

CHEYENNE AT 150

1867-2017

Celebrating the Legend



A SPECIAL PUBLICATION BY THE WYOMING TRIBUNE EAGLE

Happy Birthday Cheyenne!



Celebrate Cheyenne's Sesquicentennial this Summer with Family and Friends!

FREE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

JULY 4 Kickoff in the Park

Romero Park, 1317 Parsley Blvd., 11am - 4pm

Celebrate the naming of the city at a ceremony on the banks of the Crow Creek. Mayor Orr will speak about Cheyenne's founding, history and heritage. Activities for kids of all ages; beverage available for purchase, or bring your own! Annual July 4th fireworks show that evening at Frontier Park.

AUG 6 Interfaith Gathering

Celebrating 150 years of faith

AUG 7 Meet the Mayors

Seven living mayors share their memories and vision at this roundtable discussion

AUG 8 Encapsulating Time

Time capsule dedication with students, Mayor Orr, City Council; opening of centennial time capsule; games and displays

AUG 8 150th Party on the Plaza

A birthday party with a huge cake, food, live music, and a fireworks finale!

AUG 10 History Comes Alive!

Historians talk about Cheyenne's rich and diverse history, heritage and culture; displays and videos

AUG 12 Family Day Celebration

Classic car show downtown; then afternoon of family fun at the park!

AUG 12 Gala in the Gardens

A black-tie evening event (*paid*) at the new Cheyenne Botanic Gardens' Grand Conservatory

AUG 12 Tap in to History

Downtown pub crawl via the trolleys; take in historic buildings and maybe a specialty craft brew

Complete list of events with details at
Cheyenne150.com

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DOWNTOWN CHEYENNE: 2017



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CREDITS

Cover Image:
Blaine McCartney,
WTE photo editor;
historic
photograph by
J.E. Stimson,
courtesy of the
Wyoming State
Archives

Managing Editor:
Brian Martin

**Assistant
Managing
Editor/Section
Designer:**
Nicole Lebsack

**Online/
Features Editor:**
Josh Rhoten

**WTE staff
writers:**
James Chilton,
Joel Funk,
Kristine Galloway,
Becky Orr,
Sarah Zoellick

**WTE staff
photographers:**
Jacob Byk and
Blaine McCartney

FROM THE EDITOR

As the city of Cheyenne celebrates its 150th anniversary this year, the Wyoming Tribune Eagle staff set out to tell some of the stories and profile many of the key figures who have had a role in the city's history.

We didn't undertake this effort with any crazy idea that we could provide the definitive history of Wyoming's Capital City. Rather, we hope this special section will give you some insight into what it must have been like here on the high plains back in the summer of 1867 and how things have evolved since then.

Among the stories you will find inside are:

- How Cheyenne got the nickname "Magic City of the Plains."

- The reason for the rise and fall of the cattle barons, and the impact they had on Cheyenne that can still be seen today.

- The evolution of what is now known as F.E. Warren Air Force Base and the role it has played through the decades.

- Stories of many of the well-known politicians, celebrities and Wild West figures who have either visited or called Cheyenne home.

If these tales whet your appetite for more, we hope you'll visit our website, WyomingNews.com, where you'll find longer versions of some of them, along with additional images and other coverage related to the city's anniversary. Plus, inside this section, we have suggested a small sampling of some good books that you can turn to, just as we did.

We couldn't have tackled such a large project without the help of some key resource people in our community, including:

- Suzi Taylor, Wyoming State Archives reference

archivist

- Bill Dubois, local historian and son of famous Cheyenne architect William Dubois II

- Jill Pope, Visit Cheyenne director of operations

Our sincere gratitude also goes out to Mona Lee Pearl, chairwoman of the Cheyenne 150 celebration planning committee, and the rest of her team for all of the hard work they have put into this year's celebration.

We hope you enjoy this commemorative magazine, as well as all of this year's 150th anniversary events. See you there!

Sincerely,

Brian K. Martin
Managing Editor,
Wyoming Tribune Eagle

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UNCLE CHARLIE'S: A CENTURY SERVING CHEYENNE

The Galeotos family came to Cheyenne more than 100 years ago with the innovation of bona fide business owners. Gus (Charlie) Galeotos first introduced the city to a coffee house across from the Cheyenne Railroad Depot and invited his brothers, Sam and Peter, to join the effort. By 1916, the Galeotos brothers opened a candy company where the Hynds building now stands in downtown Cheyenne. A fire abruptly destroyed the shop and forced the brothers to relocate next to the Atlas Theatre, where they operated Athens Candy Company in the area for the next two decades. Offering customers candies and homemade ice cream, they even made deliveries by horse-drawn wagon. When the company moved to 100 W. 17th Street, a café and delicatessen were added and became Blue Bird Café in 1938. A tavern was soon launched when the city began issuing liquor permits. Back then, the cafe offered Pork Tenderloin for \$.95 and Chicken soup for \$.25.

Now, Blue Bird is Uncle Charlie's Restaurant, Tavern and Liquor Store. Opened by the sons of Sam and Helen Galeotos in 1976, the family has been serving Cheyenne at 6001 N. Yellowstone Rd. since 1977.

The restaurant has grown substantially since then.

"When it first opened, it was fine dining and well ahead of its time," longtime general manager Tom Nowak said. "It was table side, Flambe, Bananas Foster, all that stuff. It has evolved considerably."

Offering a full-service menu, cocktail bar and package wine, beer and liquor, Uncle Charlie's is truly a one-stop-shop for celebrations, get togethers or after-work drinks.

The tavern evinces a casual, pub-style atmosphere with a comprehensive menu including house-made salads, burgers, pasta, sandwiches and dozens of freshly made appetizers. Their secret weapon, the Charlie Dip, is a must-try, Nowak said. Open seven days a week and regularly hosting banquets, rehearsal dinners and appetizer parties, it's one of Cheyenne's leading spots for large parties and events for groups as small as 10 and as large as 100. Even private party rooms are available for reservation.

Complete with an extensive bar and more than 900 different labels of fine wines, an impressive selection of craft, imported and domestic beers and collection of premium liquors, Uncle Charlie's is sure to quench even the most obscure thirst.

Being a staple in Cheyenne for so long, the restaurant is a regular haunt for many locals, and has served a number of high-profile figures just passing through, including governors and politicians during Frontier Days.

"We've kept a non-chain atmosphere over this long of a tenure and we've created a lot of friends in terms of people who've lived here a long time and they, in turn, bring new people," Nowak said.

Uncle Charlie's has withstood the test of time to become one of Cheyenne's oldest and most eclectic local watering holes and eateries.. Whether you're grabbing lunch with a friend or watching the game unescorted, "Chuck's" is there with cold beer and hot wings.



UNCLE CHARLIE'S

Package Liquor, Grill & Tavern

6001 N. Yellowstone Road • Cheyenne, Wyoming • (307) 778-7704 or (307) 778-7775

How Cheyenne got started

By Becky Orr

Wyoming Tribune Eagle

Imagine Cheyenne without a house, store, street or even a tree.

Add to that the absence of schools, churches and parks and the almost constant presence of the wind, and you've got a pretty good idea what Cheyenne was like when it all began.

On July 4, 1867, the spot that Gen. Grenville Dodge, a chief engineer for the Union Pacific Railroad, selected for the future railroad town

Dodge

was part of a vast expanse of windswept prairie.

"There was nothing here," said Jim Ehernberger, a local railroad expert. "It was wide-open range land. A lot of maps showed it as a great American desert with few trees. And it was Indian territory."

The arid desert plain was home to a few Native American Indian tribes, including the Cheyenne. But as far as the city of Cheyenne, it all began with the railroad.

If it weren't for the railroad, Cheyenne wouldn't be here today.

All about the railroad

The Union Pacific Railroad "was the reason for Cheyenne's existence" and its first industry, according to Phil Roberts, a history professor at the University of Wyoming.

In 1867, thousands of men working for the Union Pacific



The railroad put Cheyenne on the map and is the reason for the city's existence. Gen. Grenville Dodge picked the spot for a Union Pacific Railroad town in 1867, and the city blossomed almost overnight. This photograph, taken around 1911, shows the magnitude of the rail yards in Cheyenne and their importance to the Union Pacific Railroad. Wyoming State Archives

Railroad laid tracks west across the country. They were part of a feverish race to establish the nation's first transcontinental railroad with the goal of reaching the Pacific Ocean.

Union Pacific leaders sent Dodge to scout the vast prairies and peaks in the West. His job was to find the best cross-country route for the railroad west from the Omaha, Nebraska/Council Bluffs, Iowa, terminal.

Dodge and fellow surveyors in 1867 discovered an "amazing pass between Cheyenne and Laramie that would allow the railroad to get through the mountains faster and easier than any place else," said Michael Kassel, assistant director/curator at the Cheyenne

Frontier Days Old West Museum.

The surveyors named the pass Sherman Hill, which is the highest point on the first transcontinental railroad.

The unique geography of the area provides a way for locomotives to cross the Rocky Mountains. The area is called "The Gangplank" because it provides a long, gradual grade from the Plains to the Laramie Mountains. Today, Interstate 80 runs parallel to "The Gangplank" from Cheyenne to Laramie.

Dodge envisioned Cheyenne as an important division point on the UP railroad line—a designation that meant a town had a good shot at permanence.

The place Dodge picked for

the southwest corner of his city is located in south Cheyenne and is easily visible in a wide-open area designated with a historic marker. The area can be reached from Dey Avenue south of West Jefferson Road, located on the south side of a flat pathway about 100 yards east of Dey Avenue.

Dodge platted the site for Cheyenne largely because Crow Creek was nearby.

"He loved Crow Creek because of the constant supply of water," Kassel said. Steam locomotives required large amounts of water to run successfully.

A few options were available for possible railroad routes west. But Dodge selected the best option, Ehernberger said. Dodge

chose the route he wanted all along, one that goes through Cheyenne.

Physical obstacles made the other westward routes unworkable.

"They couldn't go over the Colorado mountains. They couldn't go up through the South Pass because they wanted to maintain a certain grade by not getting too steep," Ehernberger said.

On July 4, 1867, about 400 men celebrated the nation's birthday at an isolated spot on Crow Creek set up by U.S. Army soldiers, according to the book "Cheyenne: A Biography of the 'Magic City' of the Plains" by Bill O'Neal.

Although there is some debate about who named the new boomtown, it's likely the decision fell to those men gathered for the holiday.

Dodge did not attend, as he and others in his expedition group continued to survey the area.

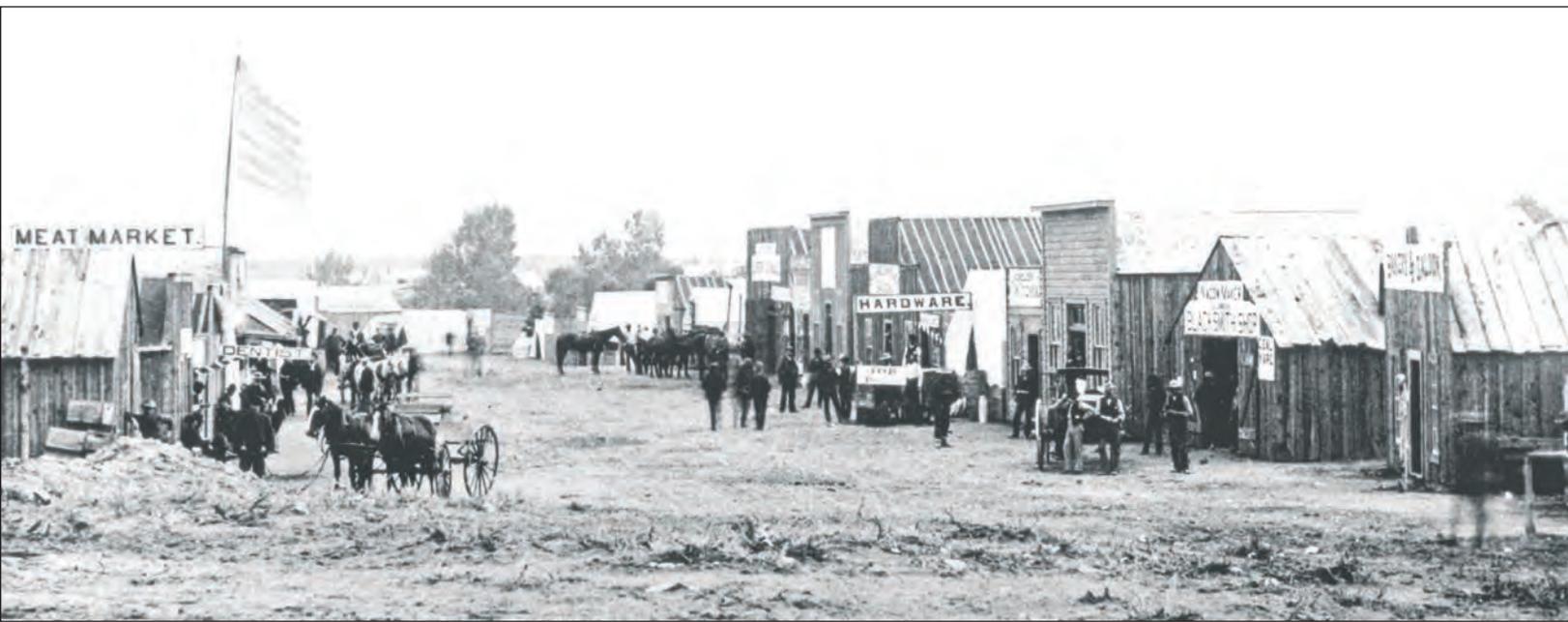
The soldiers there had been assigned to protect Cheyenne, especially against the recent actions of the area's Native Americans. The Indians had killed three surveyors working in Wyoming, including two who were not far from Cheyenne.

The soldiers soon would be stationed at Fort D.A. Russell, located near Cheyenne.

Construction of the fort, which would become F.E. Warren Air Force Base, began in October 1867.

The Fourth of July celebration at Crow Creek in 1867 included speeches by UP officials. A sense of isolation was present, too, based on an account by Col. Silas Seymour, an executive with

See Started, pages 6-7



This view down 16th Street likely was made in the 1860s. Early-day Cheyenne was a "Tent City" with a hodgepodge of false-front buildings and shanties that housed grocery stores, banks, restaurants and laundries. Wyoming State Archives

Started

Continued from 5

Union Pacific. Years later, he commented that there wasn't a house on the empty prairie land or even enough lumber to build a house for at least 50 miles.

Still, any sense of loneliness would be gone quickly. Within a few days of the celebration, hundreds of people arrived in Cheyenne after news got out that the creation of a new railroad town was at hand.

When railroad crews reached Cheyenne on Nov. 10, 1867, crowds of people were waiting for them.

Cheyenne's population had jumped to 3,000 from the time the route was announced to the day tracks arrived.

Almost overnight, tents popped up that housed grocery stores, banks, restaurants and laundries. Dentists and doctors hung out their shingles. Enterprising business people built hotels and boarding houses, some with wood false fronts and the rest made of canvas.

Many hastily built shanties covered the new town, all along what is now Lincolnway.

By October 1867, Cheyenne already had two printing houses, a post office and a telegraph shop. The town grew so quickly it gained the nick-

name of "Magic City of the Plains."

To meet housing demand, carpenters transported wood from other towns and brought them to the new city.

UP also owned city lots selling for \$150 each in July. But just three months later, the price had skyrocketed to \$3,000 a lot.

In his book, O'Neal included a comment from William Kuykendall, one of Cheyenne's earliest pioneers about the frantic pace of the boomtown.

"Houses were erected by day and night," Kuykendall wrote. "Sometimes for two or three days, there's not a break in the sharp sound of hammers."

Lodging was at a premium, as guests at one Cheyenne hotel slept two to a bed, whether they knew each other or not.

On Aug. 10, Cheyenne elected H.M. Hook as mayor and filled many other offices.

By Feb. 21, 1868, there were 6,000 residents in town, the Daily Leader newspaper estimated. However, an optimistic Grenville Dodge suggested a census of 10,000 people.

Hell on Wheels

All railroad towns along the Union

Pacific route had one thing in common: the prevalence of Hell on Wheels towns.

These were "portable" towns that followed railroad workers from one end-of-track location to another. Operators of Hell on Wheels towns would dismantle their businesses in one location when railroad workers moved out. They'd stow their build-

ings in their wagons and set them up again at the next town on the trail.

Cheyenne attracted plenty of honest businessmen, but the chance to make so much money so quickly from unsuspecting UP workers drew throngs of the desperate to town as well.

Murderers, gamblers, thieves, conmen and prostitutes followed on the Hell on Wheels circuit.

The Rev. Joseph W. Cook was alarmed when he arrived in Cheyenne just six months after its creation.

"The wickedness is unimaginable and appalling," Cook wrote, according to a passage from O'Neal's book. "Almost every other house is a drinking saloon, gambling house, restaurant, dance hall or bawdy."

Railroad surveyor A.N. Ferguson had little good to say about Cheyenne

"The wickedness is unimaginable and appalling. Almost every other house is a drinking saloon, gambling house, restaurant, dance hall or bawdy."

The Rev. Joseph W. Cook

during his visit in 1868. The account appears in the online Wyoming Tales and Trails publication.

Ferguson wrote that he saw a "high-carnival gambling saloon and other places of immoral character. Vice and riot had full and unlimited control," he wrote.

Kassel said lurid stories about the city were common in the press.

"As soon as the railroad got to Cheyenne, so did the telegraph. And the newspaper reporters here loved to send stories back East for publication in New York, Washington, D.C., Boston and even London, England, newspapers," he said.

By August 1867, the town had a magistrate, a mayor, fire chief, three police officers and 900 residents. When the population exploded to 11,000 not long after, the police force could not keep up.

"Terrible things were happening to people who did not have their wits about them in Cheyenne," Kassel said.

Murders were common. "Pistols are almost as numerous as men," the editor of the Daily Leader wrote in 1867. "It is no longer thought to be an affair of any importance to take the life of a fellow human being."

Not long after Cheyenne's creation, people could buy a drink in 70 places in town, according to www.wyo.history.org.

But soon, those from Cheyenne churches got involved, successfully

supporting a city ordinance to close saloons for four hours on Sunday. The new law was enforced, but barely.

Still, signs of civilization were peeping through. The first school opened in 1867 with 114 pupils.

Tired of crime and mayhem, several men formed a Vigilance Committee in December 1867 to root out the riffraff.

"They didn't keep a list of members; they wore masks, and they didn't tell on each other," Kassel said.

At first, these men tried to scare those who broke the laws. But later, vigilantes made good on promises to hang the offenders. They summarily strung up at least five men before they put away their masks. No vigilante was arrested.

Rise and fall of cattle barons

UP's decision to locate its route through Cheyenne and not Denver helped establish the cattle industry in Cheyenne and the rest of Wyoming, according to www.wyo.history.org.

The cattle baron era in Cheyenne and other parts of Wyoming lasted from 1868-87 and created fabulously wealthy men, who showered collateral riches on Cheyenne.

Investing money in cattle was considered a safe, sure way to make money in the 1870s and 1880s. Someone who invested \$4.50 in a full-sized animal, for example, typically could earn a return of \$30 to \$40.

The lure of easy money gave rise to cattle barons, many of whom moved here from the East and from other countries.

Their wealth contributed to Cheyenne becoming the richest city in the world per capita in the early 1880s. Eight of its 3,000 residents were millionaires at one time; most of them were cattle barons, who built lavish homes along what's now Carey Avenue. Townspeople took to calling the area Millionaire's Row.

All this ended during the devastating winter of 1886-87. Blizzards and subzero temperatures killed thousands of cattle. Many of their owners lost everything they had overnight.

Most of the mansions on Millionaire's Row were torn down long ago.

But the cattlemen's legacy lives on in other ways. Cheyenne was one of the first cities in the United States to have electric lights, a perk that a poor municipality could not afford.

Such wealthy men built a first-rate opera house in 1881 for residents to enjoy, even those of meager means.

They also established an elite members-only fraternity called the Cheyenne Club, a huge building constructed in 1881. Here, gentlemen dressed in their formal best could sip only the best liquor, smoke expensive cigars and dine on cuisine prepared by French chefs. The club covered a block on 17th Street and Warren Avenue during its short-lived heyday.

Capitol construction marks a new era

For many years, many Cheyenne residents had wanted their city to be the seat of state government.

In 1886—four years before Wyoming became a state—the Ninth Territorial Legislative Authority approved the construction of a state Capitol in Cheyenne.

On Sept. 9, 1886, supporters broke ground on the site. Hundreds of people crowded to watch the cornerstone

laying on May 18, 1887.

Local Masons and members of the 17th Infantry from Fort D.A. Russell took part in the festivities, according to the book, "The Magic City of the Plains."

Construction of the center section of the state Capitol was finished on March 29, 1888.

The two wings were added in April 1890, the year Wyoming became a state. Construction of the House and Senate chambers was completed in March 1917.

Frontier Day gives the city an identity

A spectacular modern event known as Cheyenne Frontier Days had its start in 1897 as a way to help a city that was down on its luck. After the cattle industry went bust in 1887, Cheyenne was doing its best to survive.

At the same time, the Union Pacific Railroad wanted to help itself by helping Wyoming and Colorado towns along its route. Railroad officials wanted to increase the number of passengers and hired travel passenger agent Frederick Angier to come up with a solution.

He helped towns develop festivals that visitors could reach by excursions on the railroad. Although ac-

counts differ, it's thought that he encouraged Cheyenne's leaders to organize a rodeo that offered events like horse racing and bucking and bull riding.

Col. E.A. Slack, editor of the Cheyenne Daily Sun-Leader, supported the idea and encouraged other townspeople to do so, too.

What resulted was the first Frontier Day on Sept. 23, 1897. William Frederick "Buffalo Bill" Cody led the parade.

About 4,000 people paid 15 cents for bleacher seats and 35 cents for grandstand seating. Admission to the park was free.

Today's Frontier Days boasts the world's largest outdoor rodeo and performances by musical superstars.

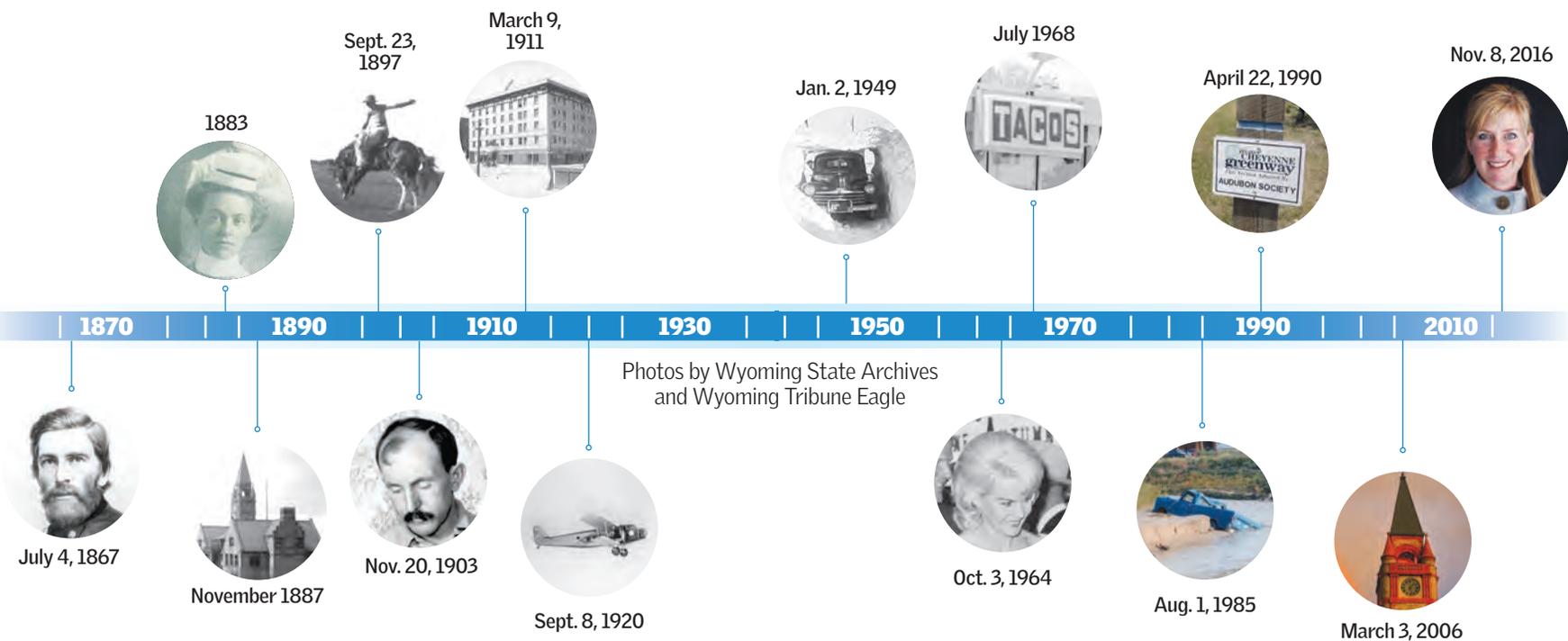
In 2016, for example, 259,193 people attended CFD events. Visitors also enjoy free pancake breakfasts, elaborate parades, art shows, an Indian Village and a free performance by the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds jet flying team.

At the first CFD, cowboys had to bring their best bucking horse with them to compete. Now, professional cowboys vie for more than \$1 million in cash prizes, riding roughstock provided by CFD under contract with a third-party contractor.

CFD helped Cheyenne establish an identity that is recognized throughout the world.



In a light-hearted gesture, the first Cheyenne Frontier Day Committee in 1897 delivered an engraved "resolution of thanks" to a Capt. Pitcher at Fort D.A. Russell for all of the military's work on the event, according to the book "Let's Go, Let's Show, Let's Rodeo" by Shirley Flynn. Committee members wore fancy top hats and frock coats and hitched a mule to an expensive phaeton carriage and a team of oxen to a top-of-the-line luxury coach. Wyoming State Archives



150 years of Cheyenne: Key events

July 4, 1867 – The site for Cheyenne is selected by Gen. Grenville Dodge. Dodge was the chief engineer for the Union Pacific Railroad and selected the site for a division point because of its location at the foot of the Rocky Mountains. From that point on, the trains would need to do serious climbing to get through the mountain passes. As construction of the railroad moved closer to the site, the city's population grew rapidly to accommodate workers, and the legal and shady industries that could profit from them. Nearby, Fort D.A. Russell was established on the same day.

Aug. 10, 1867 – Cheyenne elects a governing body, with H.J. Hook as the first mayor and Ed Melanger as the first city marshal.

September 1867 – Construction of Fort D.A. Russell begins. The fort was created to protect the Union Pacific Railroad and was named for Union Army Gen. David A. Russell. Russell lost his life in the Civil War when a piece of shrapnel hit his heart during a battle in the Shenandoah Valley in 1864. Records show that temporary log huts for enlisted men were finished in September, with more permanent accommodations going up in October and November. Unlike Cheyenne, the development of the base was an orderly one, with several phases and

many permanent structures. A site was also selected for Camp Carlin between Cheyenne and Fort D.A. Russell. The camp provided supplies to several forts.

Sept. 19, 1867 – The Cheyenne Daily Leader is first published. The Leader was the first newspaper in the city and a direct ancestor of the Wyoming Tribune Eagle. The first issue was just four pages, with single issues costing 15 cents and yearly subscriptions totaling \$12. The second newspaper started in the city was The Frontier Index, which followed the Union Pacific west via the railroad.

Sept. 29, 1867 – The Rev. W.W. Baldwin, a circuit minister from Colorado, conducts a First Methodist worship service at city hall, and the Methodist Society is established. In 1869, church members bought two lots from the Union Pacific Railroad for \$1 and built a white-frame church on 18th Street. A new church made from red sandstone was built in 1890 at the same location. The new church – still used today – was dedicated on Easter Sunday, April 14, 1894.

1883 – St. John's Hospital is built for \$21,000 on land donated to the city by the railroad on 23rd Street. This was the first permanent hospital built in Cheyenne. It

was replaced in 1922 with Memorial Hospital. After changes in ownership and a merger with the DePaul Hospital, the name was changed to Cheyenne Regional Medical Center in 2006.

November 1887 – The Union Pacific Depot is completed. By this point, Cheyenne had become a bustling city, with several large buildings. To keep up with growth, the railroad agreed to build the sandstone structure we see today at a cost of \$100,000. The building was designed by Van Brunt and Howe of Kansas City. Work started in 1885, and when it was finished, the structure could be seen from around the city.

March 29, 1888 – The center section of the Wyoming State Capitol is completed. The Capitol was made possible by an act of the legislative assembly in 1886. Built in parts, the structure imitated the classic design of the U.S. Capitol and featured a gold-leafed dome. The wings of the building were completed in 1890, the same year the state was admitted to the union.

Sept. 23, 1897 – The first Cheyenne Frontier Day is held. This single-day event would eventually grow into the multi-day spectacle seen today. Organized by city leaders on relatively short notice, visitors came

from around the West. Their numbers were boosted by the decision of local business and schools to close, leading to a pretty hefty group in attendance. Admission to Pioneer Park was free for the event, though those looking for a seat would have to pay 15 cents for bleacher seats or 35 cents for grandstand seats. The first Frontier Day shared some of the pageantry of today's version, but included a wide variety of events and spectacles closer to a Wild West show than the organized rodeo seen today.

Nov. 20, 1903 – Tom Horn, a cowboy, former Pinkerton detective and notorious stock detective, is hanged at the courthouse in Cheyenne. He was found guilty of shooting and killing 14-year-old Willie Nickell. Horn maintained his innocence, but was hanged on a gallows in the county courthouse.

1908 – Offices are converted to the Atlas Theatre. The construction of the original building could be as early as 1887 or as late as 1888. What is clear is that the building originally served several purposes and was later converted by architect William Dubois. The final product could hold 550 people and featured a stage, penny arcade, confectionery and soda fountain. That version closed in 1929, reopening as The Strand Movie Theater until 1955, and then the Pink Pony

Nightclub. The building is currently owned by the Cheyenne Little Theatre Players, who formed in 1927. They bought the theater in 1971 after leasing it for some time.

March 9, 1911 – The Plains Hotel opens in downtown Cheyenne and impresses guests with plush carpets, tile floors and genuine marble appointments. Each guest room had a telephone and access to a bathroom.

Oct. 31, 1913 – Cheyenne hosts a ceremony at town hall "welcoming" the Lincoln Highway to Wyoming. Travelers from the East had been coming through the Cheyenne area for generations, but the Lincoln Highway finally offered a paved and consistent route. Visitors from the big cities of the East were looking to experience the wide-open West in their new cars on the road. Wyoming was at the top of their lists, and with routes to Yellowstone National Park and Devils Tower added shortly after, the state quickly became a popular road trip destination – even as that term was still in its infancy.

Sept. 8, 1920 – The first flight of the Transcontinental Airmail Route lands in Cheyenne. With this, the Cheyenne Airport became part of the Chicago-to-San Francisco leg of the Columbia Transcontinental Airmail Route. The airport was the highest point on the Transcontinental Air Mail route and was known as the most difficult. Only 14 other airports in the country were designated as airmail stations.

Jan. 2, 1949 – A massive blizzard hits Wyoming. The storm raged across the state in one form or another for nearly two months. Snowdrifts were reported up to 20 feet high, and the average temperature was consistently below zero. By its end, it had killed 17 people, 55,000 head of cattle and 105,000 sheep.

1957 – F.E. Warren Air Force Base becomes the country's first operational Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) unit, responsible for 24 Atlas missiles, ready to be launched from above-ground silos in eastern Wyoming, western Nebraska and northern Colorado.

Oct. 3, 1964 – "Cheyenne Autumn" premieres in Cheyenne at the Lincoln Theater. The John Ford-directed Western premiered here thanks to work from and negotiation by then-Mayor Bill Nation. The event featured appearances by actress Carroll Baker and James Stewart, and saw 200 journalists from around the world come to report on the action.

July 1968 – The first Taco John's taco stand is opened by John Turner. Turner, a young restaurateur in Cheyenne, came to businessman James Woodson looking for a new building as an upgrade to his taco stand. He needed it fast, as he wanted a solid location for before the annual Cheyenne Frontier Days crowd

came to town. Woodson asked his friend Harold Holmes for help, and he offered to modify a camper into a food truck. Business was booming during CFD, and after making several more trucks, Holmes and Woodson bought the franchise rights in 1969. They named their restaurant after the first store owner – John. Currently, Taco John's has restaurants in 25 states and is one of the largest fast-food Mexican restaurants in America. The company's headquarters is still located in Cheyenne.

Aug. 1, 1985 – Known as The Flood of '85. Six inches of rain fell on Cheyenne during the evening hours when a super-cell thunderstorm parked over the city. Creeks swelled to the size of rivers, and streets filled with water. In all, 12 people died and 70 people were hurt. The storm would have lasting impacts in the city, as stormwater control became a major issue in the following generations. That legacy goes through the rededication of Pando Park as a retention pond to the present-day debate over the downtown Civic Center Commons project.

April 22, 1990 – Citizens bring an initial proposal for a recreational trail in Cheyenne. In honor of Earth Day in 1990, a group called

the Crow Creek Greenway Committee brought the idea of a trail through the city forward. This plan would eventually grow into the current Greater Cheyenne Greenway system, which stretches 37 miles around the city.

March 3, 2006 – The Cheyenne Depot becomes a national historic landmark. Wyoming state and federal representatives were present at a special ceremony for the event. The designation came after a significant restoration and the building becoming the home of the Cheyenne Depot Museum. Thanks to that restoration, and a change in ownership to the city and county in 1993, the Cheyenne Depot is once again a popular meeting spot and host location for community events like concerts and farmer's markets.

Oct. 15, 2012 – NCAR-Wyoming Supercomputing Center opens near Cheyenne. The first computer housed at the National Center for Atmospheric Research Supercomputing Center was Yellowstone, which was used by scientists across the nation to study weather, oceanography, pollution and much more. At the time, Yellowstone ranked among the 20 fastest in the world and was joined by the Cheyenne

computer in 2017, which was 2.5 times more powerful. The center's completion marked a change in Wyoming's economy toward digital services, thanks to a cooler climate, tax code benefits, and utility infrastructure in the form of cheap electricity.

June 1, 2016 – Cheyenne Public Safety Center opens. Funded by \$25 million in sixth-penny sales tax revenue, it currently houses all Cheyenne Police Department and county dispatch operations, Cheyenne Fire and Rescue administration and the city's Emergency Operations Center. The interior features metal beams and brick pillars from the original 1920 structure and has space open for future growth.

Nov. 8, 2016 – Marian Orr is elected as the first female mayor of Cheyenne. Orr worked as a lobbyist in Cheyenne before her election and ran on a campaign of servicing the city's needs before its wants. After former Mayor Rick Kaysen announced he would not seek re-election, 10 candidates formally filed for the open seat, with the two women in the race advancing to the November general election. Orr won a narrow victory over Amy Surdam, pulling in 55.9 percent of the vote.



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Cheyenne's industries evolve, but still rely on original ideas

By Joel Funk

Wyoming Tribune Eagle

Cheyenne's biggest industries have changed and evolved through time. Even so, the forces that created the city continue to drive the local economy 150 years after its founding in subtle and not-so-subtle ways.

For example, none of the industries that have come to define Cheyenne and its workforce would have been possible without the railroad. From that, it developed into a military community, briefly saw a cattle boom and established itself as the capital of what would become the state of Wyoming.

Today, its physical location as a travel corridor, as well as its proximity to the growing Colorado Front Range, continues to make Cheyenne thrive. And while many communities in the state fall into a constant boom-and-bust cycle, Cheyenne is more insulated from the market forces. Thus, it continues to grow, and leaders are optimistic about the historic city's future.

Transportation and economic corridor

Cheyenne was founded in the 19th century because of its geographic location. As the nation looked to build the railroad that would connect the eastern and western edges of the continent, the area that became Cheyenne was found to be a gateway through the Rocky Mountains.

"The railroad came through, which created the city of Cheyenne, which created the territory of Wyoming — there's no question about that," said Rick Ewig, associate director of the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming from 1997 to 2016.

Cheyenne would grow rapidly to a population of 4,000 within a few



Workmen from the Union Pacific Wheel Shop pose for a photo around 1890. The UP selected Cheyenne as the location for the depot, necessitating shops such as this one, which were big job creators at the time. Wyoming State Archives



A Fort D.A. Russell soldier poses with a caisson-wagon and mule in the 1920s. Wyoming State Archives

months of its founding. Like all such end-of-the-tracks towns, local businesses started providing services for workers. Being a location for a major depot and repair shops ensured Cheyenne's future as an important railroad town, according to author Gregory Nickerson online at www.wyohistory.org. In addition to those supplying basic materials and services, entertainment businesses thrived in Cheyenne's early years, Nickerson wrote.

Again benefiting from its designation as a Midwest travel passage,

\$400,000 congressional appropriation in May 1920.

"The airmail started coming through Cheyenne in 1920, and then you have airlines coming in the late 1920s and '30s," Ewig said.

While transportation isn't Cheyenne's biggest employment sector in 2017, it continues to be a driving factor in the city's success. With the growing Colorado Front Range, Cheyenne's industries are also driven by outside forces, said Randy Bruns, Cheyenne LEADS chief executive officer.

"Cheyenne is very well-situated in transportation corridors, which are economic corridors," he said.

Today, sectors such as warehouses and distribution, technology and data centers, entrepreneurial small business ventures, health care, manufacturing, mining, retail and others are employing thousands in Cheyenne. While some of these might seem unrelated to the early railroad days that built the city, Bruns said they show Cheyenne continues to benefit as a transportation hub.

A military community

As the railroad was developing, native people in the West were unhappy about the encroachment on their lands. This led to the establishment of military outposts along the railroad's route, including Fort D.A. Russell, with the site being chosen in summer 1867 on the same day the city of Cheyenne was designated.

"What has really helped Cheyenne to be as great as it is is that, shortly after Cheyenne was founded, Fort D.A. Russell was founded as well," Ewig said. "(The military outpost and railroad) are so intertwined as far as making them both more of a success than they would have been on their own."



The first flight of Central Air Mail in Cheyenne on May 31, 1926.

Wyoming State Archives

Cheyenne eventually became one of 14 terminal cities for the Transcontinental Air Mail Service after a

Shortly after Fort D.A. Russell was founded and the railroad arrived in Cheyenne, the Army founded the Camp Carlin freight depot. Hundreds of soldiers posted at the fort and camp – including three companies of African-American troops – supported the local economy.

Plenty of support sectors were needed to provide products and services for the military and railroad industries as well. Merchants, gamblers, lawyers, accountants, clerks and more came to Cheyenne to make a living in what was deemed the Magic City of the Plains because of its rapid growth.

Eventually, training for the Spanish-American War and World War I made Fort D.A. Russell one of the largest military posts of the early 20th century, writes author Marguerite Herman for website www.wyohistory.org. That brought a great boost to local industries during the time, with public transportation routes taking soldiers from the fort to Cheyenne's downtown.

But the fate of the military outpost changed in the mid-20th century. After being transferred to the U.S. Air Force in 1947, it was renamed F.E. Warren Air Force Base. This evolution led to it becoming one of the biggest missile-command bases in the United States. The decision to repurpose the outpost was tied to the fact it was located in a metropolitan city with diverse support sectors for its service members, further demonstrating a reciprocal relationship between Cheyenne and the military.

A cattle boom and bust

The railroad brought another industry boom to Cheyenne in its formative years: cattle. Some cattle grazing already took place in the prairie around Cheyenne before 1867. But by 1871, around 60,000 cattle grazed within 100 miles of the city, according to an article by Samuel Western on www.wyo-history.org. In the decade between 1870 and 1880, a history written by the Centennial Historical Committee published in 1967 found “literally millions of cattle” came through Wyoming in an era when “Cheyenne was regarded as Wyoming, and Wyoming was regarded as

	1969*	1977	1987	1997	2007	2015**
Total employment	28,151	36,652	43,181	50,275	61,206	66,805
Top 5 employers	5,115: Services 4,759: State and local government 3,958: Retail 3,709: Military 2,627: Public utilities and transportation	6,235: Services 5,966: Retail 5,671: State and local government 4,241: Military 3,354: Public utilities and transportation	8,561: Services 7,461: Retail 7,289: State and local government 4,560: Military 3,675: Finance, insurance and real estate	11,452: Services 9,475: Retail 8,592: State and local government 4,383: Finance, insurance and real estate 3,883: Military	10,837: State and local government 7,075: Retail 4,385: Accommodation and food service 4,253: Construction 4,196: Health care and social assistance	11,395: State and local government 7,149: Retail 4,747: Accommodation and food service 4,723: Health care and social assistance 4,397: Construction
	*First year official and consistent economic data available for Wyo. counties	**Most recent year official and consistent economic data available		Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis		

Cheyenne.”

The cattle boom brought enormous wealth to the Wyoming territory, with Western reporting cattle in six counties were worth nearly \$7 million in 1882.

Though the industry would bust because of a number of complicating factors in the late 1880s, great wealth was brought to the city through the cattle boom. This led in part to establishing Cheyenne as a capital city.

The capital city on the plains

Cheyenne's destiny as the capital city of Wyoming was tied to the industries that brought wealthy easterners to its isolated land.

“The territorial government was located here (because) the owners of all those cattle – (who) were using free public range and not paying for anything except for the cattle themselves – wanted to be in close proximity to the government,” said Phil Roberts, UW professor of history.

While some wanted to see the capital located elsewhere in the future, Cheyenne prevailed in becoming the center of the territorial government,

Ewig said.

“This would certainly have hurt Cheyenne and helped the city that became the capital otherwise,” he said.

“It's seen as fortunate Cheyenne remained the capital, because interests in other communities were realizing it would help their communities to have the capital located there.”

In 2017, local, state and federal government jobs are the largest employer in Laramie County.



Wyoming's first female secretary of state, Thyra Thomson, shakes hands with Rep. William Harrison in front of her state Capitol office. She remained in the position for almost 25 years. Wyoming State Archives

The future of the Magic City

The state is still subject to the whims of energy commodity markets, but Cheyenne's diverse industrial profile has kept it relatively insulated from such economic distress, said Wenlin Liu, state of Wyoming Economic Analysis Division chief economist.

“The larger proportion of the government sector, but also less in the mining sector, means the Laramie County economy avoids a lot of these boom-bust fluctuations,” he said.

Time will tell what's to come for Cheyenne's industries. In 2017, Bruns said optimism remains high the city should continue to grow. However, for that to happen, he said the younger generation now entering the workforce will have to play the same role as many of Cheyenne's founders to further its continued success.

“If you look at Cheyenne's early history, a lot of the leadership in the community tended to be reasonably young people,” he said. “We need to make sure we create opportunities for our young population to assume a lot of those civic leadership roles in the community.”

CHEYENNE, MILITARY BASE GROW TOGETHER

By Sarah Zoellick
Wyoming Tribune Eagle

Cheyenne and the U.S. military base to its west have grown up together during the past 150 years after literally being established on the same day.

The city and Fort D.A. Russell, as it was initially named, each started off with ramshackle structures and unknown futures, as workers and soldiers set up camp here to continue building and protecting a transcontinental railroad authorized



Warren

Force Base, stayed their respective courses, changing and adapting over time. And as the mission and purpose of one has evolved, so has the other.

While Cheyenne has grown from a pop-up tent city along the railroad to the capital of the 44th state to enter the Union, the base has seen infantry, cavalry and field artillery units make way for missiles when the Army made way for the Air Force.

Flimsy wooden structures and crude log cabins erected before the base became official eventually were replaced with majestic brick buildings and homes that have stood the test of time and still serve as the



An infantry bandmen inspection at Fort D.A. Russell in the 1920s. Wyoming State Archives

residences and workplaces of some of the country's military leaders.

The base became a National Historic Landmark in 1975 after previously being entered on the National Register of Historic Places.

"How many Air Force bases will be turning 150 in the near future?" said Paula Taylor, director of the Warren ICBM and Heritage Museum at F.E. Warren Air Force Base. "This opportunity that we have here is very unique, and it's something that we should all acknowledge and treasure."

Although initially plotted as a post to protect railroad workers from Native American attacks, Taylor said the fort went on to support many other wars and insurrections and anything the American military was involved in going forward. That included the Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II.

Early history

The U.S. Army started Fort D.A. Russell in 1867 to offer protection from Native Americans as the railroad took shape here, in what was known at the time as the Dakota Territory. It was named after Gen. David A. Russell, an officer killed in action while fighting for the Union Army in the Civil War.

"We originally had wooden structures that were considered deplorable, according to a major who was sent out to check out the quality of housing," Taylor said.

"He had the best room on post when he came to stay, and they only allowed him to stay in it once they scooped all the snow out of it," she continued.

"At the end of his report, he said it was the most deplorable housing he'd ever seen in the military, and that, yes, something needed

to be done. ... (But) they wouldn't do anything initially because we were not a permanent post."

The first troops to be stationed at the fort worked as railroad patrol, watching over railroad construction workers and serving as escorts.

"Our initial use, or mission, was to protect the railroad workers as they built the railroad across Wyoming, and then we supplied supplies from the railroad up the Bozeman trail for the Indian wars," Taylor said.

Author Bill O'Neal, in his 2006 book, "Cheyenne: A Biography of the 'Magic City' of the Plains," wrote that one of Cheyenne's surveyors found the body of another surveyor, riddled with arrows, on July 18, 1867, about 6 miles east of town, presumably killed by Arapahoe Indians. And earlier that month, on July 5, two railroad employees reportedly were killed at a ravine of Crow Creek.

O'Neal quoted Francis E. Warren, for whom the base currently is named, as saying nearly 50 years after his 1868 arrival here that "Cheyenne was then a city of shanties and tents, camps and covered wagons," and "the prevailing idea seemed to be that in six months hardly a stake would be left to mark the location of (it)."

Despite those preconceptions, though, the city and base formed an early bond. O'Neal noted that the Daily Leader newspaper in Cheyenne said just a year

Camp Carlin: Forgotten supply depot

A once bustling but now long-lost Army supply depot dubbed Camp Carlin was located halfway between Cheyenne and Fort D.A. Russell shortly after both came to be.

The supply post, situated near the Union Pacific Railroad lines and Crow Creek, officially was called the Cheyenne Depot, but some suspect that got confusing as the train depot downtown took shape. It is thought to have been called Camp Carlin, or Camp Carling, after its first leader, Lt. Col. Elias B. Carling of the Army Quartermaster Corps.

Camp Carlin eventually became the country's second-largest quartermaster depot, sending food and other military supplies by wagon train to 12 Army posts and three Indian agencies – some being hundreds of miles away from here.

Unlike Fort D.A. Russell, Camp Carlin was manned by hundreds of civilian personnel, which included teamsters, packers and laborers. The camp was composed of 16 large warehouses and many shops for blacksmiths, saddle makers, carpenters and more. More than 100 wagons and five pack mule trains operated from the depot, and 1,000 mules were often housed in the corrals.

The camp was ordered to be abandoned in 1890 after most Indian tribes began living on reservations and many Army posts in the area closed. Only a small stone marker, standing where the camp's flag pole used to be on what is now F.E. Warren Air Force Base, remains.

after the fort and city came to be that, "One of the most important adjuncts to the prosperity of Cheyenne is Fort D.A. Russell."

The post became a permanent Army installation in 1884 when the U.S. Department of War designated it as such because of its strategic location on a major railroad halfway between the Mexico and Canada borders. It was at that time that the brick structures still in use on base today began to be constructed.

The oldest structures still on base, dubbed "dollhouses," continue to house military families stationed here.

"As funding became available, and (based on) whatever plans that the quartermaster had on file that were approved to be used, they would build new structures each year," Taylor said.

"(That's) why there are different plans at different ends of the post."

The country's War Department reportedly spent \$400 on trees and bought 50 bushels of grass seed from Omaha to beautify the permanent post.

Some noteworthy historical residences on base are those of Gen. John J. "Black Jack" Pershing, son-in-law of Francis E. Warren; Gen.

Visiting history

The Warren ICBM and Heritage Museum at F.E. Warren Air Force Base is open to the general public. The museum, which turns 50 years old this year, features a dress uniform of David A. Russell, for whom the original post was named, along with Francis E. Warren's writing desk, a trunk of his daughter's, and various missile memorabilia and uniforms.

The museum is open Monday-Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Thursday from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. It is closed weekends and holidays. To schedule a visit, which must be done at least 48 hours in advance, contact museum director Paula Taylor at 307-773-2980 or by email at paula.taylor.1@us.af.mil.

William "Billy" Mitchell, whom the Air Force recognizes as the "Father of Air Power"; and Gen. Mark Clark, who commanded Allied forces in Italy during World War II.

Other famous figures who have spent time at the base through the years are singer-songwriter Neil Diamond, whose father was stationed here; legendary Rat Pack member Sammy Davis Jr., who was stationed here after being drafted into the Army

in 1944; country music singer-songwriter Chris LeDoux, whose father also was stationed here; actor James Earl Jones' wife, actress Cecilia Heart, who was born on base; Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., the first black man to become a general in the U.S. military; and Maj. Walter Reed, who was instrumental in establishing the U.S. military's medical corps.

"The medical corps wasn't established until 1889," Taylor said, adding that two posts were chosen for formally training them: Fort D.A. Russell and another post.

"So we're the beginning of the medical corps," she said. "That's why he was here. We officially trained the first set of medical hospital stewards (nurses)."

Each year, the public can tour a few of the historic homes at F.E. Warren Air Force Base during Fort D.A. Russell Days, a celebration of the base's history that takes place during the first weekend of Cheyenne Frontier Days.

Modernizing the mission

Fort D.A. Russell's mission providing protection from Indians continued until the



Three men in a cherry picker bolt together the Minuteman display at the Warren Air Force Base main gate in June 1964. Wyoming State Archives

post became an artillery training center in 1900.

In the 1930s, as America entered World War II, the post transitioned to serving as a Quartermaster Training Center for the Army.

The post also housed nearly 1,000 German and Italian prisoners of war in 1943, some of whom died and were buried in the cemetery on base.

President Herbert Hoover renamed the post Fort Francis E. Warren in 1930 to honor longtime Wyoming U.S. Sen. Francis Emroy Warren, a Massachusetts farm boy and Civil War veteran who moved to Cheyenne in 1868 at the request of his hometown friend, Amasa R. Converse.

Warren, a Medal of Honor recipient, grew into one of the most influential political and economic figures in the city and state's history, taking on several leadership positions at various levels of government—including mayor of Cheyenne, territorial governor and the first governor of the state of Wyoming—before being named to federal office. He then served in that capacity, though not



Examples of the three different missiles that F.E. Warren has been responsible for can be seen today right outside the base entrance. WTE/file

continuously, for nearly 40 years.

"(We) should have been closed down, but because of Sen. Warren, we were kept open to present day, and that's why we're 150 years old this year," Taylor said.

In the wake of Army downsizing after World War II, the U.S. Air Force, still in its infancy, took over Fort F.E. Warren and has carried it along to its modern-day mission. As a result, F.E. Warren Air Force Base, as the installation was formally renamed in 1949, is considered the country's oldest continually active base in the Air Force system.

"We never closed our doors," Taylor said.

"There are older posts in the system, but they've opened and closed ... that's the difference."

In 1957, the base became the country's first operational Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) unit, responsible for 24 Atlas missiles, ready to be launched from above-ground silos in eastern Wyoming, western Nebraska and northern Colorado.



Fort D.A. Russell barracks, buildings 220-232, circa 1910. Stimson Collection/Wyoming State Archives

GROW

Continued from 13

“We were the first to have our operational wing available to launch all of our missiles out of a squadron,” Taylor said.

The Minuteman I missile, stored in underground launch silos, replaced the Atlas in the early 1960s. Then the Minuteman III missile, the first ICBM to feature multiple warheads – each programmable to attack a different target – replaced the Minuteman I missile by 1975.

Ten years later, the Air Force introduced the Peacekeeper missile, which featured 10 independent warheads – making it the most powerful ICBM in the world. The country’s Peacekeeper missiles were deactivated in 2005, and the Minuteman III missiles were modified to feature only one warhead.

Currently, the base is responsible for 15 missile alert facilities and 150 Minuteman III missiles located in eastern Wyoming, western Nebraska and northern Colorado.

Examples of the three different missiles that F.E. Warren has been responsible for can be seen today right outside the base entrance – all filled with cement so they

don’t blow away.

The missile closest to Interstate 25 is the Peacekeeper. The middle missile is the Minuteman III, and the one closest to the base is the Minuteman I.

A transporter erector recently was added to the base entrance area as well.

The area also features a Bell UH-1F Huey helicopter that was used to transport Minuteman I personnel to and from missile sites between 1966 and 1980. Several airmen spent 400 hours restoring the helicopter, completing the project in 2000.

Although helicopters are still active at F.E. Warren, the base is somewhat unique in that it is an Air Force base without an active runway for fixed-wing aircraft.

“We had an airfield in 1919 that was out of dirt, and it was primarily used to transport mail across the United States,” Taylor said. “Other people used it, including Eddie Rickenbacker in 1919, who landed on it, didn’t know there was a ditch across it, and flipped his plane.”

Rickenbacker, a Medal of Honor recipient, is known for being America’s most successful fighter ace in World War I.

Friendly neighbors

While the base’s name has



Pilot Maj. Duke Warren checks his instrument panel in his UH-1N Huey helicopter during a flight over Laramie County in March 2015. Although helicopters are still active at F.E. Warren, the base is somewhat unique in that it is an Air Force base without an active runway for fixed-wing aircraft. Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

changed three times – and its mission has changed several times – one thing has held strong: its connection to the Cheyenne community.

“We’ve never had one without the other – we’ve supported each other all along,” Taylor said.

“And one of the ways that you can see that support is Cheyenne Frontier Days involvement,” she continued. “The base has been highly involved in every Cheyenne Frontier Days from 1897 to present day.”

Post troops re-enacted Indian wars in the early years of Frontier Days, Taylor said.

“Our open house (during CFD) is re-enactments of the military, so we’re still doing what they did over 100 years later,” she said.

The military remains heavily involved in CFD events, supplying numerous volunteers for concerts and other happenings, marching in parades and being honored during the rodeo on Military Monday.

Regarding public safety, Taylor mentioned that the base helped respond to the 1979 tornado and the 1985 flood, along with many other events.

In the earliest years of the city and post, firefighters on post helped fight frequent flare-ups in town, and military firefighters still respond to large blazes in the city and surrounding area to this day.

Retired Col. Gerald M. Adams wrote in his 1996 book, “The Post Near Cheyenne,” that a local newspaper in January 1950 characterized the base as being Cheyenne’s leading industry, with more than 8,000 airmen and their families living on base or in the city, and the city supplying some 900 civilians to work on base.

The following year, a year after the Korean War began, the base population reportedly was clocking in at more than 12,000.

According to a recent economic impact report from F.E. Warren Air Force Base, the base had 4,237 personnel in fiscal year 2016, with around 1,000 of those people being civilian employees. That number includes officers and enlisted military personnel, but not their families.

As the base grew up and its mission transitioned in the late 1950s to supporting the country’s fleet of ICBMs, city residents lost their once-unfettered access to it.

But the base’s new missile mission did bring with it a renewed need for cooperation with the city.

For instance, housing was built in Cheyenne for the workers so they could go out and build the Atlas missile housing systems, Taylor said.

“There was a lot of unity in working together, and that’s what really makes us so unique compared to the other military installations in the Air Force system,” she said.

The 2015-2017 90th Missile Wing Commander, Col. Stephen Kravitsky, who



Kravitsky

recently ended his term as base commander, said the importance of the base’s relationship with the local community

cannot be overstated.

“This year marks our 150th anniversary,” he said. “We are the first Air Force base to achieve that milestone, and we share that accomplishment with the community. The city and the base have grown up together, and over the years, we have developed into an inseparable entity with a rich heritage.”



Atlas Missile Site No. 1. Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

Joaquin Real of Santa Paula, Calif., hangs on in the saddle bronc riding competition during the 120th Cheyenne Frontier Days on July 30, 2016, at Frontier Park Arena in Cheyenne. WTE/file



Sam Scoville rides "Sen. Warren" during Cheyenne Frontier Days, circa 1907. Wyoming State Archives

Spirit of Cheyenne Frontier Days strong more than a century later

Wyoming Tribune Eagle

In 1897, Loveland, Colorado, had its popular Corn Roast Festival. Greeley, Colorado, residents could look forward to Potato Day. And, for the first time, Cheyenne folks could enjoy Frontier Day. The first Frontier Day occurred on Sept. 23, 1897, and lasted six hours. While the Colorado events celebrated the towns' agricultural bounty, Frontier Day honored Cheyenne's Western heritage. About 4,000 people attended the hometown festival during the first year. They paid 15 cents for a bleacher seat or 35 cents for a spot on the grandstand. Canons fired at Fort D.A. Russell, steeple bells rang at churches and whistles sounded at Frontier Park to signal the start of the rodeo. Now, the event lasts 10 days and features rodeos, huge parades, top-flight entertainment, pancake breakfasts and an Indian Village. In 1897, the best bronc rider at Frontier Day took home a grand prize of \$25 (about \$714 in 2015 dollars).

The owner of the toughest bucking horse collected about \$100 (\$2,857 in 2015).

Today, bronc riders can earn more than \$10,000 at CFD, depending on how many events they win.

There is some disagreement about who started Frontier Days. Even money is on Col. E.A. Slack, editor of the Cheyenne Sun-Leader newspaper. He wrote about the idea in his newspaper.

Others say Frederick W. Angier, a traveling passenger agent for the Union Pacific Railroad Co., thought it up as a way to attract people from Denver and other areas to Cheyenne.

Angier's job was to urge businessmen in towns along the rail lines to organize festivals.

Some historians credit both men for working together on the idea and bringing it to reality.

City boosters decided to continue the event the next year because of the success of its first outing.

The 1898 celebration was expanded to two days, and 6,000 people watched a performance of the wildly

successful Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show.

Members of Central Wyoming's Shoshone Tribe took part, too, and started a tradition that continues today with the Indian Village and the American Indian performances that accompany every pancake breakfast.

Steer wrestling was added to CFD's rodeo in 1915. Calf roping, bull riding and bareback riding became regular events during the 1920s.

In several cases, the horses earned more money than the riders. Large crowds came out to watch equine legends like "Steamboat," the world champion bucking horse.

It's not clear when women started to compete at the event, but information shows they may have been a part of the wild horse races since 1899.

By 1900, women raced horses for the \$25 top prize. Cowgirls sometimes competed in events like bronc riding and roughstock in the very early days.

Many of these women became outright stars of the rodeo. Audiences loved cowgirls like Mabel Strickland,

Prairie Rose Henderson and Tad Lucas.

Celebrities and newsmakers were part of CFD since the start. In the early days, the notables included Buffalo Bill Cody – a true superstar of his day – and former U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt.

In the 1930s, famed burlesque star Sally Rand performed at Frontier Days and caused quite a stir with her fan dance. She married Turk Greenough, a handsome and successful cowboy and movie stuntman. To no one's surprise, their union didn't last.

In the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s, the list of stars at Frontier Days included Fred McMurray, Dennis Morgan, Arthur Godfrey, Lawrence Welk, the Lone Ranger Clayton Moore, Michael Landon from television's "Bonanza" and Robert Conrad of "Wild Wild West."

The history of CFD is one written with the help of volunteers and a strong community spirit. It continues today when Cheyenne welcomes the rest of the world during the last full week of July.

Cheyenne's historic buildings



The Wyoming State Capitol pictured in 1888. Wyoming State Archives



The Wyoming State Capitol pictured in 2016. Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

WYOMING STATE CAPITOL

Twenty-one years after Cheyenne came to be, and two years before Wyoming officially became a state, its skyline changed with construction of the center section of the Wyoming State Capitol. Two side wings were completed in 1890, just in time to celebrate statehood, and an expansion approved in 1915 made the building what it is today. It is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

The territorial government approved construction of the Capitol in 1886 and chose Cheyenne for its home. Materials imported from around the country went into building the Capitol – sandstone from Rawlins; flagstone from Fort Collins, Colorado; black and white marble from Vermont and Italy; stained glass from England; and lumber from Ohio.

The state Capitol sports a 50-foot-wide gold-leafed dome, visible from miles away. Both the Senate and House of Representatives chambers were fashioned with stained-glass ceilings featuring the state seal.

The building is currently under-

going extensive restoration renovations, set to be completed before the 2019 legislative session.

Statues of Esther Hobart Morris, a leader of Wyoming's suffrage movement and the first female justice of the peace in the United States, and Shoshone Chief Washakie stand in front of the Capitol. An 18-foot sculpture of a horse and rider, called "The Spirit of Wyoming," is on the western side of the building, while the eastern lawn features a large bison sculpture.

The Cheyenne Daily Leader reported in July 1890 that, "In all Cheyenne, which is pre-eminently a city of handsome buildings, no structure compares in massiveness and beauty with Wyoming's state-house, a noble structure at the head of Capitol Avenue. The Capitol surroundings contribute in no small degree to its attractiveness."

The Wyoming State Museum has on display an original hand-forged nail from the Capitol, as well as an ivory-and-gold gavel used by the first state Legislature and other items.

TIVOLI BUILDING

One of the highlights of downtown Cheyenne is the three-story Tivoli building at West Lincolnway and Carey Avenue.

Built in 1892 at a cost of more than \$15,000, the Tivoli has spent much of its long history as a bar/saloon and restaurant, changing hands from time to time. It also was known for serving as a brothel.

The year the Tivoli was built, the Cheyenne Daily Sun newspaper reported that the building's fixtures were as fine as could be seen west of Chicago. The newspaper described the building as having "palatial quarters" and said its antique oak furniture was "very massive and handsome."

Current Gov. Matt Mead and his

wife, Carol, purchased the Tivoli Building in 2006, completed extensive renovations in 2007 and used it as his campaign headquarters in 2010. As a result, the building is fashioned for use as office/banquet space.

Local businessman Sam Galeotos bought the Tivoli Building from the Meads in October 2016. He said at that time that Cheyenne Frontier Days once owned the building, and it also was the former headquarters of the Greater Cheyenne Chamber of Commerce.

Freedom's Edge Brewing Co. also briefly operated out of the Tivoli before moving to a more industrial-type space on Pioneer Avenue near 15th Street.



The Tivoli Building pictured in 1987. Wyoming State Archives



The Tivoli Building pictured in 2016. WTE/file



The Atlas Theatre in the early 1970s. Wyoming State Archives



The Atlas Theatre pictured in 2016. WTE/file

ATLAS THEATRE

Constructed around 1887 to be used as offices and a tearoom, what's now known as the Atlas Theatre at 211 W. Lincolnway in downtown Cheyenne came to be in about 1908. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

According to a 1972 nomination form for the National Register of Historic Places, the Cheyenne Daily Leader newspaper reported a day before the opening of the Atlas Theatre that the theater had been described as the "prettiest show-house west of the Missouri."

Initially, the space converted by architect William Dubois could hold 550 people and featured a stage, penny arcade, confectionery and soda fountain. The Atlas offered traveling vaudeville acts, followed by silent movies. It closed in 1929 and reopened as The Strand Movie Theater, showing sound pictures until 1955. Around the early 1960s, a nightclub called the Pink Pony is said to have operated briefly in the lobby area.

The Cheyenne Little Theatre

Players, a group of volunteers founded in 1929, began leasing the building in 1966, changing the name back to Atlas and renovating the long-unused auditorium space to present annual summer old-fashioned melodramas that still take place there today during Cheyenne Frontier Days. The CLTP bought the Atlas in 1971.

A recently formed ad hoc committee of CLTP called The Friends of the Atlas is working to restore and preserve the theater through a long-term project that will modernize the performance and audience space and repurpose the now-vacant second and third floors toward the front of the building.

The group announced in May of this year that the Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority awarded it a façade renovation grant that first requires the group to raise matching funds.

A painted, asbestos stage curtain with advertisements that dates back to the days of the original Atlas Theatre continues to hang in the performance space today.

CHEYENNE DEPOT

Now home to a visitor information center, railroad museum, restaurant/brewery and offices instead of a passenger terminal, the Cheyenne Depot is a landmark that has a rich history of welcoming visitors to the city.

It, too, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Situated at the terminus of Capitol Avenue, opposite the state Capitol, the Union Pacific Railroad Depot was built at a time when Cheyenne was maturing and coming into its own.

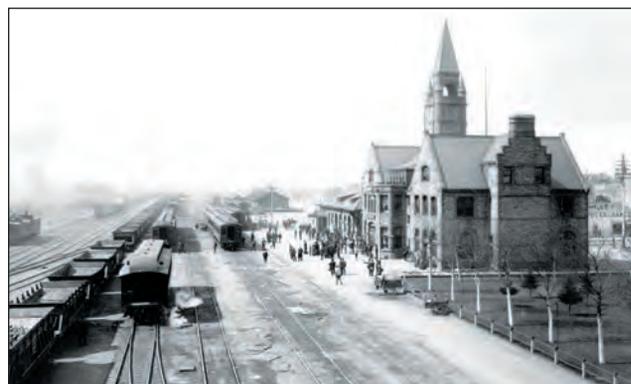
To keep up with growth, the railroad agreed to build the depot at a cost of \$100,000. It was constructed of sandstone from Fort Collins, Colorado, in 1886 and 1887. When the depot opened to the public, it reportedly featured waiting rooms finished with red oak for men and women, and the women's waiting room had a fireplace and cushioned furniture.

The most prominent feature of the depot building is its six-story

clock tower; however, the clock, with four 6-foot, 4-inch-wide faces, each facing in one of the cardinal directions, was not placed in the tower until 1890. According to a nomination form for the National Register of Historic Places, the clock tower originally featured a breezeway at its base so wagons and carts could pass under it. The nomination form describes the Romanesque-style depot as the most distinctive depot built by the Union Pacific in the 19th century.

Major renovations to lengthen the east end of the building took place in 1922, and it was redecorated in 1929.

Union Pacific reportedly donated the building to the city of Cheyenne and Laramie County in 1993. Many upgrades and renovations have taken place since, including the addition of a plaza area between the depot building and West Lincolnway that is used for a variety of community events, from concerts to farmers markets.



The Cheyenne Depot pictured in 1906. Stimson Collection/Wyoming State Archives



The Cheyenne Depot pictured in 2012. WTE/file

Lost treasures live on only in history

By Joel Funk

Wyoming Tribune Eagle

Cheyenne's historic structures are a big part of what residents and visitors love about the city. Whether it's the Atlas Theatre, Tivoli Building, Cheyenne Depot or Wyoming State Capitol, their characteristics fascinate those who gaze upon them.

But some of the city's greatest structural treasures are lost to time and dust. Whatever becomes of Cheyenne's historic structures, "Once they're gone, they're gone forever," said Jill Pope, Visit Cheyenne director of operations for visitor services.

"We have lost some of our treasures," she said. "I hope we do take care of the ones we have remaining. If nothing else, for our children to understand history in that way."



Opera House

In the early 1880s, several of Cheyenne's most prominent residents came together to raise funds to build an elegant venue for performance art on the corner of what is now 17th Street and Capitol Avenue.

Seeking to add a metropolitan flair to the area that was still evolving from its status as a tent-and-shack railroad stop, the Opera House's short history remains one of Cheyenne's most fondly remembered lost treasures.

"It was gorgeous," Pope said. "All the performers wanted to come here because we had railroad access to it. And not just from the U.S., but from several countries."

Opening night at the three-story Opera House in May 1882 saw the entire city join in the excitement. The Cheyenne Daily Leader newspaper reported the venue was, "A lasting proof to all comers of the intelligence and refinement of this little city of less than 4,000 people."

Need for repairs and renovations at the Opera House, however, dogged its short time in operation. A fire in 1888 caused hundreds of dollars in damages before it was sold by its corporate owners for \$5,000. Another fire in 1902 ended its era as an entertainment venue, as the stage was destroyed. The building was torn down around 1960.



The Cheyenne Club

The Cheyenne Club became a prominent part of the community during the peak of the city's cattle boom in the late 19th century. Built in 1881 on the corner of 17th Street and Warren Avenue, it was a clubhouse for the Cheyenne elite.

"The Cheyenne Club really demonstrated the wealth there was in raising cattle in the Wyoming Territory," said Rick Ewig, associate

director of the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming from 1997 to 2016.

The rich from the East and England came to the establishment to enjoy fine dining, drinks and entertainment. But after the cattle boom bubble burst in the late 1880s, the club was left behind as many of the industry barons fled the area.

The building was eventually purchased by the Cheyenne Chamber of Commerce, serving as its headquarters before it built a new office nearby. A block of store buildings would come to occupy the site that was once home to the opulent club after it was demolished in 1936.



Inter-Ocean Hotel

In the late 19th century, downtown was the hub of Cheyenne's economic activity. Opening in 1875, the grand Inter-Ocean Hotel, located on the corner of what is now Capitol Avenue and Lincolnway, spoke to the city's bustling success at the time.

Cheyenne's premier three-story hotel was built by B.L. Ford, an African-American from Chicago. It hosted President Ulysses S. Grant when he visited in October 1875. Many other famous locals and travelers made the hotel a popular gathering spot through the years, drawing people in with its extraordinary food

offerings, impressive furnishings, saloon and billiard parlor.

Ornamental carvings and lighting made for a beautiful atmosphere for hosting distinguished visitors. In the early 20th century, President Theodore Roosevelt also visited the hotel.

The Inter-Ocean was one of Cheyenne's first buildings to feature electric power. In 1916, a blaze destroyed the hotel, apparently started by electrical wiring. The fire burned through the bitterly cold night, with several people perishing as a result.

Sitting as a vacant lot for many decades, the site is now the home of the Hynds Building.

Mansions on Millionaires Row

Cheyenne's economic boom in the late 19th century saw a remarkable number of wealthy residents in the area. To house their families and host social events, these elites built a series of mansions along 17th Street and Ferguson Street, which today is Carey Avenue. These homes came to be known as Millionaires Row.

The ornate structures housed famous local notoriety such as Erasmus Nagle, Francis E. Warren, M.E. Post, E.W. Whitcomb, David Dare, Henry Hay and Joseph Carey.

The most impressive home on Millionaires Row belonged to Carey, dubbed the Carey Mansion. Located on what is now Carey Avenue between 21st and 22nd streets, the three-story mansion's exterior included an elaborate facade. Interior features included ornate ceilings and frescoes, fireplaces, chandeliers and oriental rugs.

"It was the most magnificent home there ever was here in Cheyenne,"

said local historian Bill Dubois. "It was very, very elegant."

Some of the homes still remain on 17th Street between downtown and Holliday Park.



Carnegie Library

Cheyenne residents struggled to make a library work in the city's formative years. In 1899, the Laramie County Library Auxiliary Association was formed by Robert Morris, who sent a plea to philanthropist Andrew Carnegie for funds to build a library. Carnegie eventually offered \$50,000 toward a free public library. In May 1902, the Laramie County

Library, commonly called the Carnegie Library, opened its doors at the corner of 22nd Street and Capitol Avenue.

In addition to creating Laramie County's first public library, the funds also brought architect William Dubois to Cheyenne to supervise its construction. He would go on to design plans or supervise building projects for some of Cheyenne's most famous structures, including the state Capitol and Atlas Theatre.

The Carnegie Library was demolished in 1971 when the Laramie County Library was moved to its second location at 28th Street and Central Avenue.

William Dubois' grandson, Bill Dubois, said the Carnegie Library – in addition to the old Consistory Building that was torn down decades ago – is the biggest loss of his grandfather's projects in Cheyenne.

"I feel a great loss when they are gone," he said. "There's no way you can resurrect them."



Old Cheyenne High School

Today, Cheyenne is home to three primary high schools and one alternative high school. But in 1875, the city was home to the Wyoming Territory's first high school.

Cheyenne High School was located on the corner of 22nd Street and Central Avenue. The first class of graduates in June 1878 consisted of two young women by the names of Frankie Logan and Ella Hamma.

A new Cheyenne High School

was built in 1921 on House Avenue, and the old Cheyenne High School building became Laramie County School District 1's Administration Building.

In 1960, Cheyenne's East High split the student population, and Cheyenne High School was renamed Cheyenne's Central High.

Bill Dubois was a public school teacher for several decades in Laramie County School District 1. In 1959, he went to Cheyenne High School to be hired for his first job at Carey Junior High School.

At the time, 22-year-old Bill Dubois said he wasn't too impressed by the old building. "It was pretty rundown by the time I knew it," he said. "It was an old-looking building."

After the school district's administration operations moved to the old stewardess' school for a brief period, the old Cheyenne High School was torn down around 1963. (Photo courtesy of the Stimson Collection/Wyoming State Archives.)



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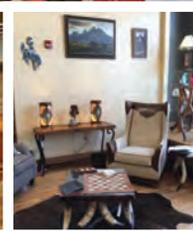
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KEY PEOPLE WHO HAVE CALLED CHEYENNE HOME

Neil Diamond (1941-)



Born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1941, famous singer-songwriter Neil Diamond moved to Cheyenne in 1945 when he was about 4 years old because his father, Akeeba "Kieve"

Diamond, was stationed at then-Fort F.E. Warren during World War II. The family is said to have lived here for four years, and during that time, Diamond reportedly fell in love with watching singing-cowboy movies at the local cinema.

Through his publicist, Diamond declined to comment on his time in Cheyenne for this publication.

Sammy Davis Jr. (1925-1990)



Entertainment legend Sammy Davis Jr.'s career spanned much of the previous century – from just a few years after his birth in 1925 until not long before his death from oral/throat

cancer in 1990. But he spent time in Cheyenne during World War II before it really took off.

Davis, an eventual charter member of Frank Sinatra's "Rat Pack," was drafted into the U.S. Army at 18 years old and was sent to Fort F.E. Warren for training. He was part of the Will Mastin Trio, sometimes known as the Will Maston Trio, before that, but had to give up his budding entertainment career briefly for the Army. It didn't take long before his old life and new life merged, though, as he was transferred to an entertainment regiment.

In that, Davis is said to have no



National sportscaster Curt Gowdy engaging in one of his favorite pastimes – fishing – on the North Platte River near Saratoga. Wyoming State Archives

longer experienced the extreme discrimination he did initially.

"Back then, people were nicer to him after they decided he was talented," said Visit Cheyenne Director of Operations Jill Pope. "He was treated better after that."

Pope said Davis frequented Baker's Bar in the 400 block of West 17th Street, which was the only liquor establishment at the time open to all minorities. The owner, Johnny Baker, was half Indian and half black.

Curt Gowdy (1919-2006)



National sportscaster Curt Gowdy, the radio and TV voice of the Boston Red Sox for many years, grew up in Cheyenne.

Described as a kind and gentle man who took pride in his Wyoming roots,

Gowdy died in his Florida home in 2006 at the age of 86 after suffering from leukemia.

Gowdy reportedly launched his longtime broadcasting career here on a whim while recovering from a back injury that ended his time with the Air Force in World War II. He worked first at KFBC Radio in 1944, and also as a sports writer at the former Cheyenne Eagle newspaper.

Gowdy went on to cover 16 baseball World Series and All-Star games, 12 Rose Bowls, nine Super Bowls, 24 NCAA basketball Final Four tournaments and eight Olympics. He hosted the "Wide World of Sports" and "American Sportsman" for ABC – many segments of which were filmed in Wyoming. He also hosted "The Way it Was" for PBS and NBC's "Major League Baseball Game of the Week," and was behind the microphone when Hank Aaron hit his then-record-breaking 715th home run in 1974.

In 1970, Gowdy became the first sports broadcaster to win the George Foster Peabody Award for outstanding journalist achievement. He also served as the president of The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame for seven years, and his peers voted him national sportscaster of the year seven times.

Gowdy played varsity basketball for and graduated from Cheyenne's Central High School before attending the University of Wyoming. He was inducted into 20 different halls of fame in his lifetime, including multiple outdoors- and fishing-related halls of fame, the Boston Red Sox Hall of Fame and the Wyoming Sports Hall of Fame.

Curt Gowdy State Park, established in 1972 between Cheyenne and Laramie, is named after Gowdy, a self-proclaimed compulsive fisherman who frequently returned to Wyoming throughout his life – often to fish.

Mildred Harris (1901-1944)



Born in Cheyenne in 1901, Mildred Harris went on to become one of the most famous early-American film stars. Her father, Edmond Harris, served as the superintendent of the Wyoming division of the Union Pacific Railroad, which put Cheyenne on the map.

One of Harris' more memorable roles was in the 1936 "Three Stooges" movie, but she is also well known for marrying iconic comic actor Charlie Chaplin when she was just 16 years old and he was 29. Three years later, the couple went through a bitter divorce. No children survived the marriage.

Harris is said to have

moved on from Chaplin with the prince of Wales. She died of pneumonia at a young age in 1944.

Chris LeDoux (1948-2005)



American country music singer-songwriter and rodeo champion Chris LeDoux is one of several entertainers who have called Cheyenne home through the years. He died in 2005 in Casper at age 56 after a lengthy battle with a rare liver cancer.

LeDoux recorded and marketed 22 albums on his music label before signing with Capitol Records in 1992. The move was said to have happened because Garth Brooks, also a Capitol

Records artist, took a liking to and was inspired by LeDoux. Brooks even included the line, "worn-out tapes of Chris LeDoux" in his song "Much Too Young (To Feel This Damn Old)." Throughout his career, LeDoux recorded 36 albums and sold more than 6 million albums.

LeDoux's father was in the Air Force, so the family moved around quite a bit. He attended Cheyenne's Central High School in the '60s, won the Wyoming State Rodeo Championship bareback riding title twice during high school, and earned a rodeo scholarship from Casper College in Casper. By 1970, LeDoux was competing nationally as a professional rodeo cowboy. In 1976, he was the world champion professional bareback rider.

According to a Country Music Television biography of LeDoux, he started composing songs about his life-

style to help pay his expenses while traveling to rodeo competitions around the country. He retired from rodeo in 1980 and settled with his family on a ranch in Kaycee, Wyoming.

Nellie Tayloe Ross (1876-1977)



Nellie Tayloe Ross, born in Saint Joseph, Missouri, in 1876, might not be a household name, but she is certainly someone of national importance.

When Ross' husband, Wyoming Gov. William Bradford Ross, died in office in 1924 due to complications from an appendectomy, she was elected to complete his term and served as the state's 14th governor from January 1925 to January 1927. As a

result, she is credited with being the country's first-ever woman to serve as governor.

State Democrats nominated Ross for re-election in 1926, but she was narrowly defeated by Republican Frank C. Emerson.

Ross went on to become the first woman to direct the U.S. Mint, appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933, and served in that capacity for 20 years. She also was appointed vice-chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee in 1928.

Ross lived the remainder of her life in Washington, D.C., where she died in 1977 at the age of 101. Ross is buried with her family in Cheyenne's Lakeview Cemetery.

Her home in Cheyenne, built in 1903, can be found at 902 E. 17th St. The family lived there from 1908 to 1923 before moving into the Historic Governors' Mansion.



Country music singer-songwriter and rodeo champion Chris LeDoux in the early 1990s. Wyoming State Archives



First-ever female U.S. Gov. Nellie Tayloe Ross works in her Cheyenne Capitol office in 1925. Wyoming State Archives

The following is a sample of everyday life in Cheyenne 150 years ago, as told through articles in *The Cheyenne Leader*:

■ Nathan Baker began publishing *The Cheyenne Leader* early on in the city's life, starting Sept. 19, 1867.

That day, readers likely enjoyed the story about the Sept. 18 city council meeting, which included discussion about the council letting voters decide if games of keno and rondo should be allowed in Cheyenne.

■ An editorial on Oct. 24, 1867, started the drumbeat for providing education for young people.

"Schools we must have them and have them speedily," publisher Nathan Baker wrote.

■ One of the most important days in the city's early history occurred on Nov. 13, 1867. This was the day railroad crews arrived in Cheyenne to lay tracks. Residents had been anticipating this day for months, wrote the paper.

"The glory belongs to the 13 of November 1867," according to an article published on page 3. "Never was any day more auspicious, cloudless and genial."

CHEYENNE: THEN AND NOW

LOOKING WEST FROM CHEYENNE DEPOT TOWER



Stimson Collection/Wyoming State Archives



Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

ELKS LODGE



Wyoming State Archives



Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

CHEYENNE: THEN AND NOW

WYOMING DAILY TRIBUNE/WYOMING TRIBUNE EAGLE



Wyoming State Archives



Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

LOOKING NORTH ON CAPITOL AVENUE



Wyoming State Archives



Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

The following is a sample of everyday life in Cheyenne 150 years ago, as told through articles in *The Cheyenne Leader*:

- The newspaper noted on Nov. 21, 1867, that "rents are enormously high" and "money invested in dwellings will readily yield from 50 to 100 percent" profit.
- The Nov. 30, 1867, edition advertised a match game of billiards between two "skillful cueists and master of the noble game" for \$300 a side. They were to play at Eric Beauvais' hall.
- "The Julesburg theatrical troupe arrived in town Tuesday evening," said an article in November 1867. "A general desire to witness theatrical performances rendered their arrival very welcome just now."
- A note in the Nov. 21, 1867, edition of the paper said a group of people wanted to form the Cheyenne Bible Society. They planned to order \$200 worth of Bibles.
- A defective flue in T.A. Kent's liquor store started a fire that spread rapidly on Jan. 3, 1870. The daytime fire consumed everything for two blocks. "All efforts to check the advance of the flames provide unavailing," the *Leader* wrote.

Big names, small stops

Presidents, celebrities and even "Papa" Hemingway spent time in Cheyenne

By Kristine Galloway
Wyoming Tribune Eagle

Many big names have drifted through Cheyenne during its 150-year history. Presidents campaigned or visited friends, novelists and actors married their sweethearts, and other celebrities stopped through for various reasons.

These days, the biggest names come through Cheyenne mostly in July for Cheyenne Frontier Days. But the city's brushes with historical figures add some glamour to the story of the "Magic City of the Plains."

Theodore Roosevelt



Former U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt was a popular character in Cheyenne. He visited the

city on at least three occasions. Roosevelt served as president from 1901-09.

Roosevelt's first visit to Cheyenne was in September 1900, during his campaign for U.S. vice president alongside presidential incumbent William McKinley. They won that election, and Roosevelt became president upon McKinley's assassination in September 1901.

According to Bill O'Neal, author of "Cheyenne: A Biography of the 'Magic City' of the Plains," Roosevelt

arrived in Cheyenne on a cold, rainy day, but was greeted with a 17-gun salute.

O'Neal wrote, "A short carriage ride brought Roosevelt to the Inter-Ocean Hotel. From the balcony, he was scheduled to review an elaborate parade—which had to be canceled because of the weather and sloppy streets."

Roosevelt visited Fort D.A. Russell on horseback the following morning, according to O'Neal.

Glenna Lane wrote in "History of Cheyenne, Wyoming, Vol. 2" that Roosevelt took U.S. Marshall Frank Hadsell and a group of newspapermen on the ride with him.

"Roosevelt had a reputation for hard and fast riding. According to one who awaited their return, it was some three hours later when Roosevelt and Hadsell rode in



President Theodore Roosevelt watches rodeo action at Cheyenne Frontier Days on Aug. 27, 1910. Wyoming State Archives

alone. In the hour or so following, horses and riders straggled in, sometimes a riderless horse and sometimes a horseless rider," Lane wrote.

Roosevelt's second visit to Cheyenne was in late May 1903 as a guest of Joseph M. and Louisa Carey. He arrived in the city on horseback, having ridden the entire way from Laramie to Cheyenne.

Lane wrote that Roosevelt left the University of Wyoming at 9 a.m. May 30 upon a gray horse named Teddy. O'Neal reports the date as May 31.

Roosevelt changed horses twice during the ride, Lane wrote. He once again stayed at the Inter-Ocean Hotel.

Lane said the citizens of Douglas gifted Roosevelt with a trained horse he named Wyoming.



President Franklin D. Roosevelt and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt outside St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Records cite the date as either October 1932 or October 1936. Wyoming State Archives

"The president rode Wyoming through the streets of Cheyenne and out to Senator Warren's Terry Ranch, 13 miles south of Cheyenne, where a barbecue supper had been prepared for him," Lane wrote.

By all accounts, F.E. Warren was a personal friend of Roosevelt's.

Roosevelt made his final trip to Cheyenne in August 1910 upon invitation. He had just completed a hunting trip in Africa.

According to Lane, "F.G." Bonfils, proprietor of The Denver Post and The Kansas City Post, traveled all the way to Khartoum to meet Col. Roosevelt when he came out of the jungles of Africa and presented him with Cheyenne's invitation."

Roosevelt's visit coincided with Cheyenne Frontier Days that year. Phil Riske

wrote in "History of Cheyenne, Wyoming, Vol. 2" that Roosevelt's attendance at CFD required the 9th Cavalry to provide security for crowd control.

Franklin D. Roosevelt



Another former president, Franklin D. Roosevelt, stopped in Cheyenne while campaigning for the presidency.

He visited Cheyenne with his wife, Eleanor, in October 1932, and they attended



services at St. Mark's

Episcopal Church.

On the contrary, an entry with no listed author in "History of Cheyenne, Wyoming, Vol. 2" provides Sunday, Oct. 11, 1936, as the date the Roosevelts visited Cheyenne. If true, that would have been Eleanor's 52nd birthday.

According to that entry, "The party arrived by train at 10 a.m. to be met by Gov. Leslie A. Miller, May Archie Allison and Brig. General Charles F. Humphrey, commander at Fort Warren, among others."

That entry also states the Rev. Charles A. Bennett gave the service that Sunday.

Ulysses S. Grant



President Ulysses S. Grant made multiple stops in Cheyenne while he was in office and after. He

served as president of the United States from 1869-77.

According to O'Neal, Grant's first visit to Cheyenne and nearby Fort D.A. Russell was in July 1868, while he was a general serving as commander of the U.S. Army.

"His first presidential visit was a 30-minute handshaking stop at the Railroad House in April 1873, and he would make other appearances in the Magic City," O'Neal wrote.

He added that Grant was served a breakfast banquet at the Inter-Ocean Hotel in Cheyenne by Barney L. Ford, the owner of the hotel.

An article in the Oct. 4, 1875, edition of the Cheyenne Daily Leader stated, "In accordance with telegraph advices received by Mr. B.L. Ford on Friday evening, that the president and his party would take dinner and hold a public reception at the Inter-



John F. Kennedy campaigns in 1960 at Frontier Park in Cheyenne. Former Wyoming Tribune Eagle owner Tracy McCracken is seated next to him. Wyoming State Archives

Ocean Hotel, Saturday at noon, extensive preparations had been made by that gentleman for the reception of his distinguished guests and a fine banquet prepared for the hour set."

The same article explains that Grant and his party arrived at 7:30 a.m., much earlier than expected, and Ford had to quickly pull the meal together.

Grant headed to Salt Lake City following his meal in Cheyenne.

According to O'Neal, Grant returned to Cheyenne in 1879, hosted by Gov. John Hoyt. O'Neal wrote that Hoyt failed to meet Grant when his train arrived, much to Grant's displeasure.

The former president

finally stopped briefly in Cheyenne in 1880 on his way home from Denver to Galena, Illinois, O'Neal wrote.

On that occasion, Maj. Herman Glafcke, owner of the Cheyenne Daily Leader at the time, alerted Gen. A.G. Brackett at Fort D.A. Russell of Grant's impending arrival, likely in an effort to atone for Grant's previous visit.

Grant and his wife, Julia, were greeted by the Third Cavalry band and dined in the Railroad Hotel.

"After dining, Grant walked up to the hotel balcony and briefly addressed the assembled crowd. Three cheers went up, and while the band played the cheering continued," O'Neal wrote.

Harry Truman



President Harry Truman stopped in Cheyenne while campaigning. He served as U.S. president from 1945-53.

According to the Wyoming State Archives website, he "whistle-stopped" through Wyoming during his campaign in 1948, and spoke from the front porch of the Governors' Mansion on June 6, 1948.

However, Timothy White wrote in "History of Cheyenne, Wyoming, Vol. 2" that Truman spoke from the Capitol. He stated Gov. Lester C. Hunt and his wife, Nathelle, hosted Truman, along with his wife and daughter, at the Governors' Mansion during his stop.

John F. Kennedy



President John F. Kennedy visited Cheyenne a few times and visited Wyoming many times.

He served as U.S. president from 1961-63.

His first documented visit to Cheyenne was during his campaign for president in 1960. Then-Sen. Kennedy spoke during a late breakfast Sept. 23, 1960, at Frontier Park.

John Woolley and Gerhard Peters posted Kennedy's full speech on their website, The American Presidency Project.

"I have been to this state five times. My brother, Teddy, has been here 10 times, and I think that the Kennedys have a high regard and affection for the state of Wyoming," he said.

"Bobby has been here, I guess, several times. We have been here more than we have been to New York State. I don't know what the significance is, but in any case, I am delighted to be back here this morning."

Kennedy visited Cheyenne again almost exactly three years later. He spoke at the Cheyenne Municipal Airport on Sept. 25, 1963, less than two months before his assassination on Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas.

That address is published in full on the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum's website.

"This state of Wyoming, which has all of the troubles that all of us have across the country, nevertheless has grown in individual income, so that it is now in percentage of growth in the top five states in the United States," he said.

"This is due to many reasons—the work of the people here, the resources which you have and, I hope, wise national policy on conservation and resource development, and management of what nature has given us and management of what man has developed from nature."

Ronald Reagan



President Ronald Reagan stopped in the city and spoke at Storey Gymnasium on March 2,

1982.

Ellen Crago Mueller wrote in "History of Cheyenne, Wyoming, Vol. 2" that Reagan flew to Cheyenne, followed by Sens. Malcolm Wallop and Alan Simpson, as well as Rep. Dick Cheney.

When Reagan landed, Gov. Ed Herschler and Cheyenne Mayor Don Erickson greeted

Big names

Continued from 25

him before he headed to Storey Gym by limousine.

Erickson said, "I was truly honored and privileged to represent our citizens when the governor and I welcomed the president to Cheyenne and Wyoming. I remember very clearly his infectious smile and firm handshake."

Mueller wrote that more than 4,500 people crowded into Storey Gym to hear Reagan speak with more than 2,000 outside the gym.

She said Reagan asked the listeners to support his economic recovery plan, help him conquer the growth of government spending and re-elect Wallop and Cheney.

Charles Lindbergh



"Lucky Lindy" came to Cheyenne during his Guggenheim tour in 1927.

According to the Sept. 3-4 edition of

the Wyoming State Tribune, Lindbergh arrived in Cheyenne on Friday, Sept. 2, and left on Saturday, Sept. 3.

Glisson Winkler, reporting for the Wyoming State Tribune, summed up

Lindbergh's visit: "He arrived to the strains of a band's loudest blare, was conveyed through lanes of clapping, cheering, shouting and whistling throngs, was stuck up before a mob at Frontier

Park, was given a 'going over' by the press representatives in private, sat down to a banquet, again stood before a mass of curious and awed humanity, went to the hotel, slept and went away."

Winkler also reported that

Lindbergh said Cheyenne, at the time, had airport facilities not often found in cities many times the size of Cheyenne.

Another Wyoming State Tribune reporter, Charles V. Warren, took a more light-hearted approach to the visit.

He wrote, "Cheyenne did its best to be the perfect host to its distinguished guest and the hundreds of visitors here to meet him. It had the pleasure of seeing the spontaneous smile appear on the youthful face of the great flyer as he assured the city that its best was plenty good — and then some."

Amelia Earhart



Renowned but ill-fated pilot Amelia Earhart stopped in Cheyenne a couple of times in the 1930s. At the

time, Cheyenne had a large airport operation.

Mike Kassel, curator of collections for the Cheyenne Frontier Days Old West Museum, said Earhart came by Cheyenne in 1931 when she flew her autogyro across the Lincoln Highway. He said she also stopped at the Cheyenne Municipal Airport in 1937.

In "History of Cheyenne, Wyoming, Vol. 2," Dona Bachman, a former employee of the Wyoming State Archives, wrote, "Amelia Earhart stopped off as a passenger on a United Airlines plane on the way from Los Angeles to New York City. She announced to reporters that she would be talking finances for 'a new globe-girdling project.' She took



Amelia Earhart, second from right, poses with, from left, Col. Leo Herman, Ms. Frontier Edith Gogert and Mayor J.F. Weybrecht in front of Earhart's autogyro at the Cheyenne airport in 1931.

Wyoming State Archives

that trip June 1, 1937, and never returned."

Ernest Hemingway



Famous novelist and short story author Ernest Hemingway married his third wife in Cheyenne.

He and Martha Gellhorn, an Italian journalist, married Nov. 21, 1940, at the Laramie County Courthouse.

According to the couple's marriage license application, Hemingway had only obtained a divorce from his second wife, Pauline Pfeiffer, on Nov. 4, 1940.

According to Wyoming State Tribune reporter Ernest Mai in the Nov. 22, 1940, edition of the newspaper, Hemingway discovered while entering the courthouse that he didn't have the marriage license with him.

"Half running and half walking, Hemingway went out to his auto parked in front of the city and county building and found the license in his overcoat, which he had left in the car," he wrote.

Mai also reported Gellhorn

Steve McQueen



Actor Steve McQueen also married in Cheyenne, but he selected Holliday Park for his ceremony. McQueen

married Elizabeth "Ali" McGraw here in 1973.

Jill Pope, director of operations, visitor services and trolley for Visit Cheyenne, said McQueen was in town doing research for his title role in the 1980 film "Tom Horn." She said the two married Aug. 31, 1973.

She said he was 43, she was 34, and they lived in Los Angeles at the time.

"John Huisman, Laramie county clerk, assisted in making arrangements for Lois Milner, marriage clerk, to go to Judge Garfield's office to issue the license to avoid publicity. Judge Arthur Garfield performed the ceremony in Holliday Park in a wooded area away from the public view," Whitehead wrote. She said the couple

and Hemingway married in Cheyenne because it was where they met.

Sarah Bernhardt



Sarah Bernhardt, an internationally renowned French actress, spent some time in Cheyenne.

O'Neal wrote that Bernhardt arrived in Cheyenne in June 1887 when Doug Rhodes, the manager of the Cheyenne Opera House, brought her.

"Rhodes again engaged the Seventeenth Infantry Band, which serenaded Bernhardt after she was escorted to the Inter-Ocean," he wrote.

Rhodes previously had engaged the band to perform for the arrival of actor Edwin Booth, brother to John Wilkes Booth.

Bernhardt and her company performed a play called "Fedora" at the opera house.

"She spoke only French, but Cheyenne theatergoers were accustomed to French and Italian operas," O'Neal wrote.

She left the following morning for Denver.

Deselms

FINE ART & CUSTOM FRAMING

Celebrating 25 Years In Cheyenne

Off the beaten path of downtown Cheyenne is one of the oldest continuously occupied buildings in the city. Immersed in thick woodvine and whimsical horticulture, the exterior of Deselms Fine Art is just the beginning of the city's preserved art scene. Built in the late 1800s for a Union Pacific medical practice, 303 E. 17th St. has a dark past and bright future. Home to a local ranch family during the mid-20th century and occupied by esteemed Cheyenne newspaper photographer Frances Brammer for a number of years, the building is brimming with antiquity. It's probably most famously known as the place where Chicago filmmaker Allen Ross was shot and killed by his wife, a quasi-cult leader, in the late 1990s. After Ross's remains were found in a crawlspace of the home years later, the case was national news.

Shortly after, Harvey Deselms moved his art collection to the building and operated in the former crime-scene during the trial of Julia Williams, who was charged as an accessory to the murder. Ross's brother once asked Deselms if Allen's spirit remained in the building. Deselms jokingly said he's happy to share the community's art with all living, and departed, Cheyenne residents.

"(Ross') family said 'I'm sure if he's still here, he's happier than he's ever been because he's surrounded by artists, and art, and beautiful things,'" Deselms said.

Now the longtime home of Deselms Fine Art Gallery and Custom Framing, this historic building is getting much deserved amnesty from its rocky past. You'll be greeted by a small, gregarious Jack Russell Terrier aptly named Dot, who will guide your appreciation for an array of available works for sale. The gallery features everything from pastel paintings to stone, wood sculptures, all original and produced by regional artists.

Operating in Cheyenne since 1992, Deselms is celebrating 25 years in business. In addition to selling local art, services include custom framing and personal art consultation.



A Wyoming native, Deselms has spent a quarter-century selling art in Cheyenne and it has imparted notable wisdom. He said it's difficult to assess the artistic tastes of his customers. Artists and buyers come from all walks of life, and featured art ranges vastly in price, so there's a little for everyone. That means there's no hard and fast rules that dictate what makes art marketable in Cheyenne.

"The longer I'm in this business, the less I know," he said. "Tastes change, and you can never judge what somebody's going to like when they walk in."

In his downtime, Deselms is passionate about securing public art, especially sculpture, in local parks.

"We have a great Greenway and beautiful parks here, and the botanic gardens is a great place to be," he said. "I've always wanted to make Cheyenne an art destination. We're on two major interstates, as well as halfway between Santa Fe and Jackson, which both have incredible art. The Cheyenne people really appreciate artwork."



Deselms Fine Art Gallery and Custom Framing is located at 303 E. 17th St. and open year round. Visit www.deselmsfineart.com for more information.

Cheyenne plays host to Wild West legends

By Kristine Galloway
and Sarah Zoellick

Wyoming Tribune Eagle

Several of the most well-known Wild West characters of the late 1800s passed through town during Cheyenne's rough-and-tumble days — some just briefly kicking up their boots here, others staying a short while.

"Wild Bill" Hickok (1837-1876)



James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok became a fixture in Cheyenne in 1874, according to Bill O'Neal, au-

thor of "Cheyenne: A Biography of the 'Magic City' of the Plains, 1867-1903." By that time, he was already well-known as a lawyer, gunfighter and gambler.

O'Neal wrote that Hickok was 37 when he arrived in Cheyenne in July 1874 to serve as a scout for a hunting party. By that time, he'd served as a county sheriff, city marshal and deputy U.S. marshal, as well as serving in the Civil War and engaging in gunfights across the West.

Hickok returned to Cheyenne that September and stayed for several months, renting a room

above Dan Miller's jewelry store, O'Neal stated.

"Hickok occupied himself as a gambler, relying upon his reputation to attract play. He held forth at the Gold Room, a saloon-theater-dance hall that also boasted gaming tables," O'Neal wrote.

Jim Bowker wrote in the book "History of Cheyenne, Wyoming Vol. 2" that Jim Allen built the Gold Room at 310 W. 16th St. in 1867. He said it was one of the first two saloons in Cheyenne.

He added that a warrant for Hickok's arrest on charges of vagrancy was issued June 17, 1875, in Cheyenne, and a \$200 bond was ordered, but Hickok was never arrested and left town by November.

He returned to Cheyenne in early 1876, however, and reacquainted himself with Agnes Thatcher Lake, a circus manager and performer who was several years his senior.

An article written by Phil Roberts, a University of Wyoming professor of history, and published in the Feb. 25, 2007, edition of the Wyoming Tribune-Eagle states Hickok met Lake in 1873 in Rochester, New York.

An announcement published in the Cheyenne Daily Leader on March 7, 1876, stated, "Married: By the Rev. W.F. Warren, March 5, 1876, at the residence of S.L. Moyer, Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, Mrs. Agnes

Thatcher Lake of Cincinnati, Ohio, to James Butler Hickok, Wild Bill, of this city."

Roberts wrote, "The minister was not convinced that the marriage would go well. He wrote in the Marriage Record of the First Methodist Church of Cheyenne (a microfilmed copy of which is in the collection of the Wyoming State Archives): 'Don't think he meant it.'"

That question remains unanswered, as Hickok was shot and killed by James McCall on Aug. 2 in Saloon No. 10 in Deadwood, South Dakota.

"Buffalo Bill" Cody (1846-1917)



William Frederick "Buffalo Bill" Cody was a friend of Hickok's. He invited Hickok to join his Wild

West Show in 1873, though the partnership didn't last long.

Cody visited Cheyenne on many occasions, but one of the most notable was in 1898, when he brought his Wild West Show to the second Cheyenne Frontier Days.

According to O'Neal, CFD took place Sept. 5-6 that year. "On a chilly Monday, Sept. 5,

Buffalo Bill led his superbly mounted troupe in its customary parade, supplemented by 200 members of the Cheyenne Fire Department. The parade through Cheyenne ended spectacularly, with the stagecoach racing up Ferguson Street and Cody's warriors galloping in pursuit," he wrote.

Ferguson Street was the former name of Carey Avenue.

O'Neal wrote Cody held his show in an open prairie north of the state Capitol.

An ad reprinted in "Cheyenne: A Biography of the 'Magic City' of the Plains" shows that Cody brought his Wild West Show back to Cheyenne on Saturday, Aug. 9, 1902, as part of a nationwide tour before heading to Europe.

Hickok wasn't the only famous name Cody hosted in his show. Infamous rough-neck Calamity Jane was a good friend of Cody's and sometimes performed in his Wild West Show.

"Calamity Jane" (1852-1903)



"Calamity Jane" was born Martha Jane Cannary on May 2, 1852. Though she sometimes worked

as a prostitute, she preferred to live like a man. She dressed in buckskins, and took up chewing tobacco and drinking with the best of them.

"Women weren't typically even allowed in the bar, except for at particular moments, like you could come at 4 in the afternoon for tea at the Tivoli or different things like that," said Visit Cheyenne Director of Operations Jill Pope. "But (Calamity Jane) dressed like a man, and she'd come in and shoot off her gun, and everybody loved it, so she was kind of accepted as one of the guys."

Pope said, "It's a little hard sometimes to know what's fact and what's fiction about Calamity because she told a lot of tall tales — she just made stuff up."

Calamity Jane came to Cheyenne in the 1870s. O'Neal wrote that she was charged with grand larceny in Cheyenne in 1876, but a jury declared her not guilty in June of that year.

O'Neal stated that, while celebrating the verdict a few days later, Calamity Jane rented a horse and buggy from James Abney with the intention of driving to Fort D.A. Russell, now known as F.E. Warren Air Force Base.

An article published in the June 20, 1876, edition of the Cheyenne Daily Leader said, "By the time she had reached

the fort, however, indulgence in frequent and liberal potations completely fogged her not very clear brain, and she drove right by that place.”

The article reported that she continued drinking throughout the night and awoke the following morning, June 11, and believed Fort Russell had been moved. It further stated that she then drove to Fort Laramie in a continued search for Fort Russell.

O’Neal wrote that Calamity Jane returned to Cheyenne in July and tried to hire a rig at Terry and Hunter’s Livery Stable, but was turned down, likely because she hadn’t returned Abney’s buggy.

Calamity Jane reportedly then visited the office of the Cheyenne Daily Leader to protest the article written about her.

According to O’Neal, “The city editor looked up to see a scowling woman, ‘clad in a cavalry uniform, with a bull-whip in her hand, a leer in her eye and gin in her breath.’”

He states that she cracked her whip on the ceiling and asked to see “the

fighting editor.” O’Neal wrote the city editor denied being the editor and left to find “the fighting editor.”

According to O’Neal, that was the last time Calamity Jane caused trouble in Cheyenne.

Bat Masterson (1853-1921)



Not long after Wild Bill left Cheyenne, Bartholemew William Barclay “Bat” Masterson, another famous gambler-gunfighter, rolled into Cheyenne by train in 1876 or

1877.

At just 22 years old, Masterson already had a reputation for being a fighting man, O’Neal wrote.

Masterson reportedly took more of a liking to the gambling tables in Cheyenne than he did panning for gold in Deadwood. He is said to have

only spent about five weeks here before his winning streak ended, sending him back to Dodge City, Kansas, where he was elected sheriff.

Doc Holliday (1851-1887)



John Henry “Doc” Holliday, another famous figure from the Old West, lived in Cheyenne briefly during the Gold Rush period, and probably around 1876 or 1877 as well.

A dentist by trade, Holliday developed an affinity for gambling and spent several months in Cheyenne working as a house dealer at a local theater before moving on to other places, like Deadwood and Denver.

O’Neal wrote that Holliday, a Georgia native, contracted tuberculosis about the time he completed dental training. He is said to have

headed west in 1873 seeking a dry climate that might extend his life.

“Holliday had a mean disposition and an ungovernable temper, and under the influence of liquor was a most dangerous man,” Masterson reportedly said, according to O’Neal. “He was hot-headed and impetuous, and very much given to both drinking and quarrelling, and among men who did not fear him, he was very much disliked.”

O’Neal wrote that Holliday did not yet have a dangerous reputation like Masterson and Hickok during his stay in Cheyenne.

Like Masterson, Holliday is said to have been close friends with legendary lawman Wyatt Earp. According to the website www.biography.com, Holliday and Earp were two of the most famous people involved in the 1881 gunfight at the O.K. Corral in the then-Arizona Territory, which is regarded as the most legendary battle of the American Wild West. That shootout solidified Holliday’s legendary status.

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welcome HOME

COLDWELL BANKER THE PROPERTY EXCHANGE IS CHEYENNE TESTED, NATIONALLY APPROVED.

Known first as ERA The Property Exchange, the company was a modest operation employing 17 hardworking agents during an economic recession following Wyoming's oil bust in the early 1980s. As the company grew it became The Property Exchange in 1995 and relocated offices a few times. Now located at 255 Storey Blvd., The Property Exchange joined Coldwell Banker in 2011 and is now one of the leading real estate companies in Cheyenne. It is home to more than 70 professionals and is on track to match its best financial year.



Former TPE office at 4020 House Ave, Circa 1992

Calling Cheyenne home for 37 years means Coldwell Banker The Property Exchange is as much a family as it is a business. "We recognize that you can't take; you have to give," Kent Jespersen, retired Managing Broker said. "If we all go with that philosophy, we create a team environment in our company rather than being individualized." Jespersen has always led the company as a non-compete broker, encouraging cooperation over competition among the agents to best serve their clients. Current Managing Broker Patrick Graham continues that tradition and it shows. "This is the most family-like company I've ever worked for," Marketing Director Travis Hoff said. "Very caring, very understanding."

Buying into the national Coldwell Banker brand offers more resources while allowing the company to maintain their local roots. "We have a long history of being in Cheyenne and we're still locally owned, but have the strength of a national company behind us," Hoff said. With the assistance of Coldwell Banker, agents make their client's relocation painless and offer many perks. Advanced marketing strategies, access to list on more than 50 real estate websites, social media tools, and discounts with various service providers and relocation companies are just some of the many advantages for clients.

While he's proud of the company's success, Jespersen said he's most proud of their community involvement. While individual agents are involved with various non-profits and community projects, the company also comes together to give back to Cheyenne. In partnership with the Downtown Development Authority, they started Adopt-A-Block where agents and staff help clean up a section of downtown throughout the summer. Coldwell Banker The Property Exchange is also the primary sponsor of Cheyenne's 150th-anniversary celebrations. Events for this fall include; a barbecue to raise money for first responders, a pumpkin giveaway, and a pet-adoption for rescued animals. They're also regular participants of Cheyenne's day of giving.



The First Adopt-A-Block clean up. May 24, 2015

"Yes, we buy and sell real estate, but most importantly we want to be a strong part of this community," Hoff said. Both Jespersen and Hoff have a host of reasons to stay in Cheyenne, but none more salient than its natives. "People are unique here," Jespersen said. "They're friendly. They're just good people. And that's what keeps us here."

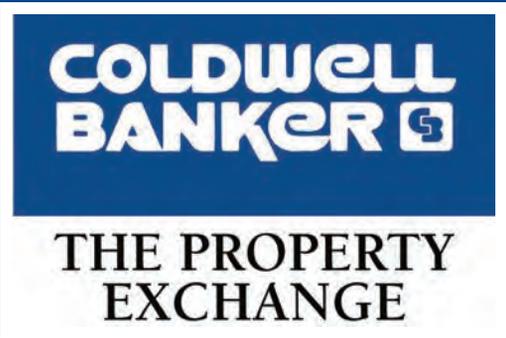
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The hanging of Tom Horn

ACCUSED OF KILLING TEEN WILLIE NICKELL, HORN'S SENSATIONAL TRIAL IS REGARDED AS MARKING THE END OF LAWLESSNESS IN WILD CHEYENNE.

Ranch hand. Cowboy. Indian interpreter. Army scout. Range detective. Hired gunman hanged for murder.

Anyone well-versed in Western history, and especially Cheyenne history, likely knows of the notorious Tom Horn, who worked for wealthy cattle barons.

"In the cowboy land, he's pretty well known," Jill Pope, the director of operations for Visit Cheyenne, said.

"He was probably not guilty of the murder he was hung for. However, he certainly was responsible for a lot of deaths," Pope continued. "He was hired by the stockmen to make sure people were not stealing cattle and he would actually, you know, kill them if they were stealing cattle, if he gave them a warning and they didn't heed it. So he wasn't a good egg."

Born a farm boy in Missouri, Horn reportedly headed west as a young teen after taking a beating from his father and became a wanderer with an appetite for adventure.

Horn was tried in the court of public opinion long before heading to the courthouse, and a jury of 12 men found him guilty of first-degree murder after a two-week-long, well-attended trial held in Cheyenne in October 1902. More than 100 years later, though, people continue to debate whether Horn actually killed 14-year-old Willie Nickell.

Someone shot and killed Nickell in July 1901, not far from his family's homestead in the Iron Moun-



Tom Horn braiding rope around 1902 or 1903. Wyoming State Archives

tain area. Many thought Nickell's father, Kels Nickell, might have been the intended target, but the teen happened to be wearing his dad's hat and coat. Among many other disagreements, Kels Nickell had angered the influential cattle barons by introducing sheep to his range.

Horn's trademark – reportedly so he could get paid – was to place a small rock under his victim's head, and that's exactly how Willie Nickell was found. Additionally, a depu-

ty U.S. marshal pried a drunken confession out of Horn in his second-floor office in downtown Cheyenne – the bay window above what's now the Wyoming Home store that still overlooks West Lincolnway. A court stenographer hiding in the adjoining office reportedly recorded Horn's supposed admission.

According to Pope, Horn's influential cattle baron friends spent \$100,000 on his defense, and people still believe to this day that he might

have been framed for the slaying. A mock retrial that took place in Cheyenne in 1993 ended in a not-guilty verdict.

Horn's real trial took place at the original courthouse in Cheyenne, built in 1873 at the corner of 19th Street and what's now Pioneer Avenue. That building was razed in 1917 and replaced with what's still there today, known now as the historic courthouse. A modern government complex was added to the structure in 1995.

He managed to escape from jail several months after his trial and enjoyed a short-lived bout of freedom before being captured. The stunt is said to have jeopardized any chance he might have had at a stay of execution and release.

"Killing is my specialty. I look at it as a business proposition, and I think I have a corner on the market."

Tom Horn

Friends of Horn, famous cowboy/rodeo champion Charles Burton "C.B." or "Charlie" Irwin and his brother, Frank Irwin, sang "Life's Railway to Heaven" before Horn was hanged Nov. 20, 1903, at a gallows near the courthouse, reportedly at Horn's request.

Willie Nickell is buried in Cheyenne's Lakeview Cemetery. Horn's brother arranged for his body to be taken to a cemetery near Boulder, Colorado.

Actor Steve McQueen played Horn in the 1980 film "Tom Horn" and married actress Ali McGraw in Holliday Park in 1973.

Many regard Horn's sensational trial, which attracted national attention, as marking the end of violence and lawlessness in Cheyenne.

– Sarah Zoellick, Wyoming Tribune Eagle

HISTORY IN HEADSTONES

LAKEVIEW CEMETERY

By Sarah Zoellick
Wyoming Tribune Eagle

Nestled just northeast of downtown Cheyenne is the peaceful, still-operational historic Lakeview Cemetery. It's a place where headstones etched with pizza and a video game controller stand among crumbling markers from the 1800s and large family plots featuring some of the state's most prominent politicians, ranchers and cattle barons.

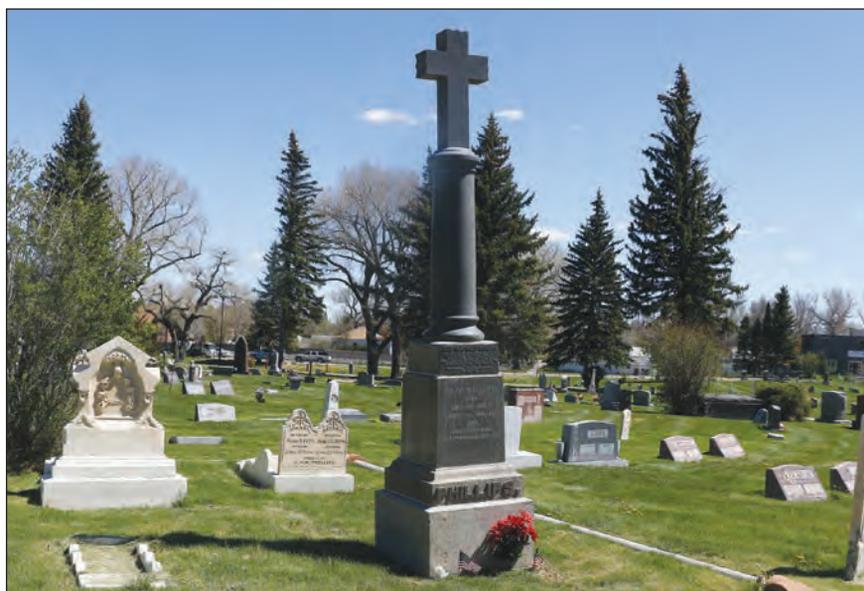
"You can have new and old right next to each other," City Cemetery Director Mark Wright said.

While burial permit No. 1 was issued May 21, 1875, the city didn't officially adopt the name Lakeview for the cemetery until 1932. Before then, the cemetery was formally known as City Cemetery.

Prior to City Cemetery being established, the Union Pacific Railroad surveyed, plotted and created the first cemetery in Cheyenne near what is now the entrance to F.E. Warren Air Force Base.

A year after City Cemetery started, city officials ordered all bodies buried outside the City Cemetery to be relocated at the cost of \$10 each.

Two-year-old Daniel Cassells is said to be the first recorded burial at



A large stone marks the grave of Pony Express rider John "Portuguese" Phillips, known for his 236-mile ride in a blizzard from Fort Phil Kearny in northern Wyoming to Fort Laramie to deliver news of 80 soldiers being killed by Indians. Photos by Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

the cemetery.

Gravestones in the cemetery not only tell the city's history, but give a glimpse of the history of the West. In here are the headstones of some of the first men massacred by Indians, and more famed figures such as Pony Express rider John "Portuguese"

Phillips, known for his 236-mile ride in a blizzard from Fort Phil Kearny in northern Wyoming to Fort Laramie to deliver news of 80 soldiers being killed by Indians.

Another defining moment in Cheyenne history was the trial of Tom Horn, who was convicted of

killing 14-year-old Willie Nickell in 1901 near his homestead in the Iron Mountain area. Nickell is buried in Lakeview, with a plaque fixed to his headstone that reads: "Tom Horn hanged for this murder."

The modern boundaries of the cemetery are Seymour Avenue, 23rd Street, Russell Avenue, 25th Street, Morrie Avenue and Pershing Boulevard. Wright said old photographs suggest the wrought iron fence along Seymour Avenue likely was at one time around the Capitol grounds before getting repurposed.

Wright enjoys pointing out some of the more quirky headstones, such as one for a "Girl with the third eye" – "I've got no idea what that means, but it's engraved on her headstone," he said – and that of Annie Davidson (1868-1936), supposedly the "first white girl born in Cheyenne."

Near her grave, which is by the cemetery office at 2501 Seymour Ave., stands the cemetery's original holding vault, built to store bodies during winter.

"Back in the day, digging by hand, not going to happen," Wright said. "So they would put them in there until the springtime."

The holding vault now features information about the cemetery's



The grave of Annie Davidson, the "first white girl born in Cheyenne," in Cheyenne's Lakeview Cemetery.



A dreamcatcher grave marker.



Gen. John "Black Jack" Pershing's wife and three young daughters died in a fire in San Francisco in 1915 and are buried in Cheyenne's Lakeview Cemetery.

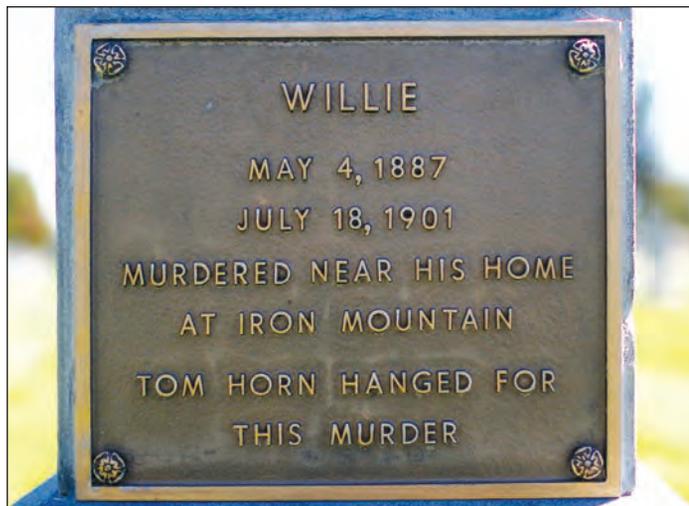


A Japanese plot was established in Lakeview Cemetery in 1924.

history, making it a great first stop on the walking tour.

The tallest obelisk in the cemetery, also near the holding vault, is the headstone for Gov. DeForest Richards, who served as Wyoming's fifth governor from 1899 to 1903 before dying in office just four months into his second term. He is one of nine former state governors buried at the cemetery.

As the walking tour winds through the cemetery, visitors can view the gravesite of Lucy Phillips, who arrived in Cheyenne in 1867 on the first passenger train at age 62. She donated her property at 18th Street and Thomes Avenue, where African Methodist Church, the first black church in Wyoming, was built after black members left First Methodist Church on Central Avenue to form their own congregation.



Fourteen-year-old Willie Nickell was shot dead in July 1901. Hired gunman Tom Horn was hanged in Cheyenne for the crime Nov. 20, 1903, though some dispute he was guilty. Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

The wide variety of names on the various headstones in the cemetery is indicative of Cheyenne's ethnic mix through the years, and there

also is a unique section of the cemetery with several Japanese-engraved markers. For reasons unknown, the Japanese plot was estab-

lished in 1924.

Adjacent to the section of Japanese markers is what's known as Potter's Field, a section of the cemetery set aside for burying the poor.

Gov. Nellie Tayloe Ross – the first female governor in the country – also is buried in the cemetery, along with her sons and husband. She served as governor of Wyoming from 1925 to 1927.

Sen. Francis E. Warren, for whom F.E. Warren Air Force Base is named, and his family are buried at Lakeview as well – but not his son-in-law, Gen. John “Black Jack” Pershing, who is buried in Arlington National Cemetery in

Washington, D.C.

Pershing married Warren's daughter, Helen Frances “Frankie” Warren, and quickly was promoted to General of the Armies – the

highest possible rank in the U.S. military, held only by Pershing and George Washington. Frankie Pershing and their three young daughters, who were buried at Lakeview next to her mother, Helen, died in a fire in San Francisco in 1915. The couple's

young son, the couple's Warren Pershing, survived.

The Warren plot is marked by F.E. Warren's large, imposing red granite headstone.

If you go

Lakeview Cemetery is open year-round to the public for self-guided walking tours. Tour booklets and other information can be picked up during business hours from the cemetery office at 2501 Seymour Ave.

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From windswept plains to Tree City USA

HOW DOES A CITY GO FROM AN EMPTY LANDSCAPE TO ONE WITH A QUARTER-MILLION TREES? **AUDACITY**

By James Chilton

Wyoming Tribune Eagle

When Gen. Grenville Dodge arrived at the site of what would become Cheyenne, he beheld a mostly empty landscape – a small creek and a handful of trees in the middle of a vast expanse of windswept plains.

In fact, even nine years after Cheyenne was established, a woman named Nennie Steel wrote in her diary that the entire town had just 12 trees total. Today, there are roughly a quarter-million trees that grace the city's parks, neighborhoods and open spaces.

But the transformation wasn't swift, nor was it possible without the vision of several of the city's earliest citizens. As the city prepares to celebrate its 150th anniversary, new visionaries are stepping forth to renew the push for tree planting in Cheyenne.

Unique challenges and early adopters

To understand why Cheyenne's trees are so remarkable, it helps to know how Cheyenne's founding differs from so many other cities and towns up and down the Front Range.

"We founded a town where nobody in their right mind normally would have put a town," said Shane Smith, founder and director of the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens. "Virtually every other com-



The transformation from a nearly treeless city to one with a quarter-million trees didn't happen quickly – nor would it have been possible without the vision of several of the city's earliest citizens. Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

munity, town and city in the region could look at some sort of prior Native American habitation. There was no reason to stop and stay here: There was no natural protection, no minerals and very little water."

On top of that, Smith said Cheyenne's climate poses its own issues. Not only is the city located in a semi-arid zone that gets barely 16 inches of moisture a year, it's also the fourth-windiest and most hail-prone city in the country.

"We probably have one of the worst garden climates in the lower 48 states, and it's not just wind. It's lack of winter snow cover," Smith said.

"That's why, if left to its native environment, you might see a few trees growing along Crow Creek in Cheyenne, but that'd be it."

Smith said it only figures that people audacious enough to found Cheyenne where they did would also be willing to populate it with trees. And that's exactly what happened, through many decades.

Perhaps the single most important personality involved in Cheyenne's early forestry efforts was James Floyd Jenkins. He arrived in Cheyenne in 1876 to work as the chief clerk of the commissary at Camp Carlin, a quarter-master depot just south of

Fort D.A. Russell, now known as F.E. Warren Air Force Base.

"He was from Wisconsin, and when he came here, there were very few trees; the only place native trees grew was along waterways," said Mark Ellison, assistant director of Cheyenne Urban Forestry. "Many of the settlers who came here brought trees with them, which is why we have a lot of Midwest tree species. But most of them planted the cottonwoods that had been growing along the streams and lakes."

It was Jenkins who kicked that effort into high gear. His efforts began ahead of Arbor

Day in 1882. By that point, Jenkins was co-owner of a shoe store in town, and with his business partner and next-door neighbor, he launched a campaign to raise funds to build a park along four blocks of land given to the city by the Union Pacific Railroad.

The campaign was successful, and the result was the city's first municipal park, which was planted on the site where the Wyoming Supreme Court now stands at 2301 Capitol Ave. The park remained until the 1930s, when the city granted it to the state. Several of the original trees still stand on the grounds.

"In his memoirs, Jenkins talked about planting the first tree in Cheyenne in 1878," Smith said. "I think he's bragging, but I think he rightfully is the father of our parks. He pretty much founded Lions Park, and he made it his mission to beautify Sloans Lake."

Ellison agreed that Jenkins planted thousands of trees across Cheyenne, including on the land that would become Lions Park, the crown jewel of the city's parks system.

"He planted probably thousands of trees and was the major person behind the planting of Lions Park – a lot of the initial planting efforts along the streets," Ellison said. "We've been doing research ourselves, and I found information about the city's first tree committee in 1902. The City Council appointed Jenkins to raise money from

business owners around town, and you'll see a lot of prominent names in there: Carey, Dinneen, Warren."

Trees planted outside of city, too

Fort D.A. Russell also launched its own efforts to transplant trees to the area, starting in 1885, when the War Department ordered the base to be expanded to accommodate eight infantry companies.

"They built these beautiful red brick structures out there and also planted thousands of trees," Smith said.

As the century wound on, Cheyenne also became an important contributor to the botanical science of the High Plains with the opening of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cheyenne High Plains Horticultural Research Station in 1928.

"An attorney in town by the name of George Brimmer was a real mover and shaker, and he had this idea that what Cheyenne needed to be a great city was this big ag station," Smith said.

Smith said the High Plains were effectively the last part of the continental United States to truly be settled, and even by the 1920s, there hadn't been much work done to figure out what sorts of plants could thrive in the cold, windy, semi-arid environment.

"They found their mission after it was built, in a way. They realized that to settle the High Plains, we've got to get people to want to live here," Smith said. "And to do that, we've got to build communities that have a similar look and feel to communities back east."

Smith said that while two other competing ag stations did research primarily on farming, Cheyenne's station was different in that it served as a sort of testing ground,

gauging the hardiness of a huge variety of plants and cultivating the survivors to thrive here.

"These guys were looking at roses, at lilacs, at what makes a nice shade tree; and they were receiving plants from all over the world because by that point, the USDA had developed a contingent of plant explorers," Smith said.

Plant explorers, he said, were essentially the botanical equivalent of Indiana Jones—rugged scientists who would travel the world in search of exotic plants to bring back to Cheyenne to test.

"They'd get off the train, go to the farmers markets, look at what fruits and vegetables people were eating, then they'd go north and ask, 'Do you still have this apple here?'" Smith said.

"Eventually they'd find a place where they didn't have any apples there anymore, at which point they'd know to go back to the second-most northerly station, because

they were probably growing the most hardy version of that apple there."

Smith said some of the plants brought back to the research station have since become staples, including the alfalfa hay grown in Wyoming and the wheatgrass that stabilizes the sides of highways all across the state.

"The Cheyenne station released plants that wound up all over the High Plains," Smith said. "It's hard to drive into a High Plains community and not find something that the High Plains station was responsible for."

Located just a few miles northwest of Cheyenne proper, the research station's mission continued through 1974 before it switched to studying water conservation and later grassland research. While many of the trees and plants cultivated out there are long since gone, some of the hardiest remain to this day in what is now known as the High Plains Arboretum.

Cheyenne Botanic Gardens

While the High Plains research station played a critical role in developing Cheyenne's plant life, it's the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens that has served as the showroom for much of that work.

The Botanic Gardens began its life just three short years after the High Plains research station ended its horticultural mission. It started as the Cheyenne Community Solar Greenhouse, eventually expanding to its current location in Lions Park in 1986, the same year it became a full-fledged division of Parks and Recreation.

"You never would expect to see a full-service, fully staffed botanic gardens in a city of this size. So still in our DNA, we're still doing what we shouldn't do," Smith said. "That's my theme for Cheyenne's 150th. We do

things we shouldn't be able to do for a city of our size, but we do it anyway."

In fact, it was in 1982—exactly 100 years after Jenkins launched the first full-scale tree planting efforts in town—that Cheyenne was formally designated a "Tree City USA" by the Arbor Day Foundation. The designation recognizes the city's forestry division and its efforts to develop and maintain urban canopy throughout the city.

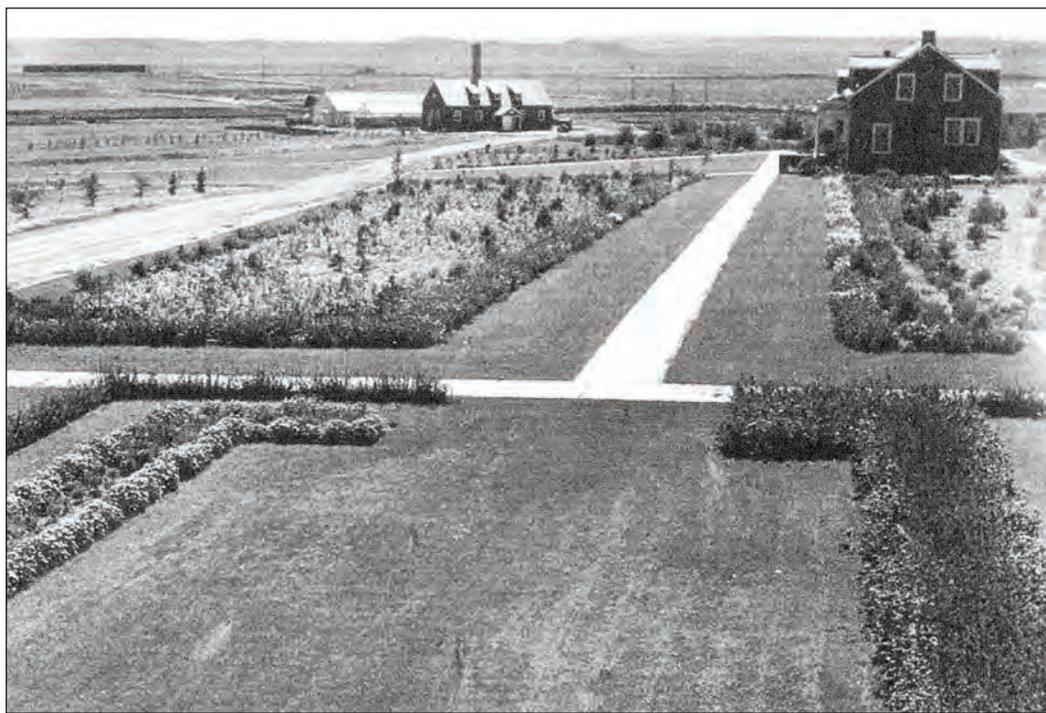
Ellison said in the decades since then, trees have not been getting the attention they once enjoyed in Cheyenne. Some of the city's oldest trees are beginning to come up against their lifespan, while others are in danger of being killed by parasites like the emerald ash borer beetle. But despite those concerns, new trees have not been planted to replace those at risk.

"We understand we had a tree-planting history when our city was founded, and we've gotten away from that. So we want to get that restarted," Ellison said.

He's aiming to do that through a new program called "Rooted in Cheyenne," which has pulled volunteer stakeholders together to launch a grassroots effort at planting a new generation of trees here.

"We've got a lot of newer neighborhoods, too, where there weren't many trees planted," Ellison said. "So we're going to try to partner with homeowners to pay for about half the cost of a tree, and we'll also plant it for them. Homeowners would be able to apply for up to two trees a year, which would be planted in the public right of way or adjacent to it on public property."

Those interested in learning more about the program can visit the "Rooted in Cheyenne" Facebook page or call Urban Forestry at 307-637-6428.



As the century wound on, Cheyenne became an important contributor to the botanical science of the High Plains with the opening of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cheyenne High Plains Horticultural Research Station in 1928. Over the next few years, the area became a lush garden, housing a variety of plant species where workers tested each for resilience in Cheyenne's harsh climate. This photo was taken in the early 1930s. U.S. Department of Agriculture Research Service



**WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR
COMMITMENT TO
PROVIDING CLOSE,
PERSONAL ATTENTION TO
OUR CLIENTS**

WYOMING'S LARGEST CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT FIRM IS GROWING, AND IT'S BRINGING CHEYENNE'S QUALITY NAME WITH IT.

Originally founded by local accountants in the 1930s, McGee, Hearne & Paiz, LLP endured nearly half a dozen name changes before 2000, when nine partners purchased the firm.

The enterprise now provides a range of professional services for diverse clientele. From individual taxes for middle class Wyomingites, to audits and reviews for high-wealth entities, MHP kicks it up a notch. The firm offers accounting, consulting and litigation support to regional auto dealers, manufacturing organizations, construction companies, government organizations and non-profits. In addition, the company specializes in services including fraud and forensic accounting, acquisitions, business valuations and cost segregation. That may sound intimidating, but MHP handles the heavy stuff for families and local businesses.

Partner Kenneth Dugas graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1981 and joined company's predecessor, McGladrey, Hendrickson & Co. Since those early years, the company has seen an impressive increase in employees and clients, thanks in part to technological advances.

"When I started, we'd head out on a job with a half a dozen audit bags full of stuff and today we have a laptop under our arm and access to a lot more," Dugas said.

While the firm is expanding into Fort Collins and northern Colorado, its Cheyenne roots remain strong. Dugas and the firm's employees are active in the community, serving on various boards and charities. Ken alone has served on the board for Cheyenne LEADS, Chamber of Commerce and United Way. The firm was even honored for exemplary business ethics by the Better Business Bureau serving northern Colorado and greater Wyoming in 2010.

"I have a passion about business and economic development in Cheyenne," he said. "Economic development is beyond recruiting a business in town; it's also about making Cheyenne and Laramie County an attractive place for businesses and their employees to want to relocate."

Maintaining a vibrant downtown, Dugas said, is vital to its economic growth and marketability. He hopes to share the firm's success with Cheyenne.

"One of our values is community stewardship and we encourage all of our employees to get involved in the community," he said. "But we also want them to get involved with things they have a passion about."

Dugas makes an effort to keep local talent in Wyoming, favoring University of Wyoming alums during the hiring process.

"We want to keep people in Wyoming and we hire six to 12 people a year out of the university," he said.

Not unlike many local businesses, MHP considers itself a family-first operation. Dugas believes in the power of involvement in the workplace. The career is a challenging and fulfilling one, he said, and the firm's employees meet the provocations.

"It's been a tremendous group of people to work with," he said. "I couldn't have asked for a better group of people than this. We're very proud to be a part of this community."

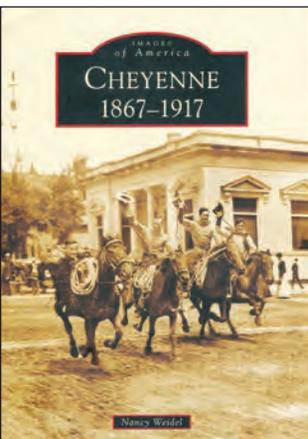


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Books about Cheyenne

By Josh Rhoten | Wyoming Tribune Eagle

Want to read more about Cheyenne's history? These books offer plenty of information about the city's past:



"CHEYENNE: 1867-1917"

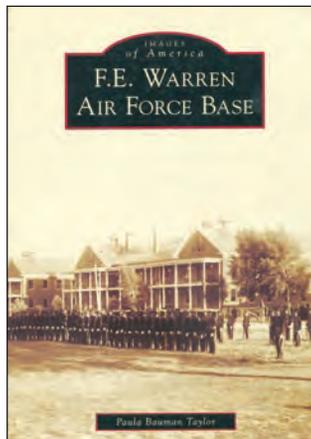
Author: Nancy Weidel

Published by: Arcadia Publishing, 2009

Part of the Images of America series of books, this relatively small work is packed with historic photos and short stories from the early years of the city up through the half-century mark.

The story of the city is told almost exclusively through photos from the Wyoming State Archives, with lengthy captions. That means while the depth and detail can be lacking, it's a light and easy read, especially for those new to the city's history.

The book is still in circulation through sellers like Amazon.com and is also available at the Laramie County Library.



"F.E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE"

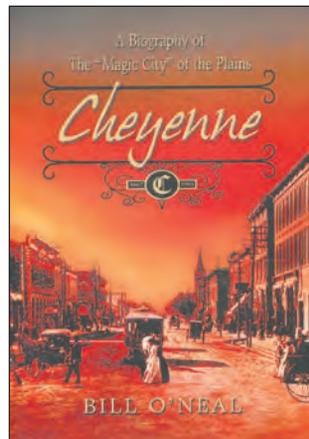
Author: Paula Bauman Taylor

Published by: Arcadia Publishing, 2012

This is another excellent entry from the Images of America series. Once again, the book is full of historic photos of the oldest continually active Air Force base in the system.

Photos in this book come once again from the Wyoming State Archives, as well as the current base archives. They tell the story of the early days of Fort D.A. Russell through the installation of the Minuteman missiles in short, easy-to-read bursts.

The book is still in circulation through sellers like Amazon.com and is also available at the Laramie County Library.



"CHEYENNE: 1867 TO 1903. A BIOGRAPHY OF THE 'MAGIC CITY' OF THE PLAINS"

Author: Bill O'Neal

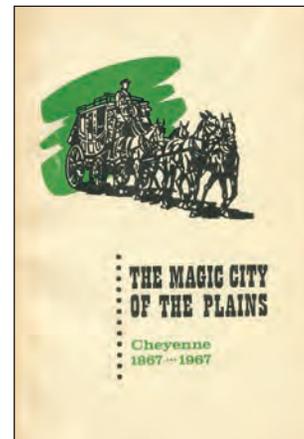
Published by: Eakin Press, 2006

Author Bill O'Neal has written more than a dozen books and hundreds of articles on the American West on a variety of topics. He has also appeared as a historian on several TV documentaries on Turner Network Television, The History Channel and the Discovery Channel.

He visited Cheyenne in 2004 to talk with local historians like William R. Dubois and Shirley Flynn, among others. During that time, he also toured historic locations for himself. Deep research through the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming State Archives and other resources strengthened the spine of his work from there.

The result is a thick volume that is highly detailed with original research and copies of primary historic documents, and rich with interesting anecdotes and asides about the city.

The book is still in circulation through sellers like Amazon.com and is also available at the Laramie County Library.



"THE MAGIC CITY OF THE PLAINS - CHEYENNE, 1867-1967"

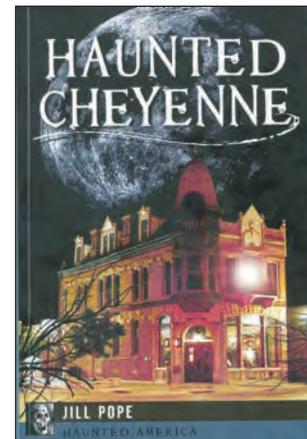
Author: The Centennial Historical Committee

Published: 1967

One of the oldest texts we used for our research, this volume was created to celebrate Cheyenne's 100th anniversary in 1967. Authors include J.O. Reed, Maurine Carley, William R. Dubois and Katherine Halverson.

Full of detail and featuring locally sourced photos, this collection is a useful time capsule for consideration. The work covers many aspects of life in Cheyenne, from high-profile items like the origins of Cheyenne Frontier Days to the weather patterns and notable residents that are sure to catch the eye of curious locals and amateur historians alike.

The book is available at the Laramie County Library, and a few used copies can be found online.



"HAUNTED CHEYENNE"

Author: Jill Pope

Published by: Haunted America, 2013

Whether you believe in ghosts or not, this book offers some interesting stories and perspectives about Cheyenne's past. Of course, it is far from scholarly, but it is plenty of fun.

Local author Jill Pope divides the city into sections and spent a significant amount of time in each talking with residents, employees and shop owners about their personal paranormal experiences.

The stories in the book cover a lot of ground, from an old legend about a lingering guest who fell out of a fourth-floor window of the Plains Hotel to odd sounds and sights at the Atlas Theatre.

The book is still in circulation through sellers like Amazon.com and is also available at the Laramie County Library. A sister version focusing only on F.E. Warren, titled "Haunted Warren Air Force Base," is also available online.

Others celebrating sesquicentennials

The city of Cheyenne isn't the only local entity celebrating 150 years of existence in 2017.

First United Methodist Church, Cheyenne Regional Medical Center, F.E. Warren Air Force Base and the predecessor to the Wyoming Tribune Eagle all had their starts in 1867.

First United Methodist Church, located at 108 E. 18th St., is the oldest congregation of any denomination in Wyoming, according to Rev. Mark Marston, its senior pastor.

On Sept. 29, 1867, the Rev. W.W. Baldwin preached at what was then city hall, located at present-day Pioneer Avenue and 17th Street. (A traveling Baptist minister preached before Baldwin, but he was not assigned here.)

Methodist Church members first built a white-frame church in 1870 at the current location. They later built a red sandstone church at the same location in 1892 or 1897.

The Daily Leader was the predecessor of today's Wyoming Tribune Eagle. The newspaper published its first edition Sept. 19, 1867, less than a month after a young Cheyenne elected its first mayor and filled other offices.

Nathan Baker, who was 24 in 1867, was the newspaper's first editor and owner. He came from Denver and brought his printing press with him.

Baker called his newspaper the Cheyenne Daily Leader, which he published three times a week. He later changed the name to the Daily Leader, which eventually was published every day except Sunday. The Leader was the top paper in Cheyenne for many years, according to Nancy Weidel in her book "Cheyenne 1867-1917."

Baker was an unofficial cheerleader for Cheyenne, often writing stories that predicted a wonderful future for the "Magic City of the Plains."

Plenty of events planned to celebrate city's 150th

By James Chilton
Wyoming Tribune Eagle

It's been four months since Mayor Marian Orr named a committee to prepare events related to Cheyenne's 150th anniversary celebration this year.

But in that short time, the city's sesquicentennial steering committee has managed to come up with a slew of events to mark the occasion, set to begin July 4 and continue through Aug. 18. All of the events have been funded through grassroots donation efforts, with the only public costs to the city coming in the manpower needed to see each event through.

"Most of our venues are public places ... so we're impacting staff time," said Mona Pearl, the sesquicentennial committee's lead coordinator. "But we've gotten many businesses to donate. Folks have stepped up in a big way."

The first event will be a formal kickoff tentatively set for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 4 at David R. Romero South Cheyenne Community Park. "It is a beautiful, safe place to be near the banks of Crow Creek, and it

also offers us an indoor option (if the weather is bad that day)," Pearl said.

The proximity to Crow Creek is important, since in 1867, Gen. Grenville Dodge and his survey crew first plotted the site that would



Former Cheyenne Mayor Bill Nation visits with current Mayor Marian Orr after the unveiling of the logo for Cheyenne's sesquicentennial celebration this year during a press conference Feb. 8, 2017, at the historic Cheyenne Depot. Orr named Nation as the honorary chairman of this year's celebration. Blaine McCartney/Wyoming Tribune Eagle

become Cheyenne at the point where the Union Pacific Railroad crossed the water. As such, the July 4 event will commemorate the day the city

received its moniker, and will also feature games for children and information about Cheyenne's founding, history and heritage.

Through the remainder of July, Pearl said several local organizations will be hosting their own events for the sesquicentennial. These will include the Cheyenne Police Department's Neighborhood Night Out on July 11, which will feature an 1867 theme and costume

contest.

Then, on July 14, the Greater Cheyenne Chamber of Commerce will also pay tribute to the milestone at its Partners N' Prosperity luncheon at the Cheyenne Depot Plaza.

While it's usually held in September, Pearl said the Cheyenne firefighters' annual Freedom 5K is being pushed up to Aug. 5 this year to coincide with the week Cheyenne was formally incorporated. But that is only the first of many events planned for the week of Aug. 5-12.

On Aug. 6, the Rev. Rick Veit of St. Mark's Episcopal Church is planning to lead an interfaith gathering celebrating "150 years of faith in Cheyenne" at 10 a.m. at the Cheyenne Civic Center.

For more information

For the latest information on events planned to celebrate Cheyenne's 150th anniversary, visit www.cheyenne150.org or search "Cheyenne 150th Celebration" on Facebook.

“He’s working on rounding up 110 churches, synagogues and other faith traditions to take part in the gathering,” Pearl said.

Then, at 7 p.m. Aug. 7, Mayor Orr will take part in a roundtable discussion with potentially all six living former mayors in an event being dubbed “Meet the Mayors.” Pearl said former Mayors Bill Nation, Don Erickson and Jack Spiker have all been confirmed, while efforts are underway to secure Gary Shaeffer, Leo Pando and Rick Kaysen.

The discussion, which will take place in the Atlas Theatre downtown, will touch on memories of each

mayor’s time in office, how they attempted to work for the city’s benefit and what their

hopes are for Cheyenne’s future.

“There’s limited seating of just 250 seats, so the committee is making sure it is recorded and can be re-shown,” Pearl said.

“We’re also going to attempt to livestream it, and we want to make sure all the living current and former City Council members are invited as well.”

Aug. 8 marks Cheyenne’s formal sesquicentennial – the day when, 150 years earlier, the city was officially incorporated. Pearl said her committee has two big events planned for that day.

The first will take place at noon in Romero Park, where Mayor Orr and the City Council will dedicate a time capsule marking the occasion. That will then be buried with instructions for it to be reopened in 2067.

The 2017 capsule will be installed within a monument in Constitution Park, but it won’t be sealed until later in 2017 because the committee wants to include all relevant news and events that happen for Cheyenne this year.

Items selected for the new time capsule will come from suggestions made by Cheyenne’s youth, and the event will also feature games and history displays.

Then, from 4:30-10 p.m., a massive

party will take place at the Cheyenne Depot Plaza, with live music by the Bob Matthews Band and the Josh Gonzales Band. The event will also feature food and beverages, enough birthday cake for 6,000 people and a fireworks show. Pearl noted a special song to mark the occasion is being written by local musicians Ty Warner, Todd Dereemer and Amy Smith, who will perform it live at the event.

“We’ll rest on Wednesday, then on Thursday, Aug. 10, we’ll be at the Cheyenne Civic Center for history night,” Pearl said. “This will be another pivot point for the week. What we envision is having the lobby of the Civic Center full of artifacts and displays. We’re going to use both ‘lobbies’ upstairs and downstairs.”

That event, dubbed “History Comes Alive,” will run from 4-9:30 p.m., and will also include a drop-in, drop-out speaker series in the main auditorium. Members of the public will also be encouraged to share their own knowledge and stories of Cheyenne’s history, which will be recorded for posterity, so that everyone who attends can come away with some new tidbit of information.

The celebration picks up again on Aug. 12, beginning with the annual Pink Ribbon Run which, while not directly affiliated with the sesquicentennial committee, is expected to “tip its hat” to the milestone, Pearl said. Aug. 12 will also feature an antique car show from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. – details pending – as well as a “friends and family” celebration from 2-5 p.m. at Lions Park.

Pearl said the latter event is intended to be family friendly, featuring fun and games for children of all ages, as well as food and drink.

At 6:30 p.m., the formal wear will come out for the Gala in the Gardens, a tickets-only event that will be the first such event put on at the new

Cheyenne Botanic Gardens Grand Conservatory.

For those looking for a more casual atmosphere that evening, the United Way of Laramie County’s Emerging Leaders group is also preparing “Tap into History” pub crawl through Cheyenne’s historic downtown that Pearl said is being geared specifically toward millennials.

“We want to walk people through at least the seven pubs in old buildings downtown. They’re pretty certain there’s going to be a special Cheyenne 150 brew competition, with a winner chosen from the event,” she said.

Finally, on Aug. 18, the Cheyenne Arts Festival kicks off its three-day event at the Cheyenne Depot Museum, including announcement of the Mayor’s Arts Awards.

For her part, Orr said she’s impressed with what the steering

committee has been able to come up with.

“This working committee, in a very short amount of time, has come up with an absolutely amazing schedule of events that will really serve as the backbone for an entire year of celebration,” Orr said. “Things like this do take time, and sometimes having a deadline in front of you such that we were given helps you work harder, faster and smarter.”

As for the events themselves, Orr said they “really run the gamut as far as interest and entertainment. We’ve also been hearing from community members about events they have and how they can tie in with the overall events calendar.”

Pearl expects plenty of other independent celebrations will be put on by other groups in town this year. She said anyone working on an event can send an email to cheyenne150@cheyennecity.org for inclusion on the calendar.

“This working committee, in a very short amount of time, has come up with an absolutely amazing schedule of events that will really serve as the backbone for an entire year of celebration.”

**Cheyenne Mayor
Marian Orr**

Others celebrating sesquicentennials

Baker sold the Leader shortly after a fire in 1870 destroyed his printing operations. He died in Denver in 1934.

Eventually, the newspaper was sold to Col. E.A. Slack, the editor of the Cheyenne Daily Sun. Slack combined the newspapers and created the Cheyenne Daily Sun-Leader in 1895.

The Cheyenne Daily Sun-Leader led to the Wyoming State Tribune in 1921.

The Wyoming State Tribune and The Wyoming Eagle operations merged, but the newspapers had separate staffs until the 1990s. Today, the Wyoming Tribune Eagle continues to cover Cheyenne and the surrounding area seven days a week, both in print and online at WyomingNews.com.

■

In 1867, Union Pacific Railroad officials pitched a huge tent in Cheyenne that served as a hospital. Doctors treated employees who were injured while working on the Transcontinental Railroad.

The city of Cheyenne bought the tent the next year for \$125.

In 1883, St. John’s Hospital was built for \$21,000 on land donated by Union Pacific. Memorial Hospital replaced it in 1922. After changes in ownership and a merger with DePaul Hospital, the name was changed to Cheyenne Regional Medical Center in 2006.

■

The evolution of these institutions is a testament that Cheyenne is a place where many people stayed and built their futures.

These institutions and the people of Cheyenne have contributed to the fabric of the community through the years. It’s expected they will continue to do so for the next 150 years or more.

Past, present and future

At 92, former Mayor Bill Nation is in a unique position to reflect on where Cheyenne has been – and where it's going

By James Chilton
Wyoming Tribune Eagle

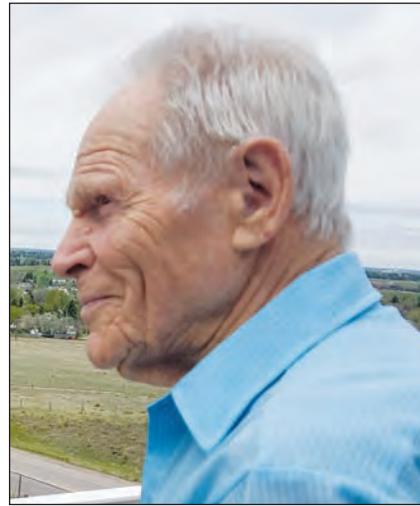
As Cheyenne's oldest living former mayor, Bill Nation, 92, has a unique vantage point on where the city has come from and where it's going.

And that's not just because the Capital City's eldest of statesmen happens to enjoy a gorgeous panoramic view of the city from his home on North College Drive. Rather, Nation has been able to see how his own decisions as mayor – first from 1962-1966, and again from 1973-1977 – have helped to shape the city into what it is today.

"It's amazing to me the recognition that a mayor gets, whether it's Cheyenne or Chugwater or New York City. Here, the mayor stands pretty much alone in the political hierarchy because generally they are not partisan, and that helps a great deal in Wyoming," Nation said in a recent interview. "And I have found that in order to get things done for Cheyenne, I could use that special designation."

In his time, Nation said that could be as simple as picking up the phone and calling the chairman of the Union Pacific Railroad to inquire about what would become of the Old Number 4004 Big Boy steam engine, which was formally retired from service in 1962. One of only eight surviving 4-8-8-4 Big Boy engines in the world, the engine was brought to Cheyenne's Holliday Park in June 1963 at Nation's insistence and remains there to this day.

"I told the chairman I wanted to get that largest steam engine in the world in Cheyenne, and when I explained what I wanted, he said that'd be a good place for it," Nation said.



This "then and now" combination of photos shows former Cheyenne Mayor Bill Nation, who at age 92 has a unique vantage point on where the city has come from and where it's going. Courtesy

"But I told him we didn't know how to move a locomotive. He told me, 'You tell me where you want it, and we will put it there.'

"Since that time 54 years ago, thousands and thousands of people have come into town to see that steam engine," Nation added. "That's the way mayors can get things done."

Nation occupies an unusual place in Cheyenne's history, being one of the last mayors to operate under the city's former city commission form of government, and the first to take the reins under the "strong mayor" system the city

uses today. And while his terms in office just missed Cheyenne's centennial in 1967, Nation has had the 50 years since then to see how the decisions he and his successors made have paved the way for Cheyenne's future.

One easy example Nation can point to today is the value the voter-approved sixth-penny sales tax has provided to the city and surrounding county, through projects such as the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens' new conservatory,

the Laramie County Library headquarters and the ever-expanding Greater Cheyenne Greenway.

"When I was in the (state) Legislature, I suggested a 1 cent sales tax statewide so cities and towns could fund some of the things our constituents wanted to do," he said. The measure, he said, faced some resistance, and ultimately it was finalized through a conference committee, which passed it as a local option instead of a statewide mandate.

"To this day, most of the cities and towns did not hold their election to get their penny," Nation said. "But here, it brings in some extra money the city and county governments need desperately."

But Nation noted it was the efforts and ideas of those who came after him that allowed the sixth penny to see its full potential, and he believes Cheyenne has been blessed to have capable leadership at the helm in the decades since he left office.

"The growth and prosperity of Cheyenne is directly related to the vision of the people they elect to the City Council and the mayor's office, and we have been fortunate through the years in electing people who are interested in a better life for people who live in Cheyenne," Nation said. "A great deal of our citizens are retired Air Force people who have had the opportunity to visit the world and wound up selecting Cheyenne for their retirement, and that bodes well for the future growth of the city."

As for what that future may look like, both the former mayor and the office's current occupant, Marian Orr, said Cheyenne's industries of tomorrow will be strongly tied to the city's location. But where the city's success have been based on its position as a railroad hub at the crossroads of two major interstate highways, tomorrow's industry may draw on Cheyenne's cool, dry

Want to hear more?

What: Mayor Marian Orr will take part in a roundtable discussion titled "Meet the Mayors" with Cheyenne's past living mayors. Confirmed attendees include former mayors Bill Nation, Don Erickson and Jack Spiker, while mayors Rick Kaysen, Gary Shaeffer and Leo Pando have also been invited.

When: 7 p.m. Aug. 7

Where: The Atlas Theatre, 211 W. Lincolnway

Cost: Free; seating is limited to 250.

For more information: Visit <http://tinyurl.com/meetmayors>

climate, which makes it perfect for high technology.

That's already proven true with Cheyenne's growing prominence as a hub for data centers, which has brought hundreds of millions of dollars of investment to the region. But as plans solidify to improve Cheyenne's West Edge district and bring more and greater high-speed connectivity to the area, Orr sees the potential for a greater grassroots tech presence as well.

"I think that anymore, the days of really large manufacturing, big-box kind of employee centers are going away to smaller, more efficient and yet equally global economies," Orr said. "As a society, we've become so high-tech, yet there's that need for the personal feeling of a one-on-one relationship



An exterior view of the NCAR Wyoming Supercomputing Center east of Cheyenne. Cheyenne's growing prominence as a hub for data centers has brought hundreds of millions of dollars of investments to the region. WTE/staff

that we seem to have lost in the 1990s and 2000s. I believe boutique firms and ser-

vices are a prime example of how we crave that personal experience."

Nation agrees, marveling at how his own time on Earth has seen communications

evolve from the "candlestick" telephones of the 1920s to the miniature supercomputers we carry in our pockets.

"If we have leaders who continue to keep their eyes open for opportunities and have some vision for the future of Cheyenne, then I would say as the oil and gas industry diminishes, other new industries will develop," Nation said.

"Certainly Marian is correct in saying technology is the one thing we know will explode. We have all these advancements in technology and communication, and Cheyenne is a great pace weather-wise for electronics of any sort, so there's no questions those companies in that business will be interested in Cheyenne as years pass."



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS AT THE WYOMING TRIBUNE EAGLE!

Last, Present & Future: We're here for you!

In addition to the city's sesquicentennial, this year marks 150 years of newspaper publishing in the Capital City. The Daily Leader was first published on Sept. 19, 1867, about a month after the new town called Cheyenne elected its first mayor.

Through the years, the Daily Sun, the Wyoming Tribune, the Cheyenne Daily Sun-Leader, the Wyoming State Tribune and the Wyoming Eagle have provided award-winning coverage of Laramie County.

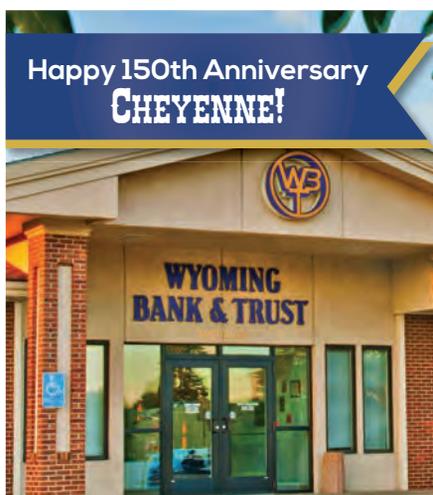
That tradition continues today as the Wyoming Tribune Eagle provides local news coverage, advertising, commercial printing and digital marketing services from its location on the west edge of downtown.

Happy 150th Birthday, Cheyenne!

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79 YEARS of premier service

Tyrrell Chevrolet and Honda Company providing 79 years of premier service in Cheyenne

In 1938, a year before World War II ushered in a nationwide rationing of metal, gasoline, rubber and other vital automotive organs, Ace Tyrrell purchased his first car dealership in Wyoming. As a long time owner and operator of nine dealerships throughout Nebraska during the Roaring '20s and into the Great Depression, Tyrrell had the vision and savvy to withstand heavy economic pressure and keep business booming, even turning the dealership into a home appliance store in the early 1940s to keep up with demand when car parts were scarce.

Surviving the war economy, he passed the buck to his son, Bill, and from there, a family business was born. Now owned by president Brian Tyrrell, the company is in its third generation of Tyrrell ownership, and Dallas Tyrrell, current BDC Director, is on his way to make it a fourth.

A Cheyenne native, Dallas said the Tyrrell Chevrolet and Honda Company is Wyoming's premier dealership for a host of reasons. First, the Tyrrell family and associates take a Cheyenne-first approach to how they do business. The company partners with and sponsors dozens of local charities each year, donating \$150,000 to organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club and American Cancer Society.

"Charity is our focus," Dallas said. "The biggest kick out of doing this is being able to help local communities."

Second, Cheyenne customers receive nationally-renowned service right in their backyard. The dealership not only offers new and pre-owned Chevys and Hondas at fair prices, but full-service car care on all makes and models at service centers managed by technicians with decades of experience. Technicians even help General Motors diagnose and solve challenging issues with their vehicles.

"They'll deliver cars from Detroit here to our dealership and our technicians will help them figure out what the problem is.," he said. "If customers get the right price and the right service, that's what makes us stand out. We service thousands of Colorado customers and thousands of Wyoming customers. People drive from Nebraska, Montana and Utah to buy cars from us."

From new windshield wipers, to a new car, Tyrrell Chevrolet and Honda Company has its customers covered, even offering a pristine waiting room while they take care of the hard stuff.

The Tyrrell family has seen the automotive industry through its ripples, and anticipates the future as much as it appreciates the past. Beginning when cars involved hand cranks, and now expecting self-driving cars in less than a decade, the company is ready for anything.

"We are always evolving on what we can offer our customers," he said. "Customer service has been our focus for the last 79 years. We love the people and we love the community."

Dallas and his family feel blessed to live and work in a community so close to their heart.

"Cheyenne's a great place to live, great place to raise a family," he said. "We've been blessed to live here. We think it's going to be an exciting time in the car industry."



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