



David Butler



Cathy Domsch



Gloria Bracelin

# Several groups work to help Cheyenne County, towns

By Karen Krien

*The Saint Francis Herald*  
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The Cheyenne County Development Corp. is the economic development organization for the county, while the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce supports community activities.

The Century II Foundation in Bird City has worked to bring businesses to that area, including a new dairy and a beef-jerky business, which will soon be opening.

Recently, the Cheyenne Initiative Association was established to network all county groups. As one group, organizers say, people will be more effective bringing in businesses and industries as well as improving the county and communities.

The association has four goals:

- Build a skilled and inclusive leadership group to improve and sustain the community.
- Build local business and create jobs.
- Engage and attract young people while keeping youth and young families in the community.
- Capture wealth transfer from one generation to the next.

## CHEYENNE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT

The Cheyenne County Development Corp. is under new leadership. David Butler took the job of director in May. The corporation strives to help support existing businesses as well as bringing in new businesses, he says.

He says his goal is to market Cheyenne County and its two communities, Bird City and St. Francis. The director works part time with a budget of \$18,000 including his salary.

Mr. Butler will be working to get grants for the county and

plans to advertise the county in the Front Range area around Denver. He said many people are looking for smaller towns to raise families or get out of the hustle and bustle of the city, yet be close enough to enjoy some of the things the city has to offer.

However, he said that advertising in *The Denver Post* and other city publications is expensive and, to be effective, there needs to be more than one ad and it needs to be large enough to catch the attention of readers.

## CENTURY II

The Century II Development Foundation in Bird City was created in 1985 as a nonprofit corporation to better and benefit the Bird City community.

Cathy Domsch was hired in August 2004 as executive director. She and her administrative assistant, Ann Marie Styles, work out of a new office at 107 W. Bressler in Bird City.

The foundation, funded by memorials and donations, has \$9,337,256 in current assets. Last year, the board allotted \$199,357 for projects in the Bird City area.

## AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce employs Gloria Bracelin as secretary. She works part-time in an office in the basement of the courthouse in St. Francis.

The Chamber mission is to promote the community, local attractions and community projects, she said.

The Chamber helps with the Stearman Fly-In, St. Francis Saturday In The Park Car Show, Relay for Life, the Cheyenne County fair parade, a back-to-school social, Christmas promotion and craft fair and an annual working women's luncheon.

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