

# Friends teach each other about life

PEN PAL, from Page 1

work in social studies or geography classes,” she said, “I share things Indra has given me with the students. Reading about it is one thing, but for the students to see, hear personal experiences. It’s more interesting.”

Ihrig has not only been exposed to the colorful side of Indonesian culture, but also the dark underbelly. She said many parents in Jakarta, with a population of about 7 million, are forced to send their children off to schools or colleges in other countries to insulate them from the political and social unrest in their home country.

“That’s probably the thing that really gets me,” said Ihrig, a mother of four teen-agers. “I can’t imagine sending my children off to another country.”

Widyarta, who stayed with Ihrig and her family for a few days this month, said the reason for her trip to the U.S. was to see her daughter, Larissa, graduate from Oregon State University in Eugene. She said her

younger daughter, Melissa, is attending college in Melbourne, Australia.

Widyarta, whose husband stayed with their daughter in Eugene, said she flew to Denver, where Ihrig picked her up. Ihrig said she planned to show her pen pal around Goodland, introducing her to friends and family, and take her to Hoxie, where Ihrig grew up.

“She’s most interested in the rural areas,” Ihrig said.

Widyarta said she was taken aback by how clean northwest Kansas is and how friendly people are.

The violence and crime in Jakarta, she said, influences many parts of the residents’ lives, right down to how they build their homes.

Because there are often shootings and brawls on the city’s streets, Widyarta said, most people in Jakarta build high metal or wooden fences around their homes to keep crime out. She said she noticed that most houses here don’t have fences.

Spending time with Ihrig’s family, Widyarta said, she’s also noticed

differences inside the home. She said many people in Jakarta don’t do their own cooking and cleaning, but have domestic servants.

Widyarta said two maids live in her home and her neighbor has five servants. She said many Indonesians employ multiple servants, who typically send the money they make home to their families in rural villages.

While Ihrig is Widyarta’s only pen pal, Ihrig said she exchanges letters with about 30 people in foreign countries, including Japan, Korea, France and England. She said she started writing to people overseas when she was in junior high.

So far, she said, she’s met three of her pen pals, including a woman from France and one from New York. Ihrig said she plans to visit Widyarta’s home someday, when it’s safer.

“I’m planning to visit Jakarta when things settle down,” she said, turning to her pen pal with a smile. “So, you get things straightened out and I’ll come.”

# No way to lower solid waste fee until tipping fee is in place

COUNTY, from Page 1

a firm to come to Goodland to collect the materials twice a year, and estimated the cost to be \$30,000. The county would establish a place to be a collection point and would have the citizens bring the material there on a specific day.

Way said using this procedure, the county would not need a place to store the household hazardous waste, which would more than double the cost of the program.

All three commissioners indicated they would like to be able to lower the solid waste fees, but until the landfill is open and the tipping fee is in place, they did not see a way to lower the annual fees, which are on property tax bills and must be set by July 1. Currently, home owners pay \$150 per year. Businesses pay a varying amount depending on their size and expected production of trash.

One reason the commissioners are considering a tipping fee for the new landfill is that it will generate income

from the people who are generating the tons of solid waste which are brought in. The two main ones are the City of Goodland and a trash business run by Kevin Butts.

Way suggested the county set a fee of about \$30 per ton, which would raise about \$125,000 annually based on the approximately 4,000 tons the transfer station has been receiving.

An accounting of the tipping fees the county has been paying over the past 16 months for the solid waste hauled to Garden City shows \$142,367 paid to the operator, Browning-Farris Industries, and there was and additional \$96,074 in hauling costs. Way said the county will not be paying out the tipping costs and will have a lower hauling cost, which should help in future years. The price to Garden City was \$26 per ton for 11 of the 16 months, but went up to \$28 per ton in January.

“We are still working in the dark on some of this,” Way said, “until we actually get the landfill open and see what it takes on a daily basis.”

In other business, the commissioners will:

- Appoint three members to the Goodland Regional Medical Center board. The terms of Lynn Hoelting, Pete Whalen and Joyce Moore are expiring. The commissioners have advertised to see who might be interested, and the three current board members have been asked to say if they want to be reappointed.
- Discuss water heater and air conditioner repairs at the courthouse with William McKnight, building manager.
- Hear the annual report from Nina Carpenter of the Thomas County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council, and their budget request for next year.
- Nancy Rudy has asked for time to talk to the commissioners about the Good Samaritan Center.
- Approve a resolution allowing the sheriff to charge for keeping work release prisoners.

The next regular commission meeting will be held at 8 a.m. Tuesday in the Sherman County courthouse, Eighth Street and Broadway Avenue.

# First National Bank still expanding

BANK, from Page 1

tem. “The biggest thing we are concerned about is making the transition as smooth as possible for our customers,” said Mr. McCants. “Once we are sure that has happened, then we will make changes, primarily to the building.”

He said there will be improvements, including adding an office and putting in an automatic teller system later this summer. The bank already has a new sign, including a display.

Commercial Federal’s old time and temperature sign, which also displayed community messages, has been broken since an electrical storm last fall. Mr. McCants said the new sign will

have time, temperature and four lines of display information.

Commercial Federal customers received welcome boxes that contained a three ring binder that explained First National services and temporary checks with the customer’s name on them.

Mr. McCants said the bank was only able to get the primary account holders’ names on them. If there is a second authorized user, their name is not on the check.

The tag line for the bank is “neighbors helping neighbors,” said Mr. McCants and that is what the bank and the people who work at it believe.

“That is why we have the local neighbors taken care of by the local

people,” he said.

One of those local people is Marilyn Noone, who will be in charge of the lending. She is from the Jennings area, he said, but has worked for First National for some time.

“What we are really interested in,” said Mr. McCants, “is that the customers are not adversely affected.”

# Dole recovering from experimental surgery

CLEVELAND (AP) — Bob Dole, the 1996 Republican presidential nominee, underwent an experimental procedure to treat a ballooning blood vessel that could eventually have burst.

Dole, 77, had the procedure Wednesday at the Cleveland Clinic research

hospital to treat an abdominal aortic aneurysm.

Dole remained in satisfactory condition early Thursday, spokeswoman Marion Moseley said. Dole is expected to be released by Saturday and will be able to resume normal activities within

10 days.

An aneurysm is a bulge on a blood vessel. When it occurs in the nearly inch-thick aorta descending from the heart, it can burst and kill nearly instantly. Dole’s was small enough that it wasn’t in danger of bursting.

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SPECIALTY CLINIC CALENDAR			
<b>Allergy</b>			
Dr. Rumblyrt	July 19	8:30-2:00	
<b>Anesthesiology</b>			
Dr. Martin	July 11	8:30-12:00	
	July 25	8:30-2:00	
<b>Audiology</b>			
L. Young, CFY-A	July 11	8:30-12:00	
<b>Cardiology</b>			
Dr. Godfrey	July 11	2:00-4:30	
	July 19	2:00-4:30	
<b>Dermatology</b>			
Dr.Kornfeld	July 27	11:00-6:00	
<b>Ear/Nose/Throat</b>			
Dr. Barron	July 11	8:30-12:00	
<b>Gastroenterology</b>			
Dr. Jain	July 3	8:30-2:00	
	July 31	8:30-2:00	
Dr. Jones	July 19	8:45-4:00	
<b>General Surgery</b>			
Dr. Marson	July 11	8:30-12:00	
Dr. Chambers	July 25	8:30-2:00	
<b>Neurology</b>			
Dr. Mazowiecki	July 18	9:00-4:00	
<b>OB/GYN</b>			
Dr. Womack	July 25	8:30-2:00	
<b>Oncology</b>			
Dr. Rubinowitz	Not scheduled		
<b>Orthopedic</b>			
Dr. Leo	July 11	8:30-12:00	
Dr. Friermood	July 25	8:30 - 2:00	
<b>Pathologist</b>			
monthly			
<b>Podiatry</b>			
Dr. Ouderkirk	July 26	8:30-12:30	
<b>Pulmonary Medicine</b>			
Dr. Weisiger	July 12	8:30-2:00	
	July 25	8:30-2:00	
	July 31	8:30-2:00	
<b>Radiologist</b>			
weekly			
<b>Urologist</b>			
Dr. Abernathy	July 11	8:30-12:00	
	July 26	8:30-2:00	

## ACTIVE MEDICAL STAFF

Dr. Wayne Hoppe	(719) 346-5301
Dr. David G. Younger	(719) 346-8926
Dr. Zach Pimentel	(719) 346-9481
Dr. James Perez	(719) 346-9481

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