seasons of the show," noted Arnold.

The OLLI Fabulous Fall Sign Up will be held on the second floor of the Gateway Building located on the Casper College campus. For those unable to attend the sign up, registrations will be taken by phone or in person after August 29. To register by phone members may call Arnold at 268-2099 or Vicki Pollock, lifelong learning specialist, at 268-2097. The OLLI office is located in Room 408B in the Gateway Building for those wishing to register in person.

Meal reimbursement

The Natrona County School District also will participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which provides reimbursement for nutritious meals and snacks served to young children in childcare homes, childcare centers, head start and outside-school-hours programs.

The goal of the CACFP is to teach good eating habits and assure that well-balanced, nourishing meals are served to children. The same meals will be made available to all enrolled children at no separate charge regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability, and there is no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

The Income Eligibility Guidelines are used to determine if participants qualify for

reimbursement. These guidelines are in effect from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. Please call 307-253-5205 for assistance.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

DC Dash

The DC Dash 5K Fun Run takes place at Tate Pump House on Saturday, Sept. 14, at 10 a.m. Costumes encouraged! Prizes

awarded and goody bags.

All proceeds go to the cost of the academic journey to DC and NY for Woods Learning Center 4th/5th grade students.

Registration (prior to noon Sept. 13) by mail or deliver to WLC at 500 South Walsh Drive.

All checks must be made out to Casper College Foundation (note DC Dash).

Registration at site at 9:30 a.m. at Tate Pump House, \$20 adults, \$10 for 13-18 year olds, and \$5 for 12 & under. Team of

any 8, \$100. No refunds.

Purchase DC Dash T-shirts by 9/3/13 for discount.

WLC -- 253-3900

Susan -- 258-3945

Free and reduced meals

The Natrona County School District has announced its policy for free and reduced price meals for children unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program, and School Breakfast Program. Each school and the office of the Food Services has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

Household size and income criteria will be used for determining eligibility. Children from households whose income is at or below the required levels are eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Applications are available online at www.natronaschools.org, school offices, mailed to households, and at the Food Services office at 970 North Glenn Road. If you need assistance, call 307-253-5205.



Town Crier SATURDAY Aug. 24, 2013

AUGUST 23, 2013 12:30 PM

Saturday's Highlights

Fun stuff to do Saturday.

Master Gardeners Farmer's Market

Vegetables, fruits, herbs, plants, cut flowers, baked goods, olive oil, jam, garden decor, and much, much more are all available at the Master Gardeners Farmers' Markets. Each week, there will be new vendors with additional items for sale.

The Farmers' Market will be held every Saturday through September 28, from 7:30 a.m. until noon or sold out on the grounds of the Agricultural Resource Learning Center, 2011 Fairgrounds Rd.

There will be a Master Gardeners table staffed by Master Gardeners offering their expertise on all gardening questions and concerns. For more information, call the Master Gardeners at 235-9400, ext. 29. For vendor information, call Chrysty at 473-5738.

Riverfest, Duck Derby Aug. 24

2013 Riverfest is scheduled for Saturday, August 24, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Crossroads Playground. Riverfest is Casper's very own river festival! Begun in 1992 as a celebration of the completion of the newest segment of riverfront trail, Riverfest is now a much anticipated community event that offers fantastic food, rockin live music, microbrew tasting, family fun activities AND Casper Rotary's Great Duck Derby.

Activities prior to 11 a.m. include Windy City Striders Fun Run – Denise Murphy - murphco7@juno.com; Casper Cycling Club Family Ride – caspercyclingclub@gmail.com; Fat Fish Casual Single Track Tour – Gordon Edwards – buzzwired@excite.com; Healthy Life Studio Morning Yoga at the Pumphouse – 472-1962; Casper Disk Golf 8 Hole Run.

Delicious food is always an important element of Riverfest. We have a variety of wonderful food vendors this year to choose from including Arrowhead Catering, La Cocina, The Dashing Dish, and Cold Stone Creamery.

This year's microbrew tasting has a little something for everyone. A 12-ounce microbrew is \$4 and a 4-ounce taster is \$1.

Steve Frame and his Western Rebels will kick off our musical lineup for Riverfest followed by Casper's favorite, Inda Eaton.

Casper Rotary's Great Duck Derby is an essential part of the fun at Riverfest. Purchase a duck ticket for \$20 and you have a chance to win great prizes. You can purchase your tickets through Platte River Trails at the Tate Pumphouse Trail Center, 1775 W. 1st St. or by e-mailing platteriver@wyoming.com or calling 577-1206.

Striders host free family run

The Windy City Striders will host a 3K (1.86 miles) River Fest family fun run/walk this Saturday, August 24, at 10 a.m. at Crossroads Park/Mike Lansing Field. All running/walking ability levels are welcome to participate in this run being held in conjunction with the River Fest and the Duck Derby. Registration will start at 9 a.m. There is no cost to participate in this run.

A Taste of Ireland in Casper

Ha'Penny Bridge Irish Imports, founded in 1983, is known for its Branigan Woolens, Belleek China, Galway Crystal, Hanna Hats and Irish Jewelry and more, offering shoppers a wide selection of Irish and Celtic merchandise. Proprietors Al and Anne Gleine journey abroad to bring a taste of Ireland to their grateful Dublin, Ohio, clientele and for two days, we have the unique opportunity to share in this wealth from the Emerald Isle! This nationally known importer of Irish goods is visiting Casper exclusively for the Richens/Timm Academy of Irish Dance weekend, and will be onsite at Natrona County High School Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. It's free to browse and shop.

Drop in to view our (open to the public) Feis on Saturday to complete your experience!

Woods holds parking lot sale

Woods Learning Center is holding a huge parking lot sale on Saturday, August 24, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., 500 S. Walsh. This is a fundraising event for the 4th & 5th grade students' 2014 trip to Washington D.C. You will find lots of books, clothing, household goods and homemade crafts. The students will also be selling flower bulbs, popcorn, pizza and other fun fundraising items. We are also seeking donations of items for the sale. If you're looking to finally get rid of that stuff in your garage, please call Jen at 277-5402 for pick up!!

Jen Miner -- 233-6603

Bar Nunn Market

The Park and Recreation Department of Bar Nunn is hosting a Market on Saturday, Aug. 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Antelope Park. Booth spaces are \$10. The purpose is to bring the community together for a family fun event. Crafts, unique businesses, politicians, food vendors and others are welcome to participate. Bar Nunn is looking forward to showcasing local talent. For more information, call Laura Redmond at 406-570-4510.

Saturday drummin'

Casper Community Drum Circle will meet during the summer, with the exception of a few Saturdays. Here is the schedule for gathering from 10 a.m. to noon (unless otherwise noted) at 112 S. Beech. August 24 (3 to 5 p.m.). Questions? Call David, 259 -0350. Keep on drummin'!

NC '78

The NCHS Class of 1978 will hold its 35th Reunion Dinner on Saturday, Aug. 24, at 6 p.m., upstairs at the Wonder Bar. Cocktails start at 6 p.m., buffet dinner at 7 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person. Reserve with payment to David Dewald, 122 S. Elk St., Casper, 82601. For more info, phone 234-5941.

CC theatre: 'Everyman'

"Everyman," the third and final student production produced during the summer at Casper College, is currently being performed.

According to William Conte, theatre instructor, "Everyman" is a famous medieval morality play by an unknown author.

Directed by Paulina Strayer, a sophomore theatre performance major at Casper College, the summer production features Tom Empey as God, Conte as Death, Kegan Cara as Good Deeds, Nick McDill as Everyman, "and many students from both high schools in other allegorical roles," she said.

"I was personally drawn to this play because of the allegorical representations in the play. As a lifelong lover of pretentious metaphor and a good old-fashioned personification, this play was perfect. All of the characters are representations of virtues or concepts, and I have really enjoyed creating their world on the stage," said Strayer.

The play runs Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Thomas H. Empey Studio Theatre, located in the Gertrude Krampert Theatre Complex. There is no admission fee, but donations will be accepted and will go to three Casper College student organizations, which benefit Casper College Department of Theatre and Dance Department students. Tickets will only be available at the door.

Register for fall classes at children's theatre

The Casper Children's Theatre is excited to announce their fall classes. Each class is tailored for a specific age group, providing the perfect opportunity for all ages to discover self-expression and gain self-confidence. All students help create and produce their own show, while learning life skills through theater skills.

“Thoroughly Modern Millie Junior” is a fast-paced jazz musical that takes place in 1920’s New York. All interested students, age 12 through high school seniors, are invited to sign up for this production. Classes meet on Tuesday and Thursdays from August 27 to October 15 from 6 to 8 p.m., with performances October 16 to 20. Fee for the class is \$219.

Scenes from classic Roald Dahl stories, like “James and the Giant Peach” and “Matilda,” will be brought to stage for students age 8 through 11. Classes meet on Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. from September 7 through November 9, with performances November 14 through 16. Fee for the class is \$175.

“Dynamite – a Dinosaur Tail” features stories, poems and songs with a dinosaur theme for ages 4 through 7. Classes meet on Saturdays from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for students ages 4 to 5, and 10:30 to noon for ages 6 to 7 from September 14 through November 23, with performances December 6 through 8. Fee for the class is \$125.

Register for classes from noon to 6 p.m. through August 26 upstairs at the Commissary Mall on 138 South Kimball. For more information, please call 473-8470.

Free programs at trails

The National Historic Trails Interpretive Center presents two free programs. 1 p.m., Here Comes the Pony! the story of the Pony Express, presented by members of the National Pony Express Association. Riders, horses and the leather mail pouches used will be on hand. At 7 p.m., The Nez Perce Trail -- Exodus, Captivity and Return, presented by Jim Evans, executive director of the Nez Perce Trail Foundation, will present a program about the human and spirit and will of the Nez Perce.

Senior dance Aug. 24

Senior Dance is scheduled at the Eagles Hall, 306 N. Durbin St., Saturday, August 24, 2013, 7 to 10 p.m., with potluck snacks at 8 p.m. Coffee and ice water are available. Dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by Casper's own SwingSounds Band. SwingSounds Band provides dancing and listening entertainment featuring Western oldies, Western and Pop Swing, Oldies but Goodies, Pop and Jazz. Senior dances are not just for seniors but if you are not a senior be prepared to get a work out keeping up with these hearty seniors. Admission is \$5 per person. Entrance will be at the north door in the parking lot of the Eagles Lodge.

Robbie Daniels -- 235-5130

This Just In

[New to Town Crier.](#)

Diamond speaks at Rotary

Vickie Diamond will speak to the Casper Rotary Club on Monday at noon at the Parkway Plaza.

"Building Better Health for Our Community" will include information regarding the new West Tower construction.

Vickie Diamond was appointed President and CEO of Wyoming Medical Center in February 2008. She has been instrumental in networking Wyoming's critical access hospitals, bringing together providers throughout the state. She helped to form the Wyoming Integrated Care Network (WYICN), a group of hospitals and other organizations that came together in an effort to unite Wyoming hospitals in smaller communities in working toward commonly held goals.

In January, Diamond began a three-year term on the American Hospital Association (AHA) Board of Trustees. She is the first woman ever elected as chair for Region 8, which covers Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. She joins eight other hospital executives from around the nation for this distinguished position. The board is the policy-making body of the AHA and has ultimate authority for the governance and management of its direction and finances.

Before becoming President and CEO of Wyoming Medical Center, she was a family nurse practitioner and also served as Senior Vice President of Patient Care Services, Chief Nursing Officer and Chief Operating Officer. Diamond received her B.S. in Nursing in 1969 and an M.S. in Nursing in 1985 from the University of Colorado, Denver.

Muni ladies golf pairings

Aug. 29, 2013

Park and Links

8 a.m. Shotgun Start

Park #1 Meyer, Schmidt, Marsh; Links #9A Bain, Andreen, Watters; Links #9B Wheatley, Sack, Schneider; Links #8A Pfiefer, Vermedahl, Hamann; Links #8B Boyle, Miller, Hill M.; Links #7A Ortiz, Warren, Turk; Links #6A Campbell, Moyer; Links #5A Clark, Santoni, Farmer.

For changes or additions, call the Pro Shop at 233-6620.

Saturday worship starts Sept. 7

Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church, 4100 Casper Mountain Rd., will begin a Saturday worship service at 5:30 p.m. starting on September 7. After each service, all worshippers are invited to join them for a fellowship supper. The worship experience will include relevant Bible teaching and Christ-exalting music. Sunday services will continue to be offered at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., with Sunday school for all ages at 9 a.m. For more information, call the church office at 235-6363 or visit www.cornerstonefree.org.

Searching for NC '65 grads

The NCHS Class of 1965 will hold its 50th reunion on August 21 and 22, 2015. We are in

search of many missing classmates and are hoping to locate their addresses for future mailings. If you are or know of any 1965 classmates, please forward their name, address, email address and phone number to NCHS Class of 1965, Box #1888, Casper, WY 82602. You may also email or call with the information to either Patti Spaulding at wyspaulding@gmail.com, 266-1095 or Linda Chism Andre at chizwhiz@comcast.net, (303) 237-9419.

Centennial parents invited

All Centennial Junior High School parents/guardians are invited to attend the first Parent Luncheon of the 2013-2014 school year on Thursday, September 5, 2013 at noon in the Library Media Center. Agenda items will include Centennial's Mission Statement, Back To School Night formats, and changes to the math curriculum. Please RSVP by Tuesday, September 3, 2013 to the Centennial main office at 253-2900.

Hunger documentary in Casper

Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies and co-sponsors invite the public to see and then discuss the documentary, "A Place at the Table," on Thursday, September 5, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., at the Parkway Plaza. Prior to the screening, a mobile food pantry will be open to the public, along with a reception for the general public interested in learning more about how to fight hunger in Casper and in our great state of Wyoming. The screening will be immediately followed by a panel discussion and question and answer session.

The documentary, directed by Kristi Jacobson and Lori Silverbush, examines the crisis of food security, hunger, obesity and food access.

If you are interested in attending the screening please RSVP to endhungercasper@gmail.com or on <https://www.facebook.com/endhungercasper> by September 1, 2013.

Did you know that one in 10 Wyoming citizens struggle to put food on the table? 39% of Wyoming children qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch (that's almost 26,000 children). These are the children of the working poor who are not unemployed but are not making enough income to cover all their expenses. 9.4% of people in Wyoming live in poverty, 6.2% of Wyoming seniors are impoverished.

Get a clip, help a dog

Master hairstylist and animal lover Patrick Lomantini will be cutting hair at Salon 307, 242 S. Wolcott, on Thursday, September 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. All proceeds will go to the Casper Humane Society. This is the 3rd annual BarkAid 50 Cuts in 50 Days.

Your \$20 cut can be scheduled by calling Salon 307 at 462-6164. It doesn't matter if you want a buzz cut or just one little gray hair snipped away, every cut counts.

For additional information, visit the Casper Humane Society Face Book page or call 265-5439.

The Casper Humane Society is a no-kill shelter supported entirely by local contributions and charitable donations. It receives no governmental support and is not affiliated with any national humane society, animal rights, or rescue group.

'Nevermore' opens college exhibit season

The art exhibit, "Nevermore" by Jeanne Stern, will be on display in the Goodstein Gallery August 26 through September 26, 2013.

The exhibit will contain a selection of new works, dioramas, and film. "The works center around a toad and his watery domestic life. This series of dioramas depicts the collision of domestic space and nature, using a toad's home as the starting point," said Stern.

"Common materials such as book covers, wax paper and grocery store circulars are combined and layered in space to create immersive environments" she said, and added, "I use peepholes, forced perspective, and other illusions to create spaces that merge and muddle the notions of sculpture, painting, and cinema."

In addition to her exhibit, Stern will present an artist's lecture on Wednesday, Sept. 14 titled "Book Art" as part of the 2013 Casper College and ARTCORE Literary Conference. The lecture will begin at noon.

Stern received her master of fine arts degree in film production from the University of Texas and her bachelor of arts in studio art from Connecticut College.

The Goodstein Gallery is located in the Goodstein Visual Arts Center and is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stern's lecture will take place in Room 102 of the Goodstein Visual Arts Center. Both the exhibit and artist's lecture are free and open to the public.

Rec Center offers pickleball

The Casper Recreation Center offers drop-in pickleball Monday through Friday, 9 to 11 a.m. Just come prepared for a fun time and meeting nice people. All equipment will be provided along with game instruction. The cost is either a Rec Center membership (scholarships available) or a day pass (\$3.50). Come enjoy this exciting sport designed for people of all ages and athletic abilities. What is pickleball? go to www.usapa.org for more information

Hubert Townsend, pickleball ambassador

Book club meets

The Never Too Old book club hosted by the Natrona County Public Library will meet Tuesday, September 10, 6:30 p.m. at Metro Coffee Co. to discuss "The Unnaturalists" by Tiffany Trent. Open to teens and adults, this book club discusses popular young adult literature that is also of interest to adults. Teen/parent pairs are especially encouraged. To participate, pick up a copy of the book at the second floor Reference desk any time prior to the discussion.

Please note: the author of this month's selection, Tiffany Trent, will be at the Natrona County Public Library in conjunction with the Casper College Literary Conference, Friday, September 13 at 7 p.m. Call 577-READ ext. 2 for more information.

Discuss Pulitzer winner

The Natrona County Public Library will host a discussion of Pulitzer Prize-winning book “Olive Kitteridge” by Elizabeth Strout, Monday, September 9 at 6:30 p.m. The discussion is free and open to all who are interested. To participate, pick up a copy of the book at the 2nd floor Reference Desk, then join us at the library for discussion the evening of September 9. NCPL book discussion groups meet monthly and new members are always welcome. Please call 577-READ (7323) for more information.

Grownup Stuff

Fun stuff geared to adults.

Audition for 'Singin' in the Rain'

The Casper College Theatre and Dance Department will hold auditions for its fall musical “Singin’ in the Rain” on Tuesday, August 27 at 7 p.m. on the McMurry Mainstage.

According to Richard Burk, director, the stage musical is based on the now classic 1952 MGM musical of the same name. “Hollywood in the 1920s is the setting for this light-hearted romantic musical comedy about the early days of sound motion pictures. This musical features songs like ‘Fit as a Fiddle,’ ‘You are my Lucky Star’ and of course the title song. ‘Singin’ in the Rain’ is a faithful adaptation of the hit movie and is filled with hilarious situations, snappy dialogue, and great fun,” said Burk.

For those wanting to audition, two free workshops -- one on dancing and the other on singing - - will be offered on Monday, Aug. 26. Each workshop will be run twice, at 7 and again at 8:30 p.m. to allow those wishing to attend both the ability to do so.

No prior signup is required to audition, but those auditioning are asked to prepare a verse and refrain from any upbeat song. Roles are available for singers, dancers, and older nonsingers. Burk noted that there are no roles for children in the musical.

“Singin’ in the Rain” will be performed on the McMurry Mainstage October 10 through 12 and 16 through 19 at 7:30 p.m. with a 2 p.m. performance on October 20.

The McMurry Mainstage is located in the Gertrude Krampert Theatre Complex. For more information contact the front office at 268-2365 or email at arlish@caspercollege.edu.

Ladies Nite Sept. 27

The 10th Ladies Nite is set for Friday, Sept. 27, from 6 to 9 p.m., at the Ramada Plaza Riverside. More than 30 vendors are expected for this evening of munching, shopping, networking and relaxing. Munchies are free and the first 50 women get a rose. Everyone gets a ticket for a complimentary drink and an entry into the grand prize drawing. Men are welcome, but leave the children and minors at home as this is an adult-oriented event. For more information, call Ann McDaniel at 258-2533.

Monthly vets ceremony Aug. 30

The Natrona County United Veterans Council, the staff of the Oregon Trail Wyoming State Veteran's Cemetery, and the Wyoming Army National Guard Honor Guard conduct a monthly memorial service for those known Wyoming veterans who have died since our last memorial service which was held on July 31, when we honored 63 Wyoming veterans.

This month's memorial service will be held at noon, Friday August 30, in the Tom Walsh Chapel at The Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery, Evansville. All are welcome to attend.

This memorial service is provided on behalf of a grateful state and nation as an expression of appreciation for the honorable and faithful service rendered by each of these veterans.

The veteran's name, Wyoming community, and branch of service is read at roll call. There is a rifle salute, taps, and the folding of a flag.

Civic Chorale sets season

Casper Civic Chorale will present three concerts in its first season under the baton of Steve Grussendorf. The first concert is to be held on October 22, 2013, featuring American folk songs and spirituals. The December 17, 2013, concert, "Christmas Music You Can Handel," features familiar Christmas selections and parts from Messiah. Chorale will end the season with the Spring 2014 Concert on April 29.

Casper Civic Chorale was established in 1972 by Wayne McIntire, along with Donna McIntire as the accompanist, as a non-profit, non-audition community chorus. The Chorale has presented three or four major concerts every season with a wide variety of music performed and accompaniments ranging from Chamber Orchestra to Pop/Swing ensembles.

We are a dedicated assembly of voices committed to presenting quality choral music for the pleasure and enrichment of our audiences in Casper and other communities. The Chorale has traveled to many cities and countries on concert tours. Members of the Chorale represent a wide spectrum of occupations and backgrounds. We do have a love of music and performance as a common interest. Our rehearsals are challenging, but lots of fun, too. Check us out on info@caspercivicchorale.com.

We are always in need of new singers and we would be happy to invite you to join us. The only requirements are having a knowledge of singing and a dedication to Tuesday night rehearsals at 7 p.m., in the NCHS choir room. For more information, call Mark at 237-1946.

Sing with Meadowlarks

Do you like to sing? Come join the Meadowlarks (senior singers). We have fun, fun. Meet on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m., at the Senior Center on 4th Street next to the Rec Center. To join the Senior Center, you must be 60 years old.

Evening in the Word

Evening in the Word, a women's nondenominational Bible Study, will be starting off on Tuesday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. with Beth Moore's "Sacred Secrets: A Living Proof Experience." Sacred Secrets is a new six-session study that explores secrets -- some forgiven, some covered, and some just between you and God. Meet us at Highland Park Community Church in room 1321. For more information, contact Gwen at 262-0719. "Like us" on Facebook.

New shows at gallery

The Casper Artists' Guild at the West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th Street, is pleased to present the Nineteenth Annual International Miniature Art Show and the 3rd Annual Photography Show. This wonderful display of photos by some of our very talented local photographers and miniature artwork by local and out of state artists will be on display until August 31.

Free and open to the public. Regular gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

Veterans and Obamacare

A recent bulletin from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs answers a big question that has been bothering veterans, namely whether they must comply with the new federal health law. Here is what the VA says about that subject.

What is the Affordable Care Act? The Affordable Care Act, also known as the health care law, was created to expand access to coverage, control health care costs and improve health care quality and care coordination. The health care law does not change VA health benefits or Veterans' out-of-pocket costs.

Three things you should know:

VA wants all veterans to receive health care that improves their health and well-being.

If you are enrolled in VA health care, you don't need to take additional steps to meet the health care law coverage standards. The health care law does not change VA health benefits or Veterans' out-of-pocket costs.

If you are not enrolled in VA health care, you can apply at any time.

Stan Lowe

Fundraisers

Helping folks raise money.

Shane Shatto walk/run Aug. 30

The 11th annual Shane Shatto Memorial Remember the Wyoming 8 Walk/Run is at the new Cross Country Track in Douglas on Friday, August 30. The 5k and 10k Walk/Run fee is \$20 and includes a T-shirt and you are eligible for the many door prizes. Registration is at the high school football field and begins at 6:30 p.m., and the Walk/Run starts at 7:30 p.m. This is a night run but not in total darkness and refreshments will be provided. Proceeds will help fund the Shane Shatto Memorial Scholarship, in the name of Shane Shatto, a Douglas graduate who died in 2001 by a drunk driver. The scholarship is awarded to a Douglas High School athlete. Morgan Squires was the 2013 recipient of the scholarship. For more information, call Kerry Shatto, 359-3211 or Margo Shatto at 359-0723.

Harvest of Hope features Dravecky

Central Wyoming Rescue Mission invites the community to attend an evening of fellowship with other compassionate friends at their 2013 Harvest of Hope Banquet on Thursday, September 19.

The banquet will be held at Highland Park Church, 5725 Highland Drive, and begins at 6 p.m.

Guests will enjoy a delicious meal and an inspiring message from major league baseball pitcher, author and cancer survivor Dave Dravecky.

The event is the cornerstone of the Mission's Harvest of Hope campaign, through which the organization raises a significant portion of their annual donated income. The Mission hopes to secure \$80,000 toward the total campaign goal of \$400,000.

Those who wish to attend may contact our Development Staff at 268-4474 or tanya@cwrn.org for reservations, sponsorship opportunities and additional information.

Golf helps CASA, rescues

CK Mechanical is hosting the first Canines and Kids Golf Tournament on Friday, August 30, at the Paradise Valley Country Club, 9 a.m. shotgun start to a best ball tournament to benefit CASA of Natrona County and Black Dog Animal Rescue.

Get out, enjoy some golf and support a couple of awesome organizations at the same time. The weather should be great with an equally great cause. There will be hole prizes, cash awards to the top three teams and lots of other fun surprises throughout the day.

Teams are \$400 each (40 team max). To register your team, visit our website at www.ckmechanicalph.com. For information on how to sponsor the event, please call Shelly at 473.8448.

Paint a bowl for Wyo CARES

Pottery By You, 1627 E. 2nd St., is hosting an opportunity to paint a miso or square bowl during the month of September for \$10. Bowls will be donated to the Wyoming CARES Ladies Soup Bowl Luncheon in November. Wyoming CARES is a statewide nonprofit agency with mission to provide assistance to Wyoming residents in need. For more information about the bowl painting, call Pottery By You at 472-9087.

Family Fun Day Sept. 7

Wyoming CARES hosts a Family Fun Day on Saturday, Sept. 7, that includes 18 holes of miniature golf at Old Town and or a one-mile route and a 5K walk/run route along the river. Check-in is at 8:30 a.m., and golfing and walking begins at 9:30 a.m. A minimum \$10 donation is requested to participate. Relay teams are welcome. Prizes start at \$25 in donations or pledges. For more information, call Wyoming CARES at 237-7035.

Quilt raffle at Pathfinder

The Pathfinder Boat and Fishing Club is raffling a designer quilt crafted of a fun variety of “flip flop” sandals, hand made by Mary Ellen Gorsuch of Torrington. It is on display at Pathy’s Pantry at the Pathfinder Marina. This quilt is truly an original piece of craftsmanship.

Tickets can be purchased at Pathy’s Pantry or by calling Dan Smallwood at 262-9825. The tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

The drawing for the quilt will be held Labor Day weekend during Pathfinder Marina’s Customer Appreciation Day on Sunday, September 1. There will be FREE hamburgers and hot dogs for the public, beginning at noon. You need not be present to win.

Pizza for Joshua's

High Plains Pizza, Inc. of Casper and Joshua’s Storehouse are offering a FUNdraiser Card for Casper and Wyoming only.

This is not part of the “National Campaign” that you see on TV.

That campaign is not valid in Wyoming.

A \$10 FUNdraiser Card is good for 1 large pizza with up to 3 toppings, or a specialty pizza, a

\$15 value, for only \$10.

This is helping to raise money for Joshua's Storehouse and their goal to help the hungry of Casper.

Please call 265-0242 for tickets and/or send a check to Joshua's Storehouse for the number of cards that you would like. Your tickets will be sent to you in the next day's mail.

Staples helps BGCCW

This summer, Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Staples are teaming up with teen actor Jake T. Austin, for the 6th annual Staples for Students national school supply drive, to help kids get the tools they need to build great futures.

Until September 28, Staples customers can donate \$1 or more at their local Staples store with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting local students at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming. Boys & Girls Clubs of America's mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need it most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. The Staples for Students school supply drive supports this mission by helping young people return to school prepared to learn and succeed.

The local Staples store to make a donation is located at 4160 E. 2nd Street.

To kick-start the campaign, Staples will donate \$125,000 worth of school supplies to the program this year. Staples and the Boys & Girls Clubs of America will ensure that all of the donations get to the local Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming in time for the new school year. Since 2008, the campaign has raised nearly \$3 million for hundreds of thousands of students in need throughout the country.

PEO sells Wyoming throws

PEO is selling Wyoming throws. The throw is a perfect gift for any occasion. The 100 percent cotton 4-foot by 6-foot throw designed by Casper PEO members, exhibits images of Wyoming in a multi-colored design. All proceeds from the sales support PEO projects to help educate women through grants, loans and scholarships. More than 80,000 women have been recipients of PEO projects. To purchase or order a Wyoming throw, call Becky at 259-3350.

Help Yourself

Stuff to help you.

Grow It Forward judging

Grow It Forward ends with a container gardening and patio flower competition.

Casper Housing Authority's tenants received seeds and soil in late May 2013, and created their own vegetable and/or floral garden, which will be judged by our Board of Commissioners, (appointed by the City of Casper).

The purpose of the project is to encourage healthy eating, and knowledge of food production. Five winning participants will receive nearly \$3,000 in prizes donated by Casper area businesses.

The Board of Commissioners will meet at the Casper Housing Authority office located at 1514 E. 12th St. Ste. 105 at 6 p.m., Thursday, August 29, 2013, and will then set out to judge the gardens.

For more information, please contact Amanda at ahuckabay@chaoffice.org or 266.1388 ex. 35.

LGTBQ AA/NA Group

A 12-Step AA/NA Recovery Group for gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual and questioning persons meets at the United Church of Christ, 15th and Melrose, every Friday at 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Rob J. at 259-5026.

Celebrate Recovery is for you

The guilty, sad, compulsive; the churched, the unchurched; the addicted and their families; those who have been hurt, those who have hurt someone else.

No matter what your hurts, habits, or hang-ups may be, there is HOPE. Celebrate Recovery offers a safe, welcoming, grace-filled, Christ-centered fellowship every Friday night from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Highland Park Community Church and is free to the community. 5:30 meal; 6:30 welcome & worship; 7:30 open share; 8:30 dessert & fellowship. Please join us! For questions, call 265-4073.

Free yoga for veterans

Free Yoga classes for Veterans at Healthy Life Studio. You have served our country and we would like to show our appreciation by offering free Yoga classes every Wednesday at 3 p.m. Participate with other veterans in this hour-long practice and learn how to rest, relax and restore your energy and peace of mind. Join the thousands of Veterans all over the United States who have discovered the peaceful, calming, benefits of a yoga practice. Simple breathing techniques, basic yoga poses, and meditation are used so that you can feel refreshed and calm after each practice. No previous experience in necessary. Classes are taught by Theresa Wiegand and are for all vets, combat or non. If you have questions please

call Colleen Hilton at Healthy Life Studio, 472-1962.

Free vision screenings

Jensen Eye Care is offering a no-cost, no-obligation vision screening for school-age children (5 to 18) every Thursday afternoon between 3 and 5 p.m. through the month of August.

Vision is so important to the learning process and because many school-age children have undiagnosed vision problems, Jensen Eye Care has committed Thursday afternoon's to screening school age children for vision problems. Even though the school systems screen for vision problems, there are vision problems that can't be diagnosed with in-school testing programs.

Farsighted children are often the children who work below their potential in school and sometimes are misdiagnosed as having attention deficit disorders or hyperactivity issues. School screenings do a pretty good job of detecting nearsighted children, but farsighted children are very difficult to diagnose without proper equipment and training.

If you would like your child to participate in this free screening, call 265-7008 to reserve a time.

Cancer support meets weekly

A Cancer Support Group meets every Tuesday from 6:45 to 8 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Casper, 332 E. 2nd, in the SonRise Room just inside the breezeway doors. This summer the group is reading "Chicken Soup for the Soul: The Cancer Book," for spiritual support of cancer clients/survivors. Rev. Steve Burnett facilitates the conversation. The public is welcomed, and there is no fee. Call 234-9385 for further information.

Bereavement support begins

Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions is starting a six-week support group for those grieving the loss of a loved one. The group starts Monday, September 23, from 6 to 7 p.m. at 319 S. Wilson Street.

This free group offers a safe and supportive place to process grief and learn coping strategies. Participants share experiences and learn they are not alone. The group will be led by bereavement coordinator Tisa Sucher, LCSW.

Group size is limited. To enroll in the group or learn more about Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions, call 577-4832.

Caregiver support meets

Wyoming Dementia Care offers both daytime and evening Alzheimer's Caregiver Support groups. The daytime support group for caregivers meets on the first and third Thursday of each

month at 10 a.m. at Central Wyoming Senior Services, 1831 E. 4th St. The evening group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Park Place Assisted Living, 1930 E. 12th St.

Caregivers are welcome to bring their loved ones along to the day and evening support group sessions. Professional staff from Caring Hands of Wyoming, Park Place and Meadow Wind will be on hand to offer separate activities and snacks for those who need care.

There is no charge for Wyoming Dementia Care's support groups or for the respite care provided during the approximately one hour long sessions.

For information, email wyodementia@casperseniorcenter.com or call Dani Guerttman at 265-4678.

Suicide Survivor's Support Group

A Suicide Survivor's Support Group meets the first and third Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 8 p.m., at 1032 E. First Street. For information, please contact Traci Gardner 233-4277.

Depression recovery starts Sept. 9

A depression recovery program starts Monday, September 9, 6:30 p.m., at the 12-24 Club, 500 S. Wolcott. Please join us for a nine session program that works! Learn how you can understand and manage your emotions. Learn how to recognize distorted thoughts, and correct them before problems arise. Learn how to know if depression or another cause is creating a lack of energy, and the best way to achieve restorative rest and rejuvenation. Learn the necessary conditions for the brain to produce serotonin adequately. Discover how emotional intelligence is more important in life than IQ and more! For more information, call Eric Mechalke at 251-1453.

Summer clearance at Methodist thrift

Fall is rapidly approaching with cooler temperatures and school activities.

However, there will be many warm days to wear summer clothes. So now is the time to shop the Methodist thrift store located at 611 W. Collins for items at clearance prices.

We begin our sale with all merchandise and clothing at half price. The prices get smaller with time BUT so does the selection. Watch the window signs for details.

We will be closed Monday, Sept. 2, to observe Labor Day, then open Sept. 3, 4, and 7.

We will close Sept. 9 to 14 to clean and stock fall merchandise with re-opening Monday, Sept 16.

Don't let the construction zone around us keep you away -- we are open.

Our hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Donations accepted during open store hours. For more information, call 234-6611.

Breaking the Silence Walk

Saturday, September, 7, at Crossroads Park at 4 p.m., the 10th annual Breaking the Silence Walk will be held. Participants will be walking for suicide prevention, awareness, and support. There is a free barbecue from Johnny J's for the first 300. For more information, please contact Traci Gardner at 233-4277.

Task Force meets

The Natrona County Suicide Prevention Task Force meets the second Tuesday of each month at 8 a.m. at Mercer Family Resource Center, 535 W. Yellowstone. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Traci Gardner, 233-4277.

Free classes at health dept.

The City of Casper-Natrona County Health Department in partnership with the Blue Envelope Health Fund and the Natrona County Medical Reserve Corps will be offering free* CPR and first aid classes at our facility, 475. S. Spruce, during the following dates and times:

Healthcare Provider Course for nurses, EMT's, CNA's, etc.: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., September 26, October 17, December 12.

Heartsaver CPR and first aid for the general public and childcare providers: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5.

Please sign up at <http://casperhealth.eventbrite.com> or call 577-9751. If you need a class for a large group, please call 577-9751.

*Cost for the class is free for initial certification and on a sliding scale for renewal classes.

Beginning Experience Weekend

Beginning Experience of Wyoming is a weekend program that offers healing and renewal to divorced, widowed, and separated men and women. It is a nonprofit, faith-based comprehensive program offered to all persons, regardless of religious preference. The weekend can be a time for a real awakening, a re-evaluation and a new beginning. Beginning Experience is a positive experience of hope. You can anticipate an intense reflective, possibly painful but spiritually honest self-encounter.

The next Beginning Experience Weekend is in Douglas and starts at 7 p.m., on Friday, Sept. 13, and runs through Sunday afternoon, Sept. 15. Cost is \$150, which includes sleeping arrangements, meals and materials. Partial scholarships are available. Registration deadline is Sept. 10, 2013. For more information, call Curtis at 463-2677; Rick at 265-3201; Diane at 262-4142 or Sandi at 266-4340.

Free class at library

Natrona County Public Library offers basic computer classes monthly to help you navigate the computer, the internet, and basic programs such as Microsoft Word. Additional classes are given periodically on topics like social media, using Google and genealogy. All classes are held in the Tech Center at the main library in downtown Casper, offered free on a first come, first served basis. Please stop by the library's Reference Desk or call 577-READ ext. 2 to learn more about computer classes at your library.

Wednesday, Aug. 28, Facebook & Twitter, 3-5 p.m.

Women's Expo vendor space

Do you have a product or service that appeals to women? Exhibit space is now available for the 2013 Wyoming Women's Expo to be held at the Casper Events Center on Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5, 2013. Exhibitor booth reservation forms can be downloaded at www.WyomingWomensExpo.com.

This event is a great opportunity for women of all demographics to attend a show for inspiration, education, empowerment, health and beauty, food, fun, and of course, a little shopping. We know women attend the show for a variety of reasons and 2013 will again offer a diverse and balanced group of activities, resources, and of course you -- the exhibitor!

Space is limited, so don't delay in reserving your space. Regular booth prices start as low as \$255. Call Kendra Ziler at 235-8441, by email: kziler@cityofcasperwy.com; or visit www.WyomingWomensExpo.com to reserve your space now.

Wyoming Women's Expo hours are Friday, October 4, from 4 to 9:30 p.m., and Saturday, October 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday's activities include a professional development luncheon and seminars from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and 2 to 4 p.m.; trade show from 4 to 8 p.m.; Girls Night Out from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., and comedian Lisa Landry from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Saturday's activities include the Ta Ta Trot 5 K Breast Cancer Awareness Walk/Run registration at 7 a.m. and Walk/Run begins at 8 a.m., then the trade show, and Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$20 for Friday (all ages); \$5 for Saturday (Children ages 12 and under free); \$22 for two-day pass. For more information, please call 235-8441 or www.WyomingWomensExpo.com.

The Wyoming Women's Expo is produced by the Casper Star-Tribune, the Casper Events Center, and Townsquare Media.

Calling all crafters!

Garden Square Assisted Living will host the "Homemade with Love" craft fair and bake sale on Saturday, September 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables can be purchased for only \$20. All proceeds will benefit a local family struggling to pay medical expenses. We need crafters offering handmade items at reasonable prices. All baked goods must be non-perishable. All participants will be asked to donate an item for a raffle. The donation of a quilt for the raffle would be greatly appreciated! To reserve a table or for more information, please call 472-1153 and ask for Denise or Andrea. Be a participant in the first craft fair of the season and help a local family!

CC offers wilderness medicine

The Casper College Center for Training and Development is offering the two-day “Wilderness Medicine Institute” (CEU 0402 70) October 12 and 13, 2013 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

“Whether spending time in the backcountry is a person’s passion or their profession, they should never have to ask, ‘What do I do now,’” said Ann Dalton, workforce training specialist.

According to Dalton, the WMI is a “fast-paced, hands-on class for trip leaders, camp staff, outdoor enthusiasts, and people who spend time in remote locations.”

The WMI will cover a wide range of wilderness medicine topics including advanced topics that other programs leave out such as dislocation reduction and epinephrine administration, said Dalton. “Students will gain the knowledge, skills, and ability to make sound decisions in an emergency.”

The class will be taught by personnel from the National Outdoor Leadership School and is approved by the American Camping Association and the U.S. Forest Service. The cost of the class is \$250 per person.

For more information or to register contact Dalton 268-2085, or adalton@caspercollege.edu

'Hands on' massage therapy class

A hands-on class for both massage and movement therapists will be offered at Casper College September 27 through 29 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

According to Theresa Tobin Macy, instructor, the class, “Advanced Corrective Therapies” (CEU 1380 70), will focus “on learning a foundational cross fiber friction stroke with an emphasis on attaining depth not increasing pressure and to sequentially soften superficial muscles sinking to the level of restriction in the deeper layers.”

According to Macy, the lecture portion “will include computerized animations as a visual tool to expand knowledge of muscle action, fiber direction, agonist/antagonist relationships and strain patterns. Once identified, the class will focus on navigating through superficial tissue to isolate and treat deep myofascial layers,” she said.

Macy is a 2003 graduate of the Professional Massage Therapy Program at the Pennsylvania School of Muscle Therapy and earned her certification in deep muscle cross fiber therapy from the Pfrimmer Institute. Macy has accrued more than 900 hours in continuing education credit with a focus in myofascial release for children and adults, deep tissue techniques, and assessment skills. She joined the faculty at Cortiva Institute in 2008 as an instructor of massage therapy and musculoskeletal anatomy and kinesiology and also teaches professional ethics, deep tissue refresher, and body mechanic in the Cortiva Institute Continuing Education Program.

The cost for the class is \$375 per person. Those successfully completing the seminar will earn

2.1 continuing education units. To register or for more information contact Macy at 610-730-3960 or Theresa@inhmassage.com.

Classes/workshops at West Wind

The watercolor classes will meet at the West Wind Gallery on the first Saturday of the month -- September 7, 9 a.m. to noon. No charge for these sessions as there will be no demonstrations. Just a good time to paint together. Please call Ellen Black at 265-6783 if you have questions about these sessions.

For more information or questions please contact: West Wind Gallery, 1040 West 15th St., 265-2655. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

Family Stuff

Fun stuff for the whole family.

Special concert closes series

The final concert in the "Wednesday Night Live" concert series will feature the Jalan Crossland Band and John Kirlin and the High Plains Drifters on Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2013, beginning at 5:30 p.m. outside the Nicolaysen Art Museum. The concert, which is expected to last until 9:30 p.m., is free and vendors will also be on hand to sell food and beverages.

Raffle tickets for a chance to win a week's stay in a luxury Costa Rican condo, a \$100 Grant Street Grocery gift certificate, and a bottle of the premier edition of Wyoming Whiskey, will also be available for purchase. Proceeds from the sale will benefit both The Nic and the Casper College Alumni Association. The drawing will take place on September 28.

A perennial favorite of Casper audiences, Crossland and his band play what Crossland refers to as "Bottom 40 Country," a combination of Americana, folk, and roots country.

John Kirlin and the High Plains Drifters is a four-piece bluegrass band composed of Kirlin on mandolin and lead vocals, Gabe Dunbar on guitar, Chris Campbell on bass, and Andrew Boyle on drums. The band plays a combination of country, bluegrass, and roots music.

"We thought this would be a great opportunity to not only support The Nic and Casper College, but also to help provide a nice finale to this great concert series for the community. This will be a rare treat for the community to be able to come out and hear these two groups at the same venue" said Elliott Ramage, associate director of donor relations for the Casper College Foundation.

"The End of Summer Wednesday Night Live Finale" concert is supported by Hilltop National

Bank, The Nicolaysen Art Museum, the Casper College Alumni Association, and the Casper College Foundation.

Rib Fest Sept. 21

The Casper Shrine Club Boosters are sponsoring Rib Fest 2013 at the Casper Shrine Club located behind the Sunrise Shopping Center on Saturday, September 21, 2013, from 5 to 7 p.m. There will be a meet and greet from 4 to 5. For this event, the Boosters will be serving up succulent baby back pork ribs, beef ribs, and chicken along with all the fixings. This year's Pit Master, Jon Dannels (Cost Plus) along with Jake Crowder will be manning the grill to produce some of the best tasting ribs and chicken this side of the Mississippi River. The cost for this year's Rib Fest 2013 is \$20/person and children under 10 years old are half price. Tickets cannot be purchased at the door. To purchase your tickets to Rib Fest 2013 contact any Shrine Club Booster or call Dale at 262-9696 or Mike at 262-9005.

Pet Fest

Join the Casper Recreation Division and the Community Recreation Foundation in celebration of the furry, slimy or scaly loved ones in your life at the 2013 Pet Fest. This FREE event is open to all pets and their people and will include a costume contest at 10:30 a.m., pet talent contest and other surprises. The Pet Fest will be held at Washington Park in the grassy area southeast of the outdoor pool on Saturday, September 14, from 10 a.m. to noon. Pets must be under control and on a leash or in a kennel and must be accompanied by owner at all times.

In addition to the contests for pets and their owners, pet-related vendors are invited to come and show their wares, provide information booths, or have demonstrations throughout the event. Prospective vendors may contact Lori Spearman by phone at 235-8473 or email lspearman@cityofcasperwy.com for more information.

For additional information about this event, please call the Casper Recreation Center at 235-8383 or visit the City of Casper's website, www.casperwy.gov.

Be a responsible dog owner

Those with dogs are invited to stick around and celebrate AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day with the Central Wyoming Kennel Club on September 14, 10 a.m., to 4 p.m.

The goal of this initiative, supported by the American Kennel Club, is to educate first time dog owners about the responsibilities of dog ownership and help current owners enhance their relationships with their pets.

Dogs and their owners can participate in doggie games with great prizes, raffles, a Conformation and Obedience and Rally Fun Match, micro chipping from 8:00-10:00 am for only \$15 and CGC (Canine Good Citizen) Testing from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$10.

AKC RDO Day is a month-long celebration that involves hundreds of organizations around the country holding free events filled with fun and engaging activities every dog owner can enjoy. To learn more about AKC RDO Day, visit www.akc.org or www.centralwyomingkennelclub.org.

Family movie at library

Family Movie Night will be held at the Natrona County Public Library Tuesday, August 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the Crawford room. Monthly Family Nights include family-friendly activities and dinner provided by the Friends of the Library. Both families and individuals are welcome to attend. Your library is committed to offering programs that strengthen families and our community. For this month's movie title please call 577-READ ext. 2.

Historic home open

The Historic Bishop Home, 818 East 2nd Street, is open every Monday and Thursday in August. Hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursdays.

The Bishop family home, Casper's only historic home open for touring and events, was constructed in 1907 in the Capitol Hill Addition during the city's first boom time. The home is the first multi-story brick house built in Casper, moving the building trend of modest bungalows to larger, more upscale homes (considered mansions in 1907). The home resides in its original location on a hill overlooking downtown Casper. The contractor was W. T. Evans, founder of Evansville, Wyoming. The Bishop Home is believed to be his first venture into large-scale family homes. Step into this beautiful Four-Square Prairie Style home and learn some of Casper's most fascinating history about the life and times of one of the city's original pioneer families.

Parking is available on Lincoln and Jefferson Street. Limited parking is available in the home's driveway for people with disabilities.

Wolf dancers at trails Sept. 4

The National Historic Trails Interpretive Center is celebrating Native American culture and art with the Wolf Dancers of Wyoming Indian High School.

The event, free and open to the public, will take place Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 1 p.m. The celebration features approximately 10 Native American dancers and drummers.

The dancers and drummers will celebrate the closing of the Trails Center's temporary art show, "Resurgence of Native Spirit." The art show runs through Sept. 4, and includes 20 prints and

30 ceramic sculptures created by Wyoming Indian High School students.

Cleve Bell, art teacher at Wyoming Indian High School, coordinated the exhibit with his art students.

Bell worked closely with staff at the Trails Center to produce "Resurgence of Native Spirit." "This exhibit provided us the opportunity to show off the talent and creativity of young Native American artists," said Alex Rose, an interpreter at the Trails Center.

The art work is available for sale, with part of the proceeds benefiting the National Historic Trails Center Foundation.

This exhibit was made possible in part by the Rocky Mountain Nature Association.

For more information about the event, contact Alex Rose at 261-7780.

Master Gardeners Farmer's Market

Vegetables, fruits, herbs, plants, cut flowers, baked goods, olive oil, jam, garden decor, and much, much more are all available at the Master Gardeners Farmers' Markets. Each week, there will be new vendors with additional items for sale.

The Farmers' Market will be held every Saturday through September 28, from 7:30 a.m. until noon or sold out on the grounds of the Agricultural Resource Learning Center, 2011 Fairgrounds Rd.

There will be a Master Gardeners table staffed by Master Gardeners offering their expertise on all gardening questions and concerns. For more information, call the Master Gardeners at 235-9400, ext. 29. For vendor information, call Chrysty at 473-5738.

Bloody Mary Festival

The first Bloody Mary Festival will be held in Glenrock's Kimball Park on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Adults 21 and older will choose the "People's Choice Award." There will be door prizes, live entertainment, food and beverage vendors, and a Kids Carnival. The \$10 cover charge allows you to sample from all of the contestants and their version of the Best Bloody Mary in Wyoming. Once you have found your favorite, tickets are available to purchase your favorite full-size Bloody or Virgin Mary. Don't forget to bring your ID!

Kids Carnival is a \$10 bracelet which entitles kids to all of the fun and activities of the carnival, including popcorn and cotton candy.

The event is sponsored by Glenrock Main Street and Grand Teton Vodka.

Trails Center adjusts hours

The National Historic Trails Interpretive Center has revised its schedule for August.

The NHTIC will be open Tuesday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for the month of August. The NHTIC will be closed on Sundays and Mondays.

For more information, please call the NHTIC at 261-7780.

Fort opens Hollywood in Wyoming exhibit

Hollywood's fascination with Wyoming is evident in its frequent use of the state's vast and beautiful landscape, which has been featured in more than 120 films to date. The rolling hills, snow-capped Tetons, and broad plains have served as a backdrop for movies starting in 1904 with Wyoming Roundup. Traditional Western themes represent a large percentage of the films made in Wyoming, however many movies with other themes have also used Wyoming as a backdrop.

Fort Caspar Museum, 4001 Fort Caspar Rd., has installed a temporary exhibit featuring thirty movie posters from films that were shot in Wyoming. The posters represent almost 100 years of movies, beginning with westerns such as the 1917 Douglas Fairbanks film, "The Man from Painted Post," and Tim McCoy's 1926 film, "Warpaint." There are posters from science fiction films like "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" (1977) and "Starship Troopers" (1997), comedies such as the Three Stooges' 1965 movie, "Outlaws is Coming," and contemporary films like "Powwow Highway" (1989) and "Flicka" (2006).

The posters are on view now through October 5, 2013. For more information, please contact the museum at 235-8462 or check the Fort Caspar Museum website, www.fortcasparwyoming.com. The museum is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily in August and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily in September. Admission fees are adults \$3; youth (13 to 18 years) \$2; and children 12 & under free.

9-11 ceremony Sept. 9

The Natrona County United Veterans Council will conduct a commemorative ceremony honoring 9-11 in the Tom Walsh Chapel at the Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2013.

The master of ceremonies will be Chief Kenny King of the Casper Fire Department, the invocation and benediction will be given by Dave Mondle, chaplain for the Casper Fire Department; the National Anthem will be performed by Mersadis Barells, the Pledge of Allegiance will be led by Cecil V. Barnes, president of the Veterans Council.

Comments will be made by Deputy State Fire Marshall Mark Young (former chief of the Casper Fire Department). Young's comments will be followed by Chief King and Chief Chris Walsh of

the Casper Police Department honoring the fallen. They will read the names of all first responders across the nation that have fallen in the line of duty since the ceremony last year. There will be a rifle salute provided by the Natrona County High School JR. ROTC after which the Casper Fire Department Bagpipes will pipe the traditional "Amazing Grace."

The public is strongly encouraged to attend and honor all who come to mind in remembrance of 9-11.

UU events

The public is invited to attend the services and other events of the Unitarian Universalist Community of Casper. Services are held Sundays at 9 a.m. at the UCC Church at 1511 S. Melrose.

On August 25, in a change in location, the annual UU Casper fall kick-off picnic will be held at Sage Park at 2200 E. 15th Street (instead of Washington Park), and will start at 10:30 a.m. instead of the regular service time. Hamburgers will be served and participants are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

On September 1, guest speakers Judy Trohkemoinen and Josh Thompson will address Workers' Right and the spiritual implications of a fair workplace. During regular church services childcare and youth activities are available, with discussion and refreshments following the service.

The next monthly Share N Care Potluck is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Participants are asked to bring a dish to share and their own table service and beverage. For more information about these events or Unitarian Universalism, visit uucasper.org or call Laura at 259-4469.

High Holy Days observance

To those of the Jewish community and communion, as well as to those who are Torah observant and adhere strictly to the principle that God is One and His name is One; that God is not physical and that no physical attributes can apply to Him; and that God is the only One to whom it is proper to pray and that it is improper to pray to any other. Please note that the High Holy Days are early this year. Rosh Hashanah (the New Year) begins the evening of Sept. 4, the morning of Sept. 5, Sept. 6 (Sabbath evening) and that Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) begins the evening of Sept. 13 (Kol Nidrei) and concludes Sept. 14 (all day). Consult our website, (jewishcasper.org), for times of services at Temple Beth El and for related information on the Holy Days. Rabbi Sam Wiseman will speak on several disparate Torah portions which emphasize obedience to God's commandments and ordinances, their meaning and where they lead.

Sam Wiseman, General Secretary, Jewish Community Association of Casper and Rabbi,
Temple Beth El

Register for BGCCW

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming is now registering children and youth for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year! For elementary age members, we will have clubs at four school site locations (Verda James, Evansville, Mills and Paradise Valley). Our main club facility at 1701 East K Street will serve elementary members as well as teens. The teen program is free with a \$10 membership fee, while the elementary members have a \$25 weekly fee. Our clubs accept childcare reimbursement through DFS. Hours vary by site, as the main club closes at 8 p.m., Paradise Valley closes at 7 p.m. and all other sites close at 6 p.m. We offer programs in five key areas: character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, the arts, and sports, fitness and recreation. Free snacks are provided at all locations, and free dinner is provided at the main club. For more information on the "Positive Place for Kids" and our school year opportunities, please call 235-5694.

Public input on city parks plan

The city is seeking input on what needs to be done to make our overall park system more inviting. The city spends in excess of \$2.5 million per year to keep our 46 parks in good shape. Most of that effort goes into grounds maintenance while features like playgrounds and tables are being constantly repaired or replaced. Some Casper Parks receive a lot of use while others see relatively little. The city wants to find out what makes certain parks popular so we can take appropriate steps to increase the visitation in other parks.

For more information regarding the Park Plan or to participate in the survey log onto:
www.casperwy.gov/PublicWorks/ or call 235-8367.

Uprising entertainment set

The Uprising has announced that chart-topping band Demon Hunter will headline the entertainment lineup for the second annual event on Saturday, September 14, at 1701 East K Street. Joining Demon Hunter will be Flame, Sidewalk Prophets and Cleanzed Soul.

A Christian metal band from Seattle, Demon Hunter has released six full-length albums.

Flame, is a Grammy-nominated and Billboard-topping Christian hip-hop artist.

Sidewalk Prophets is a contemporary Christian band from Nashville, Tenn.

Joining Demon Hunter, Flame and Sidewalk Prophets at The Uprising will be Casper band, Cleanzed Soul.

The Uprising is a day-long festival that was formed through a partnership between Youth for Christ and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming designed to reach and connect with the youth of the Casper-area community. Through music performances, skateboarding

demonstrations, and basketball, baseball and boxing clinics, The Uprising will share the good news of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

For more information, please visit www.uprisingwyoming.org or our facebook page.

CC theatre tickets online

Those wishing to purchase tickets for Casper College Department of Theatre and Dance productions will now have an additional way to do so: online, by simply going to caspercollege.edu/theatre.

The department is now working with University Tickets, a company that has been in the business of providing college campuses with a simple way to offer online ticket sales. "The wonderful thing about this is that theatergoers will have the convenience of purchasing tickets online, choosing their seats, and selecting the mode of delivery: U.S. Mail, or printing out their own 'e-tickets' just as one can do with an airline boarding pass," said William Conte, Casper College theatre instructor.

According to Conte, theatergoers "will also be able to enter contact information and receive e-blasts about Krampert Theatre productions, respond to surveys, and open their own secure accounts that will conveniently save their purchasing preferences to make buying tickets even easier."

Online ticket purchasing is now available for the college's summer production of the musical "Godspell" which runs July 20, and July 24 through 27 at 7:30 p.m. and July 28 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students ages 5 to 18. Tickets mailed will be charged an additional \$1 per order for handling. In addition, tickets purchased seven working days prior to any production will be held at will call.

Wild West Photo Fest Aug. 29-31

Wyoming Camera Outfitters, Canon and 307 Magazine are excited to announce the events schedule for the Third Annual Wild West Photo Fest. Headlining this year will be one of the biggest names in photography, famed western photographer David Stoecklein. David will present "Photographing the West" the evening of Thursday, August 29, at 7 p.m., at the America Theatre in downtown Casper.

The Wild West Photo Fest will continue Friday with Wyoming Camera Outfitters hosting Canon factory representative in store, with special sales on photo and printing equipment. Canon will host a downtown photo walk that evening and make test lenses and available for use, and WCO will provide instructors who will be at select locations to provide shooting tips.

On Saturday, special workshops will be held in downtown theatres ending at 3 p.m., when 2nd Street between Center and David will be closed. And the 307 exhibition tent will be set up to display the top 150 photo entries for the public to enjoy and vote on the People's Choice

Award. Food vendors, musicians, entertainers and beer and drink gardens will take place until 7 p.m., when the winners of the photo competition will be announced. There will be a \$20 reservation fee which will cover Stoecklein, and all other workshops throughout the event (which will be offset with a \$20 Wyoming Camera Gift Card).

Admission to the street festival and photo exhibit will be free to the public.

Saturday drummin'

Casper Community Drum Circle will meet during the summer, with the exception of a few Saturdays. Here is the schedule for gathering from 10 a.m. to noon (unless otherwise noted) at 112 S. Beech. August 24 (3 to 5 p.m.), August 31. Questions? Call David, 259 -0350. Keep on drummin'!

Clubs

Service, hobbies, etc.

Soroptimists meet Aug. 26

The public is invited to attend the August program meeting of Soroptimist International of Central Wyoming. The meeting will be held on Monday, August 26 in the conference room of the Casper Senior Center at noon.

The program will be presented by our Vice President Donna Cuin. She will be discussing the various awards given by Soroptimists to women in our community. Soroptimist means "best for women". If you are interested in helping women and girls in our local community and throughout the world, please join us for lunch to meet our members and learn about our club and its activities. Cost of lunch is \$7 (\$4 for seniors).

For reservations please contact Dyann at 237-1334 or dyanndurst@aol.com

Dyann Durst -- 237-1334

Gold prospectors meet

The monthly meeting of the Casper chapter of the Gold Prospectors Association of America is Wednesday, Aug. 28, at 7 p.m., at the new meeting place, the Wyoming Oil and Gas Commission Building, 2211 King Blvd. We will discuss the outings that took place in August and planning outings for September. For those people only interested in metal detecting, we will plan a special outing for them.

The result of July elections are Rick Messina, president; George Vandell, vice president; Terry Kipp, treasurer, and Carla Tillman, secretary.

Anyone interested in prospecting or metal detecting is welcome. If you have any questions, call Rick Messina at 234-0244.

Beta Sigma Phi starts

"Beginning Day" is here for members of the Epsilon Master chapter of Beta Sigma Phi. A salad party will be held on Tuesday, August 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the home of President Louise Bishop. The upcoming year's activities will be discussed including the Wyoming State Convention to be held in Cody Sept. 13 to 15. Information: Louise, 265-5776.

Corvette Roundup Aug. 31

The tenth annual Corvette Roundup Show and Shine car show will be held in Casper, Saturday, August 31, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Sears parking lot at the Eastridge Mall. The public is invited to attend this free event.

Roundup participants will display their Corvettes and those in attendance will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite in each classification as well as an overall Best of Show.

All Corvettes are welcome for the entire event including a Rallye Saturday afternoon and an Autocross on Sunday. Registration for the event and car show will be Saturday in the Sears Parking lot from 8 to 9:30 a.m. The cost for car show only participants is \$10.

Owners who would like to show their cars and participate in the event are encouraged to contact Bill Rader at 265-6014 or visit our website at: www.centralwyomingcorvettes.com

Queen Bee Red Hatters luncheon

Thursday, August 29, Mary Climer and Pat Potter would like to invite you to Red Lobster at 11:30 a.m. Meals will be ordered from the lunch menu with the average cost being \$11 with tax and tip. RSVP either to Pat Potter, e-mail (pkpotter7@msn.com) or Mary Climer at 235-5365 by August 26. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Jan Roggow -- 237-8318

Toastmasters welcome new members

Learn communication, leadership, and public speaking in a friendly, supportive environment. You will enhance your career opportunities, learn how to run a meeting, prepare and deliver presentations (both planned and impromptu), as well as improve your general communication skills. Guests and new members are welcome.

Casper has three Toastmaster Clubs to choose from:

Morning Tour, Mondays, 6:30 a.m. to 7:40 a.m., Parkway Plaza, Adrian's Room (next to restaurant). Great way to start the week!

Pathfinder, Tuesdays, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Chamber of Commerce, 500 N. Center Street.

Pioneer, Wednesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Petroleum Club. Will begin meeting again in September.

For further information, contact Mary Ann at 234-0158 or email Toastmasterclubs3@yahoo.com

Sports and Recreation

Fun stuff for your body.

Open house, register at 307

If you're looking to start dance, try something new, or get back into dance, come to our Open House! If you are looking for a studio to belong to, then please take a look at 307 Dance Academy. You'll be hooked. We're holding an afternoon just for you and your dancer(s).

Sunday, August 25, from 2 to 4 p.m. at 225 N. Wolcott, you can meet our executive director Tina Silva, get a tour of our facility, enjoy some refreshments, face painting, and lots of information. You can meet some of our older dancers, watch some videos from past recitals and competitions too. We are the place for you. With drive, dedication, and determination, 307 Dance Academy is the place to dance in Casper.

If you are an existing dancer, then be at the studio for registration. Back to school isn't as much fun as back-to-dance! Come August 28 and 29 from 4 to 8 p.m. at 225 N. Wolcott. Register, get your information, meet up with dance friends, grab a t-shirt and more. Meet the new staff and meet the new teachers. Get your dress codes, get your packet of information and get excited for the 2013-2014 dance season!

Register for RMSD dance

The 2013-2014 Dance Season is here. RMSD accepts registrations all year.

Rocky Mountain School of Dance offers Kinder Dance (for ages 2-5), Kinder Hop & Kinder Combo (for ages 4-5) Ballet, Pointe, Jazz, Tap, Contemporary, Modern, for students age 6-18, and both Latin & Standard Ballroom for students age 10-18. In addition we offer Adult Ballet, and Ballroom.

If you'd like a tour of our studio or would like to try a free class, please call us at 237.6792.

RMSD is the ONLY dance school in Casper that offers both Standard & Latin Ballroom for students age 10 to adult. Adults, bring a partner and receive a couples discount!

If you would like to register for dance classes please stop by the studio at 736 N. Glenn Road in Casper, or give us a call us at 237.6792

Registration Day: Sunday, August 25, 2013, 3 to 5 p.m. @ The RMSD Studio.

And of course you can register any time after the season starts on September 3, 2013 between 5 and 9 p.m., at the RMSD Studio, 736 N. Glenn Road.

Community fishing pond opens to public

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department announces the opening of a new community fishing pond now available to the public.

Jessica's Pond, located next to Speas Fish Hatchery approximately 10 miles west of Casper, is now open for fishing. The pond is wheelchair accessible and has a fishing platform. Work is ongoing to develop a footbridge, benches and a path around the pond. The final stages should be completed in September. Anglers should park at the Wyoming Fly Casters Memorial Access Area parking lot just before the entrance to the fish hatchery.

Jessica's Pond is stocked with rainbow, brook, brown, and cutthroat trout. The community fishery is open for all anglers. Statewide fishing regulations and general creel limits apply. Anglers over age 14 must possess a valid fishing license and conservation stamp.

A dedication of Jessica's Pond is planned for later this fall.

Thursday afternoon bowling

Thursday Bowling: Need teams (three lady) or individuals to bowl on our Thursday afternoon bowling league from 1 to 3 p.m. at El Marko Lanes. If you want to have fun during our long winter days, please contact me soon at 262-1887 or 265-8824. Nadine Orszulak

Lots to do at ice arena open house

Come kick off the fall season at the coolest place in town! The Casper Ice Arena is hosting a Fall Open House on Saturday, September 7, 2013 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To start things off, the Casper Amateur Hockey Club will have their annual Open Registration and Goalkeepers Skate Swap from 8 a.m. to noon, and will be offering ice time from 8:30 to 10:45 a.m.

After hockey, the Casper Figure Skating Club will have open registration with ice time from 11 a.m. to noon.

Finally, the Casper Skating School will be hosting a FREE Basic Skills Skating Clinic from 12:15 to 1 p.m., followed by FREE Public Skating session from 1 to 3 p.m. The free skating clinic is open to anyone interested ages 3 and older. Children should be accompanied by an adult to the rink. Helmets are available and encouraged for younger skaters and those with little or no skating experience. A 10 percent discount will be offered on all ice arena public skating season passes and all fall Casper Skating School class registrations during the open house from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To keep everyone satisfied, the ice arena offers a full service concession stand that is always open, offering snacks, meals and treats to quench your thirst and keep you energized for a great fall season!

For additional information regarding this exciting day or any other upcoming programs or special events, please call 235-8484.

PE for homeschoolers

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming is once again offering physical education classes for home school children. The classes will offer station work to improve motor activities, team sports involving skill development and sportsmanship, opportunities to participate in a wide range of activities and exercises for improved physical fitness and flexibility, lifetime skills and recreation development, as well as an active environment not based on competition. Classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 17 to December 12. Class times will be 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. for 5 to 9 year olds, and 1:15 to 2 p.m. for ages 10 and older. The cost for this program is \$25 for club members and \$35 for non members. To register, come to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming, 1701 E. K Street. For more information about this program or the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming, call Brian at 235-5694.

Fall activities guide available

The new 2013 Fall Activities Guide is available and is packed with a variety of programs, classes and recreation activities. Registration will also begin for all Fall classes offered through the Casper Recreation & Aquatics Center and the Casper Ice Arena. Fitness Classes begin with a week of FREE classes starting on August 26 and other classes in Ice Skating, Swimming, Dance, Martial Arts, Sports, and Arts & Crafts will start September 3 or later.

Along with the favorites, new classes and programs include Advanced Beginning Ballet, Intermediate Ballet, Weaving for Kids, Beads & Things, Ceramics, Zentangle Family, and Archery for Adults.

Make sure you register early to guarantee your spot in a class and insure your favorite class meets its minimum! Registration may be completed at the Recreation Center, 1801 East 4th St., by mail, by phone with credit card at 235-8383 or on-line at www.activecasper.com .

Helping Others

Volunteer opportunities.

Pack food bags

The Wyoming Food for Thought Project is continuing the weekend food bags for kids going hungry.

"We are partnering with Summer Feeding sites, like the Boys and Girls Club, to distribute bags on Friday afternoons. The concept remains the same, but we are asking kids and families who need help to contact us," says Jamie Purcell, executive director of Wyoming Food for Thought Project.

If you would like to receive a bag, or if you would like to donate, please call 337-1703.

Packing dates remain the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month (August 28) at 4 p.m., 315 N. Wolcott.

Jamie Purcell -- 267-2421

Annual musical instrument swap

Got a musical instrument lying around gathering dust? Bring it to Wyoming Music's annual Instrument Swap and put it to good use. Instruments are being accepted now through September 30 at Wyoming Music in the Sunrise Shopping Center on consignment during regular business hours. This is a great opportunity to sell your instrument and help someone else get a good used instrument at an affordable price for band or orchestra. People can also donate an instrument to a needy student by dropping it off. Part of the proceeds from the consignment sales are used to help provide instruments to children who wish to participate in music in school. For more information, call Dean Lorimer at 237-7322.

Learn how to be a hospice volunteer

Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions is seeking caring individuals to become hospice volunteers.

The next volunteer training will meet on Tuesdays from September 10 to October 8 from 6 to 9 p.m. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and interested in providing companionship, respite, light housekeeping or occasional transportation.

As Natrona County's only non-profit hospice, volunteers are a vital part of our mission to help patients and families on the end-of-life journey.

Class size is limited to 20 participants so please call 577-4832 or e-mail volunteer@cwHP.org for more information or to register.

Volunteer for Uprising

The Uprising is in search of volunteers! The Uprising is a partnership between Youth for Christ and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming designed to reach and connect with the youth of our community. Through music performances, skateboarding demonstrations, basketball, baseball and boxing clinics, we attempt to share the good news of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Uprising is currently looking for volunteers to help with the event on September 14th, 2013. If you are interested in assisting with sports clinics, band hospitality or event set-up and tear down, please contact Lou Bruggman at 235-4079.

Poverty Resistance needs help

Poverty Resistance is seeking donations of automobiles, trucks, motor homes, camper trailers, living or dead. We fix them up. Give away some to needy persons, sell the rest to cover our expenses. We have given away more than 40 vehicles over the last 2-1/2 years. Some are being driven, some are being used as a home, some are used for both! For more information, call Mary Ann at 253-8955.

Family Stuff

[Fun stuff for the whole family.](#)

Market adds small grower spot

Come sell your extra produce at the Tuesday downtown Casper Farmers Market.

We've set up a "Community Table" in the center of the market to give smaller growers a chance to sell their bounty. \$2 secures you a 2'x2' space on the table.

Call us at 337-1703 today to sell at the next market!

Farmers Market Tuesday

The Downtown Casper Farmers Market takes place Tuesday nights on the grounds of the Nic and the Rails to Trails Park from 5 to 7:30 p.m., every Tuesday through September 17. Come out and enjoy live music, local food vendors, children's activities, and more. Perennial favorites as well as new vendors will make the market the best yet. This is the market's sixth year!

Parking is available in the downtown parking garage, just a two-block stroll down rails-to-trails path, or along Collins Drive between Beech and Kimball. This year's market is sponsored in part by Greiner Motors and the McMurry Foundation.

To become a vendor, or for more information please call the market managers, Wyoming Food

for Thought Project, at 337-1703.

Wednesday Night Live

The Nicolaysen Art Museum presents its free outdoor summer music series from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays. Take a chair or blanket, relax and listen to great entertainment. Food, drinks and alcohol available to purchase onsite. No outside alcohol allowed.

Aug. 28: John Kirlin and the High Plains Drifters and Jalan Crossland.

For specifics on each group, visit www.thenic.org

Reunions

Meetings, dates.

NC '58

The NCHS Class of 1958 will hold its 55th Class reunion on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013.

“Munchies and Memories” will be the theme at the Casper Country Club, 6 p.m. This reunion is a very casual affair and the cost is \$25 per person. Please RSVP by Sept. 2 by contacting Marilyn (Martin) Stafford, 258-4433, or Susan (Todd) Martin,

577-0742.

NC football reunion in Laramie

The NCHS football teams who played in the fall of 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952, will hold a reunion in Laramie on September 14, 2013, at the game between Wyoming and Northern Colorado. The youngest of the football players is 78; the oldest is 83. We presently have 10 players planning to attend. Those interested in attending are asked to contact Danny White at 503-246-4154; or dugandan2@gmail.com, or Dick Hartwell, rhartwell@bresnan.net

KW '73

It's almost time for KW's class of 1973 40-year reunion! We would like to invite fellow classmates from NCHS and from KWHS to join us for the icebreaker on Friday night, August 30, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Wonder Bar. Stop by and visit with old friends and classmates! Other reunion plans include golf and dinner Saturday at the Casper Country Club. A school tour and city tour will also be held on Saturday. Questions? Call Dan 266-3277, Becky 577-

1955 or Cathy 234-1494 or email us at KWHS73@gmail.com. We hope to see you Labor Day weekend!!

Schools

Announcements.

Fall hours for adult learning

Fall 2013 hours for the Adult Learning Center at Casper College, which provides instruction in both adult basic education instruction and English as a Second Language, have been announced. The new hours will go into effect on Monday, Aug. 26.

The center will be open on Mondays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. A mandatory new student orientation for GED students will be held every Tuesday at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. The center is closed on Fridays and weekends.

“The Adult Learning Center offers free assessment and instruction to out-of-school adult students, 16 years old and older, who need to improve their basic reading, writing, science, social studies, and math skills in order to reach their educational and employment goals,” said Lisa Mixer, Adult Learning Center programs coordinator.

According to Mixer, assessment and instruction is also offered for those whose native language is not English through the center’s English as a Second Language program. “Individual and small group instruction is available for all levels of survival English and includes civics,” she noted.

All programs offered at the center, which is open-entry, open-exit, are free of charge. The Adult Learning Center at Casper College is located in the Werner Technical Center on the Casper College campus.

For more information stop by the Casper College Adult Learning Center or call the center at 268-2230.

Cultural dinners at CC

The first cultural dinner for the 2013-2014 school year at Casper College will feature foods from Portugal on Thursday, Sept. 26 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Roberts Commons Cafeteria.

The dinner will feature what many consider to be Portugal’s national dish, Caldo Verde, a delicious soup featuring thinly sliced kale, pureed potatoes and smoky pork sausage; Salada De Grao, a salad featuring chickpeas; Portuguese Vina Dosh, a main course featuring wine and

garlic pork; Paella, a hearty main dish featuring chicken and a variety of colorful vegetables; Jagacita, a vegetarian main course featuring onions, rice, and beans; green beans and squash; and for desert, Portuguese Rice Pudding, a creamy and sweet dish garnished with cinnamon.

Other dinners scheduled for the school year are Indian on October 24, Japanese on February 13, Dutch on March 20, Lebanese on April 10, and Russian on May 1.

Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 3, both individual and ticket packages will go on sale, and remain on sale until Friday, Sept. 20. The cost for a ticket package, which includes tickets for all six meals, will be \$55 for adults and \$37.50 for children ages 7 to 12. Tickets for individual dinners are \$9.50 for adults and \$7 for children ages 7 to 12 when purchased in advance, and \$11 at the door. There is no charge for children 6 and under. Sales tax will be added to all ticket purchases.

According to Janet de Vries, Casper College Diversity Committee member, tickets may be purchased at the Casper College Business Office or the Gateway Café, both located on the third floor of the Gateway Building, as well as at Roberts Commons Cafeteria during regular meal times. Cash is accepted at all locations and credit cards are also accepted at the cafeteria and café.

Those attending the dinner are encouraged to use the new parking lots located to the southwest of Roberts Commons.

The cultural dinner series is sponsored by the Casper College Diversity Committee.

Vaccination clinics set

Attention Kindergartners and 7th graders, and all others who will need vaccinations for school. The Casper/Natrona County Health Department will hold Back-to-School vaccination clinics on Aug. 27, 3 to 6 p.m.; Sept. 5, 3 to 6 p.m.; Sept. 10, 3 to 6 p.m.; Sept. 17, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All clinics are held at the Casper/Natrona County Health Department, 475 South Spruce Street.

Exclusion Day Sept. 18: If your child does not have the required immunization by this date, he/she will be excluded from school until you provide proof of updated immunizations.

The Back-to-School vaccination clinics are for school-aged children, ages 5 to 18 years. These are walk-in clinics and no appointment is needed. Vaccinations available are: DTaP, Polio, MMR, Chickenpox, TDaP, Hepatitis B.

Cost is \$12 per immunization, the student's parent or guardian must be present, and students must have vaccination records.

For more information, please contact NCSD's Nursing Coordinator, Suzey Delger RN FNP, at (307) 253-3169.

CC launches new certificate program

The first offering in Casper College's recently announced certificate program, "Cognitive Retraining," will be offered during the fall 2013 semester.

"Acquired Brain Injuries" (PSYC 2390) "is an introductory course that focuses on the major areas of research and treatment application in the field of acquired brain injuries (ABI). Various types of brain injuries, etiologies of these injuries, and treatments of these injuries will be presented," said Shawn Powell, Ph.D., ABPP.

Powell, instructor for the class, said that there are five main objectives of the course, which include the design of a comprehensive treatment plan for individuals with an ABI, and identifying community based services for individuals with ABIs.

Registration for the fall semester is currently underway. Students may register as degree or nondegree seeking. "Acquired Brain Injuries" will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 28.

OLLI fall signup Aug. 29

The "fabulous Fall Sign-Up" for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Casper College will be held on Thursday, August 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Gateway Building.

The sign up features a number system to assure that all those registering for fall classes will be taken care of in a quick and orderly manner, according to Karen Arnold, lifelong learning specialist. Numbers will be available from 3:30 to 6 p.m.

This year's fall offerings include a trip, a number of new offerings, and a return of old favorites. "We have tried to come up with a wide variety of topics to appeal to as many folks as we can this fall," said Arnold.

"Amazing Aspens" taught by Wyoming Game and Fish biologist Keith Schoupe, who was the WGF's lead biologist on the Bates Creek Aspen Regeneration project, will provide OLLIs with "the genetic makeup of these fascinating trees in a lecture and field trip to an aspen grove on Muddy Mountain," Arnold said.

Andrew Young, Casper College physics instructor will return with a new class: "Exploring Astronomy Topics" to be taught at the Casper Planetarium. Young will use planetarium modules to explore a variety of astronomical topics from constellations to the planets and more, according to Arnold.

Other new offerings for the fall include "It's Your Genes;" "'Russian Ark': A Film Journey through Russian History;" "Taking Stock of our Fish," which will feature a field trip to watch a fish stocking operation; "Understanding the Weather," and "The Real Crawley Family: The Historical Context of 'Downton Abbey,'" which will be taught by Casper College President Walter Nolte, an expert in 19th century British history. "Our president was once a college history instructor, and during this OLLI class he will use clips from the series 'Downton Abbey' to prompt discussion about the historical events that occurred during the period covered in the first three seasons of the show," noted Arnold.

The OLLI Fabulous Fall Sign Up will be held on the second floor of the Gateway Building located on the Casper College campus. For those unable to attend the sign up, registrations will be taken by phone or in person after August 29. To register by phone members may call Arnold at 268-2099 or Vicki Pollock, lifelong learning specialist, at 268-2097. The OLLI office is located in Room 408B in the Gateway Building for those wishing to register in person.

Meal reimbursement

The Natrona County School District also will participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which provides reimbursement for nutritious meals and snacks served to young children in childcare homes, childcare centers, head start and outside-school-hours programs.

The goal of the CACFP is to teach good eating habits and assure that well-balanced, nourishing meals are served to children. The same meals will be made available to all enrolled children at no separate charge regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability, and there is no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

The Income Eligibility Guidelines are used to determine if participants qualify for reimbursement. These guidelines are in effect from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. Please call 307-253-5205 for assistance.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

DC Dash

The DC Dash 5K Fun Run takes place at Tate Pump House on Saturday, Sept. 14, at 10 a.m. Costumes encouraged! Prizes

awarded and goody bags.

All proceeds go to the cost of the academic journey to DC and NY for Woods Learning Center 4th/5th grade students.

Registration (prior to noon Sept. 13) by mail or deliver to WLC at 500 South Walsh Drive.

All checks must be made out to Casper College Foundation (note DC Dash).

Registration at site at 9:30 a.m. at Tate Pump House, \$20 adults, \$10 for 13-18 year olds, and \$5 for 12 & under. Team of

any 8, \$100. No refunds.

Purchase DC Dash T-shirts by 9/3/13 for discount.

WLC -- 253-3900

Susan -- 258-3945

Free and reduced meals

The Natrona County School District has announced its policy for free and reduced price meals for children unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program, and School Breakfast Program. Each school and the office of the Food Services has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

Household size and income criteria will be used for determining eligibility. Children from households whose income is at or below the required levels are eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Applications are available online at www.natronaschools.org, school offices, mailed to households, and at the Food Services office at 970 North Glenn Road. If you need assistance, call 307-253-5205.



Be more like Texas, Wyoming

SEPTEMBER 01, 2013 12:00 AM

Editor:

This is a message for the Wyoming justice system and our state's Legislature: I am so tired of hearing about Dale Wayne Eaton and all the legal appeals the murderer has enjoyed for years.

If he had committed his crime in the state of Texas, he would have been executed years ago. I don't have a lot to say about Texas, even though my family goes back to the 1830s on both sides; but Texas certainly knows what to do with murderers. Evidently the state of Wyoming does not.

It always interest me that murderers want rights they never gave their victims.



Wyoming to seek life without parole in Evansville murder case



OCTOBER 01, 2013 9:00 PM • BY MEGAN CASSIDY STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

The state will not seek the death penalty in the case of Samuel Renner, an Evansville man accused of shooting and killing 41-year-old Todd Callies on July 25.

Renner was charged with first-degree premeditated murder, as well as attempted first-degree murder, seven counts of aggravated assault and two counts of possession of a deadly weapon with unlawful intent. He pleaded **not guilty** to all charges Sept. 13, but the state had not yet declared whether it would seek the death penalty if Renner was convicted.

Prosecutors recently filed a notice of intent that they would instead seek a sentence of life without the possibility of parole or commutation.

There has been one execution in Wyoming since the death penalty was re-instated in 1977. Dale

Wayne Eaton, convicted of the 1988 rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, is currently the only Wyoming inmate on death row.

Prosecutor Dan Itzen said when considering Wyoming statutes and what aggravating and mitigating circumstances would apply in the Renner case, he did not believe it would qualify for the death penalty. He declined to elaborate because the case is pending.

Renner is currently held without bond at the Natrona County Detention Center.



Life without parole a better choice for many families of victims

OCTOBER 09, 2013 5:00 AM • [CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE EDITORIAL BOARD](#)

When the two young Cody men who gunned down three members of a family in Clark received sentences of life without parole instead of the death penalty, some questioned if that was a just sentence for such a cold-blooded crime.

But it may be a surprise that many families of murder victims prefer the life without parole sentence, simply because it puts the killer away forever without the decades-long court appeals that can accompany a death sentence.

The life without parole sentences mean that Tanner Vanpelt and Stephen Hammer will not be able to get out of prison – ever. The two, both 19 when the murders were committed, pleaded guilty to killing Ildiko Freitas, 40, and her parents, 70-year-old Janos Volgyesi and 69-year-old Hildegard Volgyesi on March 2. Prosecutors said that the teens had stolen guns from a Cody pawn shop and came to the home of their victims to steal a car.

The Powell Tribune reported that Park County Attorney Bryan Skoric agreed to seek life sentences instead of the death penalty, with the agreement of law enforcement and Freitas' family. The sentences for Vanpelt and Hammer, imposed by District Court Judge Steven Cranfill were the result of a plea agreement. Skoric could have chosen to pursue the death penalty, but agreed to life sentences with the support of the family of the three victims

Thomas Volgyesi, the younger brother of one murder victim and son of the other two, said in court that while the two 19-year-old killers deserved the death penalty, he supported the life without parole sentence, saying that execution would not bring him any closure.

Years of pain for survivors

The family of Lisa Marie Kimmell is still hearing about the man who killed 18-year-old Kimmell and dumped her body in the North Platte River 25 years ago.

Dale Wayne Eaton is the only person on Wyoming's death row for the murder, but appeals to the death sentence will continue into 2014, when a federal judge will rule on Eaton's challenge to the constitutionality of his death sentence.

The 40th anniversary of the Fremont Canyon crimes against Becky Thomson and her sister Amy Burrige on Sept. 24 reminded us of how the possibility of parole for the men who committed the crimes tortured the survivor for years.

Both sisters were thrown from the 100-foot plus bridge in Fremont Canyon, killing 11-year-old Burrige on impact.

It was Thomson who survived the fall with her hip broken in five places and climbed out of the canyon after hiding during the night from the killers. She lived to testify against Ronald Leroy Kennedy and Jerry Lee Jenkins and they were given the death penalty.

The two, in their late 20s the night of the crimes, were convicted of first-degree murder, rape, and assault and battery. Their death sentences were reduced to life in prison in 1977 when the Wyoming Supreme Court overturned the state's death penalty.

Thomson then faced another steep climb to survive the fear she battled that the killers would be paroled after their death penalties were commuted to life in prison.

She talked publicly about her fears that the men, who she said appeared to threaten her in court when she testified against them, would get out of prison and come to finish their attempt to kill her.

She had testified against them both, and she said Kennedy mocked her by grinning and drawing his finger across his throat.

As Kennedy appealed his conviction and legally required parole hearings occurred, Thomson collected boxes and boxes of petition signatures against parole.

Those petitions were part of the discussion when Wyoming did enact a law creating a life without parole sentence in 2001. By then Thomson had been dead for nine years, after either falling or jumping from the same Fremont Canyon Bridge.

Victims and their families now in Wyoming have something that Thomson didn't -- the possibility of a life sentence without parole and whatever reassurance it may give them.



Life without parole too good for killers

OCTOBER 18, 2013 12:00 AM

After reading your editorial in the Casper Star-Tribune, "Life without parole a better choice for many families of victims," I don't quite see it that way. Taking the example of the two young men that killed three innocent people in Clark, Lisa Marie Kimmell being killed by Dale Eaton, and the whole host of other killers in Wyoming's last 40 years, these killings were had a degree of premeditation involved by people that are and were unfit to walk amongst us in society.

Rehabilitation would be highly unlikely for the two young men given the fact they could actually aim firearms at three defenseless people and pull the trigger, take their vehicle and drive away as if it didn't happen. How many hours and or days did Lisa Marie Kimmell suffer not just the repeated rapes but wondering if she was going to live before Dale Eaton finally snuffed her life out. Now Eaton is on death row, yet Tanner Vanpelt and Stephen Tanner get life?

Jerry Jenkins and Ronald Kennedy raped and threw off a bridge Becky Thomson and Amy Burrige. Burrige died on impact and Becky Thomson survived only to commit suicide later, and the list goes on. These people are "rabid dogs" and as with rabid dogs we euthanize them, plain and simple.

According to Wyoming Department of Corrections it will cost us \$45,000 per year to house an inmate, and if these two 19-year-olds live to 65 we will have spent over \$2 million each to keep alive two rabid dogs. While this might ease the conscience of the victims' families, it puts the lives of non violent prisoners and staff in jeopardy, they have a possibility of some form of clemency like Jenkins and Kennedy got by having their death sentences commuted, and there is always the possibility of their escape.

These folks in fact get a roof over their head, food, medical attention that our own non-offending working class folks can't have for the most heinous behavior. Where is the deterrent for the next rabid dog out here waiting to kill some innocent person?

We sure didn't see the uprising of attacks and murders back in the 70's or 80's and darn sure before that. If it works don't mess with it.



Dale Wayne Eaton lawyers ask federal judge to overturn death sentence



DECEMBER 31, 2013 7:00 AM • BY BEN NEARY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE — Lawyers for Wyoming's lone death row inmate have filed a massive court brief asking a federal judge to overturn his death sentence.

Inmate Dale Wayne Eaton, 68, is challenging the constitutionality of the death sentence he received in 2004 for the rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Billings, Mont. The Wyoming Supreme Court already has upheld Eaton's conviction, but the federal court has put the execution on hold.

Eaton's lawyers filed the 300-page brief with U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne last week. The brief echoes testimony from a court hearing this summer at which many of Eaton's relatives and acquaintances testified.

Eaton's current lawyers don't dispute that he killed Kimmell in 1988. But they claim he didn't get an

adequate defense at trial.

In challenging Eaton's death sentence, his current legal team has hammered on their claim that his trial lawyers didn't do a constitutionally adequate job of investigating his life, mental health and family history to draw out mitigating evidence that might have convinced even a single juror that his life was worth saving.

Kimmell disappeared while driving across Wyoming and her body was later found in the North Platte River. In 2002, DNA testing linked Eaton to the murder while he was in prison on unrelated charges.

At the time of Kimmel's murder, Eaton was living by himself in a rundown compound in Moneta, west of Casper. Authorities have said he kept Kimmell captive there for several days and raped her before killing her and burying her car on the property.

Eaton's current legal team consists of Cheyenne lawyer Terry Harris and Missouri lawyers Sean O'Brien and Lindsay J. Runnels. Harris declined comment Monday on the brief or the status of Eaton's case.

Harris and O'Brien successfully challenged the death sentence of James Harlow, an inmate at the Penitentiary of Wyoming who had been convicted of involvement with the death of a correctional officer. A federal judge overturned Harlow's death sentence in 2008.

The bulk of Eaton's latest federal brief levels criticism at lead trial lawyer Wyatt Skaggs of Laramie. Skaggs declined comment Monday, saying he can't comment on a pending case.

Eaton's team wrote in the brief that Skaggs' approach to the defense of capital murder charges is, "so fundamentally flawed that the jury that sentenced Mr. Eaton to die heard virtually nothing of his life circumstances and mental illness that led to his impoverished isolation at the time of his crime."

The brief charges that Skaggs' tried to save money for the Public Defender's Office by hiring a single person to serve both as investigator for the defense and as a mitigation specialist, meaning a person who would interview Eaton's family and others to try to present a complete picture of his life and personality.

The Wyoming Attorney General's Office represents the state against Eaton's appeal. Deputy Attorney General David Delicath said Monday that the state will file a response brief in early February. Delicath declined comment on Eaton's latest brief.

Once Eaton and the state finish this final round of briefing, the case apparently could be ready for Johnson to make a decision on Eaton's request to overturn his death penalty. However, the public court record isn't clear about the status of recent defense claims that Eaton may suffer from mental illness or mental disability that could preclude his execution.

Johnson previously approved a defense request for more medical testing of Eaton after his lawyers said that his IQ might be low enough that he could be covered by a federal ban against executing people with intellectual disabilities. Nothing in the public court file indicates whether the testing has been completed.



Jury already decided on Eaton

JANUARY 05, 2014 2:45 PM

Editor:

Poor Dale Wayne Eaton. His lawyer's don't deny he murdered a girl of 18, but was smart enough to kidnap, detain and repeatedly rape her. Then kill her and even bury her car. Not sounding that 'dumb' after all.

He was handed his death sentence 10 years ago, slightly more than 1/2 the life of Lisa Marie Kimmel, an innocent victim of this animal. Where were his "loving and caring" family when he could have used them? Which one of them would welcome him into their home or family, then or now?

A jury heard the trial, and made a decision; now follow through with what he deserves. I don't suppose he or his loving family members are paying for his representation. I'll bet we are the ones paying for his worthless life.

We really do need to get back to the day when a person was swiftly prosecuted, and punished. He killed someone; he knows he did; he knows it is wrong; he was handed his sentence. Now we need to follow through. He does not deserve a better life now than he had outside of prison. I am sick of supporting killers who after they murder decide they do not want to die. I say too bad, "Don't do the crime if you can't do the time." Start eliminating some of these thoughtless "insane" whether temporary or not, and we may actually slow down these senseless crimes.

I am disgusted and ashamed that here in the equality state a trial is just a waste of time where a sentence is not honored, and a lowlife piece of trash can get away with murdering a young girl in a calculated manner, then have his sentence delayed.

You not only do a disservice to the jurors who gave their time to a sham of a trial, but to the sweet, young Lisa Marie Kimmel and her whole family.



Tired of paying for murderers

JANUARY 10, 2014 2:45 PM

Editor:

Just a comment on the Dale Wayne Eaton issue. I think all his lawyers and help ought to apologize to the Lisa Marie Kimmell family for allowing this murdering animal to still be alive and fighting for his life, which he has already taken away from Lisa Marie.

Why don't we follow through as a legal society and do what the sentence said? If he wouldn't have had appeal after appeal, he would already be executed, so let's finish our job and do the right thing and let Lisa Marie Kimmell's family live in peace, knowing he is finally paying for what he did. I agree with the letter from Mary Vasquez. Let's get back to doing what is right. If you're found guilty and there is no doubt you are, just in Eaton's case put him to death. I applaud the Lisa Marie Kimmell family for burning his property. Kudos to them. I probably would have done the same thing. I too am tired of paying for these murderers getting free rent and insurance.

I don't get free insurance so why should they. Let's end this charade and give him what he deserves; follow through with the sentence. God bless the Kimmell family. We are all praying for you.



Killers have more rights than victims

JANUARY 14, 2014 10:45 AM

Editor:

I could not agree more with Mary Vasquez, and feel she speaks for the majority of people in her letter dated Jan. 5 regarding Dale Eaton. Why do these people have so many rights? They appear to have more rights than the victim, who had a right to her life. He's not stupid -- you can tell by the way he carried out his crime, the planning, burying her car, etc. why do we have to support him for the rest of his life and pay for his attorneys as they make motions and appeals on his behalf?

When will Wyoming be a state that swiftly carries out justice in the form of swift punishment, aka the death penalty?



FIRING

Wyoming lawmaker proposes firing squads for execution



JANUARY 14, 2014 11:00 AM • BY BEN NEARY ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE — A Wyoming lawmaker is pushing to allow use of the firing squad to execute condemned state inmates if constitutional problems or other issues ever prevented the state from using lethal injection.

Sen. Bruce Burns, R-Sheridan, said Monday that state law currently calls for using a gas chamber if lethal injection is unavailable.

"The state of Wyoming doesn't have a gas chamber currently, an operating gas chamber, so the procedure and expense to build one would be impractical to me," said Burns, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"I consider frankly the gas chamber to be cruel and unusual, so I went with firing squad because they also have it in Utah," Burns said. He's introduced the bill for consideration in the legislative session that starts Feb. 10 in Cheyenne.

"One of the reasons I chose firing squad as opposed to any other form of execution is because frankly it's one of the cheapest for the state,"

Burns said. "The expense of building a gas chamber I think would be prohibitive when you consider how many people would be executed by it, and even the cost of gallows."

Burns said his bill addressed the possibility that the state could have to find a substitute for using lethal injection because a number of states are running short of the chemicals used for lethal injection.

In Missouri, for example, the state auditor is undertaking a probe of the Missouri Department of Corrections over its use of a new death penalty drug. That state for years had used a three-drug blend to perform executions until pharmaceutical companies stopped selling those drugs to prisons.

Missouri has executed two inmates in recent months using the sedative pentobarbital and

plans a third execution later this month. The drug comes from a compounding pharmacy in Oklahoma not licensed to do business in Missouri.

The pace of inmate executions is much slower in Wyoming, which has only one inmate on death row and last executed an inmate in 1992.

Inmate Dale Wayne Eaton, 68, is challenging the constitutionality of the death sentence he received in 2004 for the rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Billings, Mont. The Wyoming Supreme Court already has upheld Eaton's conviction, but a federal court has put the execution on hold for the past several years while it considers his appeal.

Richard Dieter, executive director of the Death Penalty Information Center in Washington, D.C., said Monday he believes Wyoming could face constitutional challenges if it tried to use the firing squad as its only method of execution.

Dieter said Utah has offered inmates the choice of being executed by firing squad but said the state is phasing out the punishment. He said mandating the use of the firing squad if lethal injection were unavailable, as Burns seeks to do, would be a different matter.

"That I think would raise concerns in the federal courts, perhaps the state courts, about whether and unusual, perhaps a cruel and unusual punishment is being inflicted," Dieter said. "I don't know how the ultimate ruling would come down, but I think there would be delays as that case got considered and it might even go up to the Supreme Court. This would be unusual. This is not what Utah has done."



Use common sense in U.S.

JANUARY 18, 2014 2:45 PM

Editor:

My dear mother Evelyn used to say "that's bass-ckwards!" when someone did something that didn't make sense. It seems to me this acronym could be applied to many of today's issues. For example, "gay marriage;" if two people love each other and wish to have a family (or not) regardless of sexual orientation, the government should give them the same tax breaks and consideration as a biblically married couple. Just don't call it "marriage." Everyone's happy, problem solved.

Two long wars, large death tolls rising daily, and a failing American economy, for what? Why not make surgical strikes as with Bin Laden? Less money, less lives lost, more of our money spent on our own country's problems -- starving children and families, infrastructure, disease, homelessness and the economy.

The middle class has sustained this great nation since its inception and now it is trodden upon by the wealthy powers that be! They all say (politicians, lawyers lawmakers, the military complex), that "it's not that simple," because it wouldn't line their power hungry pockets.

I agree with the recent editorial in this paper relating to the death penalty. While attesting to my Christian faith and acknowledging that "all life is sacred," in cases where a person is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, as with Dale Eaton in the Kimmel murder, instead of wasting tax dollars on this person, the judicial system should economically use an injection, a bullet, or even "go green" with a noose!

Unfortunately, progress is not always good. Our nation is being torn from within. "A house divided cannot stand." The wisdom and policies of our forefathers should be held close, for they created a nation like no other in history!

I am not a liberal or a conservative, or for that matter partisan. I am simply a concerned citizen appalled at the disregard for our country's past sacrifices for freedom.

Simple solutions to complex problems falling under the heading "we can't do that because it makes too much sense."

Mom was right! "bass-ackwards!"



Gay: Death penalty isn't cruel and unusual



MARCH 01, 2014 8:45 AM • [BY REP. GERALD GAY](#)

On Feb. 22, a column entitled [“Time to end the death penalty in Wyoming”](#) ran on the Star-Tribune's editorial page. I differ in opinion considerably from Ms. Burt and the ACLU.

In my lifetime, Wyoming has only executed two prisoners in spite of having sentenced at least 5 convicts to death. Each and every person so sentenced in Wyoming in my lifetime has been a white man. Ms. Burt's hypothesis that execution is biased against people of color does not hold water in Wyoming.

My earliest memory of an execution was one Andrew Pixley, who brutally beat, sexually abused, and murdered a pair of sisters aged 8 and 12 in the Wort Hotel in Jackson. Pixley reportedly laughed when his death sentence was handed down to him. He died in the gas chamber in 1966 with no complaints that his treatment therein was cruel, unusual, or painful.

The next (and last) person executed by Wyoming was Mark Hopkinson, who ordered the bombing murder of attorney Vincent Vehar and his family in

their home in Evanston. Hopkinson went on to order the torture murder of Jeffrey Greene while he, Hopkinson, was incarcerated. Hopkinson was put to death in 1991 by lethal injection. He did not complain of cruel or unusual treatment, nor did he complain of pain during the actual execution.

Convicts Ronald Kennedy and Jerry Jenkins were sentenced to death in 1974 for the 1973 murder of 11-year-old Amy Burrige. Amy was murdered to cover for the rape and attempted murder of Amy's half-sister, 18-year-old Becky Thomson, at the Fremont Canyon Bridge located in my home county of Natrona. Kennedy and Jenkins kidnapped these two girls, beat the older one brutally, then tossed the younger one from the bridge into the water and rocks 120 feet below. They went on to rape the older sister before marching her onto the bridge to throw her over the side into the sheer canyon. Becky Thomson survived her ordeal and testified at the trial of Kennedy and Jenkins. These two reprobates were spared execution due to a technicality ruling by the Supreme Court and their sentences were commuted to

consecutive incarceration which effectively became life sentences. Victim Becky Thomson paid taxes that supported her two tormentors and catered to their medical treatment, and every other need. Becky Thomson also paid for her own medical bills and her treatment for PTSD. Murderer/rapist Jenkins has died, but Kennedy continues to live on the taxpayer's dime. Becky Thomson succumbed to her PTSD, and returned to the Fremont Bridge in 1992 and finished dying from the murder that was perpetrated against her 19 years before. Do you want to talk about cruel and unusual suffering? Consider Becky Thomson and her family and the collateral damage they suffered.

Wyoming holds Dale Wayne Eaton on its' death row at this time, paying for his every need on the taxpayer's dime. Eaton kidnapped, tormented, raped, and murdered "Little Miss" Lisa Marie Kimmel in 1988. 18 year-old Kimmel was also thrown from a bridge in Natrona County, an eerie coincidence to the Burrige/Thomson murders 15 years earlier. Eaton also killed a cell mate while in jail on an un-related charge. Eaton has undoubtedly committed a number of other heinous crimes for which he has not been convicted, but my point is that incarceration does not prevent persons of his ilk from continuing to murder. Holding murderers in prison does not prevent them from continuing to murder. Wyoming's recent history is proof of that.

People like those I have described are evil and un-repentant. I am Christian and I believe in redemption, yet God's grace is something that has to be requested. Facing death at the hands of an executioner might just drive home one's mortality and hasten the individual's request for God's grace. Convicts have plenty of time to get right with God, so I have no problem with the timely execution of capital cases.

Gerald Gay is state representative for House District 36, in Casper.



EXECUTE

In the interim, legislators discuss death penalty methods

Sheridan Rep. says review is necessary

APRIL 02, 2014 9:00 AM • BY LAURA HANCOCK STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER



A legislative committee will continue discussing Wyoming's options to execute inmates convicted of capital crimes in the coming months.

Sen. Bruce Burns, R-Sheridan, believes the state needs to review its death penalty options in light of problems other states are having acquiring drugs for lethal injections.

Wyoming doesn't store lethal injection drugs, said Mark Horan, spokesman for the Department of Corrections. Like other states, it has to obtain them before an execution.

"It's an issue, really, across the country," he said.

The drugs used in lethal injection, the primary method of death penalty in Wyoming, are becoming scarce because the European Union has **banned** pharmaceutical companies in member countries from exporting them for executions. Burns wants to look at other forms of execution in the Cowboy State. He sponsored a **bill** in the 2014 session to make death by firing squad the alternative form of execution, but it failed an early vote to earn more discussion during the session.

Now the topic will be studied by the **Joint Judiciary Interim Committee**, which has meetings tentatively scheduled for May, July and September. The Legislature's **Management Council**, which assigns topics for discussion, **has ordered** the **Wyoming Department of Corrections** to provide information about whether the executions law needed to be amended.

According to **state law**, execution must be carried out by an injection of a barbiturate alone or in combination with a chemical that would cause paralysis and potassium chloride or other substances that would cause death. The drugs are administered continuously and intravenously until a physician pronounces the inmate dead.

If a court finds lethal injection unconstitutional, executions can be carried out with lethal gas, the law states.

Burns believes firing squads are the cheapest and most effective alternative to the death penalty, he said.

Burns doesn't like hanging because it's too susceptible to mistakes, he said. To properly hang someone, an inmate's weight and the amount of drop must be perfectly calculated, he said.

"They've miscalculated that a number of times, either dropping too far and beheading them or not breaking their neck and a person chokes to death," he said, explaining that an inmate's neck must break to die.

Burns' bill would have substituted firing squads for gas chambers, since the state doesn't have a working chamber.

"We do have one that was used three or four times that was sitting in Rawlins at the old Frontier Prison," he said. "But the expense of building an operating one would be exorbitant."

Electric chairs are costly, too, Burns said.

Burns believes the graphic nature of the death penalty conversation could draw some Wyomingites to committee meetings to speak out against the court-ordered practice.

"But I'm going on the assumption that the majority of people in Wyoming want to maintain the death penalty, for a couple of reasons," he said. "Sometimes you have crimes that are so heinous the death penalty is called for, and the second reason is the state of Wyoming doesn't execute people very often. We haven't executed a person in over 20 years."

On Friday, the Pew Research Center released the [results](#) of a 2013 survey that found the majority of Americans -- 55 percent -- supported the death penalty, but support had declined since 2011, when it was 62 percent. The survey results did not break down death penalty support by state.

The last execution was in 1992, [Mark Hopkinson](#).

Dale Wayne Eaton is the only person on Wyoming's death row. He was sentenced to death in 2004 for the rape and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Billings, Mont.



EXECUTE

Wyoming corrections head seeks execution options

Wyoming corrections head seeks execution options



APRIL 25, 2014 8:00 AM • BEN NEARY ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE — The head of the Wyoming Department of Corrections wants state lawmakers to consider alternative ways to execute condemned inmates as prisons across the nation face a shortage of drugs used in the past.

Bob Lampert, director of the agency, told lawmakers earlier this year that Wyoming might not be able to get the drugs necessary to kill the only inmate currently on death row after his legal appeals are exhausted.

Lampert has urged the Legislature to begin rewriting state laws before a new session convenes next year.

Many states have had problems getting execution drugs, prompting inmates to assert that the uncertainty violates their rights against cruel and unusual punishment.

Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin announced Thursday that her state is ready to proceed with a double

execution following a recent decision by the state Supreme Court that inmates are not entitled to know the source of the drugs that will be used to kill them.

In Wyoming, Lampert is scheduled to address lawmakers at a meeting of the Joint Judiciary Committee on May 12 in Rawlins. His office said he was unavailable for comment Thursday, and Deputy Director Steve Lindly said Thursday he was unable to comment on the matter.

In his earlier comments, Lampert said the substances used in the lethal injection process have become increasingly difficult to obtain anywhere in the United States or from foreign suppliers.

"United States and foreign manufacturers and pharmaceutical sources have restricted the sale of such substances for use in the execution process," he said.

Wyoming's only death row inmate is Dale Wayne Eaton, who is pressing a federal appeal of the

state death sentence he received in 2004 in the rape and killing of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Billings, Mont.

Without naming Eaton, Lampert stated in his memo to lawmakers that it's difficult to predict when legal reviews will be exhausted but it could occur within the next year.

"Without an alternative method of execution authority by statute there is a very real possibility that the Wyoming Department of Corrections would be unable to carry out an execution," Lampert wrote.

Lampert urged lawmakers to study the issue and amend state law to authorize a backup method of execution.

Cheyenne lawyer Terry Harris is on a team of lawyers representing Eaton in his appeal. An attempt to reach Harris for comment wasn't immediately successful on Thursday.

Current Wyoming law specifies the use of lethal gas as a backup method of execution. However, the law says gas could only be used as an alternative if lethal injection were found to be unconstitutional. The state doesn't have a gas chamber.

The Wyoming Legislature previously rejected considering a bill that would have specified that the state could use firing squads if lethal drugs weren't available.

Sen. Bruce Burns, R-Sheridan, proposed the firing squad bill. He's a member of the Judiciary Committee.

"Just because my bill didn't make introduction doesn't mean the problem went away," Burns said Thursday.

"Whether they go with firing squad or some other form of execution doesn't matter a whole lot to me, but they do have to find a different secondary form of execution to the gas chamber," Burns said. "Right now, they can only get to it by lethal injection being declared unconstitutional."



Gallinger: Time to put the death penalty behind use

MAY 06, 2014 11:45 AM

Editor:

The Wyoming Tribune Eagle reported an upcoming meeting of the Joint Judiciary Committee. They will hear a request by Wyoming Corrections to consider alternatives to lethal injection as a means to execute condemned inmates. It is important to note the Wyoming Legislature earlier this year rejected a bill that would have specified firing squads if lethal drugs were not available.

The Cheyenne Tribune Eagle stated: "Many states have had problems getting execution drugs, and several inmates in other states have asserted that uncertainty about the source of drugs violates their rights." The reason states are unable to purchase the drugs is primarily due to a shortage of sodium thiopental. In 2011 the European Union barred German and Danish drug manufacturers from selling the compound to prisons in the United States.

With no federal standards on the drug cocktail used in an execution, each state is left to its own determination of what is an appropriate protocol. On April 29, Clayton Lockett experienced a botched execution in Oklahoma and later died of a heart attack. One witness stated, "It was a horrible thing to witness. This was totally botched." Unfortunately, Lockett was not the first nor will he be the last to experience a botched execution.

As our legislators meet to consider such a morally charged issue, I hope they will consider ending the death penalty in the State of Wyoming. Not since Dale Eaton was sentenced in 2004 has a jury in given the death penalty to a convicted murderer. Is it possible that with the alternative sentence of life without parole, which means what it says, our citizenry has determined the death penalty is no longer a viable option? Besides a possible change in attitude by Wyoming citizens, our legislators know the cost for both the prosecution and defense when a penalty of death is pursued. Finally, the Department of Corrections knows the horrific experience of an execution and the subsequent post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms experienced by employees at the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins. There are many good reasons to put the death penalty behind us.



EXECUTION

Wyoming lawmakers mull firing squad for executions

Proposal is in reponse to shortage of lethal injection drugs



MAY 21, 2014 7:00 PM • BEN NEARY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prompted by shortages of drugs for lethal injections, Wyoming lawmakers are considering changing state law to permit execution of condemned inmates by firing squad.

A Wyoming legislative committee has directed its staff to draft a firing-squad bill for consideration ahead of next year's legislative session, which starts in January.

Lawmakers in Utah also may consider a return to firing squads for civilian executions. A Republican state lawmaker there recently announced that he intends to introduce firing-squad legislation in his state's next legislative session, which likewise starts in January.

Utah outlawed execution by firing squad in 2004 but kept it as an option for inmates convicted before that time. It last executed an inmate by firing squad in 2010.

Bob Lampert, director of the Wyoming Department of Corrections, told members of the Wyoming Legislature's Joint Interim Judiciary Committee last week in Rawlins that drugs for lethal injection have become increasingly difficult to obtain.

"In the event that we had an execution scheduled and we couldn't carry it out as a result of lack of substances, I suggested to the Joint Judiciary that we may want to consider having an alternate means of execution, such as the firing squad," Lampert said Wednesday.

Current state law specifies that Wyoming execute condemned inmates in a gas chamber, which the state doesn't currently have, as a backup to lethal injection only if lethal injection were found to be unconstitutional. Existing state law doesn't address how the state should proceed in response to a drug shortage.

Lethal injection is becoming increasingly difficult for states to perform as pharmaceutical companies withhold drug compounds that states traditionally have used. Some inmates have

raised constitutional challenges as states have turned to untried compounds.

Wyoming has no execution drugs on hand, Lampert said.

Last month, Oklahoma inmate Clayton Lockett died of a heart attack more than 40 minutes after corrections officials there started trying to administer drugs at his execution.

President Barack Obama called the Lockett incident deeply troubling and said he had asked his attorney general to review the application of the death penalty.

Sen. Bruce Burns, R-Sheridan, proposed a bill earlier this year to change state law to allow the use of firing squads. He's a member of the judiciary committee.

Burns said Wednesday that the committee intends to consider the firing-squad approach at its next meeting in July. In this year's legislative session, his bill to authorize execution by firing squad failed in an introductory vote.

Burns said fellow lawmakers increasingly seem to recognize that the state needs to act.

Burns said he believes firing squads would be preferable to lethal injection, in which inmates feel the needle and then have to wait for drugs to take effect.

Wyoming has only one inmate on death row. Dale Wayne Eaton, 69, is pressing a federal appeal of his death sentence in 2004 for the murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, 18, of Billings, Montana.

Cheyenne lawyer Terry Harris represents Eaton in his federal appeal. An attempt to reach Harris for comment Wednesday wasn't immediately successful.

Rep. Stephen Watt, R-Rock Springs, serves on the Joint Interim Judiciary Committee. He said he intends to sponsor a bill in the state's coming legislative session to do away with the death penalty entirely, but he doesn't expect it will get much support.

Watt is a former Wyoming Highway Patrol trooper who was severely injured in a gunfight on the job years ago.

"The biggest and probably the most important one is probably my Christian beliefs that it's wrong for man to kill man," Watt said Wednesday of his opposition to the death penalty.

"The second one is because of technology. All the time, we're coming up with more and more technology, and we're finding innocent people that have been wrongly convicted and sentenced to die. It would be a tragedy for one innocent person to die."

Watt said he doesn't consider the firing squad to be a more humane alternative to lethal injection.

"I've been shot," he said. "And I don't care how quickly death comes from firing squad. It still hurts, and it's still terrifying. And I think it's cruel and unusual."



EXECUTION

Wyoming legislative panel endorses firing squad for executing condemned inmates



SEPTEMBER 12, 2014 12:45 PM • BEN NEARY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LARAMIE — The Wyoming Department of Corrections should be able to employ a firing squad to execute condemned inmates if the state can't find the drugs to carry out lethal injections, a legislative committee voted Friday.

Meeting in Laramie, the interim Joint Judiciary Committee advanced a firing-squad bill for the full Legislature to consider when it convenes early next year. The committee rejected another bill that would have called for the state to repeal the death penalty altogether.

Steve Lindly, deputy director of the Wyoming Department of Corrections, told lawmakers that states across the country are finding it increasingly difficult to find drugs to carry out lethal-injection executions.

Current Wyoming law sets the gas chamber as the state's fallback position only if the courts find lethal injection unconstitutional. But the law doesn't address what to do if the necessary drugs are simply unavailable. The state doesn't have a gas chamber.

The drug shortage has prompted other states that commonly execute inmates to reach for new substances, and not always with good results.

President Barack Obama this year asked his attorney general to review the application of the death penalty after several highly publicized botched executions.

Wyoming has only one inmate on death row. Dale Wayne Eaton is pressing a federal appeal of the death sentence he received 10 years ago for the murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, 18, of Billings, Montana.

Eaton's lawyers aren't disputing that he killed her, but they are arguing that the state didn't provide adequate resources for his trial lawyers to present evidence of hardships in his life that

might have prompted members of the jury to consider sparing his life.

Lindly said the corrections department isn't ready to proceed to execute Eaton in the event that the federal court clears the way for his execution.

"If the court were to set a day and the state were unable to obtain those (drugs), it would be unable to meet the court's order," Lindly said.

There's been talk this year about reinstating the firing squad in Utah. That state outlawed execution by firing squad in 2004 but kept it as an option for inmates convicted before that time. It last executed an inmate by firing squad in 2010.

Rep. Stephen Watt, R-Rock Springs, is a former Wyoming Highway Patrol officer who was seriously wounded years ago by a criminal. He has been vocal in his opposition to firing squad, saying he knows firsthand what it's like to be shot.

"We're all operating under the assumption that this is going to be instantaneous death. What happens if everybody misses?" Watt asked. Lindly responded that he didn't have an answer to that question.

On the death-penalty repeal bill, several witnesses urged the committee to move the bill forward so the full Legislature could consider the issue.

Committee Co-Chairman Rep. Keith Gingery, R-Jackson, said it's clear to him that the death penalty doesn't deter crime but is solely an issue of revenge. He said there have been cases around the country of people who have been wrongfully convicted.

"Personally, I do not want the government to commit homicide on my behalf," Gingery said. "I disagree with the state of Wyoming committing murder."

Sen. Larry Hicks, R-Baggs, responded that he didn't view the death penalty as revenge but rather as justice for victims who have been brutally murdered, raped and tortured.

He said recent technological advances have made it increasingly unlikely for innocent people to be convicted.

Watt warned that questions of guilt and innocence don't always hinge on technology.

"Whether you want to admit it or not, law enforcement officers do lie," he said. "Prosecutors have been known to withhold evidence."

Linda Burt, director of the ACLU in Wyoming, said the United States stands with such nations as China, Iraq and Syria in continuing to employ the death penalty.

"The reason that we are here today is because most Western nations do not believe in the death penalty," Burt said.

The bill failed to get a majority vote among committee members from both the House and Senate. It would still be possible for individual legislators to introduce a death penalty abolition bill on their own, although similar bills have failed in the past.



EATON

Dale Wayne Eaton timeline: From trial to death to life



NOVEMBER 20, 2014 12:30 PM • [STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF](#)

[Key dates in the murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell and the death penalty case of Dale Wayne Eaton.](#)

March 25, 1988: Lisa Marie Kimmell drives from Denver. She plans to stop in Cody en route to Billings, Montana. She doesn't arrive, and a search for her begins the following day.

April 2, 1988: [Kimmell's body is found by a fisherman](#) in the North Platte River southwest of Casper near Government Bridge. She had been raped, stabbed and beaten. [Investigators would spend a decade](#) chasing leads without success.

1998: Officials run [Dale Wayne Eaton's DNA through a database](#) while he is incarcerated on an assault charge. It matches DNA found on Kimmell, but news of the connection isn't released to the public.

July 2002: Kimmell's mangled car is unearthed on a property owned by Eaton in the unincorporated town of Moneta, about 75 miles west of Casper.

April 17, 2003: Natrona County District Attorney Kevin Meenan [files charges against Eaton](#), including first-degree premeditated murder.

March 17, 2004: After a two-week trial, a jury in Casper [convicts Eaton on all charges](#).

March 20, 2004: The same jury returns a [unanimous verdict of a death penalty sentence](#) for Eaton.

April 8, 2004: Kimmell's parents are awarded a [\\$5 million civil judgment](#) against Eaton for a wrongful death complaint.

May 20, 2004: A Natrona County judge signs a death warrant for Eaton and [sets execution for June 25](#).

Jan. 10, 2005: The Wyoming Public Defender's Office files its first appeal, arguing, among

other things, that [Eaton received inadequate defense counsel](#). Judge David Park denies the appeal six months later.

July 18, 2005: Kimmell's parents have Eaton's barn and trailer destroyed after being awarded his Moneta property as part of the civil judgment.

July 13, 2006: A motion for a new trial based on Eaton's competency is denied. At a hearing two months later, Eaton's attorneys argue about [his representation at trial and jury instructions](#).

Aug. 18, 2008: The Wyoming Supreme Court denies an [appeal for a new trial](#).

Oct. 13, 2008: A Natrona County judge [sets Eaton's execution for Dec. 19](#). One month later, the [Wyoming Supreme Court delays Eaton's execution](#).

Feb. 25, 2009: The [U.S. Supreme Court refuses to hear one of Eaton's appeals](#), filed in December 2008. Two weeks later, the Wyoming Supreme Court [orders the execution to remain on hold](#).

June 3, 2009: [Eaton attorney Michael Reese files another appeal](#), arguing, among other things, that Wyoming's death penalty is cruel and unusual punishment. [The district court accepted the prosecution's response](#), and the [state Supreme Court later declined to review](#).

Dec. 15, 2009: Natrona County District Court Judge David Park set [a new execution date for Eaton](#), Feb. 12, 2010. It is later stayed on appeal.

Aug. 13, 2010: [Eaton files an appeal in federal court focusing mostly on inadequate representation at trial](#).

Dec. 18, 2011: Eaton's appeal is [accepted by the federal court](#), halting his execution.

May 3, 2012: A federal judge allows [Eaton's appeal to continue in federal court](#). Hearings focusing on Eaton's competence and his representation are held through July and August 2013.

Nov. 20, 2014: U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson issues a 375-page ruling, [vacating Eaton's death sentence and ordering a new sentencing hearing](#) in Natrona County District Court. He allows prosecutors 120 days to appeal his ruling.



SENTENCE

Federal court overturns death penalty for Eaton; AG considers appeal

Eaton was sentenced to death in 2004 for the 1988 rape and murder of Kimmell



NOVEMBER 20, 2014 4:30 PM • [STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS](#)

A federal judge on Thursday overturned the death sentence of the lone inmate on Wyoming's death row, saying his trial lawyers had failed to give jurors sufficient reason to spare his life.

Lawyers handling the federal appeal of 69-year-old Dale Wayne Eaton didn't dispute that he had killed 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell, of Billings, Montana.

[CASE HISTORY: Dale Wayne Eaton, including murder trial]

Instead, they argued that his previous attorneys from the Wyoming Public Defender's Office failed to present factors that might have given jurors a reason to consider sparing his life, such as his low intelligence and abuse he suffered as a child.

Lisa Marie Kimmell's mother, Sheila Kimmell, said by telephone Thursday that she is disappointed in the ruling but not surprised.

"I can't help but be disappointed," she said.

Sheila Kimmell, who lives in Canon City, Colorado, heard Eaton's arguments in August 2013 at hearings in Cheyenne that focused on his competence and representation at trial.

[EATON TIMELINE: From trial to death to life]

In his ruling, U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson, of Cheyenne, gave Wyoming a choice of granting a new sentencing hearing for Eaton within 120 days in Natrona County or keeping him locked up for life without parole.

Attorney General Peter Michael said in a release that his office is reviewing the 375-page ruling before deciding whether to appeal.

"The attorney general holds the federal court in the highest regard but is disappointed by this decision," the release states. "Wyoming prosecutors recognize the seriousness of capital punishment and seek it in only the most egregious cases.

"Mr. Eaton's kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell is one such case."

Casper District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who initially prosecuted Eaton in state court, said Thursday that he's ready to argue again that Eaton deserves the death penalty, although he hopes Michael appeals the judge's ruling.

"Here we are, 10 years down the road, and we're arguing about penalty," Blonigen said. "Certainly that's frustrating, but it's part of the system. To undertake a 20/20 hindsight review of what an attorney did 10 years ago, OK, that's the challenge that faces us."

Eaton was sentenced to death in 2004 for the 1988 rape and murder of Kimmell. She disappeared in 1988 while driving across Wyoming, and her body was found in the North Platte River.

Authorities say Eaton kept Kimmell captive in a rundown compound in Moneta, west of Casper, before killing her and burying her car on the property.

The investigation stalled until 2002, when DNA evidence linked Eaton to the case while he was in prison on unrelated charges. Investigators then unearthed the missing car on his property.

Eaton was convicted in state court and sentenced to death. His new lawyers appealed the sentence to Johnson after the Wyoming Supreme Court upheld the sentence.

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that defendants facing a possible death sentence have a constitutional right to a full investigation of their life circumstances so jurors will have that information as they decide a penalty.

Johnson held a two-week evidentiary hearing last year that featured testimony about Eaton from relatives and mental health professionals.

Eaton's lawyers said the material could have been developed and presented to the state jury by Eaton's original defense team, but it wasn't.

Johnson ruled Thursday that Eaton's state defense was deficient, falling below standards set by the American Bar Association and failing to satisfy constitutional requirements.

For example, Eaton didn't have two experienced death penalty lawyers on his team, as the ABA recommends. And while the association recommends separate investigators and mitigation experts, his team had one person handling both jobs.

If Wyoming chooses to hold a new sentencing hearing for Eaton, Johnson specified that the state must appoint experienced death penalty lawyers not associated with the Wyoming Public Defender's Office to represent him.

An appeal would go to the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver.

Eaton was represented in his federal appeal mainly by Cheyenne lawyer Terry Harris and Sean O'Brien, a Missouri lawyer who specializes in death penalty cases. Attempts to reach Harris and O'Brien on Thursday were not successful.

Linda Burt, director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Wyoming, said she supports the federal court's ruling to overturn Eaton's death sentence. The ACLU is working to abolish the death penalty in the United States.

In 2009, Harris and O'Brien persuaded a judge to overturn the death sentence of prisoner James Harlow in the stabbing death of a correctional officer at the state penitentiary in Rawlins. That decision left Eaton as the only man on Wyoming's death row.

Harris and O'Brien raised similar issues in Harlow's case as they did in the appeal involving Eaton, saying the state public defender's office did an inadequate job and failed to put up enough money to investigate Harlow's case and background.

Wyoming last carried out the death penalty in 1992, when it executed convicted murderer Mark Hopkinson. Several other death sentences have been overturned on appeal since.



APPEAL

Eaton to remain housed on death row pending possible appeal

Officials will review his behavior in prison if sentenced is changed to life



NOVEMBER 22, 2014 6:00 AM • BY LILLIAN SCHROCK STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Dale Wayne Eaton will remain housed away from the general population pending a possible appeal by the attorney general, according to the Wyoming Department of Corrections.

A federal judge's decision Thursday states that Eaton's trial lawyers failed to present evidence about his past that might have persuaded jurors to let him live.

Eaton was convicted in March 2004 of the 1988 kidnapping, rape, robbery and murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell.

Eaton has been housed in limited access within the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins since a jury sentenced him to death, said Bob Lampert, director of the Department of Corrections.

The 69-year-old prisoner is allowed out of his cell on a daily basis for recreation, telephone use and education programs, but his freedom is limited compared with that of other inmates.

Eaton will go through an assessment to determine his future housing if he is resentenced to life without parole.

“It would be based more on his current behavior than sentence,” Lampert said.

Eaton was charged in 2001 with involuntary manslaughter for killing his cellmate, Clay Inman Palmer, at a federal prison in Florence, Colo. Eaton was serving time for being a felon in possession of a firearm. He was acquitted of the manslaughter charge in 2002.

Attorney General Peter Michael said in a release that his office is reviewing the 375-page ruling by U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson, of Cheyenne, before deciding whether to appeal.

If the attorney general does not appeal, Natrona County prosecutors have 120 days to file for a new sentencing hearing.

Natrona County District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who initially prosecuted Eaton in state court, said Thursday that he's ready to argue again that Eaton deserves the death penalty.



Kelly: Lost respect for legal system

NOVEMBER 25, 2014 9:45 AM

Editor:

The recent ruling overturning the death penalty of Dale Wayne Eaton has lessened my respect of our system of jurisprudence to an absolute zero. There is no doubt that he murdered Lisa Marie Kimmell and for that he was found guilty and should have been executed years ago. I would suggest the execution be by hanging and not necessarily by the neck.

The ruling also gives some credibility to that old joke, What do you call a lawyer with an 80 IQ?
Answer: "Your honor."



Johnson: The public hasn't forgotten what Eaton did

NOVEMBER 29, 2014 1:45 PM

Editor:

Open letter to the Supreme Court: I, as others were, was outraged to hear the sentence of death in the case of Dale Wayne Eaton's killing of Lisa Marie Kimmell was reduced to life without parole. The defense is that Eaton was abused as a child? Really? Hundreds of thousands of abused children did not or have not committed acts of kidnapping rape or murder. I can only ask the court if they have thought of Lisa Marie's last day or days being held captive, sexually assaulted multiple times with the hope of being spared death only to be denied that possibility by the very Dale Wayne Eaton that is now being spared death? Shame on you, shame on you. You may think that the family and public's memory has dulled over this, but you are wrong. This animal committed the crimes and went to great lengths to cover it up, knowing well he was guilty and would face punishment if caught. Eaton is a career criminal with multiple arrests, convictions and was serving time in a Colorado prison when charged with Kimmell's death. I'd say any rehabilitation attempts were wasted long before her death and after. Now you ask a taxpaying public to spend the 50-plus thousands of dollars a year in costs to keep him alive? It's obvious our judges are in serious need of reform as well as the prisoners. Do the right thing -- don't spit on the grave of a young woman struck down by this animal by sparing his life!



Kesselheim: Get Eaton imprisonment right

DECEMBER 02, 2014 11:45 AM

Editor:

Open letter to Bob Lampert, director of the Wyoming Department of Corrections in Cheyenne:

- *"Eaton will remain housed on death row pending possible attorney general appeal."*
- *"Officials will review his behavior in prison if sentence is changed to life."*

The juxtaposition of these two headlines on the front page of the Nov. 22 edition of the Casper Star-Tribune reflects a basic confusion of philosophy, either at the Star-Tribune, or in the Wyoming Department of Corrections -- or both.

The guiding philosophy, whether in the federal system or state system, is either one of retribution, where the guiding principle is punishment or one of restoration, where the guiding principle is to modify in a positive and fundamental way the ideology of a incarcerated person.

To suggest that an appeal by Dale Wayne Eaton should be influenced by a change in his life-orientation, while maintaining him in the most extreme category of punishment-oriented circumstances reflects a huge confusion.

If we are going to decide an appeal of the recent court ruling based upon his behavior, let us put him in an environment that will make this possible. He should be moved away from death row.

However, let it be clearly understood that in no way do I condone his crime -- the rape and killing of Lisa Maria Kimmel -- that is heinous in the extreme.



Lawmaker to push for executions by firing squad

DECEMBER 02, 2014 5:34 PM • BY BEN NEARY ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE — A Wyoming state lawmaker says he still intends to push a bill to allow the use of firing squads to execute condemned inmates even though a recent federal court decision leaves no one in the state on death row.

Sen. Bruce Burns, R-Sheridan, is pushing a bill in the legislative session that starts next month to allow execution by firing squad. He's co-chairman of the Joint Interim Judiciary Committee, which endorsed the bill at a hearing in September.

Burns had sponsored a similar firing squad bill that failed to pass in the legislative session early this year. He maintains that Wyoming needs to make the firing squad option legal in case it can't obtain the necessary drugs to perform lethal injections.

Current Wyoming law specifies the gas chamber as the state's fallback position only if the courts found lethal injection unconstitutional. It doesn't address what to do if the necessary drugs are simply unavailable and the state doesn't have a gas chamber.

Shortages of the drugs commonly used in executions have led to several highly publicized botched executions nationwide as states have searched for new drug cocktails.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne last month overturned the death sentence for Dale Wayne Eaton, who had been Wyoming's only death row inmate.

Eaton, 69, was convicted of the 1988 murder of 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Billings, Montana. Her body was recovered in the North Platte River.

Eaton was charged with killing Kimmell in 2002 after DNA evidence linked him to her murder while he was in prison on unrelated charges. Investigators then unearthed her missing car on his property. He was sentenced to death in 2004.

Johnson ruled that Eaton didn't receive an adequate defense from the Wyoming Public Defender's Office at his state court trial.

Johnson gave Wyoming officials the choice of either allowing Eaton to serve life in prison without parole or granting him a new sentencing hearing on whether he should receive the death penalty. The judge specified lawyers from the Public Defender's Office couldn't represent him if he gets another hearing.

Burns said he still sees the need for the state to approve the use of the firing squad despite Johnson's ruling.

"I don't think it will make a difference to the legislation itself," Burns said. "I think it will make it

a little less pressing because we had somebody on death row and now we don't. But the problem that the bill addresses is still there."

The Wyoming Attorney General's Office hasn't said whether it will appeal Johnson's ruling. Casper District Attorney Michael Blonigen, who originally prosecuted Eaton, has said he will again press for the death penalty against Eaton if the state doesn't appeal.

Gov. Matt Mead said this week he believes Wyoming should keep the death penalty on the books. A former state and federal prosecutor, the governor said he wouldn't comment on the particulars of Eaton's case.

"I do think it highlights the fact that you cannot have a successful prosecution, particularly in a death penalty case, unless you have well-staffed and experienced public defenders," Mead said.

Rep. Cathy Connolly, D-Laramie, said Tuesday she intends to push a bill in the coming session to repeal the death penalty in the state entirely. Such a bill failed to gain the endorsement of the Joint Judiciary Committee at a hearing this fall, although most House members present endorsed it.

"I absolutely want an alternative to the firing squad bill for debate," Connolly said. "I don't want Wyoming to only have that option on the table when it comes to thinking about the death penalty."

Rep. Stephen Watt, R-Rock Springs, is a former Wyoming Highway Patrol officer who was seriously wounded years ago by a criminal. He has pushed the repeal the death penalty but won't be in the Legislature in the coming session.

Watt said Tuesday he hopes that Johnson's ruling overturning Eaton's death sentence will have an effect in the coming session.

"I would hope that they would look at it and say, 'well now we have absolutely nobody on death row, and now would be a good time to do away with the death penalty completely,'" he said.



Editorial board: Court erred in decision on Eaton death sentence

DECEMBER 03, 2014 5:00 AM • [STAR-TRIBUNE EDITORIAL BOARD](#)

It's hard to convey in words our utter dismay about the reversal of the death sentence for Dale Wayne Eaton. Our hearts sank at the news, and we don't doubt for a second that plenty of coarse language could be heard in and around Casper that day.

Eaton was sentenced to death in 2004 for the grisly rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, an 18-year-old who was traveling through Wyoming on her way to Montana. Eaton had been languishing on death row for 10 years when the decision came down. Until that point, he had been the only person in Wyoming slated for execution.

Opponents of capital punishment, notably representatives of the American Civil Liberties Union chapter in Wyoming, cheered the court's decision to overturn the Natrona County jury's sentencing. The court ruled that Eaton's defense team hadn't told jurors about circumstances in his life that could have led to a lesser sentence.

The national debate about capital punishment has been reinvigorated following the exoneration of numerous inmates on death row. Some states have instituted a moratorium on prisoner executions, and some are considering the possibility of abolishing the death penalty altogether.

None of the circumstances that led to those actions apply to Eaton's case, however. DNA evidence confirmed that he killed Kimmell. He was afforded due process and was judged by a jury of his peers. His guilt is undisputed. The court's ruling hinges on a legal long-shot and a premise that we simply don't accept.

The essence of the arguments for and against the death penalty was succinctly summed up in a conversation in an episode of the long-running television show "Law & Order."

Manhattan District Attorney Nora Lewin asks Assistant District Attorney Abby Carmichael what the standard should be for the execution of the young murderer in the case.

"Where I come from, it's when what a person's done is so vicious, so cruel, he forfeits the right to get any older," Carmichael says. To which Lewin responds: "Where I come from, a person can't forfeit that right. We can only take it from him."

In the matter of the state of Wyoming v. Dale Wayne Eaton, we come from where Carmichael comes from. At some point in 1988, when he brutalized and killed a helpless teenager, Eaton forfeited his right to get any older.

He wasn't tried and convicted until 2004, meaning he received bonus years because of a lack of evidence. He's picked up 10 more bonus years while the appeal process of his death

sentence played out.

Wyoming Attorney General Peter Michael is pondering whether the state will appeal the ruling. We hope he does, and he can count on our unqualified support.

In contrast with Texas, which executes inmates with regularity, Wyoming is extremely discerning in its administration of the ultimate punishment. The jury's choice of the death penalty for Eaton was not taken lightly, and his status as the sole person on death row needs no justification.

Nor did the jury's discretion represent the citizenry's attempt to exact vengeance for the death of Lisa Marie Kimmell. Jurors chose capital punishment because they understood that sometimes a crime is so repugnant, so indicative of a person's wanton disregard for fellow human beings that execution is the only punishment that fits the crime.

The legal system must be allowed to run its course, and justice demands that all legal avenues be exhausted prior to the state-sanctioned taking of a person's life.

But we would venture to say that in every corner of the country, there is someone whose crimes cry out for capital punishment as a matter of justice and force people to say, "If there was ever an instance when the death penalty was warranted, this is it."

In Wyoming, this is that time, the murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell is that case, and Dale Wayne Eaton is that person.



EATON

Lawyers for Dale Eaton ask federal judge to remove possibility of new death penalty hearing



DECEMBER 18, 2014 8:00 AM • THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lawyers for a convicted murderer want a judge to block Wyoming prosecutors from holding a new hearing on whether to reinstate the death penalty against their client.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne last month overturned the death penalty against 69-year-old Dale Wayne Eaton.

He was convicted in 2004 of the 1988 murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell, 18, of Billings, Montana.

Johnson ruled that Eaton didn't receive a fair trial because jurors didn't hear personal details about him that might have persuaded them to spare his life.

Johnson said prosecutors could ask another jury to consider the death penalty for Eaton or he would serve life.

On Wednesday, Eaton's lawyers asked Johnson to sentence Eaton to life, saying that witnesses who could have testified about his background at trial are unavailable.



Prosecutor again seeks execution of Dale Eaton

JANUARY 06, 2015 5:10 PM • BY BEN NEARY

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — A prosecutor has filed notice that he intends once again to seek the death penalty against a man who was the only person on death row in Wyoming until late last year.

Dale Wayne Eaton, 69, was convicted in 2004 of murdering Lisa Marie Kimmell, 18, of Billings, Montana. His lawyers don't dispute that he killed the teenager.

Monday's filing by Casper District Attorney Mike Blonigen came after a federal judge overturned Eaton's death sentence in November.

"We're following the court's order," said Blonigen, who prosecuted Eaton at his original trial. "The court said that if we intended to seek to resentence him, that we do that within 120 days and we've done that."

Asked why he's still seeking the death penalty, Blonigen said, "We felt it was an appropriate decision in the case, just as we did back then."

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson overturned Eaton's death sentence. He ruled Eaton hadn't received an adequate defense and that his trial team hadn't presented enough evidence about his personal history that might have persuaded jurors to spare his life.

Johnson gave the state a choice to either hold a new death penalty hearing or let Eaton serve life in prison without parole.

Lawyers handling Eaton's federal appeal have asked Johnson to discard the death penalty option altogether. They claim in court papers that witnesses who could have testified about Eaton's background are unavailable. As a result, they say a new jury couldn't hear important evidence about mitigating factors in his life.

An attempt to reach Terry Harris, a Cheyenne lawyer representing Eaton in the appeal, was not immediately successful on Tuesday.

Johnson has given the Wyoming attorney general's office until Jan. 14 to respond to the request by Eaton's lawyers to modify his order.

Blonigen said his office is prepared to proceed even if some witnesses from the initial trial aren't available.

"We face similar challenges, but we'll answer those challenges and proceed with our evidence," Blonigen said.

Kimmell disappeared in 1988 while driving across Wyoming, and her body was found in the North Platte River.

The investigation stalled until 2002, when DNA evidence linked Eaton to the case while he was in prison on unrelated charges. Investigators unearthed the missing car on his property.

Authorities say Eaton kept Kimmell captive in a rundown compound in Moneta, west of Casper and raped her before the killing.

Wyoming Attorney General Peter Michael issued a statement in November saying he was disappointed by Johnson's order to overturn the death penalty.

"Wyoming prosecutors recognize the seriousness of capital punishment and seek it in only the most egregious cases," Michael stated. "Mr. Eaton's kidnapping, rape and murder of Lisa Marie Kimmell is one such case."

David Delicath, a senior lawyer in the attorney general's office who is helping handle Eaton's federal appeal, said the latest notice to seek the death penalty must wait until Johnson decides whether to remove the possibility of the death penalty.



EATON

Prosecutor again seeks execution of Dale Wayne Eaton



JANUARY 06, 2015 5:45 PM • BY BEN NEARY ASSOCIATED PRESS

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EATON

Wyoming Attorney General opposes inmate Eaton's request to remove death penalty option



JANUARY 13, 2015 12:30 PM • BY BEN NEARY ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Wyoming Attorney General's Office is fighting an attempt to block the state from again seeking the death penalty against a convicted murderer.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne in November overturned the death penalty sentence of Dale Wayne Eaton, 69. Eaton was convicted in 2004 of murdering 18-year-old Lisa Marie Kimmell of Billings, Montana. Eaton's

lawyers don't dispute he killed her.

Johnson agreed with Eaton's appellate legal team that his trial lawyers had failed to provide him an adequate defense and failed to present details of his background and personal history that might have persuaded jurors to spare his life. The judge gave state prosecutors a choice of either empanelling a new jury to consider whether Eaton deserves the death penalty or keeping him in prison for life without parole.

Casper District Attorney Mike Blonigen, who originally prosecuted Eaton, filed papers in Natrona County District Court last week stating that he intends once again to seek death for Eaton.

Before Johnson's order, Eaton had been the only person on death row in Wyoming.

Kimmell vanished in 1988 while driving solo across Wyoming. Fishermen later found her body in the North Platte River.

Investigators got a break in 2002, when DNA evidence taken from Kimmell's body linked Eaton to the case while he was in prison on unrelated charges. Investigators then unearthed her missing car on his property.

Authorities say Eaton kept Kimmell captive in a rundown compound in Moneta, west of Casper, and raped her before the killing.

Eaton's legal team put on an evidentiary hearing in 2013 before Johnson in which they called many witnesses, including relatives and mental health professionals, who gave details about his tortured family history, childhood and long-term mental and emotional problems. They

argued that the jury might have spared his life if they knew more about him.

Following Johnson's ruling, Eaton's lawyers asked him to reconsider giving the state the option of seeking the death penalty again. They argued that too much time had passed since his original trial and that many people who knew him are no longer alive or otherwise unavailable to testify.

Eaton's lawyers also asked Johnson to seal the transcripts of the 2013 evidentiary hearing and forbid the state from using the materials it gathered during his federal appeal during any resentencing hearing.

The Attorney General's Office filed a response on Monday urging Johnson to reject taking the death penalty off the table and allow the state to use material developed in the federal appeal. It argued that witnesses' earlier statements could be presented to a new jury.

Senior Assistant Attorney General J. Michael Causey declined comment Tuesday, as did Terry Harris of Cheyenne, an attorney for Eaton.



DEATH

Firing squad bill passes Wyoming committee

Alternate method is in response to shortage of lethal injection drugs

JANUARY 14, 2015 9:30 AM • BY LAURA HANCOCK STAR-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER



CHEYENNE -- The Wyoming Senate voted Wednesday morning to advance a proposal to use firing squads as the alternative method of execution when lethal injection cannot be performed in a timely manner.

[Senate File 13](#) faces two more votes in the Senate before heading to the House.

The European Union is prohibiting European pharmaceutical companies from selling lethal injection drugs, said [Sen. Bruce Burns](#), R-Sheridan.

The current alternative to lethal injection is lethal gas but the state does not have a working gas chamber. Building one would be expensive and there could be expensive lawsuits challenging it, he said.

“This isn’t a question about pro-death penalty or anti-death penalty,” said [Sen. Leland Christensen](#), R-Alta, committee chairman. “It is really about dealing with laws that are on the books.”

The Wyoming Department of Correction will determine specifics of how a firing squad would be assembled, Burns said.

In neighboring Utah, firing squads are comprised of volunteers, many in law enforcement, Christensen said.

[Sen. Floyd Esquibel](#), D-Cheyenne, was the only committee member to oppose the bill.

“I guess I would question the mental health of someone who would volunteer for this exercise,” he said.

Burns said people who feel passionate about a crime would volunteer. He used the example of convicted murderer Dale Wayne Eaton, who was Wyoming’s lone death row inmate until the a federal court recently [overturned his sentence](#).

“I don’t think I would have a problem volunteering,” Burns said. “Keep in mind, Wyoming does not execute people very often. It’s been 1992 since the last one. And we’ve had many murders and convictions since that. It’s pretty much reserved for the most heinous cases.”

The Joint Judiciary Committee in September considered but **rejected a measure** to abolish the death penalty. **Rep. Cathy Connolly**, D-Laramie, is sponsoring a **bill** that would repeal it.

The Wyoming Association of Churches and the Catholic Diocese of Cheyenne are hosting a panel to discuss abolishing the death penalty from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Friday in the Cottonwood Room at the Laramie County Library, 2200 Pioneer Ave., Cheyenne.