Godland Daily News



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By Keith Lippoldt

Goodland Daily News With the threat of teen violence, alcohol and drug abuse a step closer to home everyday, Goodland High School counselor Rhonda Williams and Community Prevention Board Coordinator Barbara Fernandez are meeting the issues head on.

Last year the two applied for, and received, a grant totaling \$58,000 from the state Incentive Cooperative Agreement Program: Kansas Communities That Care. The group's goal is to help people building a better world for themselves, their children and their families.

"This needs to be a community effort," Williams said. "We hope to create a vision, and the reality, of a safe community.'

Fernandez agrees with that evaluation.

"I would say that we have a problem in these areas that is increasing and we need to address it," she said. "We need to have continuing education programs, not just a one-time deal, and we need the support of the community."

Instead of allowing the decadence of behavioral problems and abuse take a firm hold, Williams and Fernandez are working to educate the public, both youth and adult, with prevention programs aimed to make Goodland a safe place to raise a family.

"This money is being used for several programs," Williams said. "We have already funded the Ropes Challenge Course at North School, which develops the need to team together for problem solving. It develops communication skills and how to resolve situations.'

One common denominator of the programs is teaching skills that will help them resolve disputes without violence. Nearly every program currently being offered, or currently in the planning stage, teaches youth to deal with each other in a non-threatening manner.

training has students listening to other students' concerns to solve problems. This is an excellent exercise in conflict resolution. Peer mediation teaches that there are alternatives to violence."

Other programs in use now are peer tutoring, peer mentorship training, Teens as Teachers, and a program that gives kids information about the potentially devastating effects of tobacco. Others include the Alert Program for adults and Alternative Nights, where junior high and high school students are offered sponsored activities that do not include violence, drugs or alcohol.

"The peer programs really compliment the efforts of the parents and the teachers," Fernandez said. "The oneon-one seems to have a stronger impact. I think that when the peers have something to say, the other kids listen. These are their friends and they know what they are going through.'

Monday night, a speaker was brought to Goodland from the Koch Crime Institute to discuss gang violence and show a video that his group produced.

The grant money has also been used to purchase "fatal vision" goggles, a set of glasses that simulate the effects of alcohol.

The next big program is scheduled for June 5-6. The 24-hour Relay Challenge is designed to bring the entire community together with the challenge of building and strengthening the bonds between youth and adults with prevention a major goal.

"The 24-hour Relay is going to be a lot of fun for everybody," Williams said. "This is a chance for the community to come together and support each other. There are activities planned all weekend. It should be a great weekend."

Williams said that teams and volunteers are still needed to assure a successful weekend. An organizational meeting will be held at 6 p.m. tonight in room 125 at the high school. Volunteers are welcome.

Also, if you would be interested in

report at noon Today • Sunset, 7:49 p.m. Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:36 a.m. • Sunset, 7:50 p.m.

Midday Conditions

Soil Temperature 57 degrees

weather

- Humidity 35 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- · Winds northwest at 10 mph
- Barometer 30.04 inches
- and falling Record High 99° (1962)
- Record Low 29° (1946)

Last 24 Hours*

| High | 67° |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| Low | 40° |
| Precipitation | .21 of an inch |
| month, | 1.16 in., +.21 |
| year to | date, 5.79 in., +1.56 |

Northwest Kansas Forecast Tonight: mostly clear, low 35-40,

slight winds. Tomorrow: Partly sunny, high 65-70, winds south, 5-10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday through Thursday, dry, highs about 70, lows 40-45. Friday and Saturday, thunderstorms possible, highs 70, lows 45-50. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.



Noon Wheat — \$2.23 bushel Posted county price — \$2.16 Loan deficiency payment - 29¢ Corn — \$1.80 bushel Posted county price Loan deficiency pmt. — 11¢ Milo — \$2.54 hundredweight Soybeans — \$4.13 bushel Posted county price — \$4 Loan deficiency payment - 89¢ Millet — \$4 hundredweight Sunflowers Oil current crop — \$8.30 cwt. Loan deficiency pmt. — \$1.26 Oil new crop — \$8.55 cwt. Confection current — \$17/\$10 cwt. Pinto beans — \$12 (new crop) (Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op

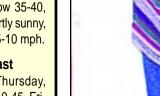
and Prairie Pea and Bean.



North students honor inventors

Students at North Elementary School created projects in math, social studies, science, language arts and computer and put them on display at the Inventors Fair Friday. Natondria Brown, a fourth grader, (above) admired a Levi Strauss display made by Ana McClung. Fourthgrader Savannah Schnug looked at a Leonardo DaVinci display made by Bailee Guyer (left) before moving on to Matt Pianalto's presentation on William S. Burroughs. Photos by Keith Lippoldt/Goodland Daily







CARBONDALE—Arural police chief shot and killed his adult son in an apparent domestic dispute, and the county attorney said he did not expect to file charges.

Donald R. Duncan, 31, died Saturday. He had been shot twice.

Osage County Attorney Eric Godderz said investigators told him the shots were fired by the man's father, Carbondale Police Chief William R. Duncan.

"I feel sorry for the family," Godderz said. "I know Bill Duncan real well. This is a real tragic situation."

Officers from Morris County went to William Duncan's Carbondale home at 3:45 a.m. Saturday, Godderz said.

"I don't anticipate there being any charges filed at this time,' Godderz said, "but I haven't seen the results of the autopsy or the written reports yet."



"We have programs in place that have students dealing with students," Williams said. "Our peer counseling

becoming a member of the Community Prevention Board, contact Fernandez at 899-7393.

New coaches hired

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland School Board presented plaques Monday to 13 teachers recently recognized for 25 years of service, and hired two new basketball coaches for the high school.

Superintendent Marvin Selby discussed negotiations for liability insurance for the fleet of school busses. Currently, the district's property insurance is with Eklund Insurance and the busses are insured with State Farm. Board member Kathy Russell said she was not in favor of having many different agents covering portions of the districts needs. Selby said it is very difficult to get comparative bids because coverage such as deductibles and limits vary, so, a bidto-bid comparison is rarely equal. Selby also discussed the possibility of the need to install a chair lift or elevator at the west end of the fieldhouse expansion. He said it is difficult to interpret the requirements for access, but an architect for the state McLean as high school boys basket-Department of Education will make the final decision. The new sections will be handicap accessible, including guest and student facilities. In other action, the board:

• Decided not to list the district's Goodland Daily News land along Kansas Avenue for sale with a real estate agent. The district is selling part of the tract to a developer who wants to build an "assisted living" center for senior housing.

· Approved a payment to Rhoads Construction for the Max Jones Fieldhouse expansion for \$114,798.

· Went into executive session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss personnel issues. On return at 9 p.m., the board accepted resignations from Sally Bruce, junior high counselor; Mark Harmon, junior high math teacher; Meg Gibson, at-risk aide; and Shawn Harkness, high school social studies teacher.

• Approved hiring of Carrie Veatch as a high school social studies teacher; Casey Veatch, high school science teacher; Lynette McLean, elementary teacher; John McLean, STEP lab teacher; and Jean Cech, as a paraprofessional.

 Approved contracts for John ball coach and Connie Livengood as high school girls basketball coach.

The board again went into executive session at 9:05 p.m. to discuss negotiations.

Building site councils give board annual reports

By Charlie Baker

Goodland Daily News

Building Site Councils gave their annual reports Monday night at the Goodland School Board's regular meeting, telling about their projects and noting that it was often difficult to get volunteer members out to meetings.

Principal Harvey Swager said topics of recent meetings of the high school group included reviewing the school's attendance policy and a survey of public response to the council's mission statement. He said that attendance at the meetings was not good and would like to see more involvement.

Christy Rasure, in her report for the junior high, said the attendance was fair at their meetings. Topics have included the need for new lockers at the south end of the second floor. She said some of new residents have pointed out that finding the office is difficult, and work needs to be done to improve the office and make it more accessible. She said improvements need to continue in the student restrooms, and there is work that needs to be done in the library.

Jodi Miller said the Central School Site Council had talked about providing a "student organizer" for students next year when they enroll. Members were in favor of the plan, but were concerned with the amount of fund raisers in the school and community, so plans were put on hold.

One of the major topics, she said, was the poor quality of the grass on the playground. The council decided to draft a

letter to the school board pointing out the problem. Superintendent Marvin Selby responded that the area had been a parking lot. He said that the letter had prompted the district to start improvements, and he hoped the work would be finished by fall.

Deb Martin, in the North School report, said one of the council's successes was a computer class for senior citizens they had held.

She said she hoped they would get some council volunteers from the class. They have seen an increase in involvement since the shootings in Littleton, Colo.

At their meetings, they have had a soup supper, discussed the accelerated reader and special education programs and the importance of meeting the needs of all the students. She said they reviewed the site council guidelines, and hope to recruit more parents of students, but, they would also like to have senior citizens and other members of the community involved.

Kara Smith said some of the community projects that the West School council had been involved in this past year were a special presentation given on Veterans Day, an outing on Earth Day, when students helped clean area parks, and Arbor Day, when students planted trees.

They discussed problems with recurring head lice and the heat in classrooms. The council also decided not to participate in any more magazine sales. Its main goal is to add more members.

Clinton leads group in talks about unity and responsibility

school student Simonna Woodson believes the soon-to-be-launched White House campaign against youth violence will strike a chord with her peers.

"The fact that they had young people at the meeting and were listening to us and asking our opinion, I'm pretty sure that makes my peers sit up and listen," said Woodson, a 17-year-old junior at Arsenal Technical High School in Indianapolis.

educators, officials, entertainers and gun advocates on Monday to brainstorm ways to reduce violence among youth.

As the group—including poet Maya Angelou, America Online chief Steve Case and movie-industry lobbyist Jack Valenti — left the White House, they spoke of unity and communal responsibility. Outside of commitments to limit youngsters access to violent video Woodson joined President Clinton games on the Internet and proposals to

an advertising campaign against teen violence, participants hoped the most immediate outcome of Monday's three-hour closed-door session would be showing the nation's schools and the children in them that they are not alone.

'There was a general sensitivity to the fact that schools are where the children are, but that people outside schools are going to have to be involved in helptary Richard W. Riley. "It's not enough enforce laws already on the books.

WASHINGTON (AP) — High and about 60 of the nation's leading strengthen existing gun laws and craft to say schools 'you can take care of it.'"

House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., applauded Clinton for holding the where two students killed 12 classmeeting and urged more discussions to mates and a teacher before shooting "figure out what's ailing our society and how we can correct it.'

However, there were some dissident voices, including the National Rifle Association, which was not invited to the White House event. The gun-owners' lobbying group ran newspaper ads ing seriously," said Education Secre- accusing the government of failing to

Since the April 20 massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., themselves, everything from easy access to guns to violent movies and video games to a general culture of cynicism has been blamed.

Hollywood and gunmakers had particularly felt the sting.But Monday, actor Andrew Shue, said, "There was no scapegoating at all in any form. You just can't point the finger at one thing."