

Board looks at improvements for hospital

By Karen Krien
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Needed improvements at the hospital and how to fund those improvements was on the agenda at the Thursday, Oct. 29, Cheyenne County Hospital Board meeting. More information is needed before any decisions can be made.

The board and administration had four areas of improvements they would like to see made in the future. Most pressing is the delivery room; next on the list is the remodeling of the hospital's kitchen and dining area. In the future, new cardiac monitors will be needed and, lastly is making a parking lot on the east end of the hospital grounds.

Delivery room

Shawna Blanka, administrative assistant, reported on the delivery room. She said the delivery room consists of combining two rooms into one. The project came in way

over budget at \$207,000. The big cost is the separate heating and cooling unit. She said that when there is a lot of activity in the delivery room, the temperatures need to be cool, but as soon as the baby is delivered, the heat needs to come up quickly.

The project needs to be rebid but that will take time. In the meantime, Dr. Rebecca Allard already has 10 expectant mothers with babies due to start coming in February. The administration is working on solving the issues. The board said, if the price can be brought below \$150,000, Mr. Lacy should take it as it is important to get the project completed as soon as possible.

Kitchen

Remodeling the kitchen has been on the board's agenda for several months. State inspectors reported that the kitchen was very clean and safe but, it doesn't meet the codes. Because remodeling plans are

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Hospital open house set Sunday afternoon

An open house to meet the new doctor and physician assistants will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday at the Cheyenne County Hospital.

Dr. Rebecca Allard; Kristle Neuhalfen and Tyler Raile, physician assistants, along with Dr. Mary Beth Miller and Patrick

Delano, physician assistant, will on hand to greet people. Those attending will also be able to tour the hospital and see some of the new improvements including the new ambulance entrance, physical therapy department with aquatic therapy pool, patient room lifts, and other new equipment.



Indians play Saturday

CLEARING THE WAY — Trevor Hilt is blocking the opponent so Ted Crabtree (11) can make more yardage. The Indians won the Regional title and will now be playing for the Sectional title against Minneapolis on Saturday at 3 p.m. on Greene Field, St. Francis.
Herald staff photo by Leslie McCormick

Make the holiday season the best time ever this year

By Karen Krien
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The sixth "Harvest of Holidays" program is planned for Tuesday, Nov. 13, starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Methodist Church fellowship hall in St. Francis. The program is filled with fun and inspiration to make this holiday season the best ever! To register, call the Extension office by Nov. 12, 785-332-3171.

The theme this year is "A Taste Of The Holidays," because of the role that food and family tradi-

tions play in the holidays.

Members of the Sunflower Extension District will share new recipes and techniques that will make this the best holiday season ever!

Melinda Daily, agent, will be presenting "Make and Bake Ahead." She says that it is easy to offer the family a hearty, home-cooked meal, even when the cook can only muster enough energy to open the freezer door and switch on the stove.

"By simply taking some time

on your more leisurely days, you can prepare delicious main course, side dishes and desserts, then pop them into the freezer for fast-to-fix future meals," Ms. Daily said.

These savory make-ahead recipes, along with a host of hints for stocking the freezer will give the family a warm meal on hurried hectic days.

Dianne Gerstner, Thomas County agent, will show how the magic of puff pastry can turn

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Commissioners talk turnoff at the dairy east of Bird City

By Karen Krien
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The new dairy is located east of Bird City on U.S. 36. Because there is so much traffic with trucks turning in and going out of the dairy and, because school buses travel that route several times a day, there has been a push to look into ways

to make the area more safe for travelers.

One of the suggestions has been to make turning lanes on the highway and widen the entrance into the dairy. Ray Lee, commissioner, pointed out that there is a slight curve in the highway and trucks turning into the dairy need a wider

turning lane. Right now, the driver is in the opposite lane when turning.

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, said the county can do a lot of dirt work but will need a lot of dirt to build up the turnout lane. The state may consider doing

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New guy running the office

By Karen Krien
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St. Francis has a new postmaster. Dewayne Lalicker assumed the position in August. However, most people knew Mr. Lalicker as he had previously worked in the St. Francis post office as a clerk, leaving in September 2004.

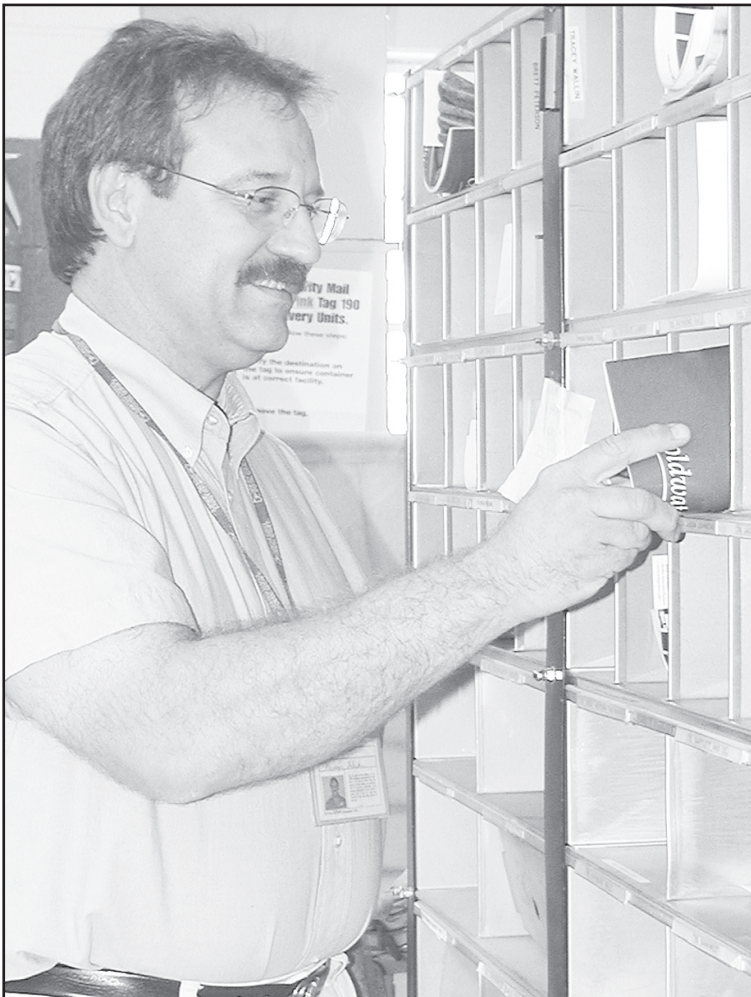
This time, Mr. Lalicker plans to be in St. Francis for a long time.

"I really like the people in St. Francis — the customers as well as the people who work in the office," he said.

Mr. Lalicker was raised in Goodland and about 18 1/2 years ago, he began his career with the postal service, starting as a city carrier. He was a full-time carrier in the Colorado Springs Post Office but, about that time, he met and married Lori Price, who was originally from St. Francis.

To be closer to his wife and family, he took a part-time position as carrier and clerk in the Burlington, Colo., Post Office, then spent six months as an officer in charge at Crook, Colo., and worked in Hugoton as an officer in charge. He came to St. Francis from Ness City where he served as postmaster.

"I have worked in almost every



DEWAYNE LALICKER, new postmaster, is sorting the mail into boxes.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

part of a post office, from walking to supervising, and I have found the St. Francis Post Office to be one of the best places to work," he said.

One of his goals is to get the mail in the boxes by 10:30 each morning.

"I think it is important to get the

mail up in a timely fashion," he said. "After all, that is what the sign in the office says."

Mr. Lalicker said he is ready for the busy Christmas season. The post office already has the Christmas stamps in and he will have

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DISPLAYING CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS — Allison Grice arranges the stockings at the Craft Show. They sold for \$4 and \$9 and the money went to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Crafter sells stockings for St. Jude

By Karen Krien

Allison Grice, an eighth grader at St. Francis Community High School, sold denim Christmas stockings at the Craft Fair on Saturday. She made \$72 on the stockings and another \$104 in donations.

All of the money was given to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Each year, Sharon Olofson takes up a collection for St. Jude at the Cheyenne County Trail Ride but, this year, the ride was cancelled due

to cold weather conditions.

"I wanted to help Mrs. Olofson raise money for the kids," she said.

She and her mother, Tammy, spent about three days making 21 small stockings and 10 big ones.