



**GETTING TRAINING** — Sherri VanHorn and Erika Zimbelman work on a patient to complete the course.  
Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

## Four students complete First Responder course

On Aug. 12, four people decided to contribute to the county by taking the First Responder course offered by the Cheyenne County Emergency Medical Service.

Students, Dana Rose, Sherri VanHorn, Trish Harkness and Erika Zimbelman, ended their class on Saturday by passing the practical skills examination in St. Francis. They will now have to take a written exam at a Pearson Vue test site to gain their final certification.

Mike Hanson was the lead instructor for the course which lasted approximately three months. It covered all the aspects of the emergency medical service system.

First Responders are one step below emergency medical technicians. There are a few of the advanced skills they are not allowed to use.

However, they will be able to run on the ambulance and assist technicians when needed.

"They will be able to drive and provide care on scene and in the back of the ambulance as well," Mr. Hanson said.

"The class could not have been completed without the support of the commissioners, all of the



**TRISH HARKNESS** is one of the students that took the First Responders course.

EMTs and others who contributed their time to help out."

## Security system is installed

By Karen Krien  
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Keeping students safe is something the St. Francis Board of Education has been working on since last school year. At the Thursday board meeting, the superintendent said that both schools now have security systems installed.

The high school's access-control system has been installed, he said. Now, both the schools have the systems which appear to be working well.

"The system, which cost approximately \$19,500, will protect students and staff.

"Nobody can get into the building unless there is a break in," Mr. Schiltz said.

The front door has access control from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and then the doors are locked.

The staff has access cards so they can come and go as needed. Access cards can also be issued to certain people. When someone uses a card, the entry is automatically noted so there is a constant record of who is entering and leaving the building.

When there are special functions going on, certain doors will be unlocked for a specified length of time and then they will be locked again.

It should be noted that all doors allow for exiting.

### New boiler for grade school

A safety device on one of the grade school boilers failed and cracked seven of the nine sections. The grade school has two large boilers, one was purchased in 1971 and the other in 1972.

Mr. Schiltz said he had talked with Lampe Hardware about installing the boilers but they were not interested at this time. However, Ed Marin, one of the owners, had helped him with the specifications and what was needed.

He had talked to three companies but ended up working with only two of them. American Boiler, Salina, recommended one large power burner; Glassman Corporation, Hays, recommended two smaller boilers.

Mr. Schiltz recommended that one large power-burner boiler be purchased and installed. The old working boiler would be kept as a backup. There would also be only one boiler to install.

The two companies will have a bid deadline of Nov. 20, with the board accepting a bid the next day.

Mr. Schiltz said that, even with the cooler weather, the teachers said they have not been uncomfortable but, he felt that the new boiler

needed to be installed as quickly as possible.

### In other business

In other business:

- The resignation of Lucinda Straub was accepted and Marlin Queen was hired as the head custodian at the grade school.

- The board approved the request for Alexis and Danielle Frink to attend St. Francis Grade School. The request was made by their mother, Leslie McKinney, Bird City.

- The board agreed to make Western State Bank, St. Francis, as one of the official depository for the school's funds.

- Mr. Schiltz had received a letter

from Charles Volland, chairman of confidence in Kansas Public Education Task Force, that informed him St. Francis high school had been awarded a Certificate of Merit as part of the sixth annual Challenge Awards recognizing the outstanding performance on the seventh grade math assessment. Carla Schiltz is the seventh grade math teacher.

### Next meeting

The next board of education meeting will be a special meeting to accept a bid for the new boilers. That meeting was set for 7:45 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 21, in the superintendent's office.

## Airport runway to get a face lift

By Karen Krien  
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The Airport Authority had good news for the Cheyenne County Commissioners when they met on Friday.

Dave Yost and Ron Loudon, Authority members, had brought Diane Hofer, who is with Olsons Associates, Lincoln, Neb. Ms. Hofer said the Federal Aviation Administration has changed the plans for the airport runway renovation. The runway will be completely redone, widening it to 75-feet and it will be constructed of concrete, not asphalt. New runway lights will also be put in at the same time.

In the future, the runway will be extended to the south. Right now, there is not sufficient money.

Milling up the old asphalt runway and running the concrete for the new one will cost approximately \$1.9 million. The county's share of the cost is 5 percent.

The project will be bid in 2009. Ms. Hofer said congress is slow in giving out the money and the Aviation Administration doesn't have the authorization to write the grants. She figured it would probably be July or August before the bids were let and construction could be as late

as next fall or the spring of 2010.

Mr. Yost said the county was fortunate to get in on the ground floor when the grants were distributed. He said the Aviation Administration doesn't want to drop a project in the middle so they will support the runway project until it is done. This is, he said, a good time to bid because it is possible the bid will come in under budget.

It is amazing, said Terry Miller, clerk, that we can give someone \$100,000 and they will give us \$2 million.

During construction, the airport will be closed. The Authority members and commissioners were concerned about the medical flight plane which uses the airport. When a more definite date is known, the Authority will let the hospital administrator know what the plans are so arrangements can be made.

The Authority members were pleased that the runway would be made of concrete as it would last for years and, unlike the asphalt, there will not be the constant patching. Ms. Hofer said the high costs of oil had caused the cost of asphalt to go up to where it is as high, if not higher than concrete.

**Community Benefit For Trevor Reed**  
**Spaghetti Dinner**  
 Salad, Bread, Dessert, Coffee and Tea  
**Sunday, Nov. 23, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. CST**  
**St. Francis High School Cafeteria**  
 — Free Will Offering —  
*Sponsored by various groups and individuals who wish to help Trevor and his family during his recuperation and rehabilitation following a recent car accident.*

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 very much! Loving wife Rosella & children,  
 Elaine, Calvin, Lavern, Rod, Kevin*

**Thank You!** **Booster Club**  
 Would like to thank **Betty Petersen** for all her dedication and hard work. Thanks also to **Robin and Preston** for filling all the sacks!

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**from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
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**Thurs., Dec. 4**  
**Atwood (a.m.) • 626-3211**  
**Colby (p.m.)**  
 CSMC, 175 S. Range  
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 CMC, 100 E. College Dr.  
**462-7511**

**Fri., Dec. 5**  
**Atwood - All Day**

**Wedding Registry**

**Crystal Walters & Kyle Schultz**  
 Wedding Dec. 6

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