

# Water users react with anger to zero depletion

WATER, from Page 1

in January, he set the zero depletion deadline for 2020.

Farmers, irrigators and other water users reacted with shock and anger, she said, claiming that the governor's solution was too simplistic and would hurt agriculture badly.

"It was widely unpopular," she said. "It would have cut off a lot of water use sooner than needed. It really had a lot of people worried."

Stover said declines in the Ogallala Aquifer are complicated, and one solution isn't going to work for every area.

The aquifer's water is unequally distributed across the state, she said, which means some areas have access

to more water than others. While hydrologists have found water level declines of more than 100 feet in south-east Kansas, she said, the drop hasn't been as steep in other areas, and there have even been some increases.

Stover said the water level decline may not mean much, because many areas with the biggest declines also have access to the most water, and still have enough to support irrigation for another 100 to 250 years. Establishing zero depletion by 2020 would stunt the state's economy.

"There would have to be a 60 to 80 percent cut in water use," Stover said, noting that 95 percent of the water drawn from the aquifer is used for irrigation.

Gov. Graves took a new approach,

she said, and asked the Kansas Water Office and the Department of Agriculture's Division of Water Resources to study the declines and find a solution.

The agencies came up with the "two pool" plan, where water in the aquifer would be divided into a "usable" pool and a "conservation" pool.

Irrigators would still be able to pump from the usable pool, but water in the conservation pool would be reserved to sustain cities and households, not farms. As the level of water in the usable pool decreased, water use would have to decrease as well.

"The proposal created a lot of discussion," Stover said, "but had mixed reviews."

The governor rolled again, she said,

and had the Kansas Water Authority form two committees in May to review the situation. The management advisory committee's job is to develop a plan for reducing water declines, while the technical committee is reviewing studies on aquifer declines and feeding information to the management committee.

Stover said a majority of the 17 members of the management committee live in western Kansas and their livelihood is tied to farming. Members include Goodland's Larry McCants, president of the First National Bank, and Colby's Wayne Bossert, manager of Groundwater Management District No. 4.

Stover said her job is to find staff outside the committees to help the

group reach its goal.

She said people at the state Water Office, the Kansas Geological Survey and Kansas State University are helping.

The management committee's last meeting will be on Tuesday, Oct. 16, she said, and the group will make a proposal to the Water Authority in November. If the proposal flies, it will be included in this year's state Water Plan, which will be reviewed by local boards and the public.

Stover said committee members have agreed on some general principles, including breaking up the aquifer in subunits with similar characteristics. She said that would make it easier to manage the aquifer's water, as each

area would have its own guidelines.

The committee wants to find a way for farmers to be able to use the water for as long as possible, she said.

"We want to make sure we still have an economy," she said. "The question is, what can we do to keep agriculture going and keep the economy going?"

The answer, Stover said, is going to include using less water.

"Some areas just have to adjust to using less water," she said. "We want to help those areas make that adjustment."

She said there's no need for people to panic, however.

"No one is going to wake up one day and turn the tap on and no water will come out."

## Commissioners welcome new manager

COUNTY, from Page 1

year with a clearer understanding of what would be coming into the transfer station. He did say the county will help with removal of coolant from appliances.

Curt Way, county public works director, brought the bids for two new pickups for the road and bridge department.

The bid from Finley Motors was \$45,117 for two (\$22,558 each); Herl Chevrolet-Buick bid \$42,782, (\$21,390 each); and Dan Brenner Ford bid \$41,096, (\$20,548 each).

Way said all three bids were comparable, and that all three dealers have been good to work with. Commissioner Tiede made a motion to go with

the low bid from Brenner. Rasure seconded and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Chuck Frankenfeld was absent.

Way said delivery would take six to eight weeks, and that the department will take two of the existing pickups and use one for the landfill and put the other up for sale.

"We'll get by with what we can," Way said.

Ron Dautel, who supervises the county-run sewer ponds serving the Northern Sun plant at Caruso, said he needs to have an increase in his hourly rate because of the increased expenses he is encountering handling the part time job.

"In the past year, the costs have more than doubled," Dautel said, "and I need

to work out a deal with the county."

He said he needs \$35 per hour for the work, and is concerned about the potential liability if something were to go wrong.

"The state is relying on my signature, and it looks like I would be the person they would come after," Dautel said.

Commissioner Rasure said he felt the liability was with the county because Dautel was an agent of them.

Dautel said monitoring the ponds takes about 10 hours a month, he goes out two to three times a week and that he started in 1995.

The commissioners said they would get back to him about a new agreement.

Dautel mentioned there may be some need to see how the ponds are

being used, and whether another pond is needed in the future.

He said the state may require the county to fence the ponds.

John Peptis, Goodland branch manager of High Plains Mental Health, was at the meeting to ask as the new branch manager if the commissioners have had any problems or complaints about the mental health programs.

The commissioners welcomed Peptis, and said they did not know of any.

The next commission meeting will be at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16.

Commissioners will consider appointment of someone to fill the vacancy on the hospital board from the recent resignation of Dr. Greg Bongers.

## Bus tipped over after driver accosted

CRASH, from Page 1

who had been polite and spoke with a foreign accent, got up several times to ask him where the bus was headed, Brandon said.

The driver, whose name was not immediately released, told Brandon the passenger then "accosted" him with a box cutter.

However, Brandon said he couldn't confirm the weapon was a box cutter, saying it was a "sharp instrument similar to a razor blade." The terrorists who hi-

jackd four airliners on Sept. 11 reportedly used box cutters in their suicide attacks.

After attacking the driver, the passenger grabbed the steering wheel, forcing the bus into the oncoming lanes of the interstate before it crossed the road and tipped over onto its right side, the medical examiner said.

The driver was able to crawl from the wreckage through a window and tried to flag down passing vehicles. He told Brandon the attacker was thrown through the windshield.

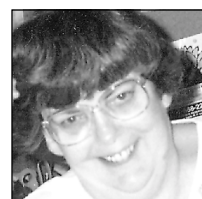
## Volunteer awards presentation highlights those who help in Brewster

We just had Laura Withington, Retired Senior Volunteer Program coordinator, here for the awards presentation and we all enjoyed the games and prizes that she brings.

We appreciate all the work and effort that Laura puts into these presentations. This is one busy lady, and if you are eligible, she makes being a member a lot of fun. I recommend this organization to anyone that enjoys being with other people.

The week of Sept. 16, Wilma Burk spent the time in McCook, Neb., with her daughter, Janice Seligan and family, while Beverly Fraily was in the hospital. Beverly was released on Thursday, and Wilma returned home then. Beverly is feeling better each day.

Just heard something neat, although it brought a tear to my eye. Carolyn Richards said that she sent some ribbon bracelets and such up to the school, the



sally michael

• brewster beacon

day after Sept. 11, so the kids would have something red, white, and blue to wear. Today the kids came to the Craft Peddler at 2:30 p.m. and presented her with a huge card, with the American Flag, and they had all signed the card. Then they sang, "My Country Tis of Thee", while standing in front of the store. Carolyn was a little misty eyed telling me about it. This is the spirit that won't let insane rebels and their flunkies take over America.

Saturday evening, Sept. 22, supper guests of Lewis and Leta Linden, were Fay and Francis Trail of Atwood, Mr.

and Mrs. Oscar Jones, of Colby and Vera Gorman, of Brewster. This was to celebrate Lewis' birthday. On Wednesday, Vera hosted another supper in Oakley. Guests for this celebration were Lewis, Leta, Vera, along with Jack and Mary Faber of Brewster.

On Tuesday, Leta had lunch, in Colby, with Iris Neitzel.

Quite a few things are coming up in October, so I'll try to keep you current. On Friday, Oct. 12, which happens to be Homecoming for Brewster, the Senior Center will have open house from 2 to 4 p.m., so be sure to stop in and say "Hi," and have a cookie or something. All ages are welcome.

At 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 15, there will be a salad supper sponsored by

Beta Club, and hosted by the emergency medical technicians. Nancy Hawkins and Cheryl Evert are the hostesses of this, and all residents over 50 are encouraged to come and find out what happens when you call 911. There is lots of information that can help us, and this way, you can enjoy a good meal while learning. Rides will be furnished for people who want to come. So be sure to plan on having supper at the Senior Center, at 5 p.m. on Oct. 15.

On Tuesday, Oct. 16, the Thomas County Health Nurse will be at the Senior Center to give flu shots for this year. We have the forms so you can fill them out ahead of time and be ready when the nurse gets here. Kathy, the nurse, says she might be here a little early, but for certain, she will be here at 10 a.m. There will also be some pneumonia vaccines available, if needed.

We were sorry to hear about Winfred Inloes, husband of the former Margaret Lee Lewis, passing away in Quinter, on Sept. 24. His funeral was Wednesday, Sept. 26, and we send our condolences to Margaret Lee and her family.

Also, we want George Luckert to know we are thinking of his family following the death of his sister, Viola, in Tennessee. George and Roberta attended the services, and should be back by the weekend.

The weather is beautiful, and the new wheat has been boosted off to a good start by the recent rains.

Nancy Hawkins is reporting that the recycling center is pleased with Brewster's response, but she said the lady does ask that any lids be removed from plastic containers. Another request is for pop bottles to be clear plastic only, no colors. So, I guess we need to be a little more cautious in our recycling.

Hope all of you have a great week, and enjoy these nice days as long as we can. See you next time.

### correction

A story in the Oct. 2 *Goodland Daily News* stated said Janda Linin asked the city commission for a portion of Arcade to be closed for the Nu Phi Mu sorority craft fair the first weekend of November. The craft fair is on Saturday, Nov. 17, and Linin is to remind the city manager a couple of days ahead about the street closures.

The Goodland Daily News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

The Goodland Daily News Service Directory • 785-899-2338

## Your KEY to business success.

Have your name up front when a customer needs you.

Repetitive advertising is the key to opening the door to new customers.



Combined rates are available to feature your services in the Daily and The Country Advocate.

### McB's Motor Company

- Tire Sales & Service

Most tires come with Road Hazard warranty

- 24 Hour mobile tire service

- 24 Hour wrecker service • U-Haul dealer

421 E. 17th Street  
Goodland, KS 67735  
(785) 899-7375  
Fax: (785) 899-3959

YES!  
We're OPEN



### D & D Builders

Michael Downing  
General Contractor

- Concrete Work • Patios & Decks
- Garages & Etc. •
- Remodels & Additions •

785-626-3529 or 785-626-0060

### Jones Land Company

Let us light your way...

#### Residential Real Estate

#### Farm and Ranch

115 E. 9th • Goodland

Office (785) 899-0500

Toll Free 866-899-0555

Joyce Boehme realtor

Robert Jones owner/broker



### NEW SYSTEM Professional WINDOW CLEANING

Colby, Kansas

COMMERCIAL-RESIDENTIAL-FREE ESTIMATES

Serving NW Kansas & Eastern Colorado

785-462-6995 or

1-800-611-6735

Chris & Beth Lewon

"We do windows"

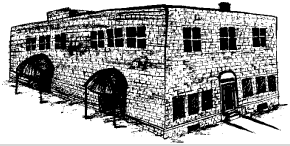
### The Goodland Daily News

1205 Main  
Goodland, KS  
(785) 899-2338

Check our On-Line Site  
at [nwkansanews.com](http://nwkansanews.com)

### THE ANTIQUE WAREHOUSE

Antiques ♦ Collectibles ♦ Gifts



17th & Main - Goodland, Kan. 67735 - 785-899-5965  
Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. MST • Sun. by chance

### Jill's Helping Hands, Inc.

"A helping hand at home"

Providing Homemaker  
and  
Attendant Care Services



Tami Sanderson, Branch Mgr.  
Goodland KS  
785-899-5623  
Jill Edgett, Owner; Edmond KS  
785-622-4254

### Karen's Cleaning Service

Residential & Commercial

For all of your cleaning needs.

Steam Cleaning/windows

Call 821-1628

785-694-2687



### Hot Brush



SIGNS-LETTERING & PINSTRIPE  
Custom Vinyl & Painting

Box 309  
BIRD CITY, KS 67731  
FAX-785-734-2459

800-886-2423

### DAY BREAK TAXIDERMY

Now Open

1010 Road 62, Goodland

(785) 899-6399

Ken & Diane • please call ahead

(970) 482-4558

Fort Collins, Colo., - Randy

### Coash

#### TV Audio Video Service

Expert Electronic Repairs

We Service TVs - VCRs -

Camcorders -

Computer Monitors - Satellite

Systems - Stereos

Duane & Bertie Coash, Owners

785-899-3378

719-346-8145

### BANKWEST

OF KANSAS



### SUNWEST

BANKS OF COLORADO

A BRANCH OF BANKWEST OF KANSAS



COLBY • GOODLAND • ST. FRANCIS • IDALIA, CO

### AUTO LOANS

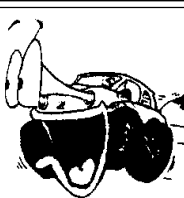
starting at

6.95%\*

ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE

\*Based on \$15,000 at 6.95% APR for 36 months payments would be \$462.80. Certain terms and conditions may apply. Subject to credit qualification.

Toll Free: (888) 828-(BANK) 2265



We'll always be there for you.

LIFE • HOME • CAR • FARM • BUSINESS



#### Jim Alcorn, Agent

1624 S. Main Street

Goodland, KS 67735-0727

Business: (785) 899-2553

Home: (785) 899-3974

[www.shelterinsurance.com](http://www.shelterinsurance.com)

