

# Senior center celebrates 35 years of service on Oct. 14

The St. Francis Senior Citizens Center will be celebrating 35 years of service. They will hold an open house celebration on Sunday, Oct. 14, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the center.

"This is a place where senior citizens can get a nutritional meal three days a week," said Ken Quigley, president of the board.

But, the center is more than just a balanced meal – it is a place where seniors can visit with their friends and neighbors; a place for family reunions and various other get-togethers.

In honor of the celebration, the seniors will be serving cake and ice cream, handing out favors and having drawings for door prizes and a handmade quilt by Helen Peters, former resident. There will also be live entertainment by the Swinging Seniors.

### Senior center history

Thirty-five years ago, Raedell Winston was the president of the AAUW. She looked into the possibility of getting a grant through the Aging Americans Act of 1965 to be used to establish the senior center and nutrition site.

She and Marguerite Magley worked with the county commissioners toward that goal and a grant was written in April 1976. The request was granted in June and the money was made available to buy the needed equipment.

At this time, there was approximately 850 people living in the county who were over the age of 60. There were only limited efforts being made to meet the special needs of these people.

They felt that a multi-purpose senior center could meet the needs of the seniors by providing organized crafts, activities and socialization. Often times, the older Americans had no place to play cards except at the local pool hall.

A council on aging was formed with Ms. Winston as president; Mrs. Magley, vice president; and Mabel Merklin, secretary. A search was started for a suitable building to house the center.

In June of 1977, the committee received permission from the St. Francis Equity to use a vacant filling station at Washington and River streets. A call for volunteers went out to get the building ready.

In the abstract written for the center, it said the building was centrally located and was well constructed. There were two bathrooms but they needed cleaning. There was an adequate heating system and parking.

To get started, the proposed budget called for paint, \$87; paneling, \$196; carpet and installation, \$850; air conditioner, \$800; a dishwasher, \$1,200, along with other costs including plumbing and cabinets. The total of \$3,897. The majority of the labor and cleanup was volunteered.

Many people helped and the center opened on Oct. 11, 1977. It began serving meals on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Later the building was purchased by the senior center. The first cooks and managers were Rachael Keller and Ethel Whitten.

Today, the center runs on a tight budget with appropriations from

city and county taxes as well as donations. It is suggested that seniors pay \$3 per meal and visitor and those under the age of 60 pay \$5. Meals are delivered to those unable to come to the center.

It is a place where people come together for a warm, nutritious meal as well as a time for visiting. Often the county health nurse is there for blood pressure and diabetes checks. There are speakers who help keep seniors informed.

The center may be the only outing for some and the only warm meal they get that day. Those at home look forward to the volunteer who delivers their meals three times a week because that may be the only people they see that week.

We know that the senior center is an important part of the community and to the elderly who depend upon it, Mr. Quigley said. We are hoping that everyone comes to the open house and helps us celebrate.

# Writer to hold seminar on Saturday, Oct. 13

Always wanted to write a book? Have a manuscript hidden in your closet?

Grab a pen and dust off that manuscript!

Author Jordyn Redwood will teach a mini-writer's workshop on Saturday, Oct. 13, from noon to 4 p.m. at Cuppa Joe Espresso, 216 W Washington, St. Francis. The workshop will cover the four elements of a novel: structure, emotion, conflict and thought and is suitable for beginning to advanced writers.

"The four elements were a way ancient cultures could understand the building blocks of the universe and catch a glimpse into their own spiritual structure," said Ms. Redwood. "Humans have an inherent understanding of story. It is woven into our DNA."

"Identifying these elements and including them in your story will help the reader resonate with your writing. Come with me to discover these four elements and how to incorporate them into your

works of fiction."

Ms. Redwood is a pediatric emergency room nurse by day, suspense novelist by night. She hosts Redwood's Medical Edge, a blog devoted to helping contemporary and historical authors write medically accurate fiction. She has taught writing at various conferences including the national conference of the American Christian Fiction Writers.

Her debut novel, *Proof*, garnered a starred review from Library Journal and has been endorsed by Dr. Richard Mabry, Lynette Eason and Mike Dellosso. The second book in the Bloodline Trilogy, *Poison*, releases February 2013. Jordyn can be reached via her website at [www.jordynredwood.net](http://www.jordynredwood.net).

There is a fee for the workshop, payable at the event and includes all materials and lunch. Please register by calling Kim Zwegard at 785-332-2487. Registration is required.

# Juggler set to perform in Colby on Oct. 7

Award-winning juggler, dancer and physical comedian Peter Davison is a new one-man show, presenting a magical mix of juggling and jocular for all ages. With original music by Jesse Manno, JUNK! is a celebration of old stuff. In Davison's hands, discarded, seemingly unwanted objects come alive to create fantasies, memories and, most of all, fun!

Peter Davison is a Boulder, Colo., based performer who has toured internationally as a soloist and as a member of the juggling/dance trio Airjazz, with whom he

appeared on The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson. He is a former National Juggling Champion and winner of the Ballet Builders NYC Award for New Choreography.

Davison's diverse virtuoso abilities come together in a one-of-a-kind show appropriate for all ages. His performance in Colby will be Sunday, Oct. 7, at 3 p.m. in the Cultural Arts Center on the Colby Community College campus.

Presented by Western Plains Arts Association, admission is by season ticket or at the door.



SALLY WIECK, left, and Janet Carmen water plants in front of the Old Country Church by the Cheyenne County Museum.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## Behind The Scenes

Museum of Cheyenne County News

### Open house – membership drive

From 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 28, there will be an open house and membership drive at the Cheyenne County Museum. Cider and cookies will be served. A program by "Rough Writers Read" will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Old Country Church in conjunction with the open house.

Become a member of the Historical Society for only \$10. This is an important way to sustain the museum and Old Country Church. Visitors to the museum can walk from room to room experiencing the history of the county. Among the displays are murals and artifacts showing prehistory, a Victorian parlor and music room, a country kitchen and a one-room schoolhouse. Many leave commenting that this is the best little museum they have visited.

### Old Country Church

The Old Country Church on U.S. 36 continues to improve with age. Bill Keller with Stanion

Electric donated light fixtures for the interior. Broken window-panes were replaced and a lexan covering was installed over all windows to protect from hail and wind damage. A new sign, donated by Tom and Sandy Smull, and a cathedral window graphic for the front door were added. Plans are in progress for laying a brick walkway between the old church and museum.

A number of events were held in the church this past year. These include weddings, the Betsy Ross Patriotic Sing-Along on July Fourth (with a guest appearance by Betsy herself), "Rough Writers Read," family reunion, church services for alumni, and Historical Society programs.

### Museum

The museum staff hosted field trips for elementary and high school students during the year.

The July Fourth Ice Cream Social drew a large, enthusiastic crowd to the museum. This was a first-time visit for several guests.

By Janet Carmen



On alumni weekend, volunteers grilled and served brat lunches to over 100 people. Many returning alumni enjoyed visiting and reminiscing as they strolled through the museum viewing artifacts that represent the history of Cheyenne County.

Changing exhibits in the entrance of the museum welcome visitors, and currently there are two special temporary exhibits on display at the museum. One features delicate porcelain and other items from Japan that were collected by Elton and Ella Mae Keller. The other exhibit shows a beautiful collection of Carnival Glass and R.S. Prussia porcelain from the collection of Marvin and Donna Zimbelman.

Mark your calendar for the Oct. 28 open house and take advantage of this opportunity to support the Cheyenne County Museum and Old Country Church.



## St. Francis FFA

### Fruit & Cheese Sale

**Great Christmas Gifts**

Contact any FFA member or call 785-332-8161

## CODY BEESON

for

### Cheyenne County Sheriff

I believe the Sheriff is the public and the public is the Sheriff, Law Enforcement Officers being members of the community who are paid to give full-time attention to duties in the interest of the community's welfare.

To learn more go to Cody Beeson on Facebook.

*Paid for by Cody Beeson*

## Come & Go Baby Shower

for **Joni Thadani**

Saturday, Oct. 6

6 - 8 p.m.

at the home of J.W. & Tonya Milliken,  
239 Birch Street, St. Francis

Joni is registered at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and [target.com](http://target.com)  
Bring a bag or box of diapers for a diaper raffle.  
Joni's colors are seafoam green, pink and chocolate brown AND she likes monkeys!

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2005 Chevy Silverado, K2500 HD, #50842B	\$13,900
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2007 Chevy 3500 HD, Ext. Cab, Diesel, long box	\$23,600
2007 Chevy K-2500 HD, gas, Crew, L. box, #T4551A	\$24,995
2007 Ford F-150 King Ranch, Crew Cab, 69K, #T6497B	\$27,000
2007 Honda Pilot, Fully loaded, #T9712A	\$20,250
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2009 Ford F-150 King Ranch Crew #T6612A	\$31,000
2010 Chevy Cobalt LT, #T1798B	\$13,500
2010 Buick LaCrosse, T7062B	\$24,495
2011 Ford Edge Limited, #T8768A	\$30,000
2011 Chevy Impala LT, 34K, #06614B	\$21,000
2012 Ford Edge Limited, AWD, Leather	\$30,660
2012 Ford F-150 Crew XLT, 1,100 miles, #T9023A	\$36,500

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