Ophthalmology: Cheyenne, Wyoming Physicians and Practices -A History-

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Preface

This all started with one question that no one at Cheyenne Eye Clinic could seem to answer.

The question routinely comes up, for one reason or another, in the day-to-day operations of this clinic, “How long has the Cheyenne Eye Clinic been in business?”

It may seem unlikely, but, until now, no one really knew for sure exactly when the clinic started. “Sometime in the 1970s” or “about forty years ago, we think...” was our usual answer to the question. Even current and retired doctors who worked for the clinic did not know for sure.

So my main reason for starting this project was to simply find out when Cheyenne Eye Clinic started. From there it got out of hand.

A life-long curiosity of history made me more obsessive, with each new discovery, to find more information. “What happened before that?” and “What happened before that?” I managed to learn a lot about the history of Cheyenne in addition to assembling the history of Cheyenne ophthalmology.

None of this information was in one place until now. It’s all pieced together from dozens of different sources. I interviewed retired doctors and employees. I spent hours on the internet and at the Laramie County Library, Laramie County Court House, and the Wyoming State Archives. I put all the puzzle pieces together the best I could.

At one point, in the microfilm room of the Wyoming State Archives, I finally found detailed information about, and a photo of, the first medical eye doctor in Cheyenne. The Cheyenne Eye Clinic is the continuation of the practice started by that doctor.

If you do not care about reading the details, I'll give you the quick version of what I found:

How long has Cheyenne Eye Clinic been in business? The first medical eye doctor came to Cheyenne in 1903. His name was George L. Strader, MD. Through the lineage of one doctor to the next, one partnership after another, Dr. Strader’s practice is still active today as Cheyenne Eye Clinic.

The practice of Stump & Johnston, after adding two additional doctors to the practice, changed its name to Cheyenne Eye Clinic in 1969.

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Cheyenne Eye Clinic and Cheyenne Eye Surgery
2010 (Last updated December 2016)
Cheyenne Eye Clinic Begins Again

April 1, 1994 was the date Cheyenne Eye Clinic, having split into two different practices in the late 1970s, came back together again.

In 1994, Cheyenne Eye Clinic was in its current location at 1300 East 20th Street. Shareholders, Dirk Dijkstal, MD and Shauna McKusker, MD were partners with Donald Iverson, MD and Donald Lawler, MD.

About a half mile away on 19th Street, Randy Johnston, MD and a staff physician, John Millin, MD, were in practice with Randy’s father, Ted Johnston, MD, at Johnston Eye Clinic.

Since Cheyenne Eye Clinic Drs. Lawler and Iverson, as well as Dr. Ted Johnston, were nearing retirement, Drs. Dijkstal and McKusker, along with Drs. Randy Johnston and Millin spent over a year planning the details for a merger of the two clinics. As a result, on the same day as the merger, Doctors Lawler, Iverson and Ted Johnston, all part of the original split of the Cheyenne Eye Clinic in 1977, officially retired. Dr. Millin became an equal partner later that summer of 1994.

The surviving name was Cheyenne Eye Clinic. None of the merging doctors remain. Anne E. Miller, MD became an employee physician in August 2001 and became an equal owner in 2002 and the sole owner in 2016. Dr. Millin moved in 2013. The other doctors have since retired.
Early History of Cheyenne Ophthalmology

In the first half of the 20th century, physicians with an eye specialty most often combined with what is now otolaryngology. So many “eye” doctors practiced as Eye, Ear, Nose, and Throat doctors (EENTs – sometimes spoken as “Double E-N-Ts”). These physicians were categorized for decades as *Oculist* (eye) and *Aurist* (ear) in Cheyenne business listings.

Over one hundred years of Cheyenne phone books and city directories at the Special Collections Room at the Laramie County Library and the Wyoming State Archives provided an outline of the information about the history of Cheyenne ophthalmology practices. In the first part of the 20th century, some directories were published only every other year. Some spans of time have no directory either published or surviving. However, a good lineage of the doctors and their practices can still be pieced together, although the exact years can only be approximated to within a year, at times.

**Cheyenne’s First Eye Doctor:**
**George Strader, MD & His Partners (1903-1938)**

In the 1902 Cheyenne City Directory, there is no mention of an Oculist or an Aurist. Only fifteen physicians practiced in Cheyenne. Many, if not all of them, were likely general practitioners.

In 1903 the founding father of eye care in Cheyenne arrived from Omaha, Nebraska. George L. Strader, MD, moved to Cheyenne with his wife Alice, and their son, Harold, and daughter, Lillian. He was thirty-three years old when he set up practice in Cheyenne. Dr. Strader’s pioneering eye practice lineage in Cheyenne continued, without interruption, to become today’s Cheyenne Eye Clinic—the only ophthalmology practice in Cheyenne.

He continued practicing as a medical eye doctor in Cheyenne for thirty-five years. At the time of his arrival, Cheyenne had just over 10,000 people and the town was less than thirty-five years old. Cheyenne would have been
little developed north of the Capitol building and stretched east only as far as Minnehaha Park, now known as Holliday Park. Cheyenne then had only three banks, thirteen churches, and fourteen places to buy a meal, but had forty-four “saloons.” Dirty and muddy streets were the norm - Capitol Avenue was not paved until about 1918. In 1903, no one in Cheyenne owned a car, or had electricity or indoor plumbing in their homes. Theodore Roosevelt was the U.S. President. In fact, President Roosevelt came to Frontier Days in 1903 and rode in the parade beside Buffalo Bill Cody. This was the same year the Wright Brothers had their first successful air flight and Tom Horn was hanged just two blocks from Dr. Strader’s new office.

In 1903, Dr. Strader’s office address was first listed as 2-3 Opera House Block. By 1910 he had set up practice in the First National Bank building, (built in 1907), on the third floor in Room 312. This is the building just north, across the plaza, from the historic depot (The First National Bank failed in 1924. The building is now known as the Majestic Building).

Dr. Strader’s office hours were always listed as 8:30 to 11:30 and 1:00 to 4:00. His first phone number was 193-Y. A live phone operator would have been needed to connect a patient, if they had a phone, with Dr. Strader’s office. Dr. Strader’s office was in the First National Bank location until 1922 when he moved west across the street to the fourth floor of the then three-year-old H.P. Hynds Building, Room 408.

Room 408, at the Hynds Building, would remain an eye doctor’s office for almost thirty years (as of this writing the Hynds Building has been vacant since the early 1980s preparing for renovation). The Hynds Building was the office location for a majority of Cheyenne’s physicians in the 1920s and 1930s.

Another eye doctor was in Cheyenne for just one directory listing. He received his Wyoming medical license in 1906 and must have stayed in Cheyenne less than two years. His name was Charles F. Kieffer, MD, and he practiced at #9-11 Carey Block. He listed himself in the directory as a “physician, surgeon, oculist and aurist.” His wife’s name was Elizabeth and his residence was listed as Fort D. A. Russell (now F.E. Warren Air Force Base). Nothing else is known about him.

After practicing alone for nearly fourteen years, Dr. Strader entered his
first partnership. In 1918, Jay C. Decker, MD joined Dr. Strader in the First National Bank building. The practice was listed as Strader & Decker. By 1922, Dr. Decker was gone; no longer listed as a doctor in Cheyenne.

Whenever the term “partnership” is used, it is unknown if these early practices were formal legal partnerships or simply doctors that shared office space.

By 1919, a new partner began that stayed until the end of Dr. Strader’s career. Frederick L. Beck, MD came from the same practice that Dr. Strader had practiced in Omaha, Nebraska. He came with his wife, Lillian, and their five children when he was 47 years old. Strader & Beck were in practice together nineteen years through what was known nationally as the Roaring ‘20s and the Great Depression of the 1930s. The practice was called Strader & Beck. Dr. Beck lost a leg due to blood poisoning caused by a medical procedure accident while helping a patient in 1923.

About 1927, Hugo L. Lucic, MD began working at the same address as Strader & Beck. It is not clear if Dr. Lucic was ever a partner since the name of the practice remains listed as Strader & Beck the entire time Dr. Lucic was in Cheyenne. However, according to a biography piece written by Dr. Beck’s daughter, she referred to the practice as Strader, Beck & Lucic. About 1938, after ten years, Dr. Lucic was no longer listed in the Cheyenne directories.

About 1926, Myron L. Babcock, MD was an Oculist in the Boyd Building. He did not appear to be associated with Strader & Beck or Lucic. Two years later his name no longer appeared in the city directory. Dr. Babcock received his Wyoming medical license in 1914. It is unknown in what other Wyoming community he practiced before coming to Cheyenne twelve years later.
George Leslie Strader, MD, the first eye physician in Cheyenne, died on January 21, 1938 a month after his 67th birthday. It was a front page story in the Cheyenne newspaper. Dr. Strader had entered semi-retirement just four months earlier as a result of poor health. He was staying in California to recuperate from a cerebral hemorrhage, where he died one day before he and his wife were planning to return to Cheyenne.

Dr. Strader, Cheyenne’s first medical specialist, was a well known civic leader. He served as the president of the state medical society, a member of the 1915 legislature as a state representative, a member of the state board of health, and a member of many other organizations. His grave, along with the graves of his family, is in Cheyenne’s Lakeview Cemetery.

**Beck & Newman (1938-1943)**

With the semi-retirement and eventual death of Dr. Strader, the practice he pioneered was still able to continue. With Dr. Lucic’s recent departure and Dr. Strader gone, Dr. Frederick Beck was now 66 years old and shared an office with two newer doctors – Erwin W. Newman, MD and Fred W. Beck, MD—who both began practicing in Cheyenne in 1937 before Strader’s death.

Dr. Fred W. Beck was Dr. Frederick L. Beck’s son. Dr. Fred W. Beck was listed in the phone book as only “Ear, Nose & Throat” while the first Dr. Beck and Dr. Newman are listed as “Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat.” All three are listed at the same office, at 408 Hynds Building, until 1943.

In 1943, Dr. Frederick L. Beck is no longer listed as a physician and his son, Fred W. Beck, no longer with Dr. Newman, shared an office with Russell I. Williams, MD, also an ENT. In the next year, the younger Beck is no longer listed in Cheyenne. After a stint as a doctor in the Armed Forces during World War II, he eventually moved his practice to Oakland, California.

Dr. Frederick L. Beck died in January, 1952 at the age of 80, about a decade after ending medical practice. He and his wife are buried at Cheyenne’s Bethel cemetery.

Dr. Newman appears to be Cheyenne’s only eye physician during the last part of World War II – 1943 until 1946. He came to Cheyenne in 1937 from University Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa. He was from, and received his education in, Minnesota. His office telephone number was 4951 and he continued to practice in the Hynds Building.

During the war years, Cheyenne’s population was over 20,000 people. The east end of Cheyenne had expanded east to roughly Logan Avenue.
Newman & Stump

Robert B. Stump, MD studied at the University of Iowa’s Department of Ophthalmology. Dr. Stump would have been about 40 when he and his wife Goldie moved to Cheyenne after his service in World War II ended.

Newman & Stump, as the practice was known, practiced together for about ten years. The practice began in 1946 and continued until they ended their partnership about 1956. When they began their practice in 1946, they continued to see patients in Room 408 Hynds Building. They moved to #214 Bell Building in 1950 until the 1956 split. In 1956 Dr. Newman continued his practice at the Bell Building across the street from the Plains Hotel entrance. Dr. Stump moved to a new location on Logan Avenue.

Newman & Stadnick (1956-1967)

Dr. Newman went on to practice for eleven years with Louis J. Stadnick, MD starting in 1956. They were known as Newman & Stadnick from 1956 until 1967. Dr. Stadnick practiced ophthalmology in Cheyenne from 1956 until 1985 and practiced solo the rest of his career after Dr. Newman left in January, 1967. Dr. Newman and his wife retired to Cedar Rapids, Iowa where he died three years later.

As of 1960, Stadnick & Newman’s practice was located at #215 American National Bank building. In 1976, Dr. Stadnick moved from the American National Bank building to the medical office building at 800 E. 20th Street. He practiced there until he retired in 1985. Dr. Rod Anderson said Dr. Stadnick, with whom he occasionally performed surgery, suddenly made the decision to retire and just gave all of his records to Dr. Anderson’s Eye Care Clinic. Dr. Stadnick died in October of 1999 at the age of 79.

Stump & Johnston (1957 to 1969)

After about ten years with Dr. Newman, Dr. Stump moved out on his own in 1956. He set up practice at 1811 Logan Avenue for about one year. By the late 1950s and early 1960s, a majority of Cheyenne’s doctors’ offices are located within a block of the intersection of Logan Avenue and 19th Street. This location was approximately halfway between Cheyenne’s two hospitals at the time-Memorial Hospital and DePaul Hospital. Three of Dr. Stump’s offices
that he occupied from 1956 until 1970 can be seen from this intersection.

By 1956, Cheyenne’s population had grown to over 35,000, with only two eye physicians in town. Both Dr. Newman and Dr. Stump were looking for a new partner.

Theodore “Ted” L. Johnston, MD (referred to as “Dr. Ted” by his employees, friends and some patients) was a Captain with the U.S. Air Force and stationed at F.E. Warren Air Force Base. He was the base ophthalmologist from 1955 to 1957. Drs. Stump and Newman knew Dr. Ted Johnston was scheduled for discharge in 1957. Both had approached him about joining them in practice.

To Dr. Ted Johnston, the choice of which doctor he would practice with was clear. Dr. Ted’s opinion was Dr. Newman was an unpleasant man he did not care to work with. Dr. Ted recently stated, “Dr. Stump was one of the Lord’s great people. I would have practiced with Bob Stump in the middle of the desert before I would have practiced with any other doctor in paradise.”

Dr. Ted also knew Dr. Stump from a chance meeting, a few years earlier, at the University of Iowa where he also attended college. Having met Dr. Stump, Dr. Ted called him in 1955 to see if he could recommend a hotel where his family could stay while they waited to move into their house at the base. Dr. Stump insisted Dr. Ted, his wife and toddler son, Randy, stay at Dr. Stump’s house for those few days.

Stump & Johnston became a partnership practice in July 1957 at 1616 E. 19th Street Unit #3. (The L shaped office behind a gas station that is now converted into a bar near Logan and 19th Street) Stump & Johnston practiced here until they built a new building, completed in 1962, at 1805 E. 19th Street (roughly kitty corner from Stump & Johnston’s first office). Stump & Johnston practiced together from 1957 until 1970. In 1970, Dr. Stump retired and moved to Arizona. He died in 1985 at the age of 79. Long-time employee, Bob Lawyer, who started working with Dr. Ted in the late 1970s, said for many years patients would still ask about Dr. Stump and comment on what a wonderful man and doctor he was. Dr. Don Iversen said, “Bob Stump was one of the
most gentlemanly men I have ever known and he was always a man of reason, calm and fair play.”

Stump & Johnston hired Donald G. Iverson, MD in 1966 from the University of Colorado. Three years later, in 1969 they hired Richard T. Moore, MD from the University of Iowa Medical School. Dr. Moore was most likely brought in to replace the soon retiring Dr. Stump, but Dr. Moore only stayed a short time. He immediately went to the University of Iowa to pursue a fellowship in Retina/Vitreous Surgery. He eventually founded a practice in Reno, Nevada in 1986 and is now retired.

**Cheyenne Eye Clinic is Born**

**The First Cheyenne Eye Clinic (1969 to 1977)**

In 1969 Joe Namath’s New York Jets won the third Super Bowl, Richard Nixon was sworn in as president, the Woodstock concert and the first moon landing took place. In Cheyenne, in 1969, with four doctors in the practice, and just prior to the retirement of Dr. Stump and the departure of Dr. Moore, the practice of Stump & Johnston was known, for the first time, as Cheyenne Eye Clinic. Cheyenne Eye Clinic was later incorporated and filed with the Wyoming Secretary of State as a corporation on July 30, 1971.

![Cheyenne Eye Clinic doctors](image)

Cheyenne Eye Clinic (Stump, Johnston & Iverson) hired two new doctors in 1970. They felt the need to replace the recently departed Dr. Moore and the soon to retire Dr. Stump. That summer they hired Donald J. Lawler, MD from the U.S. Public Health System. About a month later, Rodney A. Anderson, MD was hired from the ophthalmology program at the University of Iowa.

The four doctors—Johnston, Lawler, Iverson and Anderson—practiced as the Cheyenne Eye Clinic together at 1805 E. 19th for seven years—from the summer of 1970 until August 1, 1977. For about two years, from about 1974 to 1976, they had a staff optometrist, Keith Eldred. The only other ophthalmologist in town, during the 1970s, was Louis Stadnick, MD.
Cheyenne Eye Clinic Splits

It is not uncommon for professional practices in all kinds of specialties, including medical doctors, to have professional, personal, financial, or practice differences that make it impossible for the group to stay together.

Sometime about 1976, Drs. Anderson, Lawler, and Iverson voted out Dr. Ted Johnston as the president and managing shareholder of Cheyenne Eye Clinic. After this action, they all continued to practice together under tense circumstances for nearly a year. It was clear that, long term, they could no longer work as equal partners. However, they continued together while the new-and-current Cheyenne Eye Clinic building was being built.

Dr. Ted and Dr. Stump had built the building at 1805 E. 19th Street together as a separate real estate partnership in 1962. When Dr. Stump retired he sold his share of the building to Dr. Ted. Dr. Ted now had sole ownership of the building. The other three had control of the corporation at the time of the split (and the Cheyenne Eye Clinic name), but they needed to find a new place to practice.

Cheyenne Eye Clinic After 1977 Split

The property at 1300 East 20th Street, the current home of the Cheyenne Eye Clinic and Cheyenne Eye Surgery, was purchased by IAL Investments (IAL is for Iverson, Anderson & Lawler—the doctors of the new Cheyenne Eye Clinic). They purchased the property from the First Congregational Church in November of 1976 for $75,000. The Church had inherited the property from acclaimed artist, author, and lecturer, Fern Lord Herring who had died in 1975.

Mrs. Herring’s house was located in the current parking lot just outside of today’s main waiting room windows, and faced toward 20th Street. The front of the house was about where the middle island of the parking lot is now. The sidewalk from 20th Street to the front door of the house ran through the nearest handicapped parking space. The house was on a big lot and a stone fence ran diagonally from each side of the house to 20th Street. One stone fence ran across today’s parking entrance and another through today’s optical shop and main waiting room. A detached garage sat where the front reception desk and files are now located. There were many trees where the current parking lot and building are now.
The house was torn down in 1976 and the new Cheyenne Eye Clinic was constructed on a “very fast paced schedule,” according to Dr. Lawler. The new Cheyenne Eye Clinic building was completed and opened for business on August 1, 1977. Drs. Anderson, Iverson, and Lawler moved to the new building and continued the Cheyenne Eye Clinic without Dr. Ted.

These three doctors continued to practice together for about three years, until Dr. Anderson left Cheyenne Eye Clinic to start the present day Eye Care Clinic and Optical in 1980.

To make up for the loss of Dr. Anderson, Drs. Lawler and Iverson brought in Peter A. Larsen, MD from the University of Minnesota. He stayed less than a year and eventually ended up living in Newcastle, Wyoming. He is now retired.

In July, 1984, Dirk Dijkstal, MD, was hired by the Cheyenne Eye Clinic (Lawler and Iverson). Three years later, in 1987, they hired Shauna K. McKusker, MD. This group of four doctors (Lawler, Iverson, Dijkstal, and McKusker) practiced together as the Cheyenne Eye Clinic until the merger in 1994.

**Eye Care Clinic and Optical (1980 to Present)**

The departure of Dr. Rod Anderson from Cheyenne Eye Clinic in 1980 created the Eye Care Clinic & Optical. It was originally at 1609 E. 19th Street. The Eye Care Clinic moved to 6252 Yellowstone Road, a building built by Dr. Anderson, around 1988. About the same time, Dr. Anderson hired Michael J. Trynosky, MD.

Dr. Trynosky practiced with Dr. Anderson until about 1991 when he went to Cheyenne’s Veterans Administration Hospital as the VA’s ophthalmologist for a few years. Dr. Trynosky moved on to a VA hospital in Arizona and as of 2010 worked for the VA Hospital in Amarillo, Texas.

Dr. Anderson hired Dave Gajda, MD in September, 1994 and became associated with Robert Holly, an optometrist, about 2000. Dr. Anderson retired in December, 2001 and sold his share of the practice to Dr. Gajda. Dr. Gajda later hired Gina Kim, MD who only worked at the Eye Care Clinic during the last half of 2004. Dr. Kim went on to practice with the Eye Care Center of Northern Colorado in Longmont. For a short time a physician, Dr. Jennifer Lindsay, worked part time at the Eye Care Clinic. About 2005, the Eye Care Clinic moved across the office complex to a bigger suite at 6228 Yellowstone Road. Dr. Gajda left Cheyenne for California in April 2011. Eye Care Clinic is now only an optometry clinic owned by Dr. Holly.
The Johnston Eye Clinic (1977 to 1994)

With the departure of Anderson, Iverson and Lawler in 1977, Dr. Ted was left with little but a building. He was 56 and had to rebuild a practice on his own. He named it the Johnston Eye Clinic, borrowed $300,000, and started over.

Two years later, in the early winter months of 1979, Dr. Ted hired Flinton Callahan II, MD, a U.S. Navy ophthalmologist, who only stayed three months. He moved to Virginia where he started his own practice. He said he and his wife did not like Cheyenne and wanted to return to their home state.

About 1982, Dr. Ted hired Cheyenne native Michael E. Deines, MD. In 1984, Dr. Ted hired his own son and current shareholder, Randolph L. Johnston, MD. The Johnston Eye Clinic had rebuilt itself to a three doctor practice.

Around 1988, Dr. Deines left the practice for California where he practiced in Stockton for Kaiser Permanente. The Johnston Eye Clinic then only had the two Johnstons as doctors for five years until they hired John A. Millin, MD, in August of 1993.

The Current Cheyenne Eye Clinic

After the April 1, 1994 merger, the Cheyenne Eye Clinic came back together from its split in 1977, but this time with all new players. All the doctors from 1977, who split the Cheyenne Eye Clinic into two practices, were now retired and Dr. Anderson had his own clinic. A third generation or metamorphosis of the Cheyenne Eye Clinic had begun.

Positive and progressive changes have been made since the 1994 merger. Glaucoma specialist Anne E. Miller, MD was hired in 2001. There have been three building expansions including an ambulatory surgery center. Expansions have necessitated the purchase of three more houses on the 1300 block of 20th Street. Dr. Dijkstal retired in April of 2012 and died in 2016. Drs. McKukser and Johnston retired in August 31, 2016.

Expansion of the Clinic, in 2002, doubled the size of the main floor – the patient care area. The 2002 expansion was needed to remedy a crowded facil-
ity. Primarily, the 2002 expansion made room for the addition of a fifth doctor, Dr. Miller, the purchase of a substantial amount of additional testing equipment, and a LASIK surgery area. The expansion also was designed to accommodate a future surgery center construction.

Cheyenne Eye Surgery, a separate company affiliated with the Cheyenne Eye Clinic, was built attached to the Cheyenne Eye Clinic building in 2007. The first surgery was performed in the surgery center on January 31, 2008 by Dr. Miller. The surgery center also accommodates LASIK surgery and the previous LASIK area was converted to a larger contact lens center in the clinic.

The original 1977 building was about 8,000 square feet. After 2002, the Clinic was about 14,450 square feet. With the surgery center, the entire building is now about 20,000 square feet.

After the merger in 1994, the new Cheyenne Eye Clinic had about twenty-five employees. The Clinic now has over sixty employees and can schedule from 150 to 170 patients per day. In 2006, the Clinic converted to a state of the art medical computer system, and became an early adopting practice of electronic health records. The largest and most expensive piece of equipment is the 2010 purchase of a VISX Excimer Star 4 Laser for LASIK and PRK surgery.

In 2015, James Cole, MD began as a comprehensive ophthalmologist and Zachary Pearce, DO began as an oculoplastics specialist. Dr. Kyle Piwonka started in July of 2016 to take over Dr. Randy Johnston’s retina practice. Kristopher Hubbard, OD was hired June 1, 2016, the Cheyenne Eye Clinic’s first optometrist since the 1970s.

Dr. Strader’s first eye appointment in a small office in Cheyenne’s old Opera House building was in 1903. His practice, which began over one-hundred years ago, still survives today and is one of the oldest continuous businesses in Cheyenne.

Imagine over one hundred years ago, patients probably just walked in without an appointment, and it is likely Dr. Strader made many house calls. The practice of medicine was slower then, so Dr. Strader likely saw only about a dozen patients per day. Surgery techniques were much less sophisticated, more invasive, and many outcomes were far less than ideal by today’s standards.

From a one room, one doctor practice in 1903, Cheyenne Eye Clinic has grown to a large, thriving medical center for eye care today. A hundred years from now, the improvements in science, technology and training taking place in ophthalmology will likely be as or more dramatic as they have been in the last century.
The Johnstons—Three Generations of Eye Doctors

Far Left is Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat doctor, Harry Leigh Johnston, MD, with his baby son and future ophthalmologist, Theodore “Ted” Leigh Johnston, MD in 1921.

Top and bottom right is Theodore “Ted” Leigh Johnston, MD with his baby son and future ophthalmologist Randolph “Randy” L. Johnston, MD.

Both Ted and Randy would become future owners of Cheyenne Eye Clinic and Johnston Eye Clinic. Ted worked for Cheyenne Eye Clinic before ending his career with Johnston Eye Clinic. Randy started his career with Johnston Eye Clinic and is still a shareholder of Cheyenne Eye Clinic. In 2010, Randy held the prestigious position as the President of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

Ted’s father and Randy’s grandfather, Harry L. Johnston, MD, was born in 1887. He had a practice in Indianola, Indiana that he was unable to continue during the Great Depression. He moved to Ames, Iowa and worked part-time at Iowa State College and part-time at the Ames hospital. He eventually had his own practice again and practiced EENT and sports medicine until he was eighty-one years old, retiring about 1968. He died a couple of years later in 1970.

All three doctors have the same middle name, Leigh. All three of Ted’s children became Medical Doctors.
**Summary of an Ophthalmologist’s Education**

Explanation of the sequence of Doctor of Medicine (MD) education:

After **high school**, a future medical doctor would go to a university and earn a degree. This is known as an **undergraduate degree or bachelor’s degree**. Certain pre-requisite math and science classes are required for medical school admission.

The future doctor then applies for and, if accepted, begins **medical school** where the student obtains a Doctor of Medicine Degree or MD. Medical school lasts for four years. The first two years are typically in the classroom and the second two are spent doing rotations in hospitals and clinics working alongside attending and resident physicians. Medical students must pass a series of board exams to obtain their medical degree.

After medical school, a doctor completes one year as an intern in a hospital. Once the **internship** is complete, one can apply for a medical license in their state and then begin the practice of medicine once obtained.

To become a specialist, such as an ophthalmologist, a doctor must complete a **residency** after the internship. A residency is in-depth training within a specific branch of medicine and usually lasts about three to five years. Once the three year ophthalmology residency is complete, the doctor may begin practice as a comprehensive ophthalmologist. Others may apply for a fellowship as all the Cheyenne Eye Clinic doctors have done.

A **fellowship** is a one to two year program to become a specialist within a particular branch of ophthalmology. Fellowships are offered in retina, cornea/external disease, pediatrics/strabismus, cornea, neuro-ophthalmology, and glaucoma.

In summation, after medical school and an internship, an MD must complete a residency to become an ophthalmologist, and must complete a fellowship to become a specialist. For example, Dr. Anne Miller completed her residency to become an ophthalmologist and then a fellowship to become a glaucoma specialist. In total, she had thirteen years of school and training following graduation from high school!

**Difference between an Ophthalmologist and an Optometrist:**

An **ophthalmologist** is a medical doctor (as described above) who is also able to perform eye surgery and laser surgery. The benefit of seeing an ophthalmologist is that they provide eye care for everyone from those with no eye problems to those with severe vision-threatening eye disease. Their background as a medical doctor enables them to treat eyes in reference to the whole health of a person.

An **optometrist** completes four years of optometry school (not the same as medical school) after earning an undergraduate degree. Optometrists must pass a national exam. Optometrists mainly perform exams to fit eye glasses, contact lenses, and screen for medical problems of the eye. They refer patients to an ophthalmologist for medical eye problems or surgery.
Cheyenne, Wyoming Ophthalmologist Registry  
Earlier known as Oculist and Aurist  
(Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat Physicians)

Rodney A. Anderson, MD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History: Began with Cheyenne Eye Clinic just prior to Dr. Stump’s full retirement in 1970. Practiced with Cheyenne Eye Clinic both on 19th Street and at the new building on 20th Street until 1980. Founded the Eye Care Clinic and Optical and retired in December, 2001.

Personal: Retired and living in Cheyenne with his wife, Sue

Undergraduate: University of Iowa BA Liberal Arts, 1958
Medical School: University of Iowa, 1962
Internship: Pierce County Hospital & Mountainview General Hospital, Tacoma, Washington, 1963
Fellowship: University of Iowa, Physiology, 1966-1967 (research for NIH Grant)
Master’s Degree: University of Iowa, Physiology, 1970.

Myron L. Babcock, MD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History: He practiced in Cheyenne for three years or less. He was only listed in the 1926 Cheyenne City Directory. He did not share an office with any other physician. His office was at 326 Boyd Building (1720 Carey Ave). He received a Wyoming medical license in 1914, but he did not appear in Cheyenne listings until 1926.

Personal: In the 1911 Colorado Business Directory, Dr. Myron L. Babcock was listed as a physician and mayor of Julesburg, Colorado. The short time he lived in Cheyenne, he and his wife, Mildred, lived at #112 Cheyenne Apartments at 1818 Evans Avenue, now known as The Landmark Apartments.

Undergraduate: Unknown
Medical School: Unknown
Internship: Unknown
Residency: Unknown
Frederick Lewis Beck, MD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History: In February 1919, Dr. Beck began practice with George L. Strader, MD. He came in before Dr. Decker left in 1922. He practiced with Dr. Strader until Dr. Strader’s death in 1938. Dr. Beck also practiced with Hugo L. Lucic, MD from 1928 to 1938. After 1938 he shared an office with his son, Frederick W. Beck, MD (Not an Eye doctor-only Ear, Nose and Throat) and Edwin Newman, MD. Dr. Beck retired in 1940 (his daughter’s biography says he retired in 1945 and he was in the city directories and phone books until 1943, but his obituary says he retired in 1940).

Personal: Born in Otterville, Illinois April 13, 1872, his family homesteaded in Eastern Nebraska shortly after his birth. He married F. Lillian White on September 7, 1897. They had five children. Four lived to adulthood and one son died as an infant. At 18, he became a country school teacher and later a village school principal. He went to college and medical school during vacations for 13 years. He practiced as a country doctor for 14 years before going back to specialize in Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat. He lost a leg due to an infection in 1923. Dr. Beck died on January 8, 1952, age 80. His wife died ten years later. He was very active in medical, civic, and church activities. See the reprint of his biography and obituary—page 48 and 49. (There is some confusion on facts. One source has him born in Iowa, two other sources say Illinois. His birth is listed as 1871 on his death certificate, but his gravestone and other sources say 1872. One source has him retiring in 1940, another 1943 and others 1944 and 1945-most likely 1943 or 1944)

Undergraduate: University of Nebraska
Medical School: University of Nebraska Medical College, 1903
Internship: Unknown
Residency: Went back to school in 1916 to specialize in Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat. Assumed at the University of Nebraska Medical College.
Flinton Callahan II, MD

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** He practiced with Dr. Ted Johnston in the first three months of 1979. He was the first doctor hired by Dr. Johnston after starting Johnston Eye Clinic. He only stayed three months. He and his wife did not like Cheyenne and wanted to move back to Virginia where they were from.

**Personal:** Currently works for his practice, Callahan Eye, in Leesburg, Virginia. He has been voted, for eleven straight years, the “Best Eye Doctor in Loudoun, County” by a poll from a local publication.

**Medical School:** University of Virginia, BA, 1964-1968

**Undergraduate:** University of Virginia School of Medicine, 1968-1972

**Internship:** University of Utah Affiliated Hospitals, 1972-1973

**Residency:** University of Utah Affiliated Hospitals, 1973-1976

**Military:** United States Navy, Lieutenant Commander, 1976-1978

Justin P. Coco, DO

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Started with the Cheyenne Eye Clinic as a staff physician on October 1, 2013. First Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Ophthalmologist in Cheyenne. Hired as a result of the departure of John Millin, MD. He resigned and moved to Denver at the end of his one year contract in September, 2014.

**Personal:** Married to My Kiet “Mimie” Giang, a family practice physician. They have one son. Formerly a U.S. Army Major and Chief of Ophthalmology at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma.

**Undergraduate:** University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, BA in Psychology, 2000.

**Medical School:** Des Moines University Osteopathic Medical Center, Des Moines, Iowa, 2000-2004

**Internship:** Providence Hospital, Southfield, Michigan, 2006-2007

**Residency:** St. James Hospital, Midwestern University, Olympia Fields, Illinois, Ophthalmology, 2007-2010

**Medical Military:** U.S. Army, Major, Chief of Ophthalmology at Reynolds Army Community Hospital at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma—August 2010 to September 2013.
**James D. Cole, MD**

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Started with the Cheyenne Eye Clinic on July 13, 2015. Hired to assume the practice as a result of the departures of John Millin, MD and then Justin Coco, DO.

**Personal:** Farmed on his family’s farm in central Illinois for five years prior to going to medical school. He has two grown sons. He is an instrument-rated private licensed pilot who flies frequently and likes to cook. Spent his first seven years of medicine as a retina specialist in Iowa and the next eleven years as a comprehensive ophthalmologist and high volume cataract surgeon in Ft. Meyers, Florida.

**Undergraduate:** University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, BS in Agriculture, 1982.

**Medical School:** Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, 1987-1991

**Internship:** University of California San Diego Medical Center, San Diego, California, 1991-1992

**Residency:** Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, Massachusetts, Ophthalmology 1992-1995

**Fellowship:** Baylor University, Houston, Texas, Diseases and Surgery of Retina and Vitreous, 1995-1997

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**Jay C. Decker, MD**

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Cheyenne’s third eye doctor and George Strader, MD’s first partner. He started practicing with George Strader in 1918 or 1919 in room 408 of the Hynds Building. He is listed in a 1918 phone book and a 1920 directory as Strader & Decker. By the 1922 directory, he was no longer listed in Cheyenne. Dr. Decker also practiced with Frederick L. Beck, MD starting in 1919. In 1922, Dr. Decker moved to Sioux City, Iowa to practice.

**Personal:** Roomed at 122 W. 27th Street while in Cheyenne. Found that he lived in Belleville, Kansas in 1907.

**Undergraduate:** Unknown

**Medical School:** Unknown

**Internship:** Unknown

**Residency:** Unknown
Michael E. Deines, MD


**Personal:** A native of Cheyenne, Wyoming. Currently lives in Woodridge, California and has worked in Stockton, California for The Permanente Medical Group as a general ophthalmologist since 1990.

**Undergraduate:** University of Wyoming, Engineering, Laramie, Wyoming, 1974

**Medical School:** University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver, Colorado, about 1977

**Internship:** University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska

**Residency:** University of Utah Medical Center, Salt Lake City, Utah

Dirk Dijkstal, MD

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Started with the Cheyenne Eye Clinic July 30, 1984. He originally worked with Drs. Lawler and Iverson; later joined by Dr. McKusker. Drs. Dijkstal and McKusker merged with Randy Johnston and John Millin in 1994. Retired April, 2012.

**Personal:** Born in The Netherlands. Married to Denise with three children. He had a son and daughter who became lawyers and a daughter who herself became an ophthalmologist. He worked as a general physician on an oil rig in the Middle East and on cruise ships early in his career. Dr. Dijkstal died February 6, 2016. See appendix for his obituary.

**Undergraduate:** University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Medical School Candidacy Degree

**Medical School:** University of Amsterdam Medical School, The Netherlands, 1979

**Internship:** General Hospital, Washington, D.C., 1979-1980

**Residency:** Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York, 1980-1983

**Fellowship:** Boston Eye Research Institute in Anterior Segment Surgery and Oculoplastics, Waltham, Massachusetts, 1983-1984.
David J. Gajda, MD


Personal: Originally from St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada just a few miles from Niagara Falls. He is married with two children. Served as Wyoming Counselor for American Academy of Ophthalmology, past president of Wyoming Ophthalmology Society, President of Laramie County Medical Society.

Undergraduate: Queens University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, Electrical Engineering, 1984
Medical School: Queens University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, 1988
Internship: Queens University Affiliated Hospitals
Residency: Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, 1990-1994

Kristopher T. Hubbard, OD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History: Started practicing at Cheyenne Eye Clinic on June 1, 2016. First optometrist to work for Cheyenne Eye Clinic since the 1970s. Started by working at Cheyenne Eye Clinic part of the week and as a Wal-Mart optometrist part of the week. He practiced in Alliance, Nebraska for seven years before returning to Cheyenne.

Personal: Dr. Hubbard grew up in Cheyenne and is a Central High School graduate. He is married to Rachel, also of Cheyenne. They have six children. He enjoys running, being outdoors, coaching, and spending time with his family.

Undergraduate: Brigham Young University-Idaho, Rexburg, Idaho, Bachelors of Science in Biology, minor in Chemistry, Magna Cum Laude, 2005.
Optometry School: Southern College of Optometry, Memphis, Tennessee, Doctorate Degree of Optometry, O.D., 2009.
Externships: Veterans Administration Medical Center, Memphis, Tennessee; The Eye Center at the Southern College of Optometry, Memphis, Tennessee; The Optical Boutique, Germantown, Tennessee, 2008-2009.
Donald G. Iverson, MD

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Hired by Stump & Johnston in 1966. Continued with Stump & Johnston until Stump retired about the time Lawler and Anderson started in 1970. One of the doctors to originate the Cheyenne Eye Clinic name. Dr. Iverson stayed with Cheyenne Eye Clinic until retirement at the time Johnston Eye Clinic and Cheyenne Eye Clinic merged April 1, 1994.

**Personal:** Retired and living in Cheyenne. His children are Valerie, David and Scott and a stepson, Nathan. One time served as Chief of Medical Staff for what is now Cheyenne Regional Medical Center. He is a past president of the Cheyenne Kiwanis Club. Born in Brush, Colorado and graduated from Ft. Morgan High School, Ft. Morgan, Colorado in 1950.

**Undergraduate:** University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, Biology, 1954 (first year of college was at St. Olaf College in Minnesota).

**Medical School:** University of Colorado, 1958

**Internship:** Minneapolis General, 1959

**Medical Military:** U.S. Air Force, 1959-1963

**Residency:** University of Colorado, Ophthalmology, 1963-1966

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Randolph L. Johnston, MD

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Began practice with his father, Ted Johnston, MD and Mike Deines, MD in 1984 at Johnston Eye Clinic. One of the merging doctors with Cheyenne Eye Clinic in 1994. Served as national president of the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2010. He sold his stake and retired on August 31, 2016.

**Personal:** Son of Ted Johnston, MD (below). Married with two children and a step daughter. Played in a local rock band whose members are all doctors called Doc Roc and later a band called Strange Remedy. Moved to Ft. Collins area to be closer to family.

**Undergraduate:** Hastings College, Hastings, Nebraska, BA in Psychology

**Medical School:** University of Utah College of Medicine, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1975-1979.

**Internship:** University of Utah College of Medicine, 1979-1980

**Residency:** Residency in Ophthalmology, University of Utah College of Medicine Department of Ophthalmology, 1980-1983

**Fellowship:** Scheie Eye Institute, University of Pennsylvania, Diseases and Surgery of Retina and Vitreous, 1983-1984
Theodore “Ted” L. Johnston, MD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:  July 1955 to July 1957, Dr. Johnston was the Warren Air Force Base (WAFB) Ophthalmologist. Only one other unidentified Ophthalmologist was stationed at WAFB after Dr. Johnston. After that, cases were referred to civilian ophthalmologists in Cheyenne. It is unknown if there were ophthalmologists at the WAFB or Fort Russell before Dr. Johnston.

After his Air Force honorable discharge, Dr. Johnston became partners with Robert Stump, MD in July, 1957. He remained associated with Dr. Stump until Dr. Stump’s retirement in 1970. Donald Iverson, MD joined the practice in 1966. The practice was known as Stump & Johnston until 1969 when it became Cheyenne Eye Clinic. In 1970, Don Lawler, MD and Rod Anderson, MD join the practice. Johnston Eye Clinic started after his split with Iverson, Lawler and Anderson in 1977. Retired April 1, 1994 when Johnston Eye Clinic and Cheyenne Eye Clinic merged.

Personal:  Dr. Johnston was born in 1921 to an Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat doctor. His mother, Emma Verona Johnston, for a short time was the oldest person in the United States before she died in 2004, at the age of 114. He graduated from Ames High School in Ames, Iowa in 1939. He was married to Barbara Johnston. Dr. Ted passed away on December 19, 2015. See appendix to read obituary.

All three of his children, two sons and a daughter, became medical doctors including former Cheyenne Eye Clinic shareholder, Randolph L. Johnston, MD (above).

1st Undergraduate: Iowa State College (now Iowa State University), BS Chemical Engineering, Ames, Iowa, March 19, 1943

2nd Undergraduate: Iowa State College, BS Zoology, Ames, Iowa, August 30, 1946

Medical School: The University of Chicago Medical School, Chicago, Illinois, June 16, 1950

Internship: State University of Iowa (now known as The University of Iowa), Iowa City, Iowa, June 30, 1951

1st Residency: State University of Iowa, University Hospitals, Iowa City, Iowa, Neurology, July 1, 1951 to June 30, 1952

2nd Residency: University of Iowa, University Hospitals, Iowa City, Iowa, Ophthalmology, July 1, 1952 to July 1, 1955

Charles F. Kieffer, MD

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** He would have arrived in 1906 and must have stayed less than two years. He practiced at #9-11 Carey Block (1704 Carey Avenue). He listed himself in the directory as a physician, surgeon, oculist, and aurist. Listed in a publications as “Major Surgeon, United States Army, Fort D.A. Russell, Wyoming.”

**Personal:** His wife’s name was Elizabeth and his residence was listed as Fort D. A. Russell (now F.E. Warren Air Force Base).

**Undergraduate:** Unknown

**Medical School:** Unknown

**Internship:** Unknown

**Residency:** Unknown

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Gina H. Kim, MD

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Dr. Kim practiced at the Eye Care Clinic with Dr. Gajda for the last half of 2004.

**Personal:** As of 2010, Dr. Kim is working for the Eye Care Center of Northern Colorado in their Exempla Hospital campus in Lafayette and the office in Longmont since January 2005. As of 2014 she was working for Eye & Laser Center of Ft. Collins. She is a comprehensive ophthalmologist.

**Undergraduate:** University of California, Berkeley, May 1993

**Medical School:** Tulane University of School of Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana, June 1999

**Internship:** Internal Medicine Internship, Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation, New Orleans, Louisiana, June 2000

**Residency:** Ophthalmology, Louisiana State University-Ochsner Ophthalmology, New Orleans, Louisiana July 2000-June 2004

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Peter A. Larsen, MD

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Hired in about 1980 by Lawler & Iversen to replace Anderson who left Cheyenne Eye Clinic to start Eye Care Clinic. Only stayed at Cheyenne Eye Clinic for a short time.

**Personal:** Currently lives in Newcastle, WY. Wife Caroline.

**Undergraduate:** Unknown

**Medical School:** University of Minnesota, 1974

**Internship:** Regions Hospital, 1974-1975

**Residency:** University of Minnesota, 1975-1978

**Fellowship:** Unknown
Donald J. Lawler, MD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History: Started with Cheyenne Eye Clinic in 1970. He became an owner approximately a year later and was the physician who had the idea of establishing Cheyenne Eye Clinic as a corporation in 1971. He was with Cheyenne Eye Clinic until he retired from medicine in 1994 when Cheyenne Eye Clinic merged with Johnston Eye Clinic.


Undergraduate: University of Minnesota, Pre Med.

Medical School: University of Minnesota, 1958

Internship: Indianapolis General Hospital


Hugo L. Lucic, MD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History: Practiced in the same office as Strader & Beck from about 1927 to 1938.

Personal: No wife listed. He lived at 711 W. 28th and later at 3600 Carey Avenue.

Undergraduate: Unknown

Medical School: Unknown

Internship: Unknown

Residency: Unknown

Fellowship: Unknown

Shauna K. McKusker, MD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History: First female ophthalmologist in Cheyenne. Not confirmed but likely first female ophthalmologist in Wyoming. Started at Cheyenne Eye Clinic on July 20, 1987 with Drs. Lawler, Iverson, and Dijkstal. She and Dr. Dijkstal merged Cheyenne Eye Clinic with Johnston Eye Clinic on April 1, 1994. She sold her stake as of February 29, 2016 but continued to work under contract part-time until August 31, 2016.

Personal: Married to Geoff Thompson. Two sons and a daughter. Served on Board of Directors for Greater Cheyenne Chamber of Commerce. She is a equine enthusiast.

Undergraduate: Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, BS Biological Science, 1978
Anne E. Miller, MD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History: Started with Cheyenne Eye Clinic on August 15, 2001 and became equal owner of Cheyenne Eye Clinic on September 30, 2002. Became the sole owner of Cheyenne Eye Clinic as of August 31, 2016 upon the retirements of Dr. Johnston and Dr. McKusker.

Personal: Originally from Yuma, Colorado. Married to Eric and has two sons. Rotary member.

Undergraduate: University of Denver, Denver, Colorado, Biology, 1992

Medical School: University of Colorado Health Science Center, Denver, Colorado, 1992-1996


Residency: University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, Ophthalmology, 1997-2000

Fellowship: University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, Glaucoma, 2000-2001

John A. Millin, MD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History: Joined Drs. Ted and Randy Johnston at the Johnston Eye Clinic on August 1, 1993. Was one of the four doctors merging Johnston Eye Clinic and Cheyenne Eye Clinic on April 1, 1994. He became an equal partner in the summer of 1994. Sold his interest in June of 2013. He then took a surgical staff position with Southwestern Eye Center in Las Cruces, New Mexico. In 2014, he began working for Bennett & Bloom Eye Centers in Louisville, Kentucky.
Personal: Born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts area. He has two sons. Served as Chairman of the Wyoming Democratic Party in 2007-2008. Rotary member.


Medical School: Boston University Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, 1984-1988


Residency: Mayo Graduate School of Medicine, Rochester, Minnesota, Ophthalmology, 1989-1992

Fellowship: Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland, Corneal and External Diseases, 1992-1993

Richard T. Moore, MD


Undergraduate: Unknown

Medical School: Washington University, 1960

Internship: Unknown

Residency: University of Iowa, 1965-1969

Fellowship: University of Iowa, Diseases and Surgery of Retina and Vitreous, 1970

Erwin W. Newman, MD


Personal: Born February 11, 1901, on a dairy farm near New Richland, Minnesota. His wife was Harriet T. (Jenkins) Newman. She was an Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat surgical nurse with a graduate degree. They had two daughters named Linda and Judy. Dr. & Mrs. Newman retired to Cedar Rap-
ids, Iowa in January 1967. He died there in August 1970. He spent his entire thirty years in Cheyenne in the Eaton Apartments at 301 East 21st Street across the street from the Governor’s Mansion and just two blocks from Memorial Hospital.

**Undergraduate:** University of Minnesota  
**Medical School:** University of Minnesota  
**Internship:** Unknown  
**Residency:** Boston, Massachusetts, Ophthalmology

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**Zachary D. Pearce, DO**  
**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Started with Cheyenne Eye Clinic on August 3, 2015. He is an oculoplastics specialist who does functional and cosmetic eyelid, facial, and orbital surgery.

**Personal:** Married with two children. He has a great affinity for the outdoors, such as hiking, camping and sailing. He spent time after college as a professional musician for five years. Medical philanthropy for Unite for Sight, HOPE, and Mercy Ships surgical mission trip to Lome, Togo, Africa in 2012.

**Undergraduate:** Michigan State University. East Lansing, Michigan, BS in Engineering Arts, 1999  
Instituto Tecnologico Y Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, 1998  
Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, Pre-medicine post-baccalaureate, 2004-2005  
**Medical School:** Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, East Lansing, Michigan, D.O. 2005-2009  
**Internship:** Metro Health Hospital, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2009-2010  
**Residency:** Michigan State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Metro Health Hospital Department of Ophthalmology, 2010-2013  
**Fellowship:** Eye Plastic and Facial Cosmetic Surgery, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2013-2015
Kyle T. Piwonka, DO

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Started with Cheyenne Eye Clinic on July 5, 2016. Hired to take over the retina, vitreous and macula medical and surgical practice of Randy Johnston, MD who retired August 31, 2016.

**Personal:** Dr. Piwonka enjoys running, hiking, live music, grilling, and trying new restaurants. He also enjoys the outdoors with his girlfriend, Danielle, and his two Australian Shepherds.

**Undergraduate:** Texas A&M University. College Station, Texas, BS in Biomedical Science, December 2003. *Magna Cum Laude.*

**Medical School:** University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, Texas, Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, (D.O.) with honors, 2005-2009.

**Internship:** St. John Providence Health System. St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital, Detroit, Michigan, 2009-2010. Intern-of-the-Year Honor.

**Residency:** Michigan State University Ophthalmology Program, Detroit, Michigan, St. John Providence Health System, Chief Resident, 2010-2013.

**Fellowship:** Valley Retina Institute, McAllen, Harlingen and Brownsville, Texas, 2013-2015.

Louis J. Stadnick, MD

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Moved to Cheyenne and started a practice with Erwin Newman, MD in 1956 at the age of 36. Shared an office with Newman from 1956 until Dr. Newman retired in 1967. Had a solo practice from 1967 until he retired in 1985. Started practice with Dr. Newman in Bell Building then moved to #215 American National Bank Building about 1960. In 1976 he moved his practice to 800 East 20th St. until he retired in 1985. Dr. Rod Anderson said Dr. Stadnick gave Dr. Anderson all of his records when he quickly decided to retire. Dr. Anderson also recalled that Dr. Stadnick was the first doctor in Wyoming to have a medical ophthalmic malpractice suit filed against him, but legally prevailed in the case (as told by Dr. Anderson—was not confirmed).

**Personal:** Born January 30, 1920 in Hazelton, Pennsylvania. Died October 7, 1999 and is buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery – Cheyenne, WY. Married to Dolores and had two sons, Mark and Michael. Had three brothers and three sisters. Catholic Church and Kiwanis Club member. See appendix to read his obituary.

**Undergraduate:** Pennsylvania State
George L. Strader, MD

Cheyenne Ophthalmology History: The first eye doctor in Cheyenne (EENT). Practiced in Cheyenne from 1903 until September 1937. Shared an office with Jay C. Deck- er, MD from about 1918-1922. He practiced with Frederick L. Beck, MD for nearly twenty years from 1919 until his death. He also practiced with Hugo L. Lucic, MD from 1927 to 1938. Erwin Newman practiced with Beck & Strader shortly before Dr. Strader’s exit.

Personal: Wife was Alice C. Piper. They had two children. His son, Harold, who became a geologist, and lived in Houston, Texas, died in 1957. His daughter, Lillian, preceded her parents in death in 1934. His mother-in-law, Martha Piper lived with the family for many years. They first lived at 802 East 18th Street but moved to 715 East 17th Street in 1908. Dr. Strader’s family owned the 17th Street house until Mrs. Strader sold the house in 1944. Mrs. Strader died in 1953. Dr. Strader was born December 27, 1870, in Lafayette County, Missouri and died January 21, 1938 at the age of 67 from a cerebral hemorrhage. He is buried with his family in Cheyenne’s Lakeview Cemetery. He moved to Cheyenne from Omaha, Nebraska. He practiced with Dr. Harold Gifford in Omaha for five years before moving to Cheyenne. Dr. Strader served as the president of the state medical society, was a Laramie County representative in the state house of representatives in 1915. He was a Mason and President of the Young Men’s Literary Club. He was the oculist and aurist for Union Pacific Railroad Company for thirty-five years.

Undergraduate: Macomb Normal School, Macomb, Illinois A.B. Degree (later known as Western Illinois University).

Medical School: University of Nebraska College of Medicine, Omaha, Nebraska, 1899

Internship: Unknown

Residency: Unknown
Robert B. Stump, MD

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Came to Cheyenne in 1946 and first practiced with Erwin W. Newman MD. He then practiced part of 1956 and 1957 solo. In July, 1957 he partnered with Theodore L. Johnston, MD at the practice of Stump & Johnston. The Cheyenne Eye Clinic name began to be used about a year prior to his retirement. First doctor in Cheyenne listed as only an Oculist.

**Personal:** He was born September 9, 1905 in Albia, Iowa. His parents were tenant farmers. His wife was Mary G. “Goldie” Stump and they had three sons, Craig, Gene and Don. Retired to Arizona, died in 1985 at age 79. See the full reprint of his autobiography he wrote for the Cheyenne Forum Club in 1947 on page 50.

**Undergraduate:** State University of Iowa (now known as the University of Iowa) 1926-1931.

**Medical School:** University of Iowa 1931-1935

**Internship:** Cleveland City Hospital 1935-1936

**Residency:** University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology 1940-1942

**Military:** Served as an ophthalmologist at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri during World War II, 1942-1946

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Michael J. Trynosky, MD

**Cheyenne Ophthalmology History:** Practiced with Rodney Anderson, MD at the Eye Care Clinic and Optical from about 1988 until about 1991. Later, worked at Cheyenne VA Hospital, then moved to VA hospital in Arizona.

**Personal:** Currently works for the Amarillo VA Health Care System as ACOS for Research. He has a Masters in Business Administration (MBA). Wife Carol.

**Undergraduate:** Unknown

**Medical School:** University of Colorado, 1981

**Internship:** Unknown

**Residency:** Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, 1984-1987
List of Ophthalmology
Office Locations and Personal Residences

Cheyenne Opera House (left) and a photo from same location today (right). This was the first location in Cheyenne of a medical eye doctor’s office. Dr. George Strader began his practice here in 1903 and continued until 1910. His address was 2-3 Opera House (assume that means second floor-room three or room two-third floor). This photo was taken in 1906 while Dr. Strader’s office was in this building. The Opera House was never profitable, so when a fire substantially damaged the building in 1902, the office portion was added to the back with a Capitol Avenue entrance. The building was torn down in the 1960s and replaced with the building on the right as a J.C. Penney store. J.C. Penney moved to the new mall on Dell Range Boulevard in the early 1980s. The current building added upper story windows about 1990 and is now a multi-use office building.

(Wyoming State Archives, Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources)

Dr. Strader moved to this office building about 1910. This building, known as the Majestic Building, was built in 1907 for the First National Bank which failed in 1924. Dr. Strader practiced in room 312 in this building by himself, until 1918, when Dr. Decker joined him until 1922. Dr. Beck joined Dr. Strader at this building in 1919. Drs. Strader and Beck moved across Capitol Avenue to the Hynds Building in 1922. (Wyoming State Archives, Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources)
List of Ophthalmology
Office Locations and Personal Residences

The H.P. Hynds Building. Room 408 in this building became the office of Strader & Beck in 1922. The photo on the left was taken in 1928 while Strader & Beck practiced there (notice the cars parked next to the building). At least part of their office was where the red arrow is pointing in the photo. Strader and Beck also practiced with Hugo Lucic, MD in the 1930’s, and later Erwin Newman, MD at this location. Newman and Stump practiced in the same suite until 1950. This location was an ophthalmology office for twenty-eight years. A majority of the doctor’s offices in Cheyenne in the 1920s and 1930s were in this building. (Wyoming State Archives, Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources)


The Bell Building was originally built as a parking garage for the Plains Hotel and later a car dealership, but eventually converted to offices. The building originally had an elevator system to move cars up and down.
List of Ophthalmology Office Locations and Personal Residences

Dr. Stump moved into this office at 1811 Logan Avenue in 1956 for about a year after he and Dr. Newman quit practicing together. (2008 photo)

In 1957, Dr. Stump and Dr. Ted Johnston moved into this office at 1616 East 19th Street until they built their own building in 1962. (2008 photo)

In 1962, Dr. Stump and Dr. Ted Johnston built this building at 1805 East 19th Street, just a half block east of Logan Ave. The view below is the most familiar view of the building from 19th Street. The bottom floor of this building was the home of three ophthalmology offices during four decades (Stump & Johnston, Cheyenne Eye Clinic, and Johnston Eye Clinic). Right: 1963 view and same view in 2010.
List of Ophthalmology
Office Locations and Personal Residences

Cheyenne Eye Clinic site since 1977 to present. 1300 East 20th Street.

All photos taken from the same spot. The house, originally behind the clinic, was razed in 2000.


The house on this lot would become the entrance for Cheyenne Eye Surgery Entrance at 20th Street and Dunn Avenue.
List of Ophthalmology
Office Locations and Personal Residences

Louis J. Stadnick, MD offices

Dr. Stadnick practiced in the Bell Building (left) with Dr. Newman from 1956 until about 1960. They then moved to the American National Bank building.

List of Ophthalmology
Office Locations and Personal Residences

Eye Care Clinic & Optical Locations

After Rodney Anderson, MD left the Cheyenne Eye Clinic, about 1980, he started Eye Care Clinic and Optical at 1609 East 19th Street, a U-shaped office building just west of Logan Avenue. Dr. Anderson had a solo practice at this location for about eight years.

About 1988, Rodney Anderson, MD hired another doctor, Michael Trynosky, and moved to 6252 Yellowstone in the Murray Business Park in north Cheyenne. Dave Gajda, MD eventually joined Dr. Anderson at this location in 1994.

Dr. Gajda was associated with optometrist, Robert Holly. They moved across the parking lot of the Murray Business Park to a bigger suite—6228 Yellowstone in 2005. Dr. Gajda moved to California in April, 2011.
List of Ophthalmology
Office Locations and Personal Residences

Past Personal Residences of Pioneering Ophthalmologists

Dr. George Strader first lived in the residence to the left when he moved to Cheyenne in 1903 at 802 East 18th St. This 18th Street home was originally the home of Willis Van Devanter, the only U.S. Supreme Court Justice from Wyoming. Van Devanter had been a prominent Cheyenne attorney and close associate to F.E. Warren.

In 1908, Dr. Strader moved a block south to a house built at 715 East 17th Street. The house was enhanced by architect, William R. Dubois in a Spanish style popular in that period for Dr. Strader. Dr. Strader lived in this house until he died in 1938. His wife sold the house in 1944 to Sterling Case, a Wyoming Attorney General (2010 house photos).

Dr. Frederick L. Beck lived at 218 West 26th Street from the mid 1920s until about 1950. This modest house is just north of the Herschler Building, one block behind the Capitol building near Carey Avenue (2010 house photo).
List of Ophthalmology Office Locations and Personal Residences

Past Personal Residences of Pioneering Ophthalmologists

The entire thirty years Dr. Newman lived in Cheyenne, he and his family lived on the first floor of the Eaton Apartments (left). This apartment building is across the street from the historic Wyoming Governor’s Mansion (below). It was the active Governor’s Mansion while Dr. Newman lived across the street. This apartment is also just a couple of blocks from Memorial Hospital (both photos from 2010).

Dr. Stump and family lived in the house above at 204 East 22nd Street at Warren Avenue from about 1950 to 1963. It was then sold to Wyoming Secretary of State Thyra Thomson’s family. It was converted to a law office, which included a member of the Thomson family, in the late 1970s. This house, originally built by Dr. & Mrs. Galen Fox, is only one block from the hospital and was just around the corner from Dr. Newman’s apartment above. Dr. Stump lived his last seven years in Cheyenne at 935 E. Apache Street (2010 house photo).
A History of 1300 East 20th St
-Cheyenne Eye Clinic’s Current Location-

Who all have resided on the north side of the 1300 Block of 20th Street in Cheyenne? This is the spot where the Cheyenne Eye Clinic has been since 1977. It remains on the northeast corner of 20th Street and Alexander Avenue. The Cheyenne Eye Surgery portion of the building was added, on the Dunn Avenue side of the block, in 2007. But who and what was on this spot for so many years before it became a center of ophthalmology activity?

The four lots, where the clinic and surgery center building now stand, were first sold to Iver Johnson by the City of Cheyenne on September 15, 1877 for $84.50. This was just ten years after the first railroad tracks were laid through Cheyenne. The University of Wyoming would not exist for another nine years. The vacant land changed hands seven times over the following thirty years before the first residence was built sometime between 1907 and 1909.

The first reference to someone living in the 1300 Block of 20th Street in Cheyenne is in the 1910 City Directory. In the 1907 directory there is no address on 20th Street where the Clinic is now located. There are no 1908 or 1909 directories remaining, but in the 1910 directory there is an address listed for 1302 East 20th Street. This would be in the area of the main patient parking for the Cheyenne Eye Clinic near the northeast corner of the intersection of 20th and Alexander. R. D. Kelly bought the property in April of 1907 and then sold it to the first resident, George Olliver in the summer of 1909. It is assumed R. D. Kelly probably built the first structure on the current site of the Clinic property. From that time through the early 1930s, where the Clinic is now located, was the eastern most edge of town. No addresses are listed east of the 1300 block on 20th Street until the early 1930s. There was one house across the street at 1301 20th Street that is now the location of a four-unit condominium.

This home would have been in a new neighborhood on the east edge of town, a mile away from the activity of the downtown area then full of commerce, churches, saloons, schools, and railroad activity. The house would have sat only one block away from Minnehaha Park, the city’s east end park at the time. Minnehaha Park was renamed Holliday Park in the 1930s, with a view of the park’s lake which was much larger then. The upward slope of the
hill at this location probably gave the house the vantage point to give the residents a good view of the city and the Capitol’s dome before the older part of the city filled with mature trees. At that time, 20th Street would have been an unpaved, two-way street unlike the busy one-way street into downtown it is today. As one continued east on 20th from the current Clinic location the street probably either dead-ended or turned into a rutted trail near the current Dunn Avenue surgery center entrance. The residents and neighbors likely had outhouses, maybe a few farm animals in their yards, laundry drying outdoors, few telephones, and probably walked, bicycled, rode a horse, or were a lucky few who already owned an automobile to go to work or into town.

Who were the people who owned and lived where the Clinic building is now located?

**July 4, 1867**
General Grenville M. Dodge and his survey crew first arrive at Crow Creek in the Dakota Territory. They are building the first transcontinental railroad. This railroad construction was the biggest news story in the world during the period after the Civil War. They name the new division point for the railroad Cheyenne. Not one person, building, and few trees existed on this site, but within four months the railroad would arrive along with over 5,000 people. Within days of July 4th, the town is platted two miles by two miles with the center of the four square mile original city about where the current historic depot building now stands. The Union Pacific Railroad deeds much of this land to the City of Cheyenne. Block 252 is part of this original city plat and is today the location of Cheyenne Eye Clinic and Cheyenne Eye Surgery.

**1867 to 1877 (10 Years)**
The City of Cheyenne holds the title to Block 252 for over ten years.

**1877 to 1887 (10 Years)**
On September 15, 1877, Iver Johnson buys the south side of Block 252 for $84.50. This is the half of the block where the Clinic and Surgery Center now stand. He owns the property for almost ten years.

**1887—1889**
Iver Johnson sells to John Roberts and a month later John Roberts sells to John R. Gordon. Then just six months later, John R. Gordon sells to Silas A. Guthrie in October of 1887 who owns the property until 1889.
For nearly two decades, one of the most prominent early families of Cheyenne owned the Clinic property site. **Ella Hay** bought the property on January 12, 1889. Ella was the daughter of Judge James R. Whitehead, one of Cheyenne’s first residents and the first Cheyenne City Attorney. Ella Whitehead married Henry G. Hay. Mr. Hay was one of the more prominent citizens in the entire state of Wyoming. He moved to Cheyenne in 1870 as a surveyor but soon entered ranching and was a founder of the Stock Growers National Bank. He served as the bank’s president and was one of the signers of the Wyoming State Constitution. He later served as the Wyoming State Treasurer. At the age of 57, in 1903, he moved to Gary, Indiana and served as the Assistant Treasurer of the U.S. Steel Company, one of the biggest corporations in the world at that time.

Ella Hay died on November 7, 1895 at the age of 48. The day of her funeral, all state offices were closed. Among her pallbearers were Senator F.E. Warren and State Engineer, Elwood Mead (Lake Mead behind Hoover Dam was later named after Professor Mead).

Mrs. Hay left the property on 20th Street to her son, **Henry G. Hay, Jr.**, the assistant cashier at his father’s bank. Why Mr. Hay, the elder, was never an owner of the property or why the family owned the property is unclear. The property was most likely purchased for the expectation of land value appreciation. At the time they lived in a mansion on Ferguson St. (now Carey Avenue) at the current location of the parking lot for U.S. Bank.

Henry G. Hay, Jr. owned the property until April 4, 1907.

**1907-1909 (2 Years)**

**R. D. Kelly** bought the property from Henry G. Hay, Jr. It is unclear when exactly a home was built on this site. Mr. Kelly may have just owned vacant land, built the house, or was the first resident, this is unclear. Mr. Kelly is never listed in a city directory, so he probably was not a Cheyenne resident. There is no address listing in the 1907 directory for a house, until 1910 when the next owner is listed as the first time resident.

**1909-1911 (2 Years)**

The first resident listed in the city directory at 1302 East 20th Street is **George S. and Norma A. Oliver**. Mr. Oliver bought the property from Mr. Kelly on July 8, 1909. George and Norma’s telephone number was 256-Y. George was an owner or partner in the firm Oliver & Ott. The firm was called Barber & Ol-
iver in 1910, then changed to Oliver & Ott in 1911 and 1912, and was gone by 1913. The business advertised that they did “Real Estate, Loans, Fire Insur-
ance.” The offices were in rooms 323-325 of the Plains Hotel and the phone number was 152. The Olivers were not listed in 1907 and both they and the firm disappeared as of the 1913 directory. Apparently, Cheyenne was a brief stop for the Olivers (Their last name is spelled Olliver in the county’s real estate records).

1911-1912
In May of 1911, George Oliver sold the house to Clinton Broderick who only owned the property for about a year and a half. Mr. Broderick is never listed in a directory as a resident of 1302 East 20th Street. He is not even listed as a resident of Cheyenne.

1912-1920 (8 Years)
John L. Jordan bought the house on October 28, 1912. It is uncertain if Mr. Jordan ever lived in the house he owned for eight years. There is a listing of a few other residents during the time he owned the property. It appears Mr. Jordan may have just been a landlord.

By 1917 the address 1302 East 20th Street disappeared and the address 1306 East 20th appears. It is unknown if one house was built and another torn down or if the address number was simply changed. There remains only one house on the block on the north side of the street.

A brakeman for the Union Pacific Railroad, Robert L. Wright and his wife, Nellie, lived at the house during this time. These years were during the years of World War I, Woodrow Wilson was President and Vladimir Lenin was taking control in Russia.

The 1920 census shows that Cheyenne has 16,212 people, two banks, and twenty churches. At this time, Cathy Miller lived at 1306 East 20th Street. She is the widow of Ward W. Miller who had been a teamster. A teamster nearly one hundred years ago would be the equivalent of a truck driver today except they were a driver of wagons pulled by a team of horses or oxen. Ward Miller died December 11, 1919, and was buried at Lakeview Cemetery in Cheyenne.

1920-1931 (11 Years)
Richard J. & Nellie M. Hart bought the house May 1, 1920 when it was still the eastern most house on 20th Street. By the time they sold the house, in 1931, there were houses being built further east. Richard Hart was a press-
man for the Wyoming Tribune. Nellie died in 1936, five years after the house was sold, and Richard died in 1948.
1931-1935 (4 years)
Ray M. and Anna M Teeling bought the house from the Harts on July 16, 1931. Ray Teeling was the Chief Clerk to the Division Foreman for the Colorado & Southern Railroad. The Teelings lived in the house during the first two years of Franklin Roosevelt’s presidency and during the darkest days of the Great Depression.

1935-1975 (40 Years)
The last and longest occupants of the house that was located where the parking lot for the Cheyenne Eye Clinic now is, bought the house on June 4, 1935. Edgar T. and Fern Lord Herring owned the house until they died.

In 1935, Edgar was forty-four and the manager of the Burroughs Adding Machine Company then located in the Boyd Building. Fern was forty, and their young and only son, John was thirteen when they moved into the 1306 East 20th Street home. They were only three blocks from the east edge of town. Edgar and Fern had married just 14 years earlier in Fern’s hometown of Excelsior Springs, Missouri. They moved to Cheyenne in 1929.

It was about the time that Fern Herring moved to the Clinic’s current site that she decided to pursue her lifelong dream of being an artist. She answered an ad for a fifty-cent art lesson. She sold over 350 paintings and also wrote for publications and lectured about art. She also wrote an article published in the once popular Saturday Evening Post. She later studied under some prominent artists of her time. Her work has been on display in many impressive venues. In 1937, she was chosen to represent Wyoming at New York City’s Exhibit of American Art. She painted a life-size portrait at the National Guard Memorial Museum in Washington. In 1962, she was commissioned to

A couple of paintings by Fern Lord Herring who lived in the house prior to the Cheyenne Eye Clinic building.
paint a painting for its new Commerce and Industry Building at the University of Wyoming. She did five paintings that still hang in the museum at her home town of Excelsior Springs, Missouri. She painted the portraits of General John J. Pershing and Mrs. Pershing that hung in the lobby of Cheyenne’s Memorial Hospital (the portraits now hang in meeting room three at the hospital). One of her paintings hung at the Smithsonian and another at the Rockefeller Center in New York City during the World’s Fair. Her portrait of famous sportscaster and Wyoming native, Curt Gowdy, was on display during an All-Star Baseball Banquet in Washington D.C. She was a founding member of the Cheyenne Little Theatre and was its second president. She performed in many of the productions.

Tragedy struck the Herring family on January 13, 1945. Edgar and Fern’s only son, John L. Herring was killed in action by Germans during World War II in Belgium just months before the end of the war. He had been overseas for only four months. John was a First Lieutenant and only twenty-three years old at the time of his death. His body is buried in Belgium. John had grown up on the Clinic site from the time he was thirteen until he graduated from Cheyenne High School in 1939. He went on to the University of Wyoming where he was an outstanding student. While at UW, he served as the Student Body President, was a Cadet Colonel in the ROTC, a member of Sigma Nu fraternity, was listed in Who’s Who of American University Students, and was active in numerous campus organizations and school activities. He was survived by his parents and a bride named Renne Howard originally from Jackson, Wyoming, but they had no children.

In their son’s obituary, Edgar is listed as a Captain and his and Fern’s residence is listed as living at Camp Pickett, Virginia. During World War II Edgar returned to military service, temporarily living away from Cheyenne. They are still listed as being Cheyenne residents and
continued to own the 20th Street property.

Twenty-five years after his son’s death, Edger died on September 27, 1969 at the age of seventy-eight. Just two weeks later, in the Laramie County Clerk’s real estate records, a one-line entry transfers the property from Edgar to his wife, Fern Lord Herring. In the section for consideration the price is recorded as, “$1.00—Love and Affection.”

Six years later, at the age of eighty, Fern Lord Herring died at Cheyenne’s Memorial Hospital on May 31, 1975. Her death was a front page story in the Cheyenne newspaper a few days later. Forty years of residence on the 1300 Block of 20th Street ended. She was the last private resident to live at this site. (No photo of her house was located.)

She left her house to her church. Cheyenne’s First Congregational Church owned the property less than one year.

**1976 to Present**

In November of 1976, an investment group called IAL Investments bought 1306 East 20th Street for $75,000. The “IAL” stands for Iverson, Anderson, & Lawler. They are the doctors who had recently split from Dr. Ted Johnston. This new property will be the site where they plan to build the new Cheyenne Eye Clinic building.

The approximately seventy-year-old house was torn down and construction of the current building began. The new building was completed and open for business on August 1, 1977. The new address, for the first time, was 1300 East 20th Street.

The purchase and construction mortgage of IAL Investments is recorded by First National Bank and Trust for $360,000. The mortgage is released fifteen years later in 1992. The property was later sold to Wyoming Eye Institute, the real estate sister entity of today’s Cheyenne Eye Clinic, on the same date as the April 1, 1994 merger. Wyoming Eye Institute still owns the property. Wyoming Eye Institute is owned by physicians of the Cheyenne Eye Clinic (Drs. Johnston, McKusker, and Miller).

**NEXT PAGE**

**Pre Construction Blue Print for Cheyenne Eye Clinic**

The next page shows the Cheyenne Eye Clinic bird’s eye view just prior to tearing down the home at 1306 E. 20th Street.

The purple color is where the original house sat in the current clinic parking lot. The blue color is the original clinic building built in 1977.

The red shows the additions: a three room addition in the 1990s, the major 2002 addition and the surgery center addition built in 2007.
Surgery Center
Addition—2007
House Razed in 1976

Original Clinic Building—1977
Current Clinic Entrance
Current Clinic Parking
Surgery Center Addition—2007

Cheyenne Eye Clinic
Pre Construction Drawing—1976

Original House—1305 20th St. Tom down to build Cheyenne Eye Clinic
Additions to Cheyenne Eye Clinic and Cheyenne Eye Surgery
Reprints of Biographies, Obituaries & Miscellaneous

Front page story in Cheyenne’s January 23, 1938 newspaper about death of Dr. George L. Strader. (Wyoming State Archives, Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources)

A cerebral hemorrhage preceded death which came at 11:30 Friday night, information received here by W. C. Wolcott, said.

Coming to Cheyenne in 1903 from Omaha, Neb., Dr. Strader immediately associated himself with civic affairs and his career during the ensuing third of a century was marked with innumerable public services.

When he went into semi-retirement last September as the result of ill health, Dr. Strader was known as one of the foremost eye, nose, ear and throat specialists of the Rocky Mountain region. Carrying on the practice in which he pioneered in Cheyenne are Dr. F. L. Beck, his partner during the last 18 years; Dr. E. W. Newman and Dr. Fred Beck.

Dr. Strader served as a member of the staff of old St. John’s hospital and its successor, Francis Warren Ferehling hospital, as president of the state medical society, as a representative of Laramie County in the legislature of 1915, as a member of the state board of health, as the chief officer of the Masonic Blue Lodge, the Commandry and the Consistory. He was a member of the Young Men’s Literary Club almost since its organization and served as its president.

For 35 years he was oculist and aurist for the Union Pacific Railroad Company.

With him at the time of his death was Mrs. Strader, his wife. Surviving in addition to Mrs. Strader is one son, Harold Strader, of Houston, Tex.

Funeral arrangements will be announced later. The body will be accompanied to Cheyenne by Mrs. Strader, arriving Monday morning. Funeral services probably will be held Tuesday.

The handsome Strader home at 715 East Seventeenth Street has been unoccupied since Dr. and Mrs. Strader went to California. They have been residing at Claremont.
BECK, FREDICK LEWIS and FANNIE LILLIAN (WHITE)

F. Lillian White and Frederick Lewis Beck were married in University Place, Nebraska (a suburb of Lincoln) in 1897 in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Lillian was one of seven children born to Elisha and Laura White, who at that time had homesteaded in the area of Shickley, Nebraska. Frederick was born in Iowa. When his mother died, leaving the father with four boys to raise, the father married a woman “of low repute”. She made the boys do all the housework so she would have time for her profession. Her husband was kept busy “blacksmithing”. Frederick and his younger brother decided that they could not endure this harsh treatment any longer and made plans to run away to western Nebraska where their oldest brother worked as a printer for a newspaper. They were very fearful of being caught, so made their way across farms, rather than risk following the highways or the railroad tracks. After several days of stopping at farms for handouts they reached their destination. Fred did farm work for their room and board and saved a little toward further schooling. He made the acquaintance of a country doctor who encouraged Fred to further his education as soon as possible and in the meantime allowed Fred to accompany him on his calls to patients. This was the turning point in Fred’s life – he decided that he wanted to become a doctor and he began to work toward this goal.

Lillian attended Nebraska Wesleyan University for two years at the same time that Fred was attending the University of Nebraska. They somehow met and fell in love. They were married in 1897 and their first child was born July 1, 1900.

After graduation from the University of Nebraska Medical College, Fred secured a position with a country doctor in Geneva, Nebraska. He had a very busy life and had to make many country calls by horse and buggy, delivering babies and setting broken limbs, etc. In about 1816 Fred went back to college and specialized in eye, ear, nose and throat work. He moved his family of wife and five children to Omaha. They lived here during the war years.

In February of 1919 Dr. and Mrs. F.L. Beck and their five children moved to Cheyenne, Wyoming – 122 West 27th Street – where Dr. Beck became a partner in the firm of Drs. Strader and Beck, specialists in eye, ear, nose and throat work.

The Becks changed their church membership from the Geneva church to the Methodist Episcopal Church in Cheyenne. Sometimes Dr. Beck was late getting to church because of having to treat patients first, but he always got there.

In 1923 Dr. Beck made a house call on a lady who was in severe pain from an ear infection. After administering a local anesthetic, Dr. Beck lanced the ear drum to drain the pus. The local anesthetic had not taken full effect and the woman jumped, knocking the knife with the virulent poison out of the Dr.’s hand. As it fell to the floor, it nicked his right knee. Blood poisoning resulted and a high amputation was necessary to save his life. He was in a Denver hospital for several months. Dr. Beck did recover and had a very successful practice. Over the years the firm changed from Drs. Strader & Beck; to Drs. Strader, Beck and Lucic; and then to Drs. Beck, Lucic and Beck, until the senior Dr. Beck retired in 1945.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Beck enjoyed their retirement years living in their smaller 5 room house near Alta Vista school. Dr. Beck did some gardening and kept up with his hobby of genealogy records. He died on January 8, 1952 and Lillian died on November 11, 1962.

by Carol Beck Christensen
Dr. Beck served as president and secretary of his county medical society in Nebraska; president and secretary of the Laramie County Medical society; president and secretary of the Memorial hospital staff; president of the Colorado Otolaryngological society, and president of the Wyoming State Medical society. He was also a Fellow of the American Medical association, of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology, and of the American College of Surgeons.

He was born at Ottoville, Ill., son of Joseph Daniel and Esther Anne Beck, and the family homesteaded in Eastern Nebraska in 1872. Dr. Beck started teaching a country school at 18, attending normal school during vacations. He launched the study of medicine at 22 and interpersed this with work as a village school principal. He was graduated from the School of Medicine of the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1903 and engaged in general practice in Nebraska the next 14 years.

He was married Sept. 7, 1897 to Lillian White of Lincoln, Neb. Six children were born to the couple five of whom survive. The survivors include his widow; the following children: Helen Shannon and Mrs. Walter (Carol) Christensen of Cheyenne; Dr. Fred W Beck of Oakland, Cal.; Mrs. Kenneth (Mildred) Flora of Tacoma, Wash.; and Mrs. Ray (Marian) Moses of Alomosa, Colo.; and two brothers, Frank D. Beck of Waterloo, Iowa, and George Beck of Corning, Iowa, and nine grandchildren, William Shannon, Donald, Dorothy and Margaret Flora Janice and Joanne Christensen Marcia Lou Moses, and Jean and Frederick Louis Beck. A son Waldo Louis, died in infancy.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

Postgraduate work at Chicago and in the Omaha office of Dr. Harold Gifford preceded the devotion of his entire time to ophthalmology and otorhinolaryngology. He came to Cheyenne in 1920 to become associated with Dr. Strader.

Dr. Beck’s church activities were of major interest to him. He was a prominent lay reader and served as a delegate to several state conferences and was the Wyoming Conference lay delegate to the Methodist church General Conference in 1932.
The following is a humorous autobiography written by Robert Byron Stump, MD in 1947. This was written within a year after Dr. Stump moved to Cheyenne. It was with a collection of autobiographies in the Wyoming State Archives that were written by the members of the Cheyenne Forum Club.

(Wyoming State Archives, Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources)

Autobiography of R. B. Stump

Subject born Sept 9, 1905, at Albia, Iowa, the seventh son and eleventh child of E. H. and Mary Stump. (No connotation relative to the generally-accepted luckiness of these numbers is intended.) The racial extraction: German, Dutch, Irish, and Scotch. The family of which the subject became a member on birth was occupied in tenant farming; the financial status was median to upper-level poverty, which status persisted unchanged thereafter. Fortunately the children were grown and the family dissolved before the advent of the New Deal; otherwise it would have been plowed under, dumped as surplus, or rehabilitated, in all probability. As it was, the family members survived and had fun without governmental assistance.

The subject was spared the rigors of doing a grown man's work until age 14 or 15 probably because of a life record of all the minor and a number of the major illnesses, and because of a marked preference for reading, over all other activities, especially farm work. The latter proclivity, the liberalization of mores concerned with the propriety of educating poor farm children, and temporary relative affluence immediately following the first World War, conspired to make a high-school education possible. This educational project was completed in 1924, subject having traveled something in excess of 6000 miles in the process, on foot, on horseback, and via "Model T". Subject graduated second in his class, the highest scholastic honors having been awarded to a rather obnoxious girl who studied--subject did not later marry her. Subject having displayed some minor forensic talent, his mother came earnestly to hope that he would become a minister of the gospel; a more worldly father envisioned a career in law. Subject has no recollection of interest in either: of sex, books, and snooker pool it was otherwise.

Came then a dimly-remembered, uninspired 15 month's hiatus of farming and chicken-packing for Swift & Co. Thereafter, for lack of something better to do, and with $90.00 capital and one well-worn suit of clothes, subject "went to college" at the State University of Iowa. After two years, during which the suit wore very thin, and the $90.00 dwindled, subject left school because it seemed there should be something better to do; on the discovery, during the following year, that there wasn't be returned to the suite of threads and it
Reprints of Biographies, Obituaries & Miscellaneous

Robert B. Stump Autobiography Continued

An internship at Cleveland City Hospital, marriage, and a year of graduate study in Internal Medicine followed, in that order. There was great heat and no money in Iowa in July, 1937, so that, after a half-day of inspecting a possible location in which to swelter and starve in private practice, subject and wife, in unison, said, "To hell with this," and went west. "The route lay through Cheyenne; subject recalls he was impressed by the city even then—16th Street even then looked narrow, slightly dingy, and was definitely rough. The flight to the West ended in Oregon, where subject tolerated the work of Surgeon with the CCC for 6 weeks, and then went to "Win Falls, Idaho, as District Health Officer. This was an improvement, to the extent that the work was endurable for a year and a half, when subject once more returned to the pursuit of the unanswerable—knowledge. Three years of such pursuit ensued, at the Eye Clinic of the State University of Iowa. Came War and our subject came shooting forth from the ivory tower to the pursuit now one of Jim and German. In the next four and 14/365 years that a hero's lot is hard for the ophthalmologist to come by, especially when his field of action is limited to Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., and Fitzsimmons General Hospital. Chastened but joyous subject bid the military au revoir and hied him to Cheyenne to join an old friend, W. W. Newman, in the practice of ophthalmology.

Subject continues his original marriage, and has three kids, all boys, to show for it.

Subject regrets, but it seems not possible for him thus to have wallowed in unwonted retrospection without sprouting an uncontrollable urge to moralize. He begs leave only to say that in such short space it is not possible to indicate all the manners in which this life has been mishandled; it would seem when thus summarized, that almost anyone, even Stump, should have done better with it. He can only believe, as he regards tonight's eminence, the beneficence of the present, and the bright promise of the future here, that Fate, Providence, Fortune—whichever it is that does the dealing, has slipped him the Joker oftener than he deserved.
Reprints of Biographies, Obituaries & Miscellaneous

Left: Louis J Stadnik, MD obituary from 1999 Cheyenne newspaper.

Below: 1994 Cheyenne newspaper ad announcing the retirement of Ted Johnston, MD and the end of the Johnston Eye Clinic.
Reprints of Biographies, Obituaries & Miscellaneous

Theodore L. Johnston MD


He grew up in Ames, Iowa, and graduated from Iowa State University in 1943 as a chemical engineer. He was a proud member of Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. He worked for the Hercules Chemical Corp. in Hopewell, VA. In 1945, he returned to Iowa State for a degree in Zoology and then entered the University of Chicago School of Medicine in 1946. While he was there, he met Barbara Ruby, who was teaching dietetics. He repeatedly said, "When she gave me an A, I decided to marry her." He received his MD in 1950. He spent the next five years in Iowa City, Iowa, in an Internship and Ophthalmology residency. He and Barbara were married in 1951.

Upon completion of medical training, he entered the U.S. Air Force, and he and Barbara were transferred to Cheyenne, Wyoming, in 1955. They enjoyed Cheyenne, and after his discharge in 1957, they stayed in the community.

He joined Dr. Robert Stump in the practice of ophthalmology in 1957, and later practiced at Cheyenne Eye Clinic and the Johnston Eye Clinic, retiring in 1994.

In addition to the practice of ophthalmology, he and Barbara enjoyed musical theater and participated in various singing and musical groups such as "The Small Group", SACSOC, and Cheyenne Little Theater Players. He became a familiar figure on stage, performing lead roles in Man of La Mancha, the Mikado, Kiss Me Kate, Pirates of Penzance, and others. He also enjoyed playing organ and piano. He was active in the First Presbyterian Church of Cheyenne. He was an avid collector of Western and Indian jewelry. His children inherited his love of medicine and of music.

He was predeceased by Barbara and by his parents, Dr. Harry L. and Vera Calhoun Johnston. Vera lived to be 114, and was at one time the oldest person in the United States.

Dr. Johnston is survived by his children, Dr. Randolph L. Johnston (Patty) of Cheyenne; Dr. Patty Johnston McNussen (Jon McNussen) of Champaign, IL; and Dr. P. Scott Johnston (Ann Yanagi) of Fort Collins, CO. He is also survived by three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

A memory service will be celebrated on Monday, December 28, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. Cremation is under the direction of Schrader, Aragon and Jacoby Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Cheyenne Little Theater Players.
Reprints of Biographies, Obituaries & Miscellaneous

In Memory of

Dirk
DIJKSTAL, M.D.

Obituary for Dirk Dijkstal, M.D.

Dirk Dijkstal, M.D., 69, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, passed away Saturday, February 6, 2016, at the Davis Hospice Center with his family by his side.

Dr. Dijkstal was born November 17, 1946, in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, son of the late Johannes and Johanna Alberdina (Dekker) Dijkstal.

Dr. Dijkstal attended the University of Amsterdam from 1966-72 and earned a medical doctorate from the university in 1974. From 1974-75, he served as a Lieutenant in the Army of The Netherlands and from 1975-77 he worked as a ship’s physician on Holland American Cruise Line. In 1978, he was the physician on an oil rig in the Gulf of Aden. He later completed a general surgery internship in Leeuwarden, The Netherlands. In 1979, he finished an internal medicine internship in Washington, DC, and his ophthalmology residency from 1980-83 at the Downstate Medical Center in New York. From 1983-84, he worked as an oculoplastic fellow at the Boston Eye Research Institute. He moved to Cheyenne where he worked as an ophthalmologist at the Cheyenne Eye Clinic from 1984-2012. He was also a member of the American Board of Ophthalmology. He was proud to become an American Citizen in 2013.

Dr. Dijkstal is survived by his wife, Denise Dijkstal of Cheyenne; three children, Haydeé Dijkstal of Den Haag, The Netherlands and husband, Michael Sullivan of Washington DC, Johanna Beebe, M.D. and husband, Nathaniel, of Iowa City, IA, and Dirk Dijkstal and wife, Katie (Schum), of Cheyenne; a brother, Dr. Joost Dijkstal and wife, Hanneke, of Apeldoorn, The Netherlands; and two grandchildren, Theodore Dijkstal Beebe and Madeline Piper Beebe.

Dr. Dijkstal was a beloved father, grandfather, husband and physician. His kind, gentle manner and his endearing Dutch humor were a gift to us all. He was a man of amazing character and commitment to his friends, family and patients.
Reprints of Biographies, Obituaries & Miscellaneous

Left: Prescription pad from 1969 showing new Cheyenne Eye Clinic name.

Left: This Cheyenne Eye Clinic logo began about 1990. The doctors talked to a number of graphic artists and even had a high school art class contest, but didn’t find a logo they liked. Later, then clinic manager, Chloe Iilloway, knew a graphic artist in Laramie who created the design similar to the one left. Note the eye formed by the two C’s.

Above: The bottom logo was introduced in 2012 in an effort to upgrade the Clinic’s brand to match it’s reputation as a modern, high-tech medical facility. The logo was designed by Zooma Design. The top logo was updated by Linden, a marketing firm hired by the clinic in 2016.

Left and Above: Cheyenne Eye Surgery logo was designed by Gary Gwin, Marketing Coordinator of Cheyenne Eye Clinic in 2007. This is a photo of the wall at the entrance of the surgery center.
Eye clinic expands to twice current size

Cheyenne Eye Clinic is putting $1M into the construction project to add 5,500 square feet

By Jessica Lowell
Wyoming Tribune-Eagle

CHEYENNE - While the national economy appears to be in a state of turmoil, one Cheyenne business plans to expand this year.

Cheyenne Eye Clinic will double its clinic space in a million-dollar expansion that’s now under way.

Cheyenne Eye Clinic marketing coordinator Vickie Pyle said the practice has bought two houses near the existing office at 1300 E. 20th St.

One of the houses on East 20th Street has already been demolished; the second, on Alexander Avenue, is scheduled to come down today.

The project will add about 5,500 square feet to the 8,500-square-foot building, doubling the clinic space and adding parking.

“We’ve added a new doctor, and we were crowded to begin with,” Pyle said.

The expansion will accommodate Lasik, the laser vision correcting surgery, at the clinic. Pyle said those procedures are now being performed at the Physicians Medical Park.

“Our front will still look the same,” Pyle said.

This project, a Laramie County economist said, is fairly typical for Cheyenne.

Dick O’Gara, director of the Center for Economic and Business Data at Laramie County Community College, said the economy here has been growing for the last several years, and firms are now expanding to meet that growth.

“As a general observation, we have been seeing a lot of that,” O’Gara said.

That’s what’s happening along Dell Range Boulevard, and especially at the mini-mall where King Soopers supermarket is located.

“This is quite normal and expected when you have a growing economic system, and we have been doing well for the last three or four years,” he said.

Pyle said the target completion date is late spring.

Financial officer Richard Ivey said the project is being locally financed through American National Bank and contracted through Edwards Construction.

“We were supposed to start in July,” she said, but delays cropped up.

Doc Horton of Rainbow Enterprises demolishes a house in the 1300 block of East 20th Street Wednesday to make room for the expansion of the Cheyenne Eye Clinic.
Reprints of Biographies, Obituaries & Miscellaneous

The March 2, 2008 article in the *Wyoming Tribune Eagle* about the opening of Cheyenne Eye Surgery.

Surgery unit now open for eye clinic

By Cary Snyder
csnyder@wyomingnews.com

CHEYENNE – The outpatient surgery unit at Cheyenne Eye Clinic is now open for patients.

Cheyenne Eye Surgery, located at 1300 E. 20th St., along with the clinic, is technically a separate business. But it allows patients to see their eye doctor and have surgery performed at the same location.

Clinic officials hope this eases the experience of undergoing an eye operation.

"It's a familiar surrounding. You don't have to go to a hospital setting, which made a lot of people uncomfortable," said Stacey Ostby, clinic administrator for Cheyenne Eye Surgery.

The clinic's four surgeons are not offering any additional procedures as a result of the new unit. But it eliminates the need for them to perform operations at Cheyenne Regional Medical Center or Yellowstone Surgery.

The majority of the 5,500-square-foot addition was built on top of a 2001 expansion that doubled the size of the clinic's space.

The expansion cost about $2.6 million in construction and new equipment, said Richard Ivey, the center's financial director.

The surgery center has been open since Jan. 31, and officials say it has the capacity to handle 12 to 15 cataract operations or five retina surgeries a day.

"It kind of depends on the case load," Ostby said.

The surgeons also perform laser, glaucoma and cornea operations, among others.

Deciding to build the surgical unit, administrators say, was a result of confidence in Cheyenne's economy and its demographics: As baby boomers creep into their 60s, the number of local residents needing eye surgeries is likely to increase.

The surgery unit has resulted in the addition of four part-time staff members.

So far administrators say the response from patients has been positive.

"We've been pretty busy. Most days are full," said Jeanne Koppinger, director of the unit.
Fern Lord Herring Dies

Fern Lord Herring, well known Cheyenne artist, writer and lecturer, died Saturday at Memorial Hospital. She was 80.

Mrs. Herring’s career as an artist spanned nearly 40 years. She had sold over 350 paintings, many of which hang in Cheyenne homes and in private collections in larger cities.

Two of her early paintings were chosen to represent Wyoming at New York’s Second Exhibit of American Art in 1937 and are on permanent exhibit at the Wyoming State Museum.

In 1965, she was commissioned by the National Guard Memorial Museum in Washington to paint a life-size portrait of Lt. Gen. R. L. Esmay, Wyoming’s former adjutant general.

In 1962, the University of Wyoming asked Mrs. Herring to do a painting for its new Commerce and Industry Building in memory of the Herrings’ son, Lt. John L. Herring, who was killed in 1945 during World War II.

She selected Wyoming Engelmann spruce for the picture and it hangs along with two of her other works in the student reading room.

During the summer seasons, Mrs. Herring displayed a collection of her paintings at Jackson Lake Lodge.

In addition to painting, she wrote for publications and gave dramatic programs for many Wyoming groups.

Mrs. Herring was born in 1895 at Excelsior Springs, Mo., and was married there on Feb. 19, 1921, to Edgar Tillman Herring. They came to Cheyenne Jan. 1, 1929.

Mrs. Herring had wanted to paint since she was a child but she didn’t get around to it until the middle of the depression when an ad in the paper offered lessons for 50 cents.

She later studied under Dave Sterling, Robert Linn and Frank Vavre.

She was commissioned to do five paintings for her hometown of Excelsior Springs in 1970. The paintings depict scenes from the century scenes for one entire wall of the Excelsior Springs Historical Museum.

Mrs. Herring’s painting of Gen. John J. Pershing hangs in the lobby of Memorial Hospital as a companion portrait of Mrs. Pershing and her picture, “The Old Wyoming Prospector,” was shown in the Smithsonian and also at the Show of States at Rockefeller Center during the World’s Fair.

Her portrait of Curt Gowdy was on display at the All Star Baseball Banquet at Washington’s Sheraton Park Hotel when the well known sportscaster from Cheyenne spoke there.

Mrs. Herring, who lived at 1306 E. 20th St., was a Congregationalist.

Her husband, whom she said was her “main inspiration,” died Sept. 27, 1969.

Mrs. Herring is survived by a cousin, Caroline Hutchinson of Excelsior Springs, Mo.

Funeral services will be announced by the Schrader Funeral Home.

Front page story from Cheyenne newspaper in 1975 announcing the death of Fern Lord Herring.

She was the last resident of the location of the current Cheyenne Eye Clinic where she lived for forty years. (Wyoming State Archives, Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources)
February 1945 story in Cheyenne newspaper about the death of John Herring. He was thirteen years old when he moved to current site of Cheyenne Eye Clinic.

Below:
The mention of John Herring on the bottom of his parents grave marker.

(Wyoming State Archives, Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources)
### Cheyenne Ophthalmology Practices & Doctors "Family Tree" History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approx Years</th>
<th>Practice Name</th>
<th>Doctor(s)</th>
<th>Practice Name</th>
<th>Doctor(s)</th>
<th>Practice Name</th>
<th>Doctor(s)</th>
<th>Practice Name</th>
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<th>Practice Name</th>
<th>Doctor(s)</th>
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<td>1906</td>
<td>Strader &amp; Decker</td>
<td>GLS, JCO</td>
<td>George L. Strader, MD</td>
<td>GLS</td>
<td>Charles F. Kieffer, MD</td>
<td>CFK</td>
<td>GLS</td>
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<td>1916</td>
<td>Strader &amp; Beck</td>
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<td>1926</td>
<td>GLS, FLB</td>
<td>Myron L. Babcock, MD</td>
<td>MLB</td>
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<td>HIL</td>
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**Key of Ophthalmologic Indica**

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<th>Key</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<td>AEM</td>
<td>Alva E. Miller, MD</td>
<td>9 yrs</td>
<td>1904-1913</td>
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<td>CFK</td>
<td>Charles F. Kieffer, MD</td>
<td>3 yrs or less</td>
<td>1906-1909</td>
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<td>GD</td>
<td>Dirk Dipietro, MD</td>
<td>26 yrs</td>
<td>1984-2010</td>
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<td>GIG</td>
<td>Donald G. Ivers, MD</td>
<td>26 yrs</td>
<td>1984-2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>DUL</td>
<td>Donald J. Lawler, MD</td>
<td>24 yrs</td>
<td>1975-1999</td>
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<tr>
<td>DUL</td>
<td>David L. Gates, MD</td>
<td>11 yrs</td>
<td>1990-2001</td>
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<td>EWN</td>
<td>Erwin W. Newman, MD</td>
<td>30 yrs</td>
<td>1967-1997</td>
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<tr>
<td>FC</td>
<td>Fenston Callahan, M. MD</td>
<td>5 months</td>
<td>1979-1980</td>
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<td>FLB</td>
<td>Frederick L. Beck, MD</td>
<td>23 yrs</td>
<td>1919-1942</td>
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<td>GLK</td>
<td>George H. Klein, MD</td>
<td>6 months</td>
<td>1964-1965</td>
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<tr>
<td>GLS</td>
<td>George L. Strader, MD</td>
<td>30 yrs</td>
<td>1963-1993</td>
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<td>HIL</td>
<td>Hugo L. Lewis, MD</td>
<td>11 yrs</td>
<td>1982-1993</td>
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<td>JAM</td>
<td>John A. Miller, MD</td>
<td>17 yrs</td>
<td>1953-1970</td>
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<td>JCC</td>
<td>Jay C. Deckter, MD</td>
<td>2 yrs or less</td>
<td>1973-1975</td>
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<td>JLS</td>
<td>Louis J. Stadnick, MD</td>
<td>26 yrs</td>
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<td>JMD</td>
<td>Michael E. Denver, MD</td>
<td>6 yrs</td>
<td>1981-1987</td>
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<td>KJA</td>
<td>Michael J. Tryonsky, MD</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
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<td>KLB</td>
<td>Myron L. Babcock, MD</td>
<td>2 yrs or less</td>
<td>1985-1986</td>
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<td>KNL</td>
<td>Peter A. Lanson, MD</td>
<td>1 yr</td>
<td>1973-1976</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAA</td>
<td>Rodman A. Anderson, MD</td>
<td>33 yrs</td>
<td>1910-2000</td>
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<td>RBS</td>
<td>Robert B. Stump, MD</td>
<td>24 yrs</td>
<td>1964-1988</td>
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<td>RJU</td>
<td>Randolph L. Johnston, MD</td>
<td>26 yrs</td>
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<td>RLM</td>
<td>Richard F. Moore, MD</td>
<td>1 yr or less</td>
<td>1966-1967</td>
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<td>SKM</td>
<td>Shauna K. McKeaster, MD</td>
<td>23 yrs</td>
<td>1967-1990</td>
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<td>TJU</td>
<td>Theodore J. F. Johnston, MD</td>
<td>37 yrs</td>
<td>1952-1989</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Still practicing in Cheyenne as of this edition*
Sources

Books, Directories or Collections
Cheyenne City Directory Collection and Phone Book Collection in the Special Collections Room at the Laramie County Library, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

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Cheyenne Eye Clinic, Payday Tribune Collection 2000 to 2015 by Richard D. Ivey, CPA.

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Michael J Trynosky: Veterans Administration, Amarillo, Texas:http://www.research.va.gov/resdev/about/national_directory_byCity.cfm?
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Source=H&LegID=444.


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Photo of Grenville M Dodge, public domain from History of Iowa From the Earliest Times to the Beginning of the Twentieth Century.

www.TheHyndsDownTown.com. Sales website for the H.P. Hynds Building by James Weaver, Realtor, CCIM, #1 Properties-Cheyenne, WY.

**Personal Interviews, Phone Calls, Letters or Emails with Author:**


Jacque Routh McCrackin, COT – Cheyenne Eye Clinic employee interviewed 2008.

Teresa Cross - Cheyenne Eye Clinic and Johnston Eye Clinic employee.

Donald J Lawler, MD – Past Cheyenne Eye Clinic ophthalmologist - 2009, 2010 Interview.

Email from Clinton Callahan, MD to author—2009.

Steve & Tina Bahmer email— Owners of Bell Building email as of 2009.

Donald G. Iverson, MD—Past Cheyenne Eye Clinic ophthalmologist—2009 Interview.

Letter from Linda (Newman) Jones to Bill Dubois April, 2010 about her father, Dr. Edwin Newman and email of Dr. Newman photo to the author.

Rodney A. Anderson, MD—past Cheyenne Eye Clinic and Eye Care Clinic ophthalmologist interviewed 2010.

David L. Gajda, MD-Eye Care Clinic and Optical owner-2010 interview.

Miscellaneous information, questions and conversation with current and past Cheyenne Eye Clinic ophthalmologists, James Cole, MD, Justin Coco, DO, Dirk Dijkstal, MD, Randolph L. Johnston, MD, Shauna K McKusker, MD, Anne E Miller, MD, John A. Millin, MD, Zachary Pearce, DO and Kyle Piwonka, DO—1999 to 2015.

**Other:**

Gerontology Research Group, Los Angeles, California.

Wyoming Tribune Eagle (Cheyenne), *Cheyenne’s Own Piece of History*, Monday, May 4, 2009 by Becky Orr (about the Majestic Building).

Wyoming Tribune Eagle (Cheyenne), *Surgery Unit Now Open for Eye Clinic*, Sunday, March 2, 2008 by Carey Snyder.

Laramie County Clerk’s Office: Real Estate Records.

**Acknowledgements:**

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Jenny Benjamin at the AAO Museum of Vision, San Francisco, CA.

Thanks to Kathie Lowry and Ted Johnston, MD who gave me a wealth of beginning information and some photos giving me the groundwork to get started.

**If you have additional knowledge or photos of any of the people or events referred to in this document, please contact Richard Ivey: Ask for him while in the Cheyenne Eye Clinic or call 307-634-2020.**