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HEAVY EQUIPMENT ROLLED in Monday morning and work has begun on the Cheyenne County Airport runway. The runway will be widened and new lights installed. The next step will be lengthening the end of the runway. The runway is expected to be completed by the end of October. *Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

Runway construction begins

By Karen Krien
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Work on the Cheyenne County Airport runway, St. Francis, began Monday. It will tentatively reopen the middle to the last of October. During that time, the airport will remain open and all three sod

runways will be usable, said Robert Grace, airport manager. However, the Flight For Life aircraft and other large aircraft will likely not use the sod. The hospital and emergency medical service personnel, Les Lacy, hospital administrator, said,

are communicating to streamline the ground portion of this process. While there is a possibility of helicopter transfers, the most likely situation will involve a ground transport to the airport at Goodland until the runway is reopened. "The key issue for the hospital is

the best way to get patients where they need to go when air transport is needed, Mr. Lacy said. "Most of these same kinds of cases would be flown out of other area hospitals."

The contractors will tear out the old asphalt on the runway then concrete will be poured. In the end the runway will be wider. There will also be new runway lights installed. The construction is to take 60 working days. This allows for some bad weather. However, if the weather doesn't cause any or few delays, the project could be com-

pleted sooner. The project is part of a Federal Aviation Administration 95/5 grant. The widening of the runway needs to be completed before 75 feet can be added to the length of the runway. The addition will also be part of the grant program.

Council agrees for sheriff to use city's jail facility

By Karen Krien
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The St. Francis City Council talked to the chief of police about the county sheriff using the city's jail facility when they met on Monday. Mike Day, city attorney, said he had read in the newspaper that the commissioners had suggested that the sheriff be given a key to the city building and use the jail fa-

cility as a holding cell overnight. Shane Guggenmos, city police chief, said he had no objection. The council agreed that it would save money and time if the sheriff officers did not have to transport prisoners to an out-of-town facility when the prisoner could be held overnight in town. The chief pointed out that, while a prisoner was in the jail, they would need to provide a guard.

Mr. Day will visit with Kari Gilliland, county attorney, about the matter. Carla Lampe said she had also read in the newspaper that the commissioners indicated they did not want to work with the county concerning the county's incentive plan. That is not true, she said. No way do we not want to work with

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NEW GOOD SAMARITAN VILLAGE administrator, Jeff Paulsen, left, and Rick Reser, retiring administrator, go over some figures. *Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*



Rita Stephens and Stan Carman read the headstone that marks the 1886 burial of Isaac Cherry, an early pioneer who homesteaded in Lawn Ridge. Hear the story of the blizzard and Mr. Cherry at the Sept 13 cemetery tour. *Photo courtesy of Janet Carman*

Tour has interesting agenda

On Sunday, Sept. 13, the Cheyenne County Historical Society is hosting a tour of five southwest Cheyenne County cemeteries. People will be on hand at each cemetery to tell about the history

and to answer questions. The starting point will be the Museum of Cheyenne County on U.S. 36 in St. Francis. The tour will begin at 2 p.m. and will travel to the following cem-

eteries: Evangelical Lutheran at Jaqua, Zion at Jaqua, Swedish at Battle Creek, Jaqua, and Lawn Ridge. After the tour, refreshments will be served at Stan Carman's farm.

Six-year-old saves friend

By Casey McCormick
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A 6-year-old Denver girl has received an award for saving the life of a friend. On Aug. 14, Ava McCormick and 5-year-old Stella Maziarz were swimming at the Aztlan pool in Denver. Both girls were there with a day camp group from YMCA.



Young Ava was in the deep end when she felt something bump against her leg. Seeing Stella on the bottom of the pool she dove down and brought her to the surface by pulling her up by her hair. "I was scared," Ava said. "I called for help." Four lifeguards began CPR on the girl who now had no pulse. Stella was transported to Denver Health Medical Center where she became alert and responsive. She spent the next three days in the hospital. On Aug. 20, the two girls held

hands and stood before a crowd and members of the press when the Denver Police Department recognized them, and the lifeguards, as "Neighborhood Heros." The Daniels Fund awarded the girls and guards each with a plaque and checks: \$250 to the guards and \$500 to the girls. When asked about her brave act, Ava said "It was no big deal." Ava is the daughter of Shannon McCormick, Denver, and granddaughter to Kelly McCormick, Arvada, who is the twin brother of Casey McCormick, St. Francis.

Chamber secretary retires

By Karen Krien
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The St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce secretary has turned in her resignation, effective Sept. 1.

Gloria Bracelin has served as the Chamber secretary for a total of 13 years. She said there were a few years that she had retired but, several years ago, she came back, helping the Chamber out. Through the years, she has seen to a number of promotions including implementing the Light Parade to start the Christmas season off. This was a spin off from the fair parade which the Chamber took over organizing. Instead of heading up Main Street, the parade route was directed down the street west starting at the high school.

Mrs. Bracelin has been instrumental in organizing money makers to buy playground equipment for the city park. The playground equipment is an important project for not only the Chamber but for the children. Mrs. Bracelin said there is sufficient money in the playground fund and she will help in getting the equipment purchased and installed. First, however, she and the committee will meet with the city superintendent to make sure their choice meets with his and the city council's approval. For the last year or so, Mrs. Bracelin has been trying to keep the Chamber office open and keep special projects in line. However, her husband Kenny is having kidney dialysis and he travels for his work.



GLORIA BRACELIN was helping with the Chamber Christmas drawings.

"I need to go with him," she said. He is a candidate for a kidney transplant and that will take time. There are just many different things to take care of and Mrs. Bracelin said it is important that she is free to do what is needed. Besides, she said, her grandchild-

dren are getting older and participating in different school activities. "I want to be able to visit and watch them," she said. Mrs. Bracelin has chaired the annual Relay For Life walk for cancer. She is also stepping back. See RETIRES on Page 9