

about our friends

calendar

Singles Group — The Thursday Night Together Christian singles group will have a party at **6:30 p.m. Thursday** at the Edwards Hall in the Armstrong Addition. All singles are invited to attend. For questions, call 899-2733.

activities

TOPS Meeting — Take Off Pounds Sensibly meets at **5:30 p.m. Mondays** at North School. Weigh-in is at 5 p.m.

Aerobics Classes — Morning aerobics classes are available at **5:30 a.m.** with Tina Tompkins, and at **8 a.m.** with Marilyn Imel, **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** at the Goodland Activities Center. A senior aerobics class for those who desire a less strenuous workout will be at **8 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday** with Imel. For questions, call 899-7242.

Carnegie Arts Center — The arts center is open from **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday** and from **1-4 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Monday**.

Basketball Camp — Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. Boys, ages 8-19, and girls, ages 10-19, can apply. Players are selected by invitation only. The Kansas camp location is in Atchison. College basketball scholarships are possible for players named to the All-American Team. For an evaluation form, call (704) 568-6801, anytime.

Library Closings — The Goodland Public Library will be closed **Monday** for New Year's Day. The library board and staff wishes all of the library's patrons a Happy New Year.

Water Testing — A representative of the Northwest Local Environmental Protection Group will be available for a free well evaluation including testing well water for bacteria and nitrates. If you would like to schedule an

evaluation or have other environmental concerns, call the Sherman County Health Department at (785) 899-4888.

food for fines

The Goodland Public Library will again offer its "Food for Fines" program **during December**. Patrons with outstanding fines or overdue library materials may bring in a food item for Genesis, a local food bank, in exchange for the fine. Food items needed by Genesis include peanut butter, cereal, pancake mix, cake mixes, Jell-o, pudding, or any canned goods.

teddy bear project

The Goodland Elks Lodge and Kickers Restaurant and Lounge are sponsoring a teddy bear project for this Christmas season. Bring a new teddy bear to the lodge and it will be displayed under their tree until after Christmas. The bears will then be given to the Northwest Kansas ambulance crew for them to give out to sick or injured kids or adults throughout next year.

photos needed

Photos are needed for a 2001 alumni reunion display to be put up next year at the High Plains Museum in Goodland. Any photos of Goodland classes or individuals will work and are needed, as soon as possible, so that work can begin on the display. For questions, stop by the museum or call 899-4595.

society donations

The Sherman County Historical Society has received positive response to the proposed purchase of the Edythe Handy house. Your continued support is critical to the award of the grant request that is currently in progress. Tax-free pledges or donations for this year or 2001 may be made to the historical society at P.O. Box 684, Goodland, Kan. 67735 or by calling 899-6773.

wheelchairs for use

Electric wheelchairs are being made available to seniors, 65 and up, and permanently disabled citizens by the Senior Wheels USA Program. There is no cost to recipients if they qualify. No deposit is required. If your need is for use in your home, call Leon Johnson at (800) 246-6010 for information to find out if you qualify.

support group

The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group of Burlington, Colo., would like to help. The group meets at **9:30 a.m. on the second Saturday** of each month. For questions or personal support, call Della Helzer at 899-2585.

school menu

Monday through Friday — No School (Christmas Break).

hospital report

Goodland Regional Medical Center Admitted on Tuesday: none.

Dismissed on Tuesday: John Ditch and Retha Ditch, both of Goodland.

Transferred: none.

Specialists for Thursday: none.

Hospital weekly volunteer schedule — **Thursday** — Fern Heckman, p.m. **Friday** — Bonnie Daily, a.m.

recovering patients

Doris Peter, a former Goodland resident, is a patient at a hospital in Union, Mo., where she is recovering from pneumonia. Her daughter requested a card shower to cheer her up. Cards or letters can be sent to her at 12-4 Woodland Oaks, Union, Mo., 63084.

Zella Hamel, a former Goodland resident, is recovering from a hip fracture. She would like to hear from Goodland friends. Her address is 110 E. 18th, Concordia, Kan. 66901.

today in history

In 1942, James Shaver married

Mildred Stuckey. During World War II, James flew 25 bombing missions before becoming a prisoner of war. He was liberated by the Russian Army in May of 1945.

From the Sherman County Historical Society calendar

animal shelter

Have you lost a pet? Call the Goodland Police Department at 899-4570. Are you interested in adopting a pet? Call the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter at 899-6464.

Found: an older male brownish-red Dachshund around North School. Call the animal shelter to claim.

area events

Tobacco Support Group — The tobacco quitters support group that meets from **7-8 p.m., Central Time, every Wednesday** in the cafeteria of Citizens' Medical Center in Colby **will not meet on Dec. 27**. The group will start meeting again on Jan. 3 when they will watch a videotape called "Kickin' Butts" which is targeted at those who are trying to kick their smoking habit. Anyone who has a desire to stop smoking is urged to attend. For information, call (785) 462-8152.

crimestoppers

Sometime between 3 p.m. on Dec. 1 and 10:10 a.m. on Dec. 4, someone drove a vehicle through a snow fence, post and chain at the Northwest Kansas Technical School in Goodland.

If you have any information about any crime, call the Goodland Area Crime Stoppers "Look Line" at 899-5665. Your call will be confidential and you will not be asked your name. If the information you give results in the arrest and/or conviction of those persons involved, you could be eligible for a reward of up to \$1,000. The Goodland Area Crime Stoppers is a nonprofit organization formed by citizens against crime.

Former area couple married for 50 years

John and Marge Cole of Arvada, Colo., former Goodland residents, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 21. They were married Oct. 22, 1950.

A dinner and dance were hosted by their son, Dwight Cole of Omaha, Neb., their daughter, Dara Thomas, and her husband, Dalen, of Southlake, Texas, and their eight grandchildren, Erick, Tarrah, Tori and Chase Cole and Dala, Dacy, Denver and Dex Thomas. The event was held at the Rolling Hills Country Club in Golden, Colo.

A highlight of the celebration was when the Coles rode to the event in the 1950 Studebaker that they took on their honeymoon. The car belonged to Marge's late parents, August and Lila Rohr of Goodland.

There were 100 friends and relatives who joined the couple for the evening celebration.



Marge and John Cole

Most plants not affected by winter wind chill index

We are sometimes asked if wind chill is harmful to plants. For warm-blooded animals, wind chills can have a profound effect on their ability to keep warm. However, plants do not respond to wind chill indexes as do warm-blooded animals because they do not need to maintain a temperature above that of the outside.

For example, a -40 degree wind chill at 0 degrees temperature will not cause any more cold injury to plant tissue than a wind chill index of -20 degrees at 0 degrees.

However, wind alone is desiccating and can dry plant tissues. Plant tissues require moisture to survive and a high wind velocity can cause moisture loss from the tissues.

This desiccation may be great enough to injure or even kill tissue, particularly the smaller size wood as in peach twigs, apple spurs or blackberry canes. There is no research evidence to show that an increasing wind chill index will directly result in increasing plant tissue injury.

However, low temperatures can directly damage plants. For example, fruit buds of peaches and nectarines are likely to be damaged at 5 to -5 degrees. Fruit buds and canes of older varieties

dana belshe

- ag notebook

of thornless blackberries generally are damaged at temperatures near 5 degrees though some of the newer varieties such as Arapaho and Navajo have increased winter hardiness and should tolerate temperatures to -10 degrees. Some thorny blackberries may be damaged at temperatures near -5 degrees.

Others will tolerate significantly lower temperatures. Some peach and nectarine flower buds are killed at -5 degrees, and the wood and many fruit buds of these trees are likely to be injured at -10 degrees.

In contrast, the fruit buds of some apple cultivars may survive temperatures as low as -20 to -25 degrees. Red Delicious is among the most tender of apple cultivars and may be damaged at -15 degrees. The condition of the plants can influence the extent of low temperature injury to fruit buds and wood.

For example, a plant that had severe disease and insect injury to the leaves may have a low level of nutrition in the plant. This plant will be injured more than a plant that is in a healthy condition.

Benefit soup supper and school program are big success

In spite of the horrid day, the benefit soup supper and school program at Brewster on Dec. 18 was a big success and I know Rosa Garcia is very appreciative of the help from all her friends. The teachers and other folks who helped make the soup and cleanup can all give themselves a nice pat on the back.

The students and music instructors can also take a bow for their efforts in giving a great presentation. We mustn't forget Santa and the elves from the Lions Club, who gave out sacks of candy and fruit. As I said, it was a horrid day to be outside.

The wind was clocked at 60+ mph and the dirt was at least one pound per square foot or however you measure that kind of thing. It just amazes me how such an ugly day can be followed by a beautiful day like Tuesday was. We are still waiting for word on how



sally michael

•brewster beacon

Andrew Jordan, our grandson, is doing. He is in Wichita and his parents, Barry and Kim, are convinced he is getting the most excellent care possible, but I think he needs a little "grandmaholding." We'll wait until he gets home and has a few days to adjust to his natural surroundings, though, before we go see him.

This news column has taken a few days to complete, so now we have a bit of an update on A.J. or "Spike," as Kim says the ICU nurses call him. He is gaining ground and might be home for Christmas, so we are all relieved. We

are very happy that things are looking up. His sister, Rebekah, has even got to hold and feed him.

The bake sale turned out to be a very good start on our "carpet fund." We appreciate the donations of money and I really appreciate the food items that were offered to help with this cause. I have not seen so many talented cooks as there have been this year and such creative ones, too. I had a few cooking lessons that helped me turn out peanut brittle, fudge and penuche that were pretty good. So thanks to everyone for all their help and their generosity.

The Girl Scouts were at the Brewster Senior Center to "carol" on Tuesday, Dec. 19 and they did an exceptionally fine job. They also gave the senior center a miniature, live Christmas tree that I know we will enjoy for a long time.

On Dec. 20, the young folks from the Brewster Lutheran Church, accompanied by Pastor John Geary and Dawn Schultz, were on hand to let us join in sharing Christmas carols. I hope all these people realize they are welcome anytime at the senior center for fellowship and friendship.

what we need to do to keep it open."

ConAgra spokesman Bret Fox said that city officials have been in touch with the company. Right now, Fox said, ConAgra is trying to figure out what the city can do.

Fox refused to speculate about how long the plant would be closed. He said the plant's employees and customers are ConAgra's top concerns.

"One of the most immediate needs is communicating with them and letting them know what's going on," Fox said. "We've got a lot of good people there. We serve a lot of important customers out of that plant and we want to continue to do so."

Many questions — the extent of the damage chief among them — need to be answered before ConAgra officials take the next step, Fox said.

Corporate officials from ConAgra Beef Co., based in Greeley, Colo., were headed to Garden City Tuesday to assess the situation.

ConAgra employees could seek work at the area's largest employer, beef and pork producer IBP Inc., and other companies where bilingual workers are needed, Meyer said.

Male Volunteers Needed

The Compeer Program is looking for men in the Goodland and surrounding area who enjoy sports, movies, music, or just talking with a friend. Compeer matches caring people with individuals receiving mental health treatment in a one-to-one friendship relationship. Go one-on-one with Compeer!



Jennifer Goetz
Compeer Coordinator
(785) 625-2400



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