

GUIDE TO CHEYENNE

2024-2025

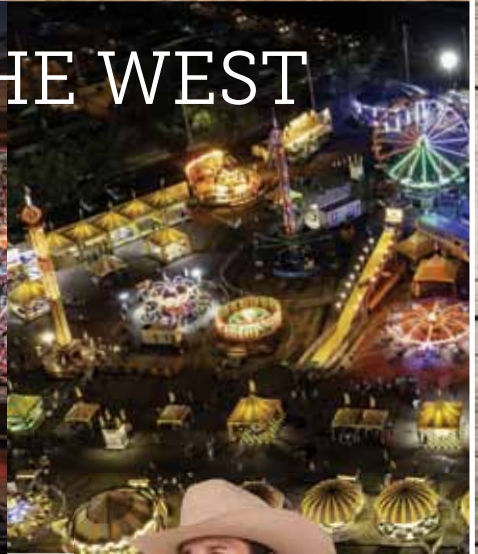


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Welcome To Cheyenne

In 1867 the City of Cheyenne was established. Within five months of its startup, the city boasted a population of over 4,000 people and earned its rightful nickname "The Magic City of the Plains." Although we currently have a population of over 65,000 residents, we enjoy seeing new faces, hearing your stories from other places, and watching each of you revel in the magic of our fair city.

The City of Cheyenne is inextricably linked with the military. In fact, the city was "born" on the same day Fort D.A. Russell (now Francis E. Warren Air Force Base) was selected as a site for an Army Post. As the saying goes, our military roots run deep, wherein Cheyenne is home to the Wyoming Air Guard, Army National Guard, and the only National Veteran's Cemetery in the state of Wyoming. We value our military personnel and deeply appreciate all those who serve(d).

While you are here, we invite you to enjoy the sights and wonders around town, which will tell you about the rich history of our great community. On many corners throughout downtown, you will find 62 bronze statues that honor the heritage of both our city and state. More than \$2 million was generously donated to showcase renowned authors, iconic photographers, early explorers, and family matriarchs and patriarchs who left behind a worthwhile legacy. If you have a moment, walk around our downtown area and learn more about each statue's importance. Also, don't forget to take a picture of your favorite one!

Our parks and Greenway system are some of the best trails you will find. We have a 47-mile, non-motorized Greenway path that allows hikers, bikers, skateboarders, and strollers to navigate around the city. We have numerous public and private museums, including the Wyoming State Museum, the Historic Governor's Mansion, and the Old West Museum. Our state Capitol recently completed a monumental renovation and restoration in 2019 and the results are remarkable. I encourage you to visit my favorite addition to the community — the Grand Conservatory and Orangerie at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens located in Lions Park. We also have a High Plains Arboretum that sits at an elevation of 6,200 feet and is one of our hidden gems.

Another fan favorite we're notably famous for is hosting a 10-day rodeo experience you won't find anywhere else. Every year during the last full week of July, our city attracts half a million cowboys and cowgirls from all over the country to take part in Cheyenne Frontier Days™, also known as the "Daddy of 'em All"®. This annual western celebration is the largest outdoor rodeo in the world and is the pride of our town! For an entire week and a half, visitors enjoy our parades, pancake breakfasts, nightly concerts with the biggest names in country music, Championship Bull Riding, western art shows, Native American art and cultural festivities, and of course, the famous award-winning rodeo itself.

Here in Cheyenne, we take pride in cultural and recreational opportunities as well. Our Civic Center, which houses the Cheyenne Symphony Orchestra, offers numerous productions for all age groups. Productions from the Cheyenne Little Theatre are some of the finest you will ever attend, with performances shared between the Mary Godfrey Theater and the Historic Atlas Theater. However, the historic Union Pacific depot is the crown jewel of our downtown...Since the first train rolled into town over 150 years ago, Cheyenne and Union Pacific have been very close partners. We are thankful for our humble beginnings; being a start-up community that was created due to the expansion of the railroad. In honor of our history, we implore you to visit our Historic Depot and Plaza and learn more about our transcontinental contributions. Feel free to pose next to our Big Boots and share your photos instantly using the free public Wi-Fi we offer within the plaza's range.

On behalf of the City of Cheyenne's Governing Body and the residents of Cheyenne, welcome to the "Magic City of the Plains." We hope your time here is both magical and memorable and you decide to visit again soon!

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Magic City of the Plains

Cheyenne, Wyoming, "The Magic City of the Plains," is the State's Capital as well as home to one of the nation's foremost military installations, F.E. Warren Air Force Base, and host to the largest outdoor rodeo in America, Cheyenne Frontier Days™.

With a population of over 65,000 people, Cheyenne has become an anchor in the growing economy of the Front Range of the Rockies. It is home to numerous museums, art galleries, theaters, parks and Laramie County Community College. Some of the best outdoor recreation and scenery in the country is within an hour's drive of

the city. Cheyenne maintains the charm of the Old West, while still offering all of the amenities of a modern city.


"The Magic City of the Plains" sprang into existence in 1867, when General Grenville Dodge of the Union Pacific Railroad established a tent city here for workers of the first transcontinental railroad. Shortly thereafter, Army General C.C. Auger established Fort D.A. Russell for the protection of the growing new community. Soon settlers began to arrive and brought with them new cultures, as well as new businesses, which included cattle, trading and mining. This influx of new people to the open prairie forever altered the lifestyle of many of the nomadic Plains Indians, including the Cheyenne, after whom the city was named.

The Transcontinental Railroad, eventually connecting both coasts, was the first modern mode of transportation linking Cheyenne to the rest of the country. Today, Cheyenne remains a major hub for interstate transportation with I-25 North and South, and I-80 East and West.

We welcome you to Cheyenne, whether you are just visiting or planning to stay. We know you'll love it here as much as we do.

While you're in Cheyenne, pick up a FREE copy of Trader's Shopper's Guide, our weekly community paper, available at over 130 locations area wide or log on to our website, www.wyotraders.com.

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For your convenience, circled numbers appear in each of the advertisements in this guide and correspond to our business locator and map on pages 60 and 61. ■

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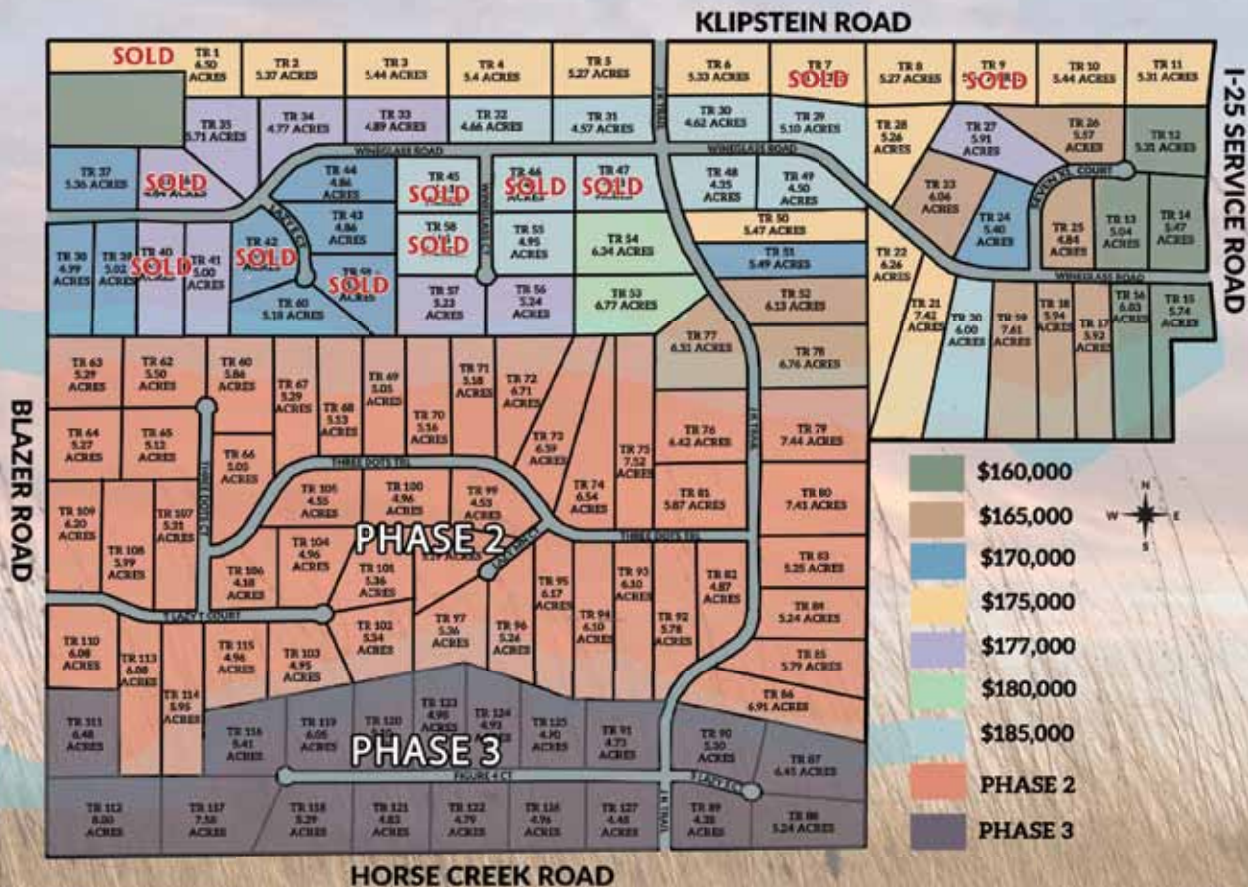
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The Wyoming State Capitol

The Wyoming Capitol, the state's architectural crown jewel, beckons visitors to experience firsthand the over 130-year history of the People's House.

An extensive four-year rehabilitation project, completed in 2019, restored the Capitol's historic grandeur while modernizing the building's systems, addressing code and life safety issues, and increasing public meeting space.

This invasive work created a rare opportunity to restore historic features and uncover elements throughout the building that had not been seen for decades. Removal of suspended ceiling tiles exposed arches, decorative paint, crown moldings, coffered ceilings, and decorative column capitals and revealed original ceiling heights. The entire building is worth exploring, but here are the top five must-see stops:

The Rotunda

Artisans recreated the spectacular 1888 trompe l'oeil finishes in the rotunda and monumental corridors. Trompe l'oeil means to "fool the eye" and is a painting style creating a three-dimensional effect.

The Four Sisters

Visitors can enjoy the "Four Sisters," a group of allegorical bronze sculptures representing Truth, Justice, Courage, and Hope standing guard in four niches on the third floor of the Rotunda. These niches sat empty for 130 years until the statuary was commissioned for the restoration.

These niches sat empty for 130 years until the statuary was commissioned for the restoration.

Historic Supreme Court Chamber

The Wyoming Capitol earned its National Historic Landmark status for its importance in the history of women's suffrage. In 1889, the state's constitution was

signed in this chamber, becoming the first state in the nation to affirm women's right to vote, hold office, and sit on juries. The restoration of ornate decorative elements make this chamber unique. The extensive trompe l'oeil paint in a vibrant color palette dates back to 1888. From the restored balcony, visitors can examine the Capitol's oldest and most elaborate chandelier, which hangs underneath a jewel-like stained glass lay light.

The Vaults

On the garden level's east side, a 12,000 lb. vault door from the 1920s is displayed. The restoration uncovered vibrant oil paintings on six other vault doors located in the center of this level, while an exhibit on the west side details the exterior restoration.

Notable Leaders

The bronze sculptures of Esther Hobart Morris, who was the nation's first female justice of the peace, and Chief Washakie, leader of the Eastern Shoshone people, are located near the future site of an interpretive center in the Capitol Extension.

The Capitol is open for self-guided tours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except state holiday closures and on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Memorial Day-Labor Day. ■

Capitol photos courtesy of Debbie Martinez





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Cowgirls of The West

In 1995 the Cowgirls of the West, 501c(3) non-profit organization, was formed. Under the guidance of one of the founding ladies, Gerrie Bishop, the group has grown to nearly 200 members. The mission of the Cowgirls is to provide a free museum where the public may learn of the rich heritage of women and their role in settling the Wild West that continues to this day. The museum and gift shop are located at 203/205 West 17th Street in downtown Cheyenne.

The Cowgirls sponsor a monthly luncheon/program during the months of September through May. The programs feature historical ranch history, cowboy and

cowgirl history and many stories of the families who homesteaded or founded businesses in the West. All events are open to the public as the Cowgirls of the West continue in their role to help educate and share the rich history of the area. Women's suffrage is also featured in our museum. There is a plaque on 17th Street, downtown Cheyenne, honoring the women who won the right to vote. The Cowgirls of the West membership of women and men host their major fundraiser brunch and fashion show on the first Monday of Frontier Days™. This fundraiser enables our volunteers to open the museum free of charge during the months of May thru September. This year, the brunch will be on July 22, 2024, held in the Grand Ballroom at Little America. The brunch is the major event for ladies attending Frontier Days™, hosting nearly 600 women and men. Our membership does not require that you rope or ride but that you have the Spirit of the West inside. Our museum was noted in the New York Times, Cowboys and Indians and several other magazines as a place not to be missed when visiting Wyoming. We welcome school groups or other groups interested in history. If your group would like to visit please call 307-638-4994 or write to P. O. Box 525, Cheyenne, WY 82003. ■



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The Cheyenne Depot and Plaza

Don't miss visiting the heart of our community since 1886, the Union Pacific Depot. This National Historic landmark is centrally located in the center of downtown Cheyenne. The Cheyenne Depot and Plaza hosts free events from May through December. The Cheyenne Hispanic Festival, The Cheyenne Celtic Musical Arts Festival, Rhythm by the Rails and Fridays on the Plaza are recognized throughout Wyoming and Colorado. Residents and area visitors enjoy the downtown Cheyenne area for these cultural and nightlife experiences year after year.

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Designed in Richardsonian Romanesque style and constructed from polychromatic sandstone, the Union Pacific Depot is widely acknowledged to be one of the most beautiful railroad stations in North America. The Depot is next to the very active main line of Union Pacific, with over 90 trains passing through each day. The Union Pacific Steam Shop is home to the famous Big Boy 4014, 844 and 3985 steam locomotives.

The Transcontinental Railroad map embedded in the terrazzo floor of the Cheyenne Depot lobby is just one of the building's highlights. The original wood benches in the lobby still bear the cigarette burns from soldiers in transport. The "Coupler Building" is a gorgeous addition to the Depot. The building serves as a beautiful viewing

area of trains passing by and an entrance to the second floor baggage attic where the world famous Union Central and Northern HNo3 Model Railroad resides. Built

over 30 years by Harry Brunk, this unique 65-foot layout replicates the Colorado and Southern narrow gauge railroads along Clear Creek in Colorado. The towns of Blackhawk, Idaho Springs, Silver Plume and Georgetown are replicated in exquisite detail on this fabulous model.

Ignite the spirit in your summer; experience the romance of the railroad and

join us in celebrating the Union Pacific Depot and all that it represents.

For more information about the museum or Depot events, please contact the Cheyenne Depot Museum at 307-632-3905 or visit our website at www.cheyennedepotmuseum.org. If you are traveling, stop by Cheyenne's Visitor's Center, located in the Cheyenne Depot lobby, where you can pick up information on area attractions, lodging and the downtown walking tour. ■





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Cheyenne Bronze Statue Project

Visitors to downtown Cheyenne will enjoy exploring a variety of unique pieces of outdoor art, including brightly painted eight-foot-tall cowboy boots and giant outdoor murals. The most recent addition to the downtown art scene features several bronze sculptures that are part of the Capitol Avenue Bronze Project, a community endeavor that seeks to honor the history and heritage of Cheyenne and the state of Wyoming.

More than a decade ago, Cheyenne businessman Harvey Deselms, proprietor of Deselms Fine Art, envisioned adding a series of art pieces to downtown Cheyenne that celebrate the legacy of the area in a format that will last for generations to come. Visits to other communities in the region led Deselms to embrace bronze statuary as the most appropriate medium, given the durability of the material, and its association with western culture.

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The idea rested in Deselms' imagination for almost 10 years. Then in 2020, Deselms discovered that Patrick Collins, now Cheyenne's mayor, shared a parallel vision of bringing more art into downtown, and the Capitol Avenue Bronze Project was conceived. A commission was formed to oversee the project and solicit donations from the community. The response was overwhelming.

"This project is a great example of creating 'pride of place'," according to Deselms. "Our city, and the entire state of Wyoming share a special place in the history of the American West, and this is a way to leave a lasting legacy through art. As visitors make their way between the depot and the capitol, they have an opportunity to visit one of our many locally owned businesses. Downtown Cheyenne really has a lot to offer."

The original plan was to install a statue on every street corner along Capitol Avenue from the former Union Pacific Depot, all the way to the state capitol, 28 in total. That goal has been exceeded, we now have 62 statues in place and 17 more lined up for 2024.



The statues convey stories of the region, and feature famous historical figures, explorers, settlers, Native Americans, animals, and scenes from everyday life. Each statue sits on a pedestal crafted from bricks matching those of the historic UP depot. Each one features a tribute plaque with an image description, as well as donor, and tribute information if applicable. Local and regional artists have been recruited to sculpt the pieces.

The project continues to develop, expanding to many more corners of Downtown Cheyenne, far exceeding the 28 hoped for on Capital Avenue just 3 short years ago.

Please contact Harvey at Deselms Fine Art for maps and more information, call 307-432-0606 or email deselmsart@aol.com. There are more corners to fill, if you are interested in sponsoring a bronze please call or come by Deselms, 303 E. 17th Street in Cheyenne and visit.

When you are in downtown Cheyenne take time to enjoy this unique outdoor art exhibit. QR codes are being installed on each bronze to scan and give the history of the piece. ■

Quebec 01 Historic Site



Dotted across the prairies of Wyoming, hidden in plain sight, was one of the most destructive and accurate weapons systems designed by the United States: the Peacekeeper Missile.

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The facility is open for summer season starting the first part of May.

FOR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR MORE INFORMATION 21
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The Cheyenne Regional Airport

The Cheyenne Regional Airport is a tremendous asset to both local residents and the city economy. With daily commercial flights to and from Denver International Airport via SkyWest, the regional carrier of United Express, the airport offers Cheyenne residents an attractive alternative to driving to DIA. "The two-hour drive to Denver may not seem like much at the start of a trip," said Tim Bradshaw, director of aviation at Cheyenne Regional Airport, "but when I'm coming home, the last thing I want to do is drive I-25. Flying into Cheyenne means I'm five minutes away from my home, from my

bed, from my dog." Add to that the relief of not having to push through crowds at the baggage claim, pay a heavy parking fee or fight traffic all the way home.

Flying out of Cheyenne is also pleasant and convenient. Cheyenne residents can park their cars free in the airport's newly expanded lot. The Cheyenne airport's 26,000 square foot terminal, completed in 2018, is comfortable and attractive, and passengers who fly Cheyenne breeze through the fast and easy security check here and don't have to endure DIA's interminable serpentine security lines.

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Finally, thanks to the new boarding bridge at the Cheyenne airport, passengers don't have to get out in the elements to get on or off a plane. "It has heat and air conditioning, which not only keeps passengers comfortable, but provides temperature control to the airplane as well," Bradshaw said. "The plane doesn't have to keep running with its auxiliary engines. It makes the airplane comfortable too."

Once aboard and in the air on a 50-passenger plane, travelers find themselves landing at DIA within just 17 minutes. But there's more to the Cheyenne Regional Airport than the convenience it offers local residents. "So



often we think about where people want to go," said Bradshaw, "but think about people who want to come to Cheyenne. Anybody

can come here. With a click of a mouse, people in Sri Lanka can come here for Cheyenne Frontier Days™." And for every dollar the airport brings in, the community benefits about \$7 in economic activity, he said. Visitors spend their money on lodging, dining, entertainment and shopping.



The airport terminal is the first thing a visitor sees in a city, Bradshaw said, calling it the "gateway to a community." Therefore, its appeal is important. "We wanted the terminal to reflect Wyoming and Cheyenne," he said. "That's why it's decorated with a lot of local artwork to reflect the culture, so people from other countries can get a feel for what Wyoming is."

In addition to all it offers travelers, the Cheyenne Regional Airport is "an important tool in the city's economic tool box," according to Bradshaw, as it serves people who are doing business in Cheyenne or expanding their business here. "Corporation site selectors look for building locations that have air service," he said. "It's one of the top criteria." Betsey Hale, chief executive officer of Cheyenne LEADS, Laramie County's economic development corporation, confirmed the importance of the airport to attracting business. "The most important thing is that we have a commercial service airport," she said, explaining that many prospective companies look for easy access to Denver, and company principals who are considering a project here like to fly into Cheyenne. "Not everyone wants to drive in from Denver," Hale said.



The airport also appeals to corporations because of the convenience it affords their employees. "Construction workers on projects on site here aren't residents," said Hale, "but they like to have a way to get in and out of town to get back home to their families." "Having a world-class airport is critical from an economic development perspective," she concluded.

"It's important for the community to realize the significance of the airport and to support it," Bradshaw summarized. "We lose 97% of our traffic to Denver. People get in and drive — for different reasons. We just ask people to look at us first." ■



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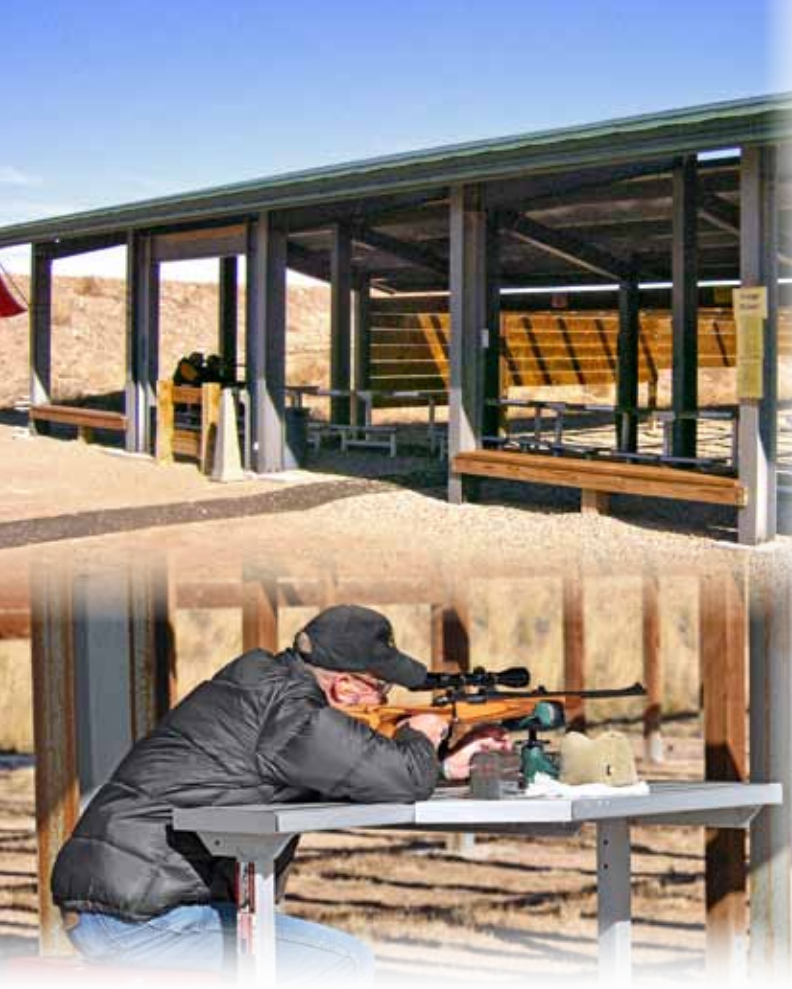
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Laramie County Shooting Sports Complex

Laramie County Shooting Sports Complex (LCSSC), Wyoming's premier public shooting range, welcomes the general public to the shooting facility. Laramie County Shooting Sports Complex, located at the Archer Exit (exit 370) off of Interstate 80 near Cheyenne, offers shooters facilities for pistol, rifle, shotgun, air gun and archery recreational activities. The range's indoor facilities include an expanded 50' pistol/small bore rifle range,

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Laramie County Shooting Sports Complex
13802 Bullseye Blvd. • 775-7484

Just East of Cheyenne Off the Archer Exit

www.LaramieCounty.com



36



HOURS OF OPERATION
Tuesday-Friday: 10-8
Sat: 10-6 • Sun: 10-4
— Closed Monday —

Bowsim 4D Archery Cinema, air gun/archery range, classroom and small shooting sports supplies shop. Outdoor facilities include a 100-yard rifle range, 50-meter pistol/rifle range, and a 25-yard pistol range. Two voice activated trap fields are completed and operational. We also offer outdoor archery up to 60 yards.

BOWSIM 4D ARCHERY CINEMA

The LCSSC is operated by Laramie County for the purpose of being accessible to everyone. The range can be used on an hourly pass basis, or a yearly access fee can be purchased for families and individuals who participate in recreational shooting activities more frequently. To honor military, law enforcement, veterans and seniors of the community, discounts are given on yearly access fees.

LCSSC provides the public with many firearms training courses, including NRA Basic Pistol, Rifle, and Shotgun courses. Range Safety Officer, Refuse to be a Victim, Concealed Carry Education, Home Firearm's Safety, Archery, Women's Only, and Firearms Instructor courses are also available, as well as more advanced firearms training.

Providing safe, fun recreational shooting opportunities are the primary goals of LCSSC staff and volunteers. Some of these activities include themed shooting events for Halloween, Valentine's Day, Thanksgiving, Veteran's Day, etc. Watch for these fun events! Everyone is welcome to participate.

Wide ranges of recreational shooting programs are also available at LCSSC. Children's programs include 4-H Shooting Sports, Post 6 Shooting Sports and Girl and Boy Scouts of America. The children of the community are given the opportunity to learn safety first, while enjoying recreational shooting activities.



LCSSC also offers NRA/Winchester Marksmanship programs for rifle and pistol shooters (junior and adult), as well as Wyoming Game and Fish Hunter Education classes. Other anticipated fun activities may include leagues and a bowling night (shoot bowling pins for points and prizes).

LCSSC provides the community a high-quality, first-class shooting experience. Its goal is to make the Laramie County Shooting Sports Complex a community center for recreational shooting activities, along with firearms education. The range emphasizes firearms safety, youth programs, corporate events, recreational and competitive shooting.

Join the fun at Laramie County Shooting Sports Complex, 13802 Bullseye Blvd., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009. 307-775-7484. Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **GIVE IT A SHOT!** ■

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Cheyenne LEADS

When people think of Wyoming, they typically imagine cowboys, western heritage, and Cheyenne Frontier Days™—things the state proudly embraces. However, Cheyenne, Wyoming, with its nearly 100,000 residents (comprising Laramie County), is so much more.

Cheyenne's quality of life is what most people only hope for - restaurants and shopping opportunities, low crime rates, great outdoor spaces, blue skies, good schools, clean air, and an involved community.

With shovel-ready business parks, an average commute of 14 minutes, workforce training grants, and a labor shed of over 183,000, Cheyenne is also an attractive location for business. Did we mention that Wyoming is consistently ranked #1 by the Tax Foundation's State Business Tax Climate Index due to a favorable tax model of no state corporate tax, inventory tax, or individual income tax?

Even in tough times, Wyoming remains open for business and continues to welcome those, both employers and employees, looking to





leave other states. As the economic development organization for Cheyenne and Laramie County, Cheyenne LEADS has a dedicated staff whose focus is strengthening both the local and state economy through their work with businesses, entrepreneurs, and workforce.

LEADS recently welcomed Eagle Claw Fishing Tackle, which will begin operations this year. Additionally, a groundbreaking ceremony was held in November for a new 20,000 square foot facility for UMC Innovation in the shovel-ready North Range Business Park. Cheyenne is already

home to companies such as Microsoft, Searing Industries, Stag Arms, EchoStar, as well as Lowe's and Walmart Distribution Centers. As the world continues to change,

businesses are increasingly considering Wyoming, particularly Cheyenne, as a desirable location for relocating their companies.

For over 37 years, Cheyenne LEADS has been part of an effort to help thoughtfully build and diversify Cheyenne

and Laramie County's economy. To learn more, visit Cheyenneleads.org. ■



THRIVE IN CHEYENNE

Not only is Cheyenne a great place to live, Wyoming also ranks #1 for the best Overall Tax Climate, State Business Tax Climate & Corporate Tax Structure by the Tax Foundation's 2023 State Business Climate Index

And you pay NO Individual State Income Tax so you keep more of your paycheck!

You also keep more of your time with an average commute time of only 14 minutes.

Learn more about the opportunities of living, working and doing business in Cheyenne & Laramie County at CheyenneLEADS.org



Cheyenne LEADS

The Cheyenne-Laramie County Corporation for Economic Development

75



Cheyenne Frontier Days™ Daddy of 'em All®

Each July, thousands of visitors descend on our friendly western town to enjoy the World's Largest Outdoor Rodeo and Western Celebration. The Daddy of 'em All® celebrates its 128th year as the leader of rodeo action. Top rodeo cowboys and cowgirls from around the world will compete for cash and prizes, during the 2024 rodeo season.

Cheyenne Frontier Days™ (CFD) began in 1897. The "Magic City of the Plains" needed a tourism boost. In late August, Frederick Angier, Traveling Passenger Agent of the Union Pacific Railroad, approached Colonel E.A. Slack, editor of the Cheyenne Sun-Leader, about staging an event in Cheyenne that would attract train passengers from Colorado. Angier cited successful excursions earlier that summer to Loveland, Colorado, for Corn Day and Greeley, Colorado, for Potato Day.

Angier and Slack convinced the new mayor, William M. Schnitger, and local businessmen to have the first Frontier Day on September 23. The first CFD committee was formed to develop an event that would attract visitors and attention to Cheyenne. They had less than one month to publicize it and some critics said it wouldn't amount to much. They were mistaken.

Cheyenne Frontier Days™ has grown from a small event into the World's Largest Outdoor Rodeo and Western Celebration. For Cheyenne, it is the biggest attraction a city could hope to create. Visitors from all over the na-

tion and different parts of the world travel to Wyoming each July to take part in the Daddy of 'em All®.

Historically, the rodeo has been the main event of Cheyenne Frontier Days™. Other activities have come and gone through the years. Baseball games were popular during the first years. Riding, roping and bison wrestling were also part of the week's events. Until the mid-1920s, non-rodeo activities took place downtown. In 1927,

the licenses for street-side entertainment were denied, and the midway and carnivals began. In 1929, Frontier Nights® opened as an evening attraction. Visitors could also gamble in false saloons or spend the evening in the dance hall.

Beginning in the early 1930s, an increasing number of celebrities began to attend the festivities. Actors came to have fun and promote their new films. In the 1950s and 1960s, stars from television westerns participated in Cheyenne Frontier Days™.

Native Americans weren't a part of the first event, but public demand brought them to the second annual Cheyenne Frontier Days™. Shoshones from the Wind River Reservation took part in the early years. By the late 1920s, Oglala Lakotas represented the Native Americans. The Southern Plains Indian Dancers participated for the first time in 1980 and they returned each year until 1996. Several different groups have taken part since 1997, including the Wind River Dancers and the Little Sun Drum and Dance Group.



Parades have long been a part of CFD, and the early parades featured cowboys and military regiments. Dazee Bristol, a prominent citizen and CFD volunteer, designed floats for the parades and created saloons and a lynching bee. Some of these historic floats can still be seen in the parades.

Through all the changes, the rodeo has been the heart of it all. By the 1920s, two- or three-women's events were included in the rodeo. The economy and World War II changed women's roles, and by 1948 women's events were no longer part of CFD. In 1973, barrel racing was offered and then dropped after 1981; and brought back as a night show feature in 1991. CFD featured Women's Breakaway Roping for the first time in 2019.



The rodeos have brought fame and glory as well as tragedy and sadness to Cheyenne. In 1989, bull rider Lane Frost was killed after completing one of his best rides during that year's Cheyenne Frontier Days™. A statue now stands in tribute to his life and legacy outside the Old West Museum.

Cheyenne Frontier Days™ is a special gathering, and it couldn't happen without volunteers who donate their time and effort to the event. Tasks range from sorting stock; caring for the world's largest horse-drawn carriage collection and a remarkable period clothing collection; mucking horse stalls; directing traffic; manning gates; the care of a large media contingent; serving as hosts to the tens of thousands of spectators who enjoy the variety of events; the care and maintenance of an 88-acre park with barns, grandstands, exhibit halls, food facilities and arenas and thousands of other grizzly little details that must be accomplished for the event to succeed.

Visitors from around the globe make Cheyenne Frontier Days™ a destination for an authentic Western experience, and a learning opportunity about the history and culture of the West. The past 128 years have seen millions of people travel to Cheyenne to experience this great event located in the heart of the American West. Join us July 19-28 as we celebrate the Year of the Cow-girl! ■



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Cheyenne Regional Medical Center (CRMC) has achieved numerous accolades for clinical excellence, according to new research released by Healthgrades, a leading resource consumers use to find a hospital or doctor.

Learn more about how Healthgrades measures hospital quality by visiting **[Healthgrades.com](https://www.healthgrades.com)**.





Exploring the New Old West

You know the legends of Old Cheyenne, but have you experienced new Cheyenne? With a dedication to history, this cutting-edge capital city allows you to experience cowboy culture right next to artisans, fantastic chefs and a music scene set to rock your socks off.

The downtown area is the perfect place to start your adventure. Larger-than-life murals scattered around the city's center adorn buildings that date back to the 1800s and now house restaurants, retail experiences, breweries and galleries. The collection of muraled walls continues to expand, adding flavor to an already arts centric community. If you have children with you, complete the Andy Lope and Shy Anne scavenger hunt to receive free stickers at

the visitor center inside the Depot.

A must-have experience is the Wild West Trolley Tour. With multiple tours every day during peak season, and during the weekends in the winter, this tour tells tales of gunfighters, Cheyenne firsts and all the stories that create the Legend of Cheyenne. Looking to save a couple of dollars? Purchase a Legendary Savings Pass! For \$25 you receive a trolley tour and admission to the Cheyenne Frontier Days™ Old West Museum, the Cheyenne Depot Museum and the Nelson Museum of the West.

Since you are making your way around the downtown area, download the free Daddy of the Malt Craft Beverage Trail Pass and sample the local libations. All four breweries and one of the distilleries on the pass are

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located downtown, and the pass offers a buy one, get one free deal at each stop. If you're feeling especially adventurous, plan a trip over to Pine Bluffs, and earn a stainless-steel pint glass to take home with you!



Brand new in 2024 is a new way to experience Cheyenne – the Saddle Up Pass! With this unique pass, you can come to Cheyenne, live the cowboy life, and be a Wild West legend! For \$125 ride a horse down the trail at Terry Bison Ranch, hop on the Wild West Trolley Tour, dress the part and take a western photo at Emma's Old Time Photos, and get access to multiple Cheyenne museums. To top it all off, you'll get discounts at multiple popular eateries and watering holes like The Bunkhouse Bar and Grill, The Outlaw Saloon, and many more, giving you a barrel of savings for one low price.

Looking to get away and into the fresh mountain air? Curt Gowdy State Park is your ticket to adventure. With

trails for hiking, running and mountain biking along with water recreation and camping, your outdoor adventure is ready at the pace you want to set.

At night Cheyenne comes alive with music and dancing. You can catch live performances at the Civic Center and The Lincoln or cut a rug at The Outlaw Saloon and The Bunkhouse along with other bars, breweries and performing arts venues. Everything from funk to classical to country is on the set list.

Don't forget Cheyenne is your home for rodeo as well. The Hell on Wheels Rodeo and Chuckwagon Dinner features six performances across the summer and of course you won't want to miss the 128th Cheyenne Frontier Days™ featuring the best athletes, concert performers and western celebration you can find July 19th-July 28th. For more information or to keep planning your trip visit www.cheyenne.org. ■



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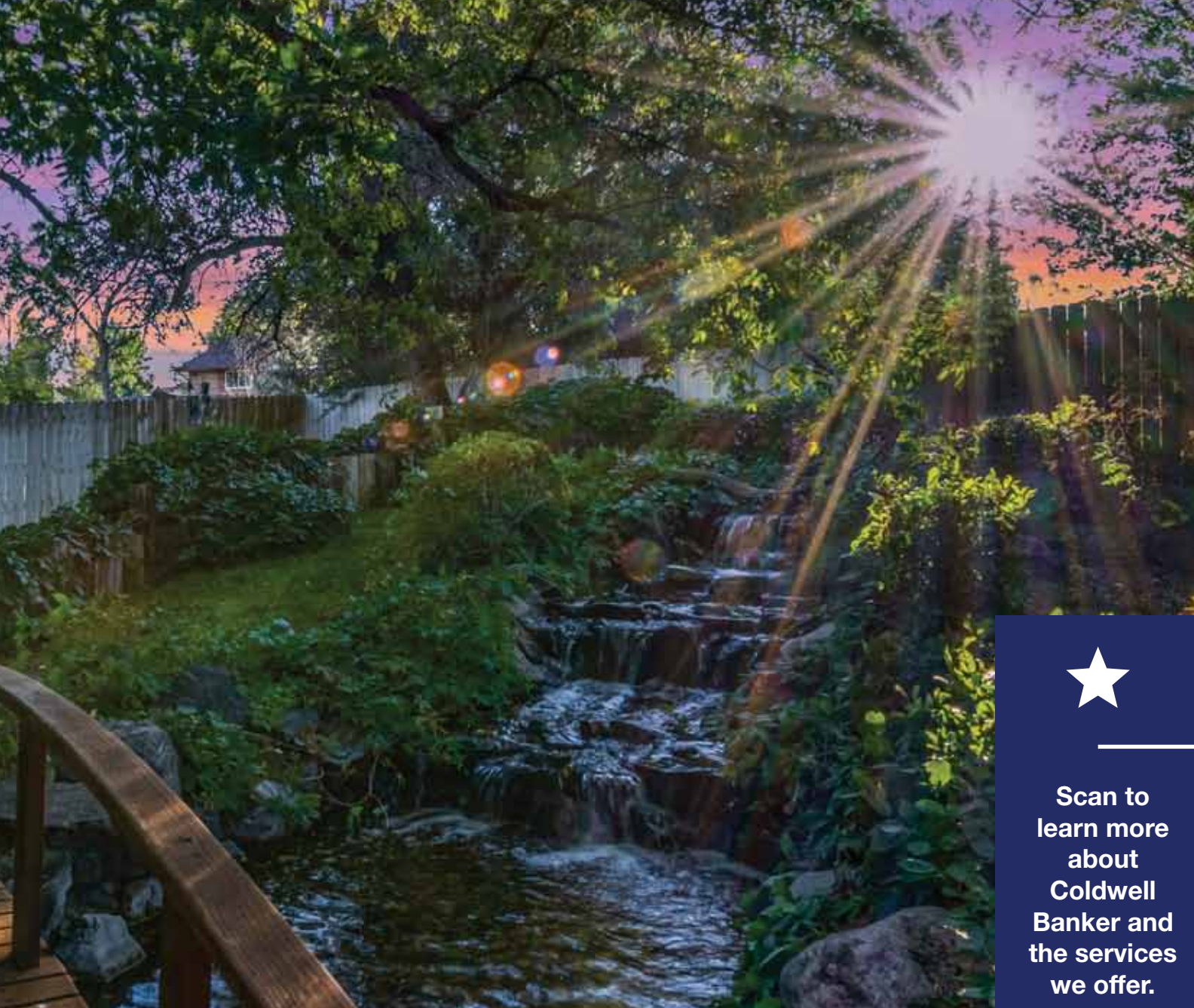


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Francis E. Warren Air Force Base

Francis E. Warren Air Force Base celebrates 157 years of active duty July 4, 2024. F.E. Warren is the oldest continually active base in the Air Force and is the home of the 90th Missile Wing, charged with maintaining about 150 Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles. The complex spans 9,600 square miles across Wyoming, Colorado and Nebraska. The base is one of

Cheyenne's leading employers with more than 4,000 civilians and military personnel working on base.

F.E. Warren AFB today is a far cry from its beginning as Fort D.A. Russell back in July of 1867. Fort Russell was established to protect Union Pacific Railway workers from attacks during the construction of the Transcontinental Railway. The first troops stationed at Fort Russell, under the command of Colonel John D. Stevenson, lived in tents during the first year while building wood-framed quarters. The fort was made a permanent post in 1884 and rebuilding began in 1885 with \$100,000 from the War Department. The original wood structures were replaced with 27 brick buildings and the fort was landscaped with over 1,000 trees. Fort Russell was the training center for the artillery along with being a cavalry post. In 1889, the Medical Corp was established with Fort D. A. Russell as one of two posts chosen to officially train Hospital Stewards. As you can see, the post has a varied military past.

During the Spanish-American War in 1898, the 8th Infantry departed Fort D.A. Russell for Cuba along with the Wyoming National Guard, which was mobilized and mustered into Army service in the Philippines during the Battle of Manila. During the 1901 Philippine Insurrection, units from Fort D. A. Russell served in the Philippines. The 10th Infantry returned with a Queen Mary Tudor cannon forged in 1557, and that cannon is still displayed on base today.

Times were changing, however, and the cavalry was becoming obsolete. After 60 years of service, the cavalry left the fort in 1927, with the last horse leaving in 1943. While being used as a training facility during World War II, Fort Russell became one of the largest military posts in the country.



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In January 1930, the post was renamed Francis E. Warren in honor of Wyoming's Territorial Governor and first State Governor. Warren had received the Medal of Honor at age 19 during the Civil War and served as a U.S. Senator for 37 years.

F.E. Warren became an Air Force base in 1947. Interestingly enough, the post has had only one dirt airstrip, which was built as a cross-country mail airstrip. Although modern pilots never used the field, it was made famous when WWI Ace Captain Eddie Rickenbacker survived a crash on the field.

In 1919, the "Western Flying Circus," led by Major Carl Spaatz, also used the field.

On February 1, 1958, the 4320th Strategic Missile Wing was activated at F.E. Warren. The wing was re-designated shortly thereafter as the 706th Strategic Missile Wing with three squadrons: the 549th, 564th and 565th Strategic Missile Squadrons. These Airmen stood up the first Atlas D model ICBMs on Warren. The first missiles arrived in November 1959 from Vandenberg Air

Force Base, California. The wing was re-designated as the 389th Strategic Missile Wing on July 1, 1961. The 389th deactivated on March 25, 1965, and was replaced by the 90th Strategic Missile Wing. With that deactivation went the Atlas D missiles.

For nearly 60 years, the base has gone through much realignment of missile systems, with another change, the Sentinel weapons system, due to replace the Minuteman III. From the Atlas D to Minuteman I, Minuteman III and the Peacekeeper, the base has transitioned

from Strategic Air Command, Air Combat Command, and Air Force Space Command to Air Force Global Strike Command. On July 1, 2008, the wing at F.E. Warren AFB was re-designated the 90th Missile Wing.

Some famous people have been stationed at F.E. Warren AFB over the years. They include: General Billy Mitchell, General Mark Clark and General Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., Doctor Walter Reed, Sammy Davis Jr., country singer Chris LeDoux and music legend Neil Diamond. ■



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Started in 1978 by a group of dedicated volunteers, the Cheyenne Frontier Days™ Old West Museum was established to preserve the tradition and history of Chey-

enne Frontier Days™ and the American West. Since then, the Museum has expanded from our humble carriage hall to seven expansive galleries, creating a larger space that celebrates the tradition and history of Cheyenne Frontier Days™. Discover the stories of hundreds of volunteers who have donated their time to make a rodeo almost entirely run by volunteers, alongside the achievements of rodeo athletes, both human and livestock, that have achieved the dream of winning Cheyenne's coveted gold buckles.



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In addition to our regular exhibits available all year round, you won't want to miss the Museum's world-class art exhibitions both in March and July. The Western Spirit Art Show & Sale in March is our largest open-call show, featuring contemporary and traditional Western Art from the hands of national and local artists. The CFD Western Art Show and Sale, kicking off right before Cheyenne Frontier Days™, features the nation's top western artists presenting original art that celebrates the heritage of the American West.

When art isn't hanging on the walls, catch one of our rotating carriage exhibits, featuring historic pieces of western transportation that are featured in every Cheyenne Frontier Days™ Parade. You never know when your new favorite carriage will be on display!

The Cheyenne Frontier Days™ Old West Museum is located on Carey Ave., on the northeast corner of Frontier Park. The Museum is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. year-round and offers extended hours during the Cheyenne Frontier Days™ celebration. Military, senior, and group discounts are available, and children five and under are free. For more information, please visit us online at www.Oldwestmuseum.org or call 307-778-7290. ■

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Outdoor Adventures in Cheyenne's Parks

Take a walk through the best outdoor and athletic complexes the City of Cheyenne has to offer! Most parts are a combination of natural grasses and manicured turf (perfect for the activity on playgrounds and athletic fields). If you're looking for the best-of-the-best, head to Lions Park, Holliday Park, and the David R. Romero South Cheyenne Community Park first—they'll knock your socks off! Let us take you on a tour of what we offer for activity indoors and outdoors:



Lions Park

Lions Park is located across from Frontier Park, home to Cheyenne Frontier Days™, and has something for everyone. At the center of the park is Sloan's Lake, open to boating, fishing, and paddleboats. Just to the west of the lake sits the City of Cheyenne Kiwanis Community House. The facility is available to rent for weddings, reunions, birthday parties and seminars. Behind the Community House is the William N. Brimmer Amphitheater, where summer concerts and movie viewings are held. Don't miss the tree house from the Urban Forestry Division, hiding on the edge of the park! This multi-story structure gives you the opportunity to look at Cheyenne from a bird's point of view. Lions Park also has a mini golf course, the Cheyenne Aquatic Center and Spray Park, Botanic Gardens, playgrounds, covered shelters (some are rentable!), volleyball courts, softball, and soccer fields.

Holliday Park

Holliday Park is located on Lincolnway, east of downtown Cheyenne, and is home to the largest steam locomotive ever built, the "Big Boy 4004." Tipping the scales at 540,000 pounds, it's one of only eight surviving of the original 25 made. In the park, there are two large shelters that can be reserved for any special event. Holliday Park wraps around Lake Minnehaha. The park has basketball, volleyball, tennis courts, horseshoe pits, and two playgrounds.

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David R. Romero Park

The David R. Romero South Cheyenne Community Park, located off Parsley Boulevard in South Cheyenne, features rehabilitated wetlands, eight acres of parkland, and the Youth Activity and Community Center. The wetlands rehabilitation included restoring the original path of the waterway and re-vegetating the area with more than 10,000 wetland plants. The park itself includes a large picnic shelter that can be used as an amphitheater, with a large play space for sports practice. The Community Center is available to rent for weddings, reunions, birthday parties and seminars. There's a large community room and an activity side, complete with a computer lab, arts and crafts area, social area, and large activity space. The City uses the space for after school programs and summer youth programs, as well.

Golf Courses

Cheyenne's prime golf season runs from mid-to late-May through October. Cheyenne has four golf courses, two of which are maintained by the City: Airport Golf Course (18-hole), Kingham Prairie View Golf Course (9-hole), Little America Golf Course (9-hole), and the Cheyenne Country Club (private 18-hole). The Airport Course hosts the Wyoming Open every July. If you're looking to take up the game, try a lesson from the pros at the Airport Course.



Indoor and Outdoor Swimming

The Cheyenne Aquatics Center features two water slides, a lazy river, a zero-depth entry pool with play features, and lap lanes. This pool is located on the outskirts of Lions Park. Across town, in South Cheyenne, the Johnson Pool is outdoors and features a diving board. Open swim is offered daily during the summer, weather permitting.

Greenway Bike and Walking Path

Forty-seven miles of concrete path connects parks, schools, neighborhoods and shopping areas throughout Cheyenne. It's 100% handicapped accessible and is continually expanding for more access throughout the city!

Ice Skating and More

The Ice and Events Center is available for year-round fun. Outside is a world-class mini golf course with landmarks you might recognize from the state or around town! In the winter, ice skating is available on the NHL sized rink. Learn to skate in both figure and hockey styles during the entire ice season (October through March). There's also roller skating (April through September) and Cheyenne's only Laser Tag room. This facility is available for birthday parties, corporate outings, weddings, and more! Keep an eye out for our concerts, sporting events, trade conventions, and home/antique shows.

Activity and Sports

Check out the Clay Sturman Bike, Blade, and Skate Park. Opened in 2007, it has half pipes, ledges, rails, and bowls for the beginning to extreme riders, bladers, and skaters. The skate park is in Brimmer Park on Pershing Boulevard. ■





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54



The Historic Governors' Mansion

The Wyoming Executive Mansion, located on the corner of 21st St. and House Ave., served as home to 19 of Wyoming's governors and their families, including the nation's first female governor, Nellie Tayloe Ross. Stepping onto the political stage in 1924 to win this monumental election, she changed America's history as well as the history of Wyoming. The mansion has been

host to United States presidents, famous authors, and neighborhood children. It is now your turn to be our guest.

The stately mansion, designed by Charles Murdock, was modern in 1905 because of its central plumbing, hot water heat, and combination gas and electrical fixtures. This two-and-a-half story structure's portico features solid sandstone Corinthian columns that were quarried in four sections, carved on-site and assembled. Construction of the mansion began in the spring of 1904 and was completed that fall. Governor Bryant Brooks and First Lady Mary Naomi Brooks opened the house in January of 1905, beginning a long tradition of entertaining and community service at the mansion by Wyoming's first families.

Governor Stanley and First Lady Bobby Hathaway were instrumental in listing this historic home on the National Register of Historic Places in 1969. In July 1977, the Historic Governors' Mansion opened to the public as a historic house museum. In 2004, an extensive restoration was done on the mansion and it now reflects the history of the home through the various eras.

Enjoy self-guided tours enhanced with cell phone audio tours, as well as videos providing information about Wyoming and its first Executive Residence.

To schedule a group tour, or for more information, call 307-777-7878 or visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/HistoricGovernorsMansion for additional information. There is no admission charge but donations are accepted. Hours vary throughout the year. Give us a call for days and time of operation. ■

Wyoming's Historic Governors' Mansion



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wyoparks.wyo.gov/index.php/places-to-go/historic-governors-mansion

(17)



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Southeast Wyoming Welcome Center

The Southeast Wyoming Welcome Center provides visitors with a front porch experience into Wyoming. The center showcases the very best that Wyoming has to offer. The interpretive displays boast an entrée of what lies along the road ahead. Travelers are surrounded by sights, sounds and encouraged to

participate in several photo opportunities, like spending a moment in jail with Butch Cassidy, then bustin' out in one of two secret passages or viewing a life-sized cast of a Colombian Mammoth that was found in Wyoming!



The building and grounds design also piques the interest of many, with rammed earth walls, several sustainable features and nearly a mile of walking trails that meander through the

property. History buffs appreciate the significance of the building's orientation aligned with the original Park-to-Park Highway that once connected Mesa Verde National Park to Yellowstone National Park. Four-legged travelers are grateful for a large fenced-in pet exercise area.

The center has something to offer all travelers and is easy to find at I-25 and Exit 4, High Plains Road. The Welcome Center is open daily during the summer months. Check travelwyoming.com for more information. ■



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Laramie County Library System: Experience the Best of the West

Founded in 1886, less than 20 years after Cheyenne itself became a city, Laramie County Library System is the oldest continually operating library system in the country and is a must-see stop on your tour through the "Magic City of the Plains." From the moment you walk past the 8-foot-tall cowboy boot near the western entrance of the Cheyenne library, you will see why Laramie County Library System is an integral part of the community.

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With paint colors selected to match a Wyoming prairie in bloom, the facility's walls immediately immerse you in the western experience. The subtle purples, golden yellows, and soft greens will make you feel at "home-on-the-range" as you learn about western and local history with the library's extensive nonfiction collection. An expansive collection of books, DVDs, and CDs with Wyoming authors, settings, or connections are all indicated by a sticker on the spine and will give you great insight into the Wyoming experience. You can also enjoy an incredible view of the Wyoming State Capitol Building from the third floor while you sip on a hot drink or cool lemonade from the Library Café.

Not only is Laramie County Library System a great place to begin your exploration of Cheyenne, it's also an award-winning organization. Laramie

County Library was named Library of the Year in 2008 and was recognized as one of the country's top children's libraries in 2012 and 2015, making it one of the best in the west and a can't-miss stop while visiting Cheyenne.

Laramie County Library has books, research materials, knowledgeable librarians and everything else you'd expect in a visit to a top public library, but it also has some accommodations that may surprise you, including:

- Free Wi-Fi throughout the building and 10¢ per page Wi-Fi printing
- A Library Café for drinks, sandwiches and bakery items, all baked fresh in the library
- A 50-station public computer center for work, play, or communication



- Five meeting rooms available to book online for public and private events
- Study rooms for individual and group work sessions
- A wide range of events suited for all ages, interests, and abilities
- Renowned exhibits that explore history, art, science, and more, as well as a permanent art collection on display on every floor of the facility
- An Early Literacy Center where children can begin to hone emergent and early literacy skills through interactive play
- A Teen Zone with dedicated computers, spaces, and materials for teens



If you're just visiting Cheyenne, Laramie County Library accepts all Wyoming library cards and issues day passes for the Computer Center. Anyone is welcome to peruse the stacks, attend an event, or check out the incredible exhibits on display! All visitors are also welcome to utilize the free Wi-Fi and 10¢ per page Wi-Fi printing.

As you enter the library, look for the Library Café at the end of the first floor gallery near the east entrance. On the west end of the gallery, you'll find the entrance to the library's collections along with the Greeter Desk where library staff can point you in the right direction. On each floor, you'll find library staff at Ask Here desks who are ready to assist you.

The library's first floor is home to the multimedia, magazine, and fiction collections, along with a Cards and Accounts desk where you can get a library card and find more information about your account. You can support the Library Foundation by purchasing books from the Book Sale Room, and return your books in the energy-efficient, user-friendly sort machine.

The second floor is dedicated to children and teens. This vibrant space is full of computers, books, and interactive activities for kids of all ages. You can explore My Library Place, an interactive literacy center for infants and toddlers; the Early Literacy Center, where young readers can play while strengthening their literacy skills; and the Teen Zone, where teens can study, use computers that are up-to-date with the latest gaming software, and enjoy the expansive young adult collection.

The third floor houses a wide-ranging nonfiction and reference collection along with the Computer Center. You can peruse the Special Collections Room that contains the Western History Collection, the Genealogy and Family History Collection, Wyoming History Collection and the Trails Collection which details the overland trails that crossed the west. If you head to the Capital Room, you can read silently and enjoy an incredible view of the state's capital city, including the beautiful capitol building.

You can find fun and unique information on this floor as well, such as Wyoming cattle brand books dating back to 1917 or old Cheyenne Frontier Days™ programs (including one that dates back to 1930).

The library also hosts diverse events and exhibits that explore a variety of themes and topics. You can listen to an author read an excerpt from his or her latest book, watch a screening of an award-winning film, participate in an art project, and more! Pick up a monthly calendar for information about the dozens of events that occur monthly for all ages.

Laramie County Library System can help make the most out of a visit to Laramie County; the materials, exhibits, and events will assist any visitor in learning more about this western community, from its history to its contemporary culture. Whether you are a local resident or a brand new visitor, Laramie County Library System can provide you with a big western welcome every time you walk through the door.

For more information about the library's services, resources, history, and events, visit lclsonline.org or call (307) 634-3561. ■

Laramie County Library offers

fun events, a computer center, meeting rooms, and much more!

HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 10am-9pm

Friday, Saturday: 10am-6pm

Sunday: 1pm-5pm



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Laramie County Senior Activity Center

The Laramie County Senior Activity Center has been providing services to individuals 60 years of age since 1972. Our primary mission is to create an environment that encourages inner fulfillment, physical enhancement and social belonging for the senior population of Laramie County. Laramie County Senior Activity Center offers an array of activities, presentations, programs and services enabling older adults to engage and enrich their lives.

Breakfast is served five days a week and lunch is served seven days a week in a congregate setting, assur-

ing our older adults are receiving the nutrition they need. For those 60+ years of age, meals are a suggested donation. There are several other meal sites under Laramie County Senior Center for those that do not live directly in line with our location: Foxcrest Center, Indian Hills Manor and Stanfield Manor.

We have a Caregiver Program as well as a Durable Medical Loan Closet, providing new or gently used medical equipment to those in Laramie County at no cost.

Our Director is a certified SHIP (State Health Insurance Program) Counselor, assisting with Medicare and Medicaid needs, as well as providing other community resource needs.



Activities and features include:

- Card Games & Pool
- BINGO every Friday (Birthday Bingo once a month!)
- Tai-Chi, Yoga and Fitness Classes
- Meditation
- Reiki
- Balance Classes
- Movie Matinees (several times a month)
- Monthly Blood Pressure Clinics
- Outings/Day Trips
- Host free annual Tax Services through VITA
- Host annual AGE WELL CONFERENCE
- Quarterly Newsletter featuring current meal menus & activity calendar (for a small annual fee)

Laramie County Senior Services/Laramie County Senior Activity Center: 2101 Thomes Avenue, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001, (307) 635-2435.

Groundbreaking for the new Laramie County Senior Center occurred in November 2023 with an expected opening in January 2025. Updates can be found at:

lcseniorservices.com.

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The Cheyenne Symphony Orchestra

Those of us who have lived in Cheyenne and surrounding areas are aware that we have a cultural gem in our midst. But sometimes it comes as a surprise to visitors. One visitor, Rich Reiben, a retired arts administrator from New York was so stunned he wrote an article about his experience in his local newspaper. Here's an excerpt:



*Music Director & Conductor,
William Intriligator*

"I'll admit I might have been a little skeptical about how a tiny city in a vast state whose population per square mile rounds down to zero can support a first-rate regional orchestra. Turns out, I didn't have much to worry about. I may not be a musician, but I ran orchestras for 10 years. Take it from me, the Cheyenne Symphony is indeed a first-rate regional orchestra."

What's all the buzz about? The symphony attributes its success to its energetic and engaging Music Director

and Conductor, William Intriligator, enthusiastic musicians who often times travel hundreds of miles to perform in Cheyenne and a very supportive community including donors, volunteers and audience members.

So, if you want to hear it for yourself or get involved, give the folks at the symphony a call at 307-778-8561 or visit: www.cheyennesymphony.org.

Insider tip: ask about the Subscriber Discount and check for free concerts and other educational opportunities throughout the year. ■



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22



Cheyenne Little Theatre Players 95th Season!

In the late 1920's and early 1930's, the vaudeville circuit was dying. With the advent and popularity of motion pictures, live travelling performances were becoming less profitable, and so communities across the country had access to fewer and fewer opportunities to experience live theatre. In order to fill this gap, many cities and towns started up their own acting groups and began performing plays with community members doing the acting and directing. It was known as "little theatre."

In February of 1930, here in Cheyenne, a group of friends had met for their usual bridge night, and as the evening wore on this idea of "little theatre" was brought up and discussed. Four of the attendees felt that this type of performance theatre was just what Cheyenne needed to fill the cultural gap that was growing as live touring shows became scarcer, and in May of 1930 the Cheyenne Little Theatre Players produced their first performance, beginning a decades long tradition of quality regional theatre.

2024-2025 marks the 95th season of The Cheyenne Little Theatre Players, and this season we continue to celebrate the support of our community through volunteerism, donations, sponsorship, and patronage! Thank you!

2024-2025 Cheyenne Little Theatre Players Season:

The Old-Fashioned Melodrama: ***The Hamlet of Archer or Letum's Last Lonely Revenge or Phelia Find Fortune in the Family*** by Sheila Sundquist Peel. Directors: Brad Goodman and Audrey Mayfield. Dates: July-August at The Historic Atlas Theatre. This melodrama, based very loosely on *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare, will leave you asking, "To be or not to be" ...the most fun you can have in downtown Cheyenne with your boots on! Trust us: it is!

Camelot by Lerner and Lowe. Director: Keith Neville. Dates: September 20-October 6 at The Mary Godfrey Playhouse. This beloved Lerner and Lowe musical is based on the novel *The Once and Future King* by T.H. White. After

the arranged marriage of King Arthur and Lady Guinevere, the king gathers the noble knights of the realm to his Round Table. The dashing and stalwart Lancelot joins, but soon finds himself enraptured by the lovely Guinevere. When Arthur's illegitimate son, Mordred reappears in the kingdom and outs the secret lovers, Arthur finds himself trapped by his own rules into taking action against his wife and closest friend. With great songs like *The Lusty Month of May* and *If Ever I Would Leave You*, *Camelot* will be a great evening of entertainment for the whole family!

The Velveteen Rabbit by Phil Grecian based on the book by Margery Williams. Director: Diane Edgar. Dates: November 8-24 at The Mary Godfrey Playhouse. Written in 1922, this beloved children's book has grabbed the hearts of families everywhere. It's the story of a cheaply made toy rabbit who is snubbed by the boy he was bought for, as well as other toys in the nursery. The wise Skin Horse tells

him that toys become 'Real' only if they are loved and worn out enough. Eventually, Rabbit becomes Real - but what will happen when the time comes to be thrown away?

Not a Creature Was Stirring (not Even a Moose) By Pat Cook. Director: Brenda Lyttle. Dates: December 6-22 at The Historic Atlas Theatre. If you are missing the Christmas spirit,

just subscribe to the Herald Tribune, where editor J. J. Garnes makes sure he uses the holiday to his own advantage, whether it be to expose the crooked mayor or sell a few more issues with just the right angle. And he thinks he finds that angle when he receives a letter from a small boy who "don't want no more Christmases." Garnes' assistants are



equally cynical until they find a "Wish Moose:" a Christmas ornament that grants their fondest wishes. And wishes do begin to come true - with hilarious consequences! This fun-filled tribute to Frank Capra will have you laughing with a lump in your throat!

Sondheim on Sondheim by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine Director: Keith Thomson. Dates: February 14-March 2 at The Mary Godfrey Playhouse. This musical is a salute to the genius of Stephen Sondheim and features taped interviews with Sondheim. These songs include



well-known, lesser-known and cut material from nineteen shows that have been produced over a 62-year period.

West Side Story, Company, Follies, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Sunday in the Park with George, Merrily We Roll Along, Passion, and Into The Woods are just some of the shows featured in this musical. Co-writer James Lapine has described this revue as "a kind of impressionistic view of him that's put together with pieces of archival footage and interview footage. It's a collage of his life, in which who he is and how he got there comes in to focus."

Steel Magnolias by Robert Harling. Director: TBD. Dates: March 14-30 at The Historic Atlas Theatre. The play is set in Truvy's beauty salon in Chinquapin, Louisiana, where all the ladies who are "anybody" come to have their hair done. Helped by her eager new assistant, Annelle the outspoken, wise-cracking Truvy dispenses shampoos and free advice to the town's rich curmudgeon, Ouiser, ("I'm not crazy, I've just been in a bad mood for forty years"); an eccentric millionaire, Miss Clairee, who has a raging sweet tooth; and the local social leader, M'Lynn, whose daughter, Shelby is about to be married. Filled with hilarious repartee and not a few acerbic but humorously revealing verbal collisions, the play seamlessly weaves comedy and tragedy as the characters draw on their underlying strength - and love for each other.



Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express by Ken Ludwig and Agatha Christie Director: Mary Hall. Dates: May 2-18 at The Mary Godfrey Playhouse. Famous detective Hercule Poirot has been called back from Istanbul to London on urgent business. He intends to book a first-class compartment on the Orient Express. The train is surprisingly full, but Poirot manages to secure a spot in the first-class

cabin. While aboard the Orient Express, Poirot meets a host of peculiar characters including an aging Russian princess, a Hungarian countess, a Minnesota housewife, a Scottish colonel, and a disagreeable American businessman. As a snowdrift halts the Orient Express in its tracks, someone is found stabbed multiple times in their locked train compartment. As Poirot investigates, conflicting clues and convoluted alibis lead him to dead ends. Will Poirot be able to solve the case of the Murder on the Orient Express over the course of 48 hours? Join us and find out!

Special Events

Youth Summer Stock

Mary Godfrey Playhouse in June and July

Rocky Horror Picture Show

October at Historic Atlas Theatre

New Year's Eve at the Atlas

December 31, 2024 at Historic Atlas Theatre

Atlas Follies Fundraiser

Spring 2025 at Historic Atlas Theatre

95th Season Announcement at the Atlas

Spring 2025 at Historic Atlas Theatre

And remember, you can rent either of our lovely spaces for your special event! For tickets, and more information all things Cheyenne Little Theatre, please visit our website at cheyennelittletheatre.org, or call us a 307-638-6543 between 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. ■

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A Varied Landscape! Taking In Curt Gowdy State Park

Settled in where the High Plains meet the Rocky Mountains is Curt Gowdy State Park. The park, named in 1971 for the famous Wyoming native sportscaster, is a convenient recreation area located less than 25 miles from Cheyenne. The area contains three reservoirs: Granite Springs, Crystal, and Upper North Crow.

All three are stocked with fish and are popular year-round. Granite Springs Reservoir offers excellent rainbow trout, and kokanee salmon fishing. At Crystal Reservoir, the smallest of the three reservoirs, visitors can enjoy fishing for brown trout, rainbow trout and kokanee salmon, as well as boating with small motorized and non-motorized



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watercraft. Upper North Crow Reservoir, a day use area, has a very natural setting and non-motorized boating is allowed. Anglers can find a unique

opportunity to catch tiger muskellunge and splake, as well as rainbow, brown and brook trout.

The richly varied landscape of the park includes granite rock formations, timbered slopes, aspen groves, meadows, streams and reservoirs. Beginning in April and early May, the park is a prime area for bird watching, including golden eagles, red tailed hawks, Swainson's hawks and turkey vultures. Numerous varieties of wildflowers create a colorful show in the spring and early summer months. Large mammals, such as elk, mule deer, antelope, mountain lion and black bear, regularly roam the park. Visitors should also keep an eye open for the variety of small mammals that call the park home.



Recreational opportunities abound at Curt Gowdy—campgrounds, picnic areas, playgrounds and the archery range. The park has also become a favorite destination for mountain bikers, hikers and equestrians with its 35-mile non-motorized trail system, which was awarded an "Epic" designation by the International Mountain Bicycling Association. The region's natural granite landscape makes for excellent hiking and riding and is an important part of the trail system. Hynds Lodge, open to small or large groups by reservation, is also located at Curt Gowdy State Park. The park is open year-round, weather permitting.

To visit Curt Gowdy State Park, take State Route 210 (Happy Jack Road) to County Road 106. For more information, call the park at 307-632-7946 or visit ArtsParksHistory.com. ■



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Messenger's Old West Museum

Messenger's Old West Museum, located at 616 Crook Avenue, contains one of the area's largest private collections of Old West Memorabilia. Charlie and Katie Messenger started the collection over 30 years ago and opened the museum to the public 20 years ago.

The museum now has nearly 30 horse-drawn vehicles on display including Buffalo Bill Cody's personal carriage and harness. Several are presented in natural settings. They have a collection of firearms dating back to the early

1800s and an impressive 600-piece Indian arrowhead collection. Come see their Old Fashioned kitchen, bedroom, spinning wheel, rope maker and much, much more. Take a stroll down memory lane as you view the historic wagons in a realistic setting as they crossed the United States in the 1800s and cars dating back to 1903. Their Royal Coach is a must see, as it is similar to the Royal Coach the Queen of England may have ridden in.

Messenger's Old West Museum is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ■

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Cruising the Strip: Cheyenne Cruise Nights

Written by Loretta McCollum and Susann Robbins

Long before the internet with its virtual meeting places, or cell phones and instant messaging, weekend cruising was a popular way to socialize. Every Friday or Saturday night, young people gathered in cities and towns across America to swap stories and show off their “wheels” by taking a few spins up and down Main Street. Cruising was that generation’s version of a chat room. Today, most of our cruising is on the information highway. However, in the spring of 2020, a group of Cheyenne residents and business owners decided to change that by resurrecting the tradition of

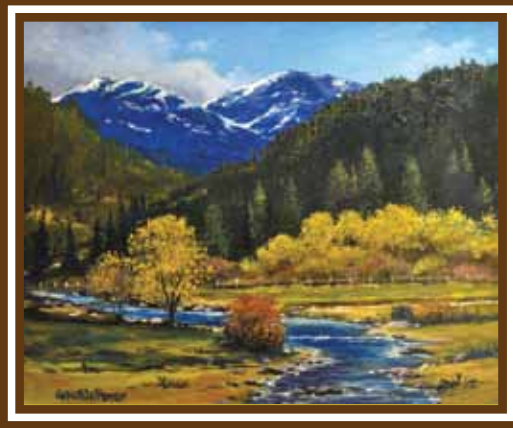
street cruising in the form of Cheyenne Cruise Nights.

It was April 2020, and COVID-19 had tightened its grip on the nation. Phrases like “social distancing” and “face coverings” were now part of our daily vocabulary. Large indoor gatherings were no longer an option. Businesses adhered to limited capacity restrictions. This was to be our new normal for the foreseeable future. We contemplated our options.

Enter Nick Dodgson, owner of Cheyenne Motorsports and Nick’s Fast Track Auto Centers, Doug Arnold and Charles Dahlin. They had a conversation about possibly

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doing a “cruise” night. The men thought that this would be an opportunity for the community to come together while still following social distancing protocol. Dodgson, who is also the host of KGAB radio’s Saturday morning Kar-Gab program, said “Let’s talk about this on the radio show this weekend and see what people think.” Dodgson invited fellow car enthusiasts to showcase their vehicles on an upcoming Saturday evening in downtown Cheyenne. Dodgson explains it like this, “We were all stuck at home, and this seemed like a great way to bring people together without compromising safety.” He went on to say, “It’s something that all ages can come out and enjoy.” He was right.

The first Cruise Night was well received, with approximately 300 vehicles making their way through downtown Cheyenne. Socially distant spectators lined the streets in support. The event continued gaining momentum, some weeks attracting over 1,000 participants in every mode of transportation imaginable. “We had classic cars, late models, trucks, motorcycles, and even bicycles,” said Dodgson, “Everyone and anything was welcome.”

In addition to being a family-friendly event, Cruise Nights helped support local businesses and nonprofits struggling due to the pandemic. Participants and observers came downtown and filled outdoor dining spaces and placed takeout orders. Cruise Night also selected a

non-profit-of-the-week. Donation stations for the nonprofits were set up for them to collect contributions. Since its inaugural season, Cheyenne Cruise Nights helped local charities and nonprofits raise over **\$200,000** for participants and the local community.

In early 2024, Nick Dodgson and Doug Arnold decided to step away from Cheyenne Cruise Night as active organizers to focus on their families and other endeavours; while still being active volunteers and supporters. Taking over as the director of Cheyenne Cruise Nights is Susann Robbins who has been active with the cruises since they started in 2020. She comes from a background of working with nonprofits and has a love for cars.

Keeping the tradition going, **Cheyenne Cruise Nights 2024 starts the third Saturday in April, and continues through November 2, 2024.** Drivers and their vehicles gather in downtown Cheyenne, hitting Warren and Central Avenues at about 7:00 p.m. every Saturday night. So bring your lawn chair, your folding chair, your Bel Air, your Ferrari, your F-150, your Harley, or even your Schwinn. Just show up and enjoy!

For more information and the latest updates, including a listing of this season’s chosen charities, visit the official Cheyenne Cruise Nights Facebook page. ■

Cruise Night photo courtesy of Debbie Martinez

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Castle Dare Photo Courtesy of J.E. Stimson Collection and Wyoming State Archives

Millionaires Row

At First You See It & Then You Don't

Written by Vickie Sherwood

There is always a struggle between historical preservation and modernization for the good of the people. Cheyenne is no exception and struggles with that dilemma. The 'Magic City of the Plains' got its name from its exceptional growth after the Civil War, due to President Lincoln first signing the Pacific Railroad Act of 1862, during the second year of the Civil War. If not for the President's insistence for the railroad to 'go west' to connect our entire country from 'sea to shining sea', Cheyenne would not exist. General Grenville Dodge with a surveyor was sent to find the best route through the formidable Rocky Mountains. Legend has it that a war party chased General Dodge and his small band of men from what is now Casper, WY south to the Native American Cheyenne tribal lands. The surveyor and his crew found what turned out to be the best option for the railroad to go through the treacherous mountain range. Sherman Hill became a legend in its own right and marks one of the lowest elevation mountain passes in the western United States.

By winter there were 4,000 people in Cheyenne and the train tracks were in place. With the railroad and cattle came an influx of people and the need for law and order. So, with that need came the building of government facilities. Cheyenne was chosen to be the Territorial seat

and the legislative processes began. The Capitol building site was chosen 'north of town on the prairie' and subsequently became the 'edge of town.'

Cheyenne's gentlemen desired women to marry and to start families. But how to coax ladies from the east out to the middle of the high plains was a challenge. A landmark decision solved that problem when Wyoming granted women the right to vote in 1869. Ladies came and married the cattle barons, businessmen and legislators that resided in huge homes on Carey Avenue (then called Ferguson Street). These homes were magnificent structures and Carey Avenue was termed 'Millionaire's Row' in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Cheyenne was deemed one of the wealthiest cities in the West. Other mansions were built to the east of the Capitol but not in such blatant display or succession. Electricity was also one of Cheyenne's firsts with the Bresnahan House on the corner of 17th and Carey. It was one of the first houses in the U.S. to have incandescent (filament) lighting and electricity. Outside, streetlights replaced gas lanterns



Bresnahan House Photo Courtesy of Wyoming State Archives and some of the first electric lights in the United States graced our streets. In 1952 the Bresnahan House was sold and subsequently torn down. Unfortunately, so many of these beautiful mansions would suffer the same fate.

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Early Cheyenne residents built magnificent churches you still see today, and they were erected in close proximity to many of the grand mansions. As these church's congregations grew, the buildings needed additions. The grand buildings that house Cheyenne's worship services are still proudly standing in all of their glory. The intermingled homes that surrounded them, however, are not. It wasn't just the churches that needed the valuable land and as Cheyenne grew, certain 'amenities' were needed.

Theatres and an opera house were built hosting performers from all over the world to come and entertain the people. New government buildings expanded and many of the beautiful mansions were the victims of 'eminent domain' and torn down to make way for these new structures. As the capitol complex expanded, the houses continued to come down. Some avoided destruction and were actually moved, including one that was split in two and taken further north past the Capitol by oxen and wagon. Others were moved east towards Lake Minnehaha and what is now known as Holliday Park and are still there today. One of the mansions, known as Castle Dare, crumbled in the moving process and was never reconstructed.

Today there are only a few grand mansions left standing in their original location. On 24th Street and Carey Avenue, on the southwest corner across from the Capitol Building of Wyoming is the historic Idleman Mansion and represents the last of the 'old girls' on Millionaire's Row. It looks different today on the outside where the front steps have been enclosed to preserve the carved wood. The grand porch was also encapsulated to house a much-needed chapel. The original wrought



Idleman Mansion Photo Courtesy of Wyoming State Archives

iron fence still surrounds her. For many generations, The Idleman Mansion had been known as Schrader's Funeral Home, but is now in the Capitol Complex. During the recent reconstruction of the Capitol building, the mansion was sold to the State of Wyoming for government offices.

Though not located on "Millionaire's Row", The Nagle Warren Mansion still stands in its elegance on East 17th Street. Today it serves as a beautiful Bed & Breakfast with the rooms still furnished in 1880's charm.

It's a shame that all we have left of the old mansions of 'Millionaire's Row' are photographs and a few memories that have passed down through the generations. It

is safe to say that those magnificent homes were part of an important chapter in Cheyenne's history book and a stepping stone in the progress of our great city. Without them, who knows if Cheyenne would have continued to thrive and still be called the "Magic City of the Plains." ■



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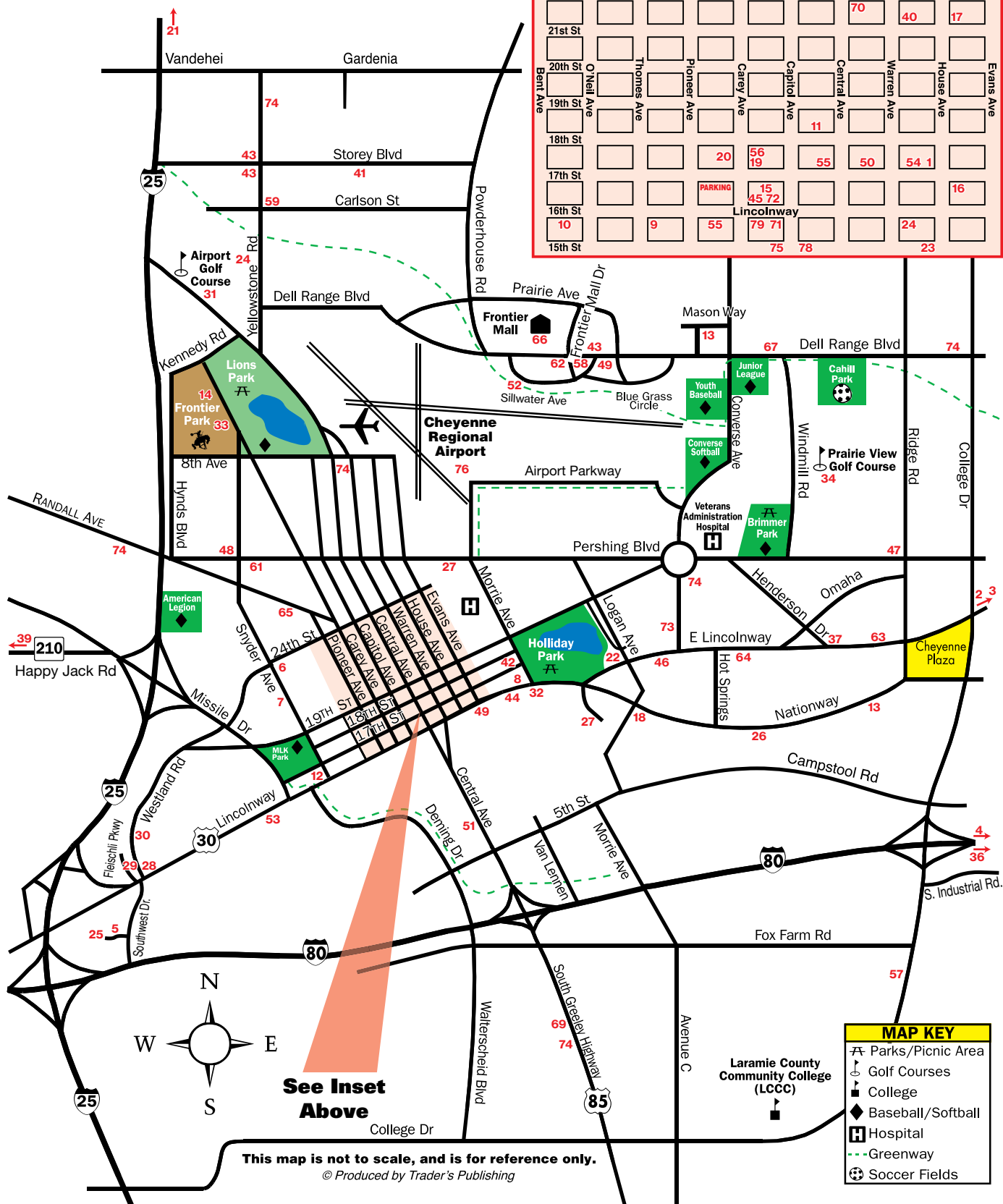
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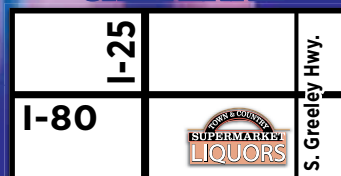
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