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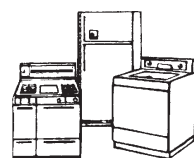


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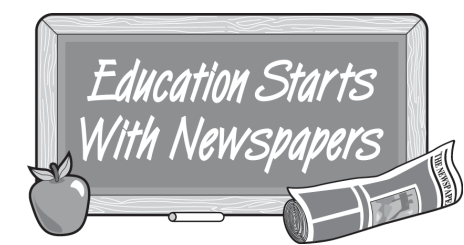
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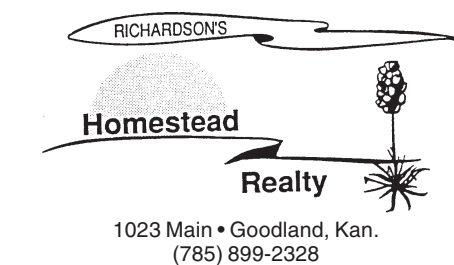
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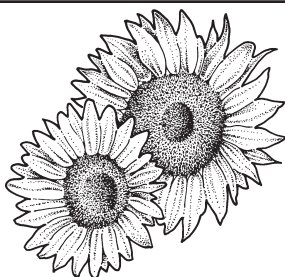


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Jance McKee, a sixth grader at North Elementary School, presented a \$432 check to Curtis Duncan, chairman of the Sherman County Red Cross, last month after raising the money with a school penny drive. The ceremony was held at West because students there raised the most pennies.

Pennies add up to big help

Sixth grader holds drive for victims of terrorist attacks

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Jance McKee, a sixth grader at North Elementary School, raised \$432 for the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington by challenging Goodland's three elementary schools to a penny drive.

Jance said he got the idea while watching the news with his mother, Judy, one afternoon.

"A girl in Wichita did it," he said, "and I thought it would be a good idea here."

The young man said he wrote a proposal for Principal Steve Raymer.

"He thought it would be a great idea," Jance said.

The next step was organizing the contest, which was held between Oct. 1 and Nov. 1.

Raymer said Jance and his mother decorated buckets in red, white and blue and distributed them at the three grade schools. On Nov. 1, he said, the buckets were taken down to Bankwest to be counted.

Central Elementary raised \$72, North \$133 and West \$226. Jance presented the check to Curtis Duncan, chairman of the Sherman County Red Cross, at a ceremony at West — the school that raised the most money.

"I was in awe at how much we raised," Jance said, adding that it felt good to hand over the money.

"I just wanted to help out as much as I could," he said.

Jance said the terrorist attacks affected him deeply.

"I felt sad for all of the lives lost," he said. "There will be a lot of families this year for Thanksgiving and Christmas that won't have a mom and dad, you know."

Roberta Bretz, coordinating volunteer for the Sherman County Red Cross, said the money has been processed and forwarded to the national Red Cross headquarters in Virginia, where it will be distributed.

She said Jance's efforts touched Red Cross volunteers.

"I thought it was very remarkable first of all that a young man would be thinking about people in need that far away," she said, "and that he would do such a good job organizing the contest and collecting the money."

Groups around Sherman County have raised over a thousand dollars for the Sept. 11 tragedy, she said, and other school children are participating in projects to raise money.

"Anybody that has put forth an effort, that's



Curtis Duncan, Sherman County Red Cross chairman and KLOE radio announcer, interviewed Jance McKee after a ceremony at West Elementary School last month. McKee organized a penny drive for the Red Cross for victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and gave Duncan the money at the ceremony.

neat," she said, "but it's fun to watch kids get involved."

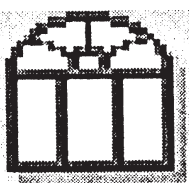
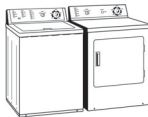
The Red Cross has received much more money for victims' families than expected,

Bretz said, but the money will continue to go to the families. She noted that the Red Cross is still helping victims of the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995.



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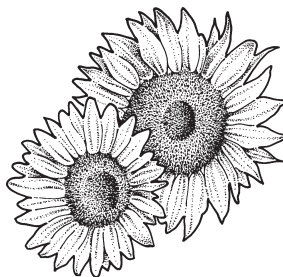
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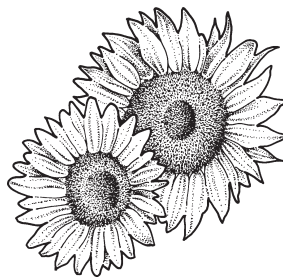
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