



# Cheney Connections

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## Mayor's Message

If you lived in Cheney around 1979, you may remember the campaign titled "Choices for Cheney". Citizens sported green and white buttons boldly proclaiming "CHOICES FOR CHENEY". At that time, Mayor Trulove was in office, and he created a task force which spun off into committees that held energized discussions around topics like labor, housing, economic development, and retail trade. With community input, the task force subsequently developed a list of priorities for Cheney. With this list as a roadmap for the City, the community was able to set goals and work toward making significant improvements.

Now, thirty years later, Cheney finds itself in much the same position as Mayor Trulove did in 1979. The City needs a roadmap to guide its work into the coming years. We need a program much like "Choices for Cheney" again. In light of this goal, City Council

recently approved funding for the development of a long-range comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan will help the city prioritize projects and provide policy for decision making. It was determined to resurrect the title "Choices for Cheney" to describe the work to be completed on the comprehensive plan.

Several topics have been identified as key elements that will impact Cheney's future. Groups will be established to cover each of the topics identified. The focus groups include:

- Transportation
- Housing
- Land Use
- Economic Development
- Technology
- Utilities
- Public Services
- Culture and Arts
- Natural Assets and Sustainability

Each group will be comprised of members who will represent a wide variety of community interests and ideas. The members will help expand the discussion throughout the community by talking with others about what "choices" their specific groups are addressing. Members will serve on each group for approximately 12 months, and will meet monthly. In addition, members will work to ensure that as the comprehensive plan takes shape it echoes citizens' desires and values. Most importantly, the group will strive to represent the community's wishes for the future of Cheney.

Any citizen of Cheney who wishes to serve on one of these focus groups should send a letter of interest via email to Brian Jennings, Director of Planning, at [bjennings@cityofcheney.org](mailto:bjennings@cityofcheney.org). Interest should be expressed before June 15th. Following this deadline, members will be notified.

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### Calendar of Events:

- June 1—Registration begins for swimming lessons
- June 6—USATF Track & Field Championships
- June 12—Outdoor pool opens
- June 12—Dick Frost magic show
- June 15—CASLO summer day-camp begins
- June 19—Teen game night
- June 20—Family Fun game night
- June 22-26—Youth Basketball clinic
- June 27—Masters Criterion Championship Bicycle Race
- June 29-July 3—Soccer Skills Clinic

## Cathy Munoz Honored as Public Safety Official of the Year

Cathy Munoz, Communications Director for the Cheney Police Department, was recently honored as the Public Safety Official of the Year. The award was presented to Cathy at the annual *Best of the West Awards Banquet* last month hosted by the West Plains Chamber of Commerce.

Cathy was nominated for this distinction by Chief Jeff Sale who stated that, "Cathy's work in staying current and implementing the dynamically changing technology that serves to maintain criminal history records is exceptional." Cathy must keep up with both State and Federal security laws. As part of her duties, Cathy is required to undergo a State Audit to determine compliance with

these complex and changing laws. Non-compliance could cause the City to suffer severe penalties.

Cathy spent a full year preparing for the 2008 audit. During that time she modified multiple policies and practices, trained staff, and created appropriate logs and ledgers. The audit included a two-tier process that looked at both the technology aspects and the policy/procedure aspects of criminal records storage and retrieval.

The Police Department is very proud of Cathy. Because of her actions, the four agencies that she oversees are being touted as an example for the rest of the State to follow.



## BPA Requires a Six-Hour Power Outage – June 21st, from 2 am–8 am

The Bonneville Power Administration has requested a city-wide outage in order to perform needed maintenance on three 115 KVA switches that serve the City of Cheney. BPA is required to meet standards created and administered by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Failure to meet these requirements can result in large fines for BPA.

Due to the nature of the electrical maintenance, the power lines cannot be energized. Therefore, Cheney has scheduled a 6-hour power outage on Sunday morning, June 21, 2009—from 2 am until 8 am—to permit the BPA to complete this service. During the outage, BPA will clean, inspect, tighten, and service the three transmission switches. BPA is required to complete this

work every ten years to increase reliability of the electrical grid.

In most situations, BPA is able to re-route power to keep energy available to the community. However, this is not the case in Cheney. The two transmission lines that feed Cheney both come in to and through the three switches that require service. Therefore, both transmission lines must be de-energized to perform this much needed service.

During the outage, it is recommended that all sensitive equipment—such as computers—be turned off and unplugged from the wall. In addition, all devices that run off a battery should be charged before the outage occurs. Cell phones should con-

tinue to function. Phones that have an attached handset will work. Cordless handset phones, however, will not work.

During the power outage, plan to keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to maintain the cold temperatures. Refrigerators should keep food cold for about 4 to 6 hours. A full freezer should keep food safe for about two days; a half-full freezer, about one day.

When power is restored, plan to turn appliances on one at a time. This will help to protect them from surges, and will also prevent overloads to the electrical system. Watch for additional information regarding the scheduled power outage on the City's website—[www.cityofcheney.org](http://www.cityofcheney.org).

*Bank Cards can  
be used to pay  
utility bills online  
year round!*

## Utilities can be Paid Online While Away For the Summer

Summer is right around the corner. For many residents, it is a time for vacation or travel. If your summer plans include an extensive trip away from Cheney, the City's website makes it easy to make utility payments from anywhere in the world where there is Internet access. If traveling overseas, a quick stop at an Internet café can assist in making utility payments at any time day or night. If summer plans include an extensive trip to a place so remote

that Internet access won't be possible, utility payments can be made in advance. Extra funds can be placed on a utility account to cover payments for several months.

The City of Cheney is working hard to make bill paying as easy as possible. To make an online utility payment, go to the City's website at [www.cityofcheney.org](http://www.cityofcheney.org) and click on the green button titled, "On Line Payments." Then

click on "pay a utility bill." The site is highly secure and users may feel comfortable with the transfer of credit card information. Account customers may designate any dollar amount in the "Amount Paid" box. Larger amounts may be entered to cover utility payments for the entire summer if a resident wishes to pay once and then forget about it until returning to Cheney in the fall.

The Cheney Museum needs a new home. When the Wren Pierson suffered a roof collapse last winter, everyone occupying the building was forced to evacuate. The Tilicum Club—who oversees the museum's collection—worked at a feverish pace to get the artifacts boxed up and removed to a safe storage area. "The storage facility was always intended to be a short-term solution," states Museum Director, Joan Mamanakis. "The collection is at risk for loss or damage from humidity, insects, and rodents. We need to

find a long-term home before winter returns this year."

The Tilicum Club is negotiating with the Masonic Lodge about a space on First Street. The Club needs to raise \$33,000 to be able to move into the space. They are encouraging anyone who wants to help preserve the collection, to either volunteer time or make a donation through the museum's website [www.cheneymuseum.org](http://www.cheneymuseum.org) – click on "Donate Now!"

## Museum in Need of New Home

