



Bids opened for airport runway

On Tuesday, April 19, four bids were opened on the airport's runway extension project. Some of the contractors attended the meeting, along with the Cheyenne County Airport Commission and Diane Hofer, the project engineer from Ollson Associates.

The bids ranged from a low of \$1,656,320 to \$2,781,577, but three of the bids were very close, separated by only \$112,000. Further, the winning bid was only \$10,000 – or 0.6-percent below the second bid. Ms. Hofer said that the bids were generally lower than she expected, and it was speculated that the dearth of state

highway jobs due to tight state budgets increased interest in the airport bid.

Dave Yost, the Airport Commission president, noted that the winning bid was from Paulsen Incorporated of Cozad, Neb., the company who completed the recent runway construction on the

airport. He said that the commission was pleased with the quality of the work on the previous job.

Ms. Hofer estimated that the total cost may be about \$2.1 million, because of engineering fees and other costs. The job includes a significant amount of dirt work because to the rising terrain south

of the airport and includes airport boundary fencing, new runway lighting, moving a city water main and painting the new concrete. In addition, since the existing runway surface will now have a displaced threshold, last summer's paint will have to be removed and new paint markings

applied to the existing runway.

The timing of the work is unclear. The Federal Aviation Administration first has to approve the bid and release their 95-percent share of the funding, and the county will also need to approve their matching 5 percent. Ms. Hofer said that

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New date set for cancer walk in St. Francis

Friday, July 22, is the new date for the Cheyenne County Cancer Relay for Life walk.

It will start at 6 p.m. in Sawhill Park, St. Francis and run through the night until 7 a.m. on Saturday.

Pat Rose, chairman, held the organizing meeting on Monday, April 18, and welcomed new members, Crystal Schultz, who will be the new treasurer, and Vickie Coates.

"It is time to organize your relay teams," said Ms. Rose.

Those wanting to participate as a team captain or just join a team should call Christy Wurm at 785-332-2650. The theme chosen for the "campsites" at the park is "Birthdays." All-night entertainment is also planned for the walkers.

Cancer survivors who have not previously joined the relay should contact Susie Walz at 785-332-3486 and she will get all the information to them.

"We would love to have all survivors join us for a reception," Mrs. Walz said. "Then, at the relay, to walk or ride the first lap to celebrate survival."

Many community activities and money-raising events are planned as everyone works together to raise money for the American Cancer Society in the on-going fight to cure cancer and to assist those who are going through the cancer fight.

By having teams walking the square around Sawhill Park from sunset to sunrise, said Betty Loudon, one of the coordinators, we represent the intense struggle of cancer patients. As the darkness approaches and the fight gets intense so, too, does the dawn always come and with it, the hope to survive.

Luminarias

The luminaria service at dark is always such an emotional experience for all, she said. Luminarias can be purchased from any team member or the committee for \$10. It is a special way to honor someone who survives or in memory of someone who did not.

"Their name and yours are put on a white sack holding a candle," Mrs. Loudon said. "These are lit all over the park at dark."

The honored names are read at a ceremony held in the band shell. Call Tammy Grice at 785-332-2910 to buy a luminaria.

Auction

The annual auction is held in the band shell. People interested in providing a filled theme basket or item for the auction are urged to call Betty Petersen, 332-2368.

More help needed

The committee could use some new hands and faces.

"If you can help us make this the best relay ever, please call me at 785-332-5348," Ms. Rose said.



NOT HAPPY! Rhet Brown, son of Amber and Mat Brown, did not like the Easter bunny and his sad eyes told it all. The bunny was Mikaela Grace.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Mothers honored Sunday, May 5

This Mother's Day, let us help. People are encouraged to bring their mom, their wife or the entire family to an awesome outdoor concert centered around lifting up the name of Jesus.

St. Francis Community Church will be hosting a community-wide "Mother's Day Concert in the Park." The concert will begin at 5 p.m. at the bandshell in Sawhill Park.

"Eternity Focus" will be the featured guest for the concert. The musicians have traveled the country, won national awards for their music, but above all, they simply live what they sing. Mom's will truly be blessed! said Pastor Dave Butler.

Immediately following the concert, there will be a grilled dinner consisting of burgers, brats and all the trimmings for everyone attending. All the ministers of the area churches will be serving the food.

There will be a free-will offering taken to supplement the cost of the concert and food.

In the event of inclement weather, the concert to the high school auditorium.



MIKE AND SHIRLEY MARINO, owners of Goodell Greenhouse and Floral, have opened the greenhouse for the summer months.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Greenhouse open again

By Karen Krien

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Goodell Greenhouse and Floral is open again after being closed for the winter. The business had been (and still is) for sale but after it didn't sell, Mike and Shirley Marino decided to open the greenhouse for the summer, starting Sunday, May 1.

They will be selling bedding plants including vegetables and flowers along with trees and shrubs. "If you need something and don't see it, please ask us," Mrs. Marino said.

They are carrying "Proven Winner" plants. Mike described Proven Winners as plants that are "tissue cultured." Special plants are taken from all over the world including Asia and Africa. The best are propagated in test tubes and raised in a sterile environment, producing disease-free plants.

Our plants, Shirley said, are already looking fuller than those grown from seed.

Mrs. Marino was raised in the greenhouse business and Mr. Marino's family was in the vegetable and truck gardening business, so

they have years of experience. They welcome people having problems with their plants to stop by and talk to them. Mike said the biggest problem most people have is planting in soil that needs enrichment.

"They think they treated the soil once, they don't need to treat it again," he said.

The Marinos purchased the greenhouse 26 years ago. We have had great customers, Mrs. Marino said. We are looking forward to seeing them again this year along with new ones.

New advertising manager joins Herald, Times staff

Anita Schmid has joined The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times staff as the new advertising manager.

Ms. Schmid was born and raised in Atwood, then spent the next 30 years in Colorado. She recently returned to Northwest Kansas where she spent some time working in Atwood.

"I read the ad in The Herald and thought it would be an interesting and challenging job," she said.

"I've already met a lot of people and it has been a real pleasure."

Working as an ad salesperson wasn't Ms. Schmid's first newspaper job. As a teenager, she delivered the Gazette Telegraph in Colorado Springs. She has also had several retail jobs and outside sales positions.

Her grown children, Sarah and Seth Olson still reside in Colorado. As they will testify, she said, parenting requires "shock absorption!"

"Respectively, I am looking forward to working with The Herald staff and the people in the communities they serve," she said.

"Anita has jumped right into the job, starting with selling several special sections," said Karen Krien, publisher. "We are happy to have her as part of the staff."



ANITA SCHMID works at her desk in St. Francis. She is the new advertising manager for The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

World Day of Prayer Thursday, May 5

Noon-1 p.m. Commissioners' room in St. Francis

