

Behind The Scenes

By
Janet
Carman



Creativity group has a new home

The new home for the Cheyenne Center for Creativity is 109 N. Quincy. Board members of the organization agreed that this facility matched the purposes of their organization. In order to launch this effort, they decided to "step out" and sign a rental contract for six months with an option to renew annually.

One room of the recently remodeled facility has beautiful wood floors and a hammered tin ceiling, making it the perfect setting for art shows, movie nights, gatherings and performances. An adjacent room has tiled floors and is well suited for workshops and classes.

The idea for the Cheyenne Center for Creativity began a year ago, as a result of conversations among a number of local people, some of whom had retired to the St. Francis area.

The terms art and art community repeatedly popped into these discussions. They believed an active art and cultural environment not only improved the quality of life for citizens of small towns, but also attracted people seeking to relocate or retire. After considering the cultural assets of the community and the many talented individuals in the area, a team of enthusiastic people formed the Cheyenne Center for Creativity, CC4C for short, now incorporated as a not-for-profit organization.

Last year, while looking for a physical location to serve as a hub for activities and programs, the members organized two successful events: "Draggin' Main, A New Twist," an Art Walk held on Friday, June 15, of Alumni Weekend. Over 25 individuals displayed their artwork or performed music while alumni and residents enjoyed several hours of art, entertainment, and refreshments provided by local organizations.

"Shakespeare, Socrates and Mark," held Nov. 9-11 in coordination with the high school. Students and adults enjoyed dramatist Patrick McWilliams' workshops and outstanding one-man performances. This

was the first event hosted at Quincy Street, which made it possible to see how the facility would work as a home for Cheyenne Center For Creativity.

Plans are now underway for several 2013 programs, most to be held at 109 N. Quincy:

February 17 - 2:30-4:00 p.m., Center for Creativity open house

March 10 - Glass Fusing 101

March 14 - Kids Open Art Day

April 10 - Adult Canvas and Coffee

April 27 - Kansas Walk, Run & Rock for RSD/CRPS Cure classes.

April/May - Mommy and Me "Handi-Platter" Art Day

June 15 - Art Walk in conjunction with Alumni Reunion and St. Francis' 125th Birthday

Cinema Sundays - 2 p.m. weekly

Join the team at CC4C. Your donations of time, talent and resources are invaluable assets to promoting creativity in our community.

Here are ways you can get involved:

Become a business or corporate sponsor or co-sponsor. These sponsorships would be deductible as an advertising expense: one month sponsorship - \$300; one month co-sponsorship - \$150.

Share your talents. Let CC4C know if you are interested in teaching classes, conducting workshops or performing.

Let CC4C know what art and cultural activities and opportunities you would like to see in the community.

Help with utilities, ads and other expenses.

For more information contact anyone on the CC4C Team: Janet Carman, Sue Griffin, Dianna Padgett, Bonnie Cram, Helene Landenberger, Carol Redding, Kay Shay, Kim and Kary Zweygardt, Louanne Isernhagen, Samantha Beeson, Joe Caldert.

Website: cc4creativity.org; mailing address: P.O. Box 674, St. Francis, KS 67756

Annual meeting

Thirty-six members and guests of the Cheyenne County Historical Society attended the Society's annual meeting Jan. 21 at the senior center. President Lea Keller called the meeting to order. Sandy Smull, secretary, read minutes of the 2012 annual meeting. Treasurer, Sally Wieck gave the treasurer's report and presented the proposed 2013 budget.

Members voted for the three board positions that were up for election. Those elected were vice president, Janet Carman; treasurer, Sally Wieck; trustee, Joy Fisher.

Director report

Sally reported that new items are displayed: a wooden rake and scythe used to harvest wheat; Japanese items from Elton and Ella Mae Keller's collection; Prussian glass from Marvin and Donna Zimbleman's collection. Ms. Wieck encouraged use of the old country church for reunions, meetings, weddings and other special events. The suggested donation for using the church is \$50.

Sally resigned as museum director. The Historical Society expressed their appreciation for her three years of service.

New appointments for the job are Sandy Smull and Janet Carman. They will volunteer their time and urge anyone interested in the museum to join the team. Opportunities abound: greeting visitors, researching history, assembling and updating displays, painting, cleaning, and creating signs and labels.

Upcoming projects

President Keller listed projects on the agenda: installing back steps for the old church; constructing a brick sidewalk from the museum to the church using bricks donated by the city; cleaning and renovating displays at the museum. Cleaning days have been scheduled for the first and third Wednesdays of March, April and May at 9 a.m. Volunteers are welcome to give any time they can on those days.

The museum has tentatively scheduled the first week of June to sponsor "A Night at the Museum" open house where displays

will come alive to highlight the history of St. Francis!

Guest speaker

After adjournment guest speaker, Dan Busse, presented a very interesting program "What and Who Were Here Before the Pioneers." Dan told the group that Cheyenne County is rich in archaeological sites. He displayed a cache of tools used for butchering that dates back 12,000 years. He made this amazing discovery while fixing fence on his property in the 1960s.

The artifacts have been examined by KU specialists and displayed at a museum in France. Most likely early Caucasians who traveled the ancient "Traders' Trail" stored these tools at this spot until next hunting season. Dan explained that new studies of skull structure reveal that three different races inhabited prehistoric North America: Caucasian, Mongoloid and Samoan.

Dan spoke briefly about General Custer, the Kidder Massacre and the part railroads played in the history of this region.

The Historical Society encourages the community to support the Cheyenne County Museum by becoming "Friends of the Museum". Thank you to the 30-plus people who already have become "Friends" by donating \$25 or more. Their names will be displayed at the Museum. Thanks also to the following local businesses which have become "Friends:" Uptown Meat Market, UMC Thrift Store and Schultz's.

Memorial recipient

Consider naming the Cheyenne County Museum Complex (old church and museum) as a memorial recipient. Every dollar donated ensures maintenance and improvement of the museum and old church and preservation of the history of Cheyenne County. The Cheyenne County Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization, so all donations are tax deductible.

Donations may be sent to PO Box 611, St. Francis, KS 67756.

Obituaries

Peggy Elaine (Fuller) Smith

May 2, 1949 - Jan. 30, 2013

Peggy Elaine (Fuller) Smith was born May 2, 1949, in St. Francis, Kan., the second daughter of Wm. O. and Belva (Anderson) Fuller. She died in her sleep at home in Thornton, Colo., on Jan. 30, 2013.



Smith

Peggy grew up on the family farm south of St. Francis, raising bucket calves and riding horses, learning to drive the tractor, and studying piano, along with her sisters. She attended grade school at Lawn Ridge District 112, a rural school located near her home, and completed her education at St. Francis Community High School in St. Francis, graduating with the class of 1967. Most recently, Peggy attended Westwood College in 2005 to update and refresh her medical assistant certification.

In November 1967, Peggy married Robert A. (Bob) Smith from St. Francis. Bob was drafted to serve in the U.S. Army shortly afterwards and Peggy's life as an Army wife began. Their daughter Stacey was born in 1968 at Riverton General Hospital in Seattle, Wash.

Upon Bob's discharge from the Army, the family moved back to St. Francis where Bob farmed and Peggy began working at the local hospital. A family member encouraged

Peggy to enter the medical field of kidney dialysis and her lifelong career as a dialysis technician began.

In the late 1970s the family left St. Francis for Denver, Colo., where Bob found work he enjoyed as a truck driver, and Peggy continued working in the field of hemodialysis, helping hundreds of patients to lead a better life.

Bob and Peggy enjoyed spending time with their grandchildren, Tre and Analyse, as they participated in sports and many other outdoor activities. They frequently visited Boondocks and enjoyed eating at Applebees.

Peggy was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Bob in 2010, and infant grandson Darian Lucas.

Surviving family members include her daughter Stacey Falanga and husband Eddy, grandchildren Tre and Analyse of Henderson, Colo.; sister Linda Carmichael of Lakewood, Colo.; and sister Rita (Dan) Stephens of St. Francis.

Memorial services are scheduled for Friday, Feb. 8, at 9 a.m. mountain time at DeWitt and Tabler Funeral Home, 12114 Grant Circle, Thornton, CO with inurnment to follow at Ft. Logan National Cemetery, 4400 W. Kenyon Avenue, Denver, Colo.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family and sent to the funeral home, or directed to the Cheyenne County Hospital in St. Francis.

Betty Marle Raile Meads

May 1, 1925 - Jan. 18, 2013

Betty Marle Raile Meads, 87, died Friday, Jan. 18, 2013, surrounded by her family.

She was born May 1, 1925, in St. Francis, Kan., to the late George and Adelia "May" Raile-Kramer.

In spirit, Betty was a devoted member of Ben Davis Christian Church. Besides her family one of her greatest joys in life, was to stay connected with family and friends. She was an avid writer who touched many lives with her cards and special notes.

She is survived by her children, Denise L. Hay (Bill Bailey) and

Michael A (Teri) Meads. Loving grandchildren, Danielle (Chris) Whitlock, Ryan Hay, and Morgan Hay, Aaron Wilson, Brandon Wilson, and Alan Jones, and great-grandchildren, Dylan and Dane.

She is survived by her brother, Ronald (Sharon) Kramer of Kearney, Neb. She was preceded in death by her husband, Russel L. Meads and sister, Lois Rae Raile Link.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, Jan. 23, at Conkie Avon Chapel with burial following at Lincoln Memory Gardens.

Wendell "Bus" Wickwar

May 7, 1921 - Jan. 26, 2013

Wendell D. Wickwar, known to many as Bus or Buster, died on Jan. 26, 2013, at his home in San Antonio, Texas. He is survived by his wife Charlotte (Dally) of 72 years, his sons Larry and Rodney of San Antonio and Kansas City respectively, his daughters-in-law, Donna and Susan, his brother James of Nixa, Mo., his brother Gary of St. Francis, and his sister Relda O'Learnick of Eaton, Colo. He leaves four grandchildren: David, Steven and Jay Wickwar and Michele Knapp. There are seven great-grandchildren: Lauren, Samantha, Hayden, Cole, Luke, Audrey and April.

Wendell was born in Goodland,

Kan., on May 7, 1921. His father James Butler Wickwar, his mother Emma (Seine), a brother William, and two sisters Margaret and Bonnie pre-deceased him.

Wendell spent about 15 years managing a dryland farm in St. Francis where he was innovative in developing a business raising male dairy calves as beef cattle. He had a second career working in the powerplant industry in Denver, Colo., where he advanced to a supervisor position from which he retired.

Wendell (Bus), with his dry sense of humor, will be missed.

A small memorial service for immediate family will be held in San Antonio.

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Valentine's Night Special
8 oz Ribeye with 3 Shrimp - \$19.95

Chicken Divan - \$15.95

Served with twice baked potato, salad or soup, dessert and coffee or tea

Notice

For the tax year 2013 a study by the Cheyenne County Appraisers Office of the vacant, residential and commercial real estate indicated that the market is stable with no general upward or downward trend.

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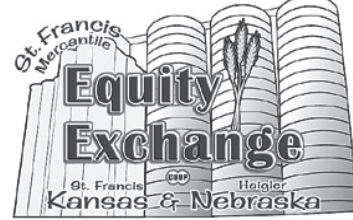
Introduces New Employee

Matt Nelson
Spray Rig Operator
Fertilizer Department



Matt has over 3 years experience in spray rigs and fertilizer application. During his high school years, he worked for a local farmer. Matt graduated from Association Free Lutheran Bible College in 2012.

"I'm glad to be here - glad to be back near my family, Randy and Brenda Nelson, and excited about starting the spring season with the new applicator the company's getting. I am looking forward to meeting and working with area producers"



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Notice

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Contact Eric Fiala at

785-332-3031

or 785-332-3142.

Contact before

Feb. 18, 2013

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