

BUILD

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and more room to prepare prescriptions.

Reynolds Management Construction of Sioux Falls will oversee the project.

Construction starts next week, but the real heavy lifting has taken place over the past year. Pioneer Memorial launched a campaign that raised the needed funds to start the project.

Centerville's 900 residents and other area citizens invested in themselves during the campaign.

"We were issued a challenge grant," Pokorney said. "Dr. (Rose) Faith donated \$50,000, and we had to double match it, so we raised \$100,000 for a total of \$150,000 so far. That's the amount we needed to begin the construction phase of the project."

The Centerville project also held fundraisers and received a \$15,000 grant from the Adams-Mastrovich Foundation. Fundraising will continue for the rest of the estimated \$350,000 cost. The effort will offer several opportunities for donors to have a room named after a family member, the entire family or an individual.

The community also cooperated in making the nearby land available for the new pharmacy, Pokorney said.

"The majority of the property we purchased came from Jerry and LaVonne Isaak. She was a pharmacy tech for us at the time," Pokorney said. "The land that was attached to the north was donated by the city."

A pharmacy has been part of Centerville's downtown since 1883. However, the community nearly lost the business a few years ago when pharmacist Stan

Schmiedt couldn't find a buyer for it. In 2002, Pioneer Memorial Hospital & Health Services stepped forward and purchased the pharmacy, which was relocated to the Centerville Medical Clinic.

"We were encouraged by local economic development members to purchase the pharmacy," Pokorney said. "We had never operated a pharmacy, so we weren't sure what to expect. But there has been tremendous pluses. Our number of prescriptions has increased 24 percent in just the past four years."

The soaring number of prescriptions makes a new pharmacy even more crucial, Carstensen said.

"This (new facility) will be a big asset. It will really help with workflow and provide more room for patient privacy," he said. "We also hope to increase staff and offer more products."

Carstensen said he plans to provide health-education courses in the community room, which is open for general public use.

"I plan to offer presentations on areas such as disease awareness, diabetes, cholesterol and herbal medicine," he said. "We will even invite people to bring in their 'brown bag' of medications to check for problems with drug interactions."

The completion of the pharmacy will send a signal that Centerville is progressive, willing to support health care and eager to recruit professionals, he said.

The new, expanded pharmacy will provide the ability to meet new state and federal regulations, said Melanie Parsons, president of the Pioneer

Memorial board of directors.

"With health reform and the changing healthcare needs, we were looking for flexibility," she said. "That was part of the idea when this (new pharmacy) was proposed: to plan for the future."

Centerville Mayor Jay Ostrem said he sees the pharmacy project as uplifting for other aspects of the community.

"There is a little more traffic in town because of (a drug-store)," he said. "Quite a bit of people use the pharmacy. It's more convenient, and it will do more to keep people in town."

Centerville resident Beverly Knutson, who brought a prescription to be filled, said she was anticipating the new pharmacy.

"It's good to have a pharmacy close and handy. They want to make it more convenient," she said. "People don't like to drive out of town. They may get a prescription filled, and then they find out that they need a different refill the next day."

Knutson expects more retail and over-the-counter items for sale in the expanded pharmacy. But she hopes one thing doesn't change: the friendly service she receives at the small-town pharmacy.

"They know you, and it's so personal," she said. "Everyone here treats me so well."

For information on how to contribute to the Centerville pharmacy campaign, contact Brendyn Richards, director of development at Pioneer Memorial. He can be reached at (605) 326-5161 or by e-mail at richardsb@sanfordhealth.org.

Fear Among Ariz. Hispanics Dampens Cinco de Mayo

MESA, Ariz. (AP) — Rumors circulate of an immigration raid at Cinco de Mayo festivities. Markets normally bustling with customers preparing for the celebration are quiet. Family picnics are scaled back.

Many Hispanics in Arizona — both legal and illegal — are increasingly anxious about being targeted under the state's tough anti-illegal immigration law. Some are afraid to leave their homes, even on the day when the nation celebrates Hispanic heritage.

Some have left the state, and some of those who remain wonder if they should follow.

The law's passage unleashed a torrent of criticism against the state. Some fear the law, which requires police to question people about their immigration status if there is reason to suspect they're in the country illegally, could lead to racial profiling and have called for boycotts.

Arizona's law has sparked an angry national debate about illegal immigration.

Immigrant rights activists say the law is racist. Supporters deny those claims, noting that race can't be a sole reason for questioning people. They say the law is forcing the nation to confront a

long-standing problem. But some comments have unnerved Hispanics. Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., for example, said he'd support deporting U.S.-born children of illegal immigrants. He added "it takes more than walking across the border to be an American citizen."

The debate has also played out in professional sports. The Phoenix Suns basketball team wore "Los Suns" jerseys in their home playoff game Wednesday night, a show of support for the Hispanic community on Cinco de Mayo. Some fans also wore the jerseys and a group of four entered the arena with som-breros.

All of it has left some Hispanics to wonder about their place in the country.

On a day that commemorates an out-manned Mexican army's victory over larger French forces in 1862, talk in Mesa focused not on celebrations but on what will happen to the burgeoning Hispanic community here and the economy.

Hispanics comprise 26 percent of the 477,000 people in Mesa, a city divided with Hispanics living predominantly on the west side and most whites living in the east.

WALK

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find other resources. We were able to pool a lot of people to help us."

So far, 41 percent of the event's \$5,000 goal has been pledged.

The early response bodes well for the event's future, Wittenhagen said.

"When you first start something like this, you're not sure what kind of community help you're going to get," she stated. "I'm really excited about all the community members that have come forward and are willing to donate, walk, provide food and so many other things."

To register for the Yankton MS walk, visit www.myMSwalk.org, call (605) 336-7017, or e-mail ellie.highstreet@mss.org.

There is no minimum amount of donations required to participate in the event.

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TOP 10 REASONS TO SHOP LOCAL 1. Keeps Our Local Economy Strong

Buying local contributes to our community tax base which in turn goes towards local projects and infrastructure.

2. Keeps Our Friends & Family Working

Buying local helps keep our neighbors employed.

3. Community Well-Being

Buying local helps contribute more to local charities & nonprofits.

4. Shopping Local Reduces The Carbon Footprint

Buying local requires less use of fossil fuels resulting in a "greener" planet.

5. Customer Service Is Better

Buying local is like buying from a friend.

6. Sustains Our Community's Unique Culture

Buying local helps preserve the pioneering culture that built the community.

7. Investment Is Encouraged

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8. Local Businesses Support Other Businesses

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9. Shopping Local Saves You Money

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10. On-Line Companies Don't Support Your Local School or Team

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