

CAT scanner installed and already being used

By Karen Krien

The CAT scanner has been installed at the Cheyenne County Hospital and the board was told on Tuesday, Nov. 23, that the scanner has already shown 60 percent more usage than what had been budgeted.

Also now in use is the computerized radiology equipment and the X-ray equipment.

Later, Les Lacy, hospital administrator, told about the new equipment.

"It is a wonderful resource for the community and has the potential to save lives as well as time and money," said Administrator Lacy.

It is possible to have an X-ray or CAT scan 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"Location, location, location," said Annalynn Gardner, radiological technologist.

The old equipment was in the basement of the hospital and anything but efficiently located.

When the new addition was built on the hospital, the old part of the facility was remodeled, putting the X-ray equipment next to the emergency room, the operating room and the business office/waiting room. The remodeling had started when the plans turned a sharp corner and the board agreed to have a CAT scanner installed in the X-ray room.

"It is some of the best equipment in the area," the tech said.

"We waited to make sure the volume (number of patients) was here to support the financial model," Administrator Lacy said.

The equipment was purchased on a lease agreement and the savings on film, ambulance runs to other hospitals having the equipment and the rental of the truck which came to St. Francis to do scans will more than cover the lease costs.

The X-ray equipment can be raised and lowered so the patient can easily get on or be moved on. The table top can then be repositioned under the X-ray tube without moving the patient to get the X-ray with as little discomfort as possible to the patient.

The computerized radiology allows CAT scans, X-rays and ultrasound images to be put into a computer. The records are at the



LES LACY, hospital administrator, tries out the new X-ray equipment.

technician's fingertips and can be sent electronically to radiologists. Through computer technology, areas can be reversed, enlarged, lightened or darkened to improve readability. Not too long ago, Dr. Mary Beth Miller was discussing a patient's condition with the radiologist — both had the same images in front of them on the computer.

No longer do the technologists have to worry about images or X-rays reaching Denver hospitals after they are sent and they don't have to worry about getting them back. Patients can also have a CD

made that they can crop into their computers to look at their own X-rays.

Mary Ruth Burkett, medical laboratory technician, said the new equipment is like comparing a Brownie camera to a high-powered digital camera! The quality of imaging is the best.

Soon to be installed at the Cheyenne County Hospital is the Dexascan equipment which measures bone density and screens for osteoporosis.

"We feel that with this newly installed equipment, we will be able to take better care of patients lo-



ANNALYNN GARDNER, radiological technologist, uses the new CAT scanner that was installed at the hospital.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

cally," Administrator Lacy said. "It will also help us to attract and retain professional staff."

Other matters

Some of the other matters discussed at the hospital board meeting included:

- The county health project which is showing progress in the basement of the clinic in St. Francis. The walls have been framed in and includes two exam rooms, restroom, office, lab, nurse's station and waiting room.

- The board recommended an invoice for payment to the county. It was for architect company, Jones-Gillam, \$12,824 for work done for the county health office.

- Jackie John, Great Plains Health Alliance director, presented a plaque of recognition from the American Hospital Association. The Cheyenne County

Hospital has been a member of the Association for 50 years.

- The administrator announced that the duties of Shawna Blanka, board secretary, have changed and she will not be working in the front but will be working as his secretary (she will also continue as board secretary).

- The accounts receivable report was reviewed and it was readily apparent that the business office was working hard to reduce it.

- The administrator's announcement that the hospital is participating in a Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement Grant project with other hospitals

in the northwest Kansas Health Network. The grant will provide services and education over the next 18 months.

- The board agreed to give \$25 Christmas bonus plus an extra \$25 for working under the construction and renovation inconveniences. The employees will receive the money in Chamber scrip money.

- The board went into executive session to discuss personnel with no decisions being made.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the board has been changed from Dec. 16 to 7 p.m. on Dec. 23 in the clinic basement meeting room.

Obituary

Nettie R. Stuhlmiller

July 5, 1912 - Nov. 9, 2004

Nettie R. Stuhlmiller, 92, died Nov. 9, 2004, after a short illness. She was born July 5, 1912, to William and Christina Lampe. She had six siblings, Henry, who died in infancy, Emil, Anna, Leo, Linda and Clarence.

She met Otto, who later became her husband, when he began working on Nettie's father's farm. They were married on Sept. 15, 1929, and were together for 55 years. They had three children, Junius, Rena and Linda. They lived on a farm southwest of St. Francis, Kan., for approximately 20 years and then moved to Denver in 1955.

Nettie was a homemaker and enjoyed singing and playing the guitar and piano. Nettie also loved to grow flowers, her yard was the envy of the neighborhood.

After Otto died, Nettie went to live with her daughter Linda and son-in-law, Jim, and stayed with them for 15 years.

Nettie is survived by her children, Junius and wife, Doris, Cope,

Colo., Rena and husband, Melvin Wieck, Arvada, Colo., Linda and husband, Jim Day, Westminster, Colo.; 11 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, four great-great grandchildren; sister Linda and husband, Don Collins, Longmont, Colo.; sister-in-law, Helen Lampe, St. Francis and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Preceding her in death were her parents, William and Christina Lampe; brothers, Henry Lampe, Emil Lampe, Leo Lampe, Clarence Lampe and sister Anna Zimbelman.

Funeral services were held Nov. 14 at the Church of the Nazarene, Westminster, with nephew Marvin Zimbelman of St. Francis and Dr. Stan Reeder officiating.

Pallbearers were grandsons, Dan Stuhlmiller, Steve Stuhlmiller, Ron Kowalski, Jim Carbari, George Jessen and Danny Poulignot.

Honorary pallbearers were Robert Glasco, Chuck Boyer and Shaun Polok.

Burial was in the Olinger-Highland Cemetery in Northglenn, Colo.

This Is The Place

Cheyenne County Development Corporation Carol Redding, Coordinator

Wow! What a great meeting! I attended a seminar on Home Town Competitiveness earlier this month, and now I'm really excited about possibilities in Cheyenne County! Stop by and we'll talk about how this could help make your own ideas happen.

Remember hearing about when this area was all rangeland with no fences? A landowner could ride for miles without ever getting onto anyone else's property. Think those days are gone? Nope! We've just got a different format now — global marketing by "riding" technology.

Here's part of an ad I saw in a business magazine: "We see

business without borders." The ad went on to say you should have the ability to do business with anyone, anywhere and that business speaks a global language. Barriers disappear. Technology brings companies closer to their customers and partners, regardless of language or location.

Instead of mourning the loss of the "good old days" (admittedly, some of them weren't so good), let's make some good new days so Cheyenne County can tell about those in years to come.

The Cheyenne County Development office in the courthouse is open most mornings 8 - 12, Monday through Friday. Or give me a call at (785) 332-3508 or (888) 725-2444. I look forward to visiting with all of you.

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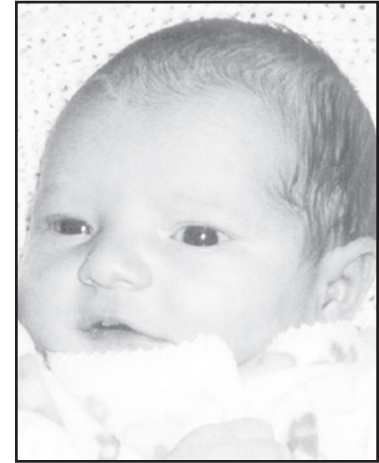
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Haigler
308-297-3223

Paige Elizabeth DeGood

Darris and Adele DeGood are excited to announce the birth of their first child, Paige Elizabeth DeGood. She was born on Nov. 18, 2004, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She was delivered by Dr. Gary Slavens. Paige weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce, and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Her proud grandparents are Dr. Ernest and Bonnie Cram and Dwen and Charilyn DeGood, all of St. Francis. Great-grandparents are Coy and Neva DeGood and Tom and Marvel Gleason, also of St. Francis.



DeGood

WOW!!!

The St. Francis Chamber of Commerce would like to say a Big "THANK YOU" to everyone who participated in our Second Annual Light Parade — Everyone who lined the street to watch the parade — And to the gals who organized and lined up the floats. Special "THANKS" to the city crew for removing the cells from the street lights so Main Street would be darker.

Mark Your Calendar
for next year's parade.

Thanks to everyone who participated and helped with the Alumni Games!



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REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Tuesday, Dec. 14 • 9:30 a.m. (MST)
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1135 Acres in Southeast Yuma County, CO
IRRIGATED-DRYLAND-GRASSLAND-HOME & OUTBUILDINGS

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Parcel #1: NW1/4 & E1/2 Sec. 28-5S-42W (480 acres m/l)
Parcel #2: Lots 3-4 & SW 1/4 Sec. 22-5S-42W and Lots 1-2-3-4 & W 1/2 Sec. 27-5S-42W (655 acres m/l)

LOCATION: East of Bonny Res. on the N. side of Yuma Co. Rd. 1 and W. of Yuma Co. Rd. 55 (state line)

AUCTION TERMS: 10% earnest money in good funds day of auction; balance due at closing within approximately 30 days. This will be an absolute auction with a minimum bid. The property will be sold as-is with no contingencies. All inspections and financing arrangements should be done prior to the auction. A cash at closing purchase agreement shall be signed on auction day.

Parcel #1 consists of 122 irrigated acres; 189 dry acres; 155 grassland acres, and a 14 acre farmstead.

Parcel #2 consists of 484 dryland acres and 171 grassland acres.

Notice to the prospective purchaser: The information contained herein has either been given to us by the seller or from sources we deem reliable, but we do not guarantee it. The prospective purchaser should verify all information contained herein. Colorado Land Investments I, LLC and all other agents of the broker are or will be acting as transaction broker.

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