

A delicious night: the 2017 Keystone Awards

BY LOIS BELL
SHERIDAN SENIOR CENTER

SHERIDAN — Food is not exempt from trends and the 2017 Keystone Awards is no exception. The 2017 event will introduce some au courant hors d'oeuvres as part of the evening's festivities on April 20 at the WYO Theater.

The Keystone Awards honors individuals for their contributions to community. The night fetes honorees with live entertainment, tribute videos to each honoree, music, personal introductions and an after-party. And there's the reception prior to the show with more music...and food.

The Keystone Awards are not like many other award events.

This is the seventh year for the Keystone Awards. The awards were organized by the Sheridan Senior Center as a fundraiser to support the center's services to elders living at home in the community. The Senior Center was started by a group of volunteers in 1972.

"We were trying to think of a 'fun-raiser' for the Senior Center," Keystone event chair Rindy West said. "We want to celebrate the lifetime of achievement of service to community."

West is the development director for the Senior Center.

"The first idea was a roast but realized that something celebratory was better," West said. "Volunteers Ky Dixon and Carmen Rideout had seen the Kennedy



COURTESY PHOTO

Food committee volunteer Georgia Boley, right, samples food for the upcoming 2017 Keystone Awards. Boley has been working with caterer Wayne Gable, left, on new and trendy foods for this year's event.

Center Honors and we decided to pattern the Keystone Awards after that. The idea took off."

Dixon was the executive director for the Sheridan Senior Center prior to Rideout stepping into that position in February 2000.

The 2011 and 2012 Keystone Awards were at the Sheridan County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall. From the first year, the evening included live entertainment, food and a reception along with tributes to the honorees. The event moved

to the WYO Theater in 2013 and was the first event to utilize the newly constructed Mars Theater when it opened.

In 2013, the event introduced Keys to the Stone honorees celebrating outstanding students from the five county high schools and Sheridan College.

While new honorees are spotlighted, new venues, new entertainment and the food provide supporting roles to the evening.

Nine subcommittees comprise the larger overall

Keystone Awards committee. The event food committee selects the food and the caterer. Volunteer Georgia Boley, a self-proclaimed "foodie" and a registered dietitian, was naturally drawn to role. Boley has overseen the event's menu for four years.

The committee selected Red Velvet Bakery to cater the 2017 event. Boley and bakery owner Wayne Gable have been working together on the menu for months.

They begin with a look at foods that complement each

other.

"Knowing how amazing Wayne has done in the past, it's pretty easy," Boley said.

Gable was trying and tweaking some of the evening's offerings a week in advance of the event and brought Boley in for her input.

"It's fun to work with a creative fellow-foodie like Wayne," Boley said. "He has a passion for fresh food that's novel and delicious."

Gable is preparing more than 3,600 individual bites for an anticipated atten-

dance of 300 that includes honorees, guests, dignitaries, sponsors and the community.

The hors d'oeuvres menu this year features chicken tacos, pork tacos, Romaine Thai veggie boats, shrimp, baked jalapeños with cream cheese and bacon, homemade cookies and a variety of gelato cups that will be offered during the honoree reception. The honoree reception is from 6-7 p.m. prior to the entertainment at 7:30 p.m.

The honoree reception and live entertainment are included in the event ticket price. Tickets are \$75 per person with a special \$35 price for students, military personnel and individuals registered with the Senior Center.

The 2017 Keystone honorees are child advocate Reta Onstott, philanthropist Jacomien Mars, and former Sheridan Mayor Jim Wilson. Mars' husband and fellow philanthropist, Forrest Mars, will be honored posthumously this year. From 2011 to 2016, 19 individuals have been honored as Keystone honorees. The 2017 Awards will raise the number to 23 honorees.

The 2017 Keys to the Stone are students Frank Bacca (Sheridan College), Kylar Klaahsen (Arvada-Clearmont High School), Paden Koltiska (Sheridan High School), Sierra McCoy (Tongue River High School), Whitney Migrants (Fort Mackenzie High School) and Tanner Warder (Big Horn High School).

CENTER STAGE

Volunteers make the difference

Remember the starfish story?

I heard this story for the first time standing on the beach in Gulfport, Mississippi, eight months after Katrina. Total devastation surrounded us and it was our first day on a mission trip to help rebuild New Orleans.

This story has stuck with me and I have referred to its message many times in my work as a volunteer coordinator.

I am Terri Hayden, the new director of volunteers for the Sheridan Senior Center.

I am excited and anxious to begin to get to know the community, and the folks that make Sheridan a great

place to live.

I have lived in Jackson for 32 years and worked in volunteer management for 18 years where I managed the volunteers at the National Museum of Wildlife Art and St. John's Medical Center. Most recently my husband and I lived on the Oregon Coast in a small town where I worked as the meal site manager for Meals on Wheels and was part of a small craft business. Well, Wyoming gets into your soul and when an opportunity for my husband came up we jumped at the chance to return.

I enjoy working alongside volunteers, hearing stories of how volunteering has made an impact in their lives and so many others. I like the challenge of seeing an opportunity for a volunteer or a volunteer program, finding the volunteer and making the "fit" a success.

With hospital support I began a Pet Partners program as well as a music

therapy program for patients and their families. At the museum, I began a middle school volunteer program, which still succeeds today.

On a personal note, my husband, Paul, will be the interim pastor at the First Presbyterian Church here in Sheridan and he is my number one cheerleader. You will see him often as he is a community involved individual. We blended families 14 years ago and have four grown sons between us, all spread out around the west.

I am a volunteer myself, having most recently served on the Public Arts Committee for Lincoln City, Oregon. I have been on a number of mission trips both in the U.S. and Central America. My most fulfilling trip was to a school in Santiago, Guatemala, where I worked with students ages 4-18. Their first language was Mayan, so communication was a challenge, we

conversed with smiles and hugs. I have also dug trenches for new homes and planted cocoa, coffee and bananas in Nicaragua, trying to avoid the huge spiders.

I look forward to working with the staff and volunteers of the Senior Center. I have an open door policy so please stop by and introduce yourself. If you are interested in volunteering please contact me and we can sit down and talk about how you can "make a difference" in the lives of the Sheridan seniors.

To all current volunteers, a big thank you for your dedication and service!

TERRI HAYDEN is the Sheridan Senior Center's new director of volunteers. You can reach Hayden at 672-2240, ext. 131, or sscvol@fiberpipe.net. Center Stage is written by friends of the Senior Center for the Sheridan Community. It is a collection of insights and stories related to living well at every age.



TERRI HAYDEN

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SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS

- The seventh annual Keystone Awards are April 20. This is a fundraiser to support services from the Senior Center in supporting older residents living independently in our communities. The evening will include live entertainment, food, friends and fun. The cost is \$75 per person; \$35 per person for those registered with the Senior Center, students and military personnel. Tickets are on sale at the WYO Theater, 42 N. Main St., or online at www.wyothater.com.

- Want to give back to your community? Volunteering is a great way to do so! Meet new people, share skills you have or learn new skills. If you are interested in getting more information on volunteering for the Sheridan Senior Center, contact Terri Hayden, director of volunteer services, 672-2240, ext. 131.

- Join us for a reading by Third Thursday Poets on Thursday at 12:30 p.m. A collection of the poems, "At the Drop of a Thought,"

will be available for sale with proceeds going to support services from the Senior Center.

- Interested in joining a group organized through the Senior Center for a trip this year? There will be a casual information meeting on Thursday from 2-3 p.m. at the center on a trip to Glacier National Park planned for Sept. 9-13 and a trip to see the fall colors of New England this October by bus and by rail planned for Oct. 2-12. Deadlines and deposits are coming due May 1 and May 15, respectively. Call the Senior Center at 672-2240 for details.

- Celebrate 100 years of Girl Scout cookies by joining the Sheridan Senior Center on April 29 at 2 p.m. for a tea with Girl Scouts from Troop #1333. Call in advance at 672-2240 to sign up. Cookies will be served from the original recipe to modern day. Questions? Call Jean Harm at the Senior Center.

Sheridan Senior Center
"Celebrating 40 Years of Service"
www.sheridanseniorcenter.org

Fun and Food
BUILD YOUR OWN SALAD Mondays - Fridays
Entrees and kiosk include sides, dessert and drink.

Entrée Choice*	or	Soup Kiosk
Tue - Chicken Pot Pie		Cauliflower Soup
Wed - Beef Pot Roast Dinner		Creamy Potato Soup
Thu - Turkey Pasta Salad		Taco Soup
Fri - Country Ribs		Beef Stew
Sat - Tater Tot Casserole		No Kiosk on Sat
Sun - Roast Turkey		No Kiosk on Sun
Mon - Ham Loaf in Pineapple sauce		Turkey Noodle Soup

*entrée only offered for Home Delivered Meals

THANK A VOLUNTEER! NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK APR 23 - 29

Tue - Tai Chi	8:30 a.m.	Community Room
Wed - Bridge	12:30 p.m.	Community Room
Thu - Free Reading Third Thursday Poets	12:45 p.m.	Community Room
7 th Annual Keystone Awards	5:30 p.m.	WYO Theater
Fri - Conversation Pit	8:00 p.m.	Dining Room
Sat - Avian Adventure Meet at the Senior Center	8:30 a.m.	Brinton Important 3rd Area

Lunch Service Hours: 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., 365 days a year at 211 Smith Street
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