

Center wants new accessible elevator

By Janet Craft
The Goodland Daily News
The Good Samaritan Center administrator talked with the Sherman County commissioners about the elevator project at the center at Thursday morning's meeting at the courthouse. Paul Rainbolt, the center's administrator, said a handicapped accessible elevator is to be built on the southeast corner of the building and that they have a bid from Glen Strait Associates of Colby on the project. "We think we're real solid on the bid," Rainbolt said.

This project would cost \$118,000 with \$78,000 of it to come from the center and \$40,000 to be paid by the county.

Rainbolt said the center also plans to remodel the kitchen and put up a new garage this next year.

The center has allocated \$100,000 for the two projects out of its capital reserves fund.

The kitchen remodeling needs to be done to meet fire standards and to make more room in the dining room because it gets congested with walkers and wheelchairs, he said.

The project will extend into the present garage, so the center would need to put up a new garage which would be used as a receiving area and storage for lawn and snow removal equipment.

Rainbolt said he tries to keep the private pay expense for residents as low as he can, but that the center will have an average increase of \$7 in its rates as of today. The average rate for rooms per day was \$83.

He said the center has a solid core of nursing staff, but has a hard time finding aides.

"They have a real heart for the people," he said about the nurses at the center.

He invited the commissioners to visit the center and see how it is run and how well the residents are taken care of.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Curt Way made an unscheduled appearance to report on the drilling of monitor wells near the old landfill north of the city airport. The wells are being drilled at the request of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to check for water contamination.

Way said monitor well No. 10, which is northwest of the landfill, had been drilled as scheduled. But, he said, the county can't proceed with well No. 11, which is on private land north of the landfill, because the landowner has denied access. He said now it is up to the state as to how they want to pursue the matter.

Amy Griffey of the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission went over forms that needed to be signed by the commissioners for completion on the handicapped restroom project at the courthouse.

"After this, we are through," she said.

She said after checking with Mary Ann Snethen, deputy county clerk, she confirmed that all payments had been made.

She said Blaine Davis, architect on the project, has agreed not to bill the county any more and presented copies of a letter from Davis stating that he had received payment.

"What about the elevator?" Commissioner Chuck Frankenfeld asked. "Can we work through the elevator company?"

Griffey said she thought they would have to go through Miller's Construction, the contractor on the project, to proceed on the warranty on the elevator, which doesn't ring when it stops at floors.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby said William McKnight, county building supervisor, told her that the elevator company would check on it when they had a repair person in the area.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked Frankenfeld if he wanted County Clerk Janet Rumpel to address a letter to Miller's about the elevator.

Before finishing, Griffey talked about a bridge project around Kanorado which might be available for a grant. She will talk to Way about the project.

Rumpel gave Griffey a check for \$7,275 as payment to the regional agency for doing the paper work on the grant for the restroom project.

Ronda Tibbles of Colby came to explain a health insurance program called HealthWave which is offered in Kansas to children under 19 whose families qualify by income level.

Tibbles is the western outreach coordinator for the program. She said the insurance covers medical doctor visits, shots, medication, eye doctor visits and glasses, hearing aids, dental care, hospital care, and counseling for alcohol or substance abuse. The monthly fee is low and there are no exclusions for previous medical conditions.

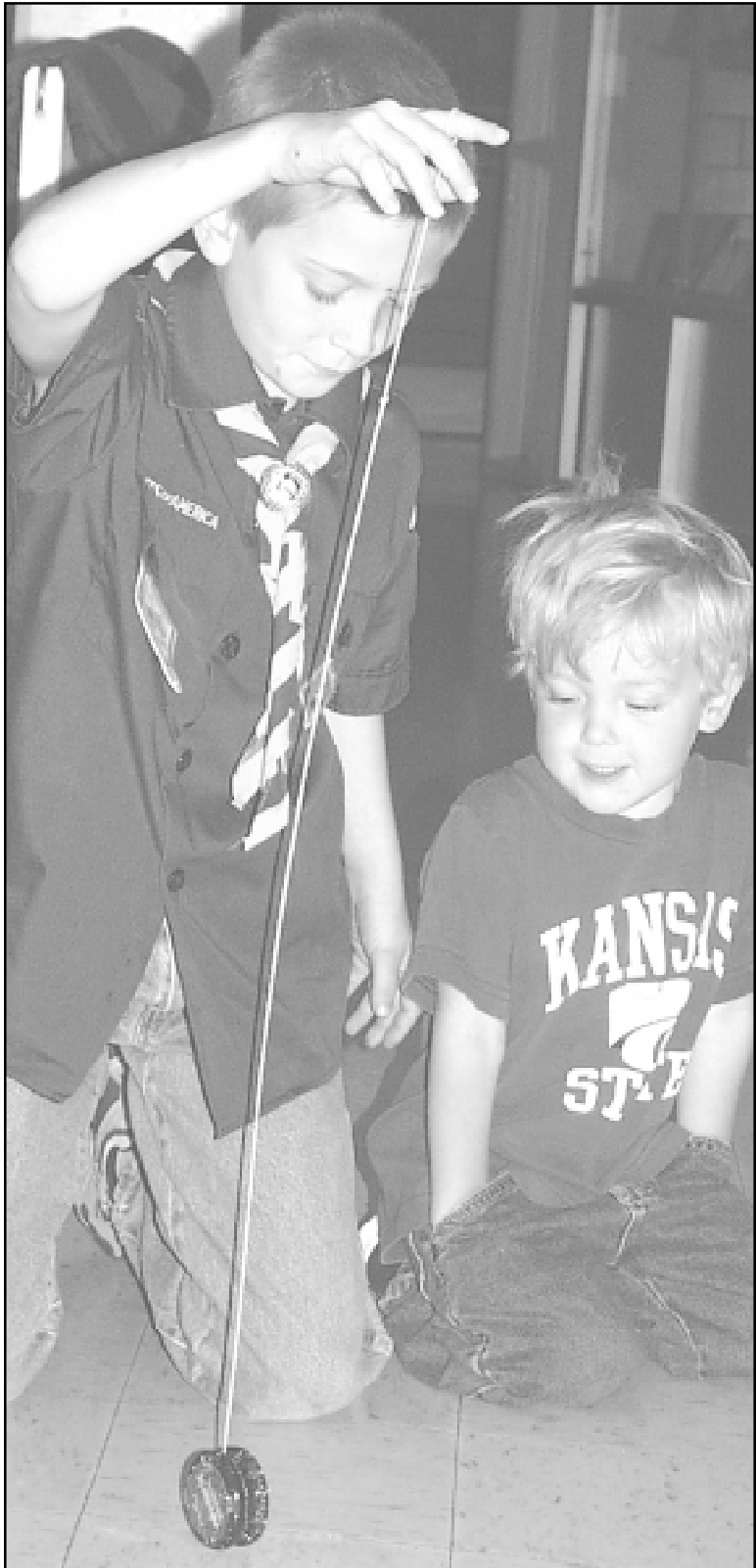
County Attorney Bonnie Selby went over a contract she prepared for Grasser Construction of Stratton, Colo., with the commissioners, so she could finish it. The company had the low bid to do excavation for the new county landfill.

The commission reappointed Steve Duell to the City-County Recreation Board. On the matter concerning a solid waste fee charged to David Moreno because of a business in his home, the commissioners decided to leave the charge as it is.

The commissioners signed a lease for the use of the 4-H Building at the Sherman County fairgrounds by the Kansas Highway Patrol on Tuesday.

The commission will meet again at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 12, in the commissioner's room at the courthouse.

Concentration and skill



Michael Pettibone, 7, played with a yo-yo Thursday evening at the Max Jones Fieldhouse, while his brother Chandler, 3, watched. The boys were there with their mother, Caroline Pettibone, who was walking around the ring. Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Girl and father reunited

SHOOTING, from Page 1

sand policemen, media and a set of barricades separated us."

He said he told her he didn't know if he could reach her.

"You have to reach me dad," she said to me," Johnson said, "so I traveled down streets, through back yards and even through a woman's house when she gave me permission."

He finally got to her.

Johnson said 21 gun laws were broken that day and a thousand police of-

ficers were present, but they weren't able to save one life.

None of the laws or police did any good in this situation, he said, but he felt that bringing prayer and the 10 commandments back into the schools might make the difference.

Heidi got flowers and a candle from the Burlington community at the end of their presentation, and Skov thanked people for coming out. He said a high school assembly earlier had also had an "incredible" response.

Judge drops criminal charges

TOPEKA (AP) — A judge has dismissed one of the two misdemeanor criminal charges against a man who claims to be the state's true governor.

The ruling by Shawnee County District Judge Charles Andrews was the latest episode in a nearly two-year legal fight between the state and Mark Kline Drake and his wife, Paula Christine Drake, from the small Cowley

County town of Rock.

The Drakes do not believe state government is legitimate and argue that its officials have not taken and filed proper oaths of office.

They contend that only a handful of Kansans are properly qualified to vote, and a majority of them voted for Mark Kline Drake for governor in 1998.

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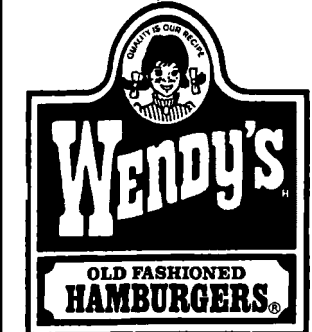




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