



Janice Calkins with her children (left to right) Shanea, 15; Erica, 10; and Zachary, 12.

Woman's organs a gift to many

CALKINS, from Page 1

been on a waiting list since Sept. 1998. Her left and right kidneys went to two people from Colorado. The left went to a 46-year-old father and grandfather who had a reflux disorder and had been on dialysis three times a week for five years. The right went to a 26-year-old man, who was born with a

congenital defect of his kidneys, and had been on the waiting list since May 1997.

A 46-year-old man from Pennsylvania, who was suffering from a twisted bowel, received her small intestine. Her lungs were not recovered for transplant, but were sent for research.

The tissue that was recovered with her parents consent has the potential of

helping 50-100 people, said the letter from the Donor Alliance.

The letter from Rocky Mountain Eye Bank said, her corneas were sent to two people. One was a woman age 60, from Longmont, Colo. There is no information on the other because it was sent to another eye bank.

Her family is proud of Janice's decision to be a donor. Her mom said she

had always heard Janice say it was a good way to help someone. Mrs. Calkins said it is nice to think that Janice's heart is keeping someone else alive.

"She was a beautiful young woman who is going to help a lot of people stay alive," Mrs. Calkins said.

She added she is now thinking of becoming an organ donor herself.

One person can help improve many lives

ORGAN, from Page 1

lists is overwhelming.

One person can donate heart, liver, kidneys, lungs, small intestines and pancreas. Transplantable tissues include bone to prevent amputation, heart valves for children born with heart problems or adults who have heart disease, skin to act as a temporary covering for burn victims, corneas to restore sight, sclera, the whites of the eyes, for glaucoma patients and reconstruction, ligaments and tendons to repair injured joints, and saphenous veins for bypass surgery, said Sharyl Mueller, a public relations representative for Donor Awareness Council in Denver.

There are organ donations that can be made by a living person. A kidney, for example, can be given because the body can function on one; a liver lobe, can also be donated from a living person, because the liver has the ability to regenerate. Yet mostly these donations go to family members, due to the sensitivity of the matching requirements. Unlike other donations, in which only

blood type is a factor, in kidney transplants, tissue type has to match as well.

The other organs are recovered only after "brain death," which is when brain function has permanently stopped, in only about one out of 100 hospital deaths. Tissues are recovered after either brain death or cardiac death (when the heart stops beating) occurs. In no cases are organs or tissues donated until the donor has been declared legally dead, the Donor Alliance says.

The process, said Mueller, is as gentle and treated with as much care as a live person going in for surgery. Once a donor is declared dead, a recovery organization is called and from that moment financial responsibility is taken off the family. A surgical team, in a hospital operating room, recovers the organs and tissue. The procedures are done in such a manner that an open-casket funeral remains possible. Organ donation is widely accepted, she said, by Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism and Islam.

The success rate of transplants is high, Mueller said; every year organ donation saves about 17,000 American

lives. The typical transplant can extend a life 15 to 30 years. The success rate depends, of course, on the condition of the person receiving the organ, but there are drugs to help fight off rejection of the organ.

Organizations promoting organ donation include the Donor Alliance, affiliated with the awareness council in Denver, and an eye bank in Aurora, both in Colorado, and the Midwest Transplant Network in Westwood, Kan., near Kansas City, which covers all of Kansas and two-thirds of western Missouri.

Their budgets come in part from federal grants, some state money and insurance payments from people receiving the transplants.

Their function is to provide information on recovery and transplants, send recovery teams and provide bereavement counseling for families as they make decisions and get through the organ recovery process.

The decision to become an organ donor is harder for some than the actual process of becoming one. Some states, like Colorado, have a registry,

an electronic database of all the people who have indicated they want to donate, either when they renewed their driver's license or signing up via phone or a web site. In those states, you are asked when you go into get a driver's license if you wish to be on the registry.

Kansas and other states do not have a registry. You simply sign the back of your driver's license in the appropriate area or call or send for a donor card from the donation organization that covers your area. One day the donor organizations hope to have a nationwide registry.

Signing your license or a donor card covers both organ and tissue donation. Yet the most important step to becoming an organ donor is make your wish known to your family. Many people don't have their driver's license on them when they die, but also, Mueller said, in most states the family has the final say in whether the organs are donated.

"Let your family and friends know your decision to become a donor," she said.

K-27 opening expected to be ahead of schedule

HIGHWAY, from Page 1

said. "are doing a good job and I'm very happy that they are finishing early."

The road construction has not only involved K-27 between Wheeler and Goodland but also the overpass north of the K-27-U.S. 24 intersection at the west side of Goodland and a stretch of road in that area. This work has been

completed.

In the meantime, travelers were routed on the detour from St. Francis to Atwood to Colby and back to Goodland. Many St. Francis and Bird City residents used country roads to go to Goodland.

The inconvenience has made a hardship on Goodland and St. Francis businesses and many are looking forward to the reopening of the highway.

School board approves air conditioning bids

By Tom Betz

The remodeling at Goodland High School is in good shape, Superintendent Marvin Selby told the school board Monday, and bids for heating and cooling two second-floor classrooms were low enough that the work can be expanded.

Board member Kathy Russell, who was part of the bid committee, said they were pleased the bids were within the range, and recommended the low bid of \$14,549 from Goodland Sheet Metal.

Selby said that with this price, the district is soliciting bids for air conditioning in the lunchroom and kitchen, and he expects those to be opened Friday.

"This range of cost would allow us to continue to take a room or two a year as money is available and add air conditioning," Selby said.

The board unanimously approved the recommendation to accept the bid from Goodland Sheet Metal.

Selby said that much of the remodeling work by Miller Construction has been completed, and they are waiting for the plumbers to complete their work. He said the plumbers are expected to have two more people here next week.

"They seem to be working well," Selby said, "and say they will be working for 12 days straight."

Remodeling will continue for several months, Selby said.

A planned teacher training day on Monday, Oct. 8, will be extended to Tuesday for the elementary grades, Selby said. They plan to have a nationally known speaker work with the teachers on a "six-trait reading method."

He said the speaker was willing to stay over and do a second day of training with the elementary teachers on Tuesday, Oct. 9. Selby said with it costing \$1,600 to get the speaker to the district it was felt the second day was worth closing the elementary schools for one more day. He said notifications will be given to all of the elementary teachers that the training will be for two days.

Selby invited the school board members to attend a ribbon cutting at the new tennis courts Tuesday, before the start of the Goodland Invitational tennis tournament.

Gary Smith, parent of a student at North Elementary, appeared to ask the board about the district policy on fighting. He said his son was involved in a situation where he took a swing at another student after having his head shoved into the ground during a football game. Smith said his wife was called and told to pick up her son, who had been suspended for fighting.

"We then received a letter from Principal Steve Raymer saying that this action amounted to battery, and that under district policy such actions by law are to be referred to the district attorney," Smith said. "What I don't understand is why my son was treated this way and the other boy was not suspended. It does not seem fair to us."

Selby said it was a judgment call by the principal and that he had talked to Raymer, and that it probably could have been done differently.

"I agree with you it should have been handled differently," Selby said. Smith said he was asking that the incident not be filed in his son's record. There was a consensus the board agreed with the superintendent and that the matter would be handled.

City to hear requests on grant writing program

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

The city commission will hear a report on a grant writing program, discuss an ordinance allowing livestock in some parts of Goodland and consider requests for two occupational use permits at its meeting at 5 p.m. Monday.

Schylar Goodwin will update the commission on county and school board reactions to a grant writing program proposed by the Goodland Development Corp. The program would involve the city, county and school board splitting the cost of hiring a grant

writer who would seek money to pay for projects that would otherwise be paid for with tax money. The three would share the proceeds from the grants.

The commission heard from visitors at the meeting Monday, Aug. 20, concerning a 1992 ordinance that made it illegal to house livestock within the city limits. Some homeowners believed they were allowed by a grandfather clause to keep animals on their properties, but that apparently is not the case. The commission plans to consider an ordinance to allow those property owners to keep their animals.

David and Charlotte Becker are requesting an occupational use permit to operate a daycare operation at their home at 824 E. Sixth St.

Chad and Amy Tuttle are requesting an occupational use permit to operate a home-based scrap booking business at 624 East 11th St.

In other business, the commission:

- Plans to approve ordinances to open the new portion of Cherry Avenue and to open Pioneer Drive.
- Consider the annual contract between the city, the county and the library board under which the county supports the library.

• Approve the second payment to Southwest Recreational Industries Inc. for the Steever Park Tennis Courts.

• Hear City Manager Ron Pickman present an architect's review of repairs needed at the Carnegie Arts Center.

• Hear a report on drilling for a new water well and about an Enterprise Facilitation Seminar offered by the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing. The department is seeking three communities to demonstrate a program to create new businesses.

• Appoint a voting delegate to the Annual Kansas Municipal Insurance Trust Meeting.

After success, artificial heart implanted into second patient

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Doctors followed up the success of the world's first self-contained artificial heart implant by putting the experimental device in a 70-year-old former tire dealer.

The surgery was conducted Thursday at Jewish Hospital by the same doctors who first implanted the device in Robert Tools on July 2. That procedure, also performed at Jewish Hospital, was considered an overwhelming success as Tools, 59, continues to improve.

Hospital spokeswoman Barbara Mackovic identified the second recipient as Tom Christerson, 70, of Central City, Ky., but no details about his medical history were released.

"It's just a miracle," said Scott Ray, vice president of First National Bank in Christerson's hometown of Central City and a family friend. The hospital would not comment on Christerson's condition Friday morning, but Ray said he had been in contact with the family minister and he was doing well.

University of Louisville Dr. Laman Gray Jr., who performed the surgeries

along with Dr. Robert Dowling, told The Courier-Journal of Louisville that unlike Tools, Christerson had never had a previous heart surgery. Christerson does suffer from kidney problems, the paper reported.

The surgery "went extremely well," Gray said.

Christerson is a retired tire dealer who loves barbecue and shrimp and is a longtime NASCAR fan, friends told The Courier-Journal. He and his wife have two grown children and residents said they knew for days that he was about to have the procedure.

"I saw him about three weeks ago at the barber shop, and he looked like he always did, and he never complained about his health," said Mayor Hugh Sweatt, who has known Christerson for 30 years. "It kind of floored me when I heard he was going to get the heart. When you look at him, you can't tell he's in that bad of health."

A hospital spokesman said Thursday there were no immediate plans for a news briefing on his condition.

Abiomed Inc., the device's maker,

said the patient is recovering in intensive care. Abiomed also made the softball-sized device that was implanted in Tools' chest.

The titanium and plastic device has no wires or tubes that protrude from the chest. An internal battery and controller regulate the pumping speed, and an external battery powers the device by passing electricity through the skin.

The Food and Drug Administration has approved the experimental device for use in five patients, all suffering from heart failure and too sick to qualify for human heart transplants.

The disclosure of Christerson's name differs from the secrecy that surrounded Tools after his procedure. His name wasn't released until a month and a half after the surgery.

Former publisher dies at age of 85

HUTCHINSON (AP)—Former Harris Enterprises Chairman and President Peter Macdonald, publisher of The Hutchinson News when it won the Pulitzer Prize in 1965, has died at the age of 85.

Macdonald died Wednesday night at a nursing home in Hutchinson.

The Scottish-born Macdonald was known not only for his journalistic efforts, but also for his philanthropic ones.

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