

# Sherman County part of consortium

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Sharla Krenzle, head of the Wichita County Economic Development, attended the grant announcement in Topeka Wednesday as the representative of the Western Kansas Consortium.

She was responsible for gathering the information from the six counties and compiling it into the proposal sent to the state in December.

She told the Sherman County commissioners Tuesday that the six-county grant application had been selected as one of the three to be funded by the state. She said Ned Webb, head of the community development division, told her there were nine applications for the grant, and he was pleased the western group had been chosen as one of the top three.

Krenzle said Webb plans to get training with the Sirolli Institute underway in the spring and that selection of the enterprise facilitator will begin as soon as the grants are finalized. Each of the three groups will have a facilitator, who will travel around the counties to meet with the support groups and people who may have viable business ideas that can be developed.

Commissioners Kevin Rasure and Chuck Frankenfeld attended a meeting in WaKeeney in October with representatives from the City of Goodland and Goodland Area Chamber where they heard Ernesto Sirolli discuss the program. He said he has developed it over the past 20 years, and it has been very successful throughout the world. The commissioners were enthused by the Sirolli presentation and put out feelers to see if surrounding counties would like to join in pursuing one of the state grants or trying to establish a regional program with local funding. Unfortunately there was no positive response from the surrounding counties.

The commissioners did not want to give up on the idea, and Commissioner Frankenfeld had heard about a group forming to the south with a meeting planned in Leoti. In early November, Chairman Frankenfeld attended the meeting in Leoti.

## State awards special grant to three rural groups

TOPEKA (AP) — The Department of Commerce and Housing awarded three grants Wednesday to help rebuild and preserve rural counties. Sherman County businesses will benefit from one of the grants.

Receiving the Enterprise Facilitation grants were the Quad County Enterprise Community of Chautauqua, Elk, Greenwood and Woodson counties; Sunflower Region of Barber, Harper, Kiowa and Pratt counties, and the Western Kansas Enterprise Facilitation Consortium of Sherman, Greeley, Kearny, Lane, Scott and Wichita.

The groups were chosen from nine applications representing 40 counties. Lt. Gov. Gary Sherrer said the groups each were required to put up about \$100,000 of local money, to be matched with \$200,000 from the Community Development Block Grant program.

The program includes the help of

Representatives from Greeley, Hamilton, Kearny, Logan, Scott and Wichita county were at the meeting. The group was happy to see Frankenfeld, and suggested the county consider being part of the regional group.

Webb was at the Leoti meeting and explained the basics of the program, designed to encourage people with business ideas and give them a support network.

"In the traditional economic development model, when a person comes in and says they want to start a business, we tell them to bring us a business plan," Webb said. "Less than 20 percent of those will come back, and those that do will probably not have a well balanced plan to give them a good chance at success."

"The other fact is 90 percent of the small businesses that start in a year fail,

and 90 percent of those left fail in the second year," he said. "The basic premise of this program is that within a community, which can be defined in a larger sense to be more than one county, there is a group of intelligence that can be used to help the entrepreneur get into business and be successful."

Webb said the areas of the country where he had seen this in operation had a population base of about 15,000 people on the low end and about 50,000 on the high end. This is the critical mass necessary to make it work, he said.

The state sought applications from regions to set up the programs, and will help pay for the first three years with about \$200,000, about 66 percent, of the estimated total cost.

A big portion of the expense is the training for an 11-member sub-com-

mittee and a full-time person to be in charge of the program. All the training will be handled by the Sirolli Institute, which does this on a worldwide basis.

The whole board, no matter what size, will receive an intense day of training, and then the subcommittee and full-time facilitator will undergo an intense week-long program.

Sirolli Institute people continue to monitor the progress and attend the board meetings held on a regular two-month basis.

Webb said the training is nothing he could duplicate, and that one of the main objectives is to remove old habits and give people new tools to use when working with the business people.

At the end of the meeting, county representatives were asked if they would be interested in continuing the effort, and asked to get back to a central person with an official response.

When asked about Sherman County, Frankenfeld said he felt the county would be interested, and that he would talk to the other commissioners at the next meeting. Commissioner Frankenfeld reported to the other commissioners about the meeting he attended in Leoti, and said the group had invited Sherman County be part of the program.

He said the regional group would possibly include Greeley, Hamilton, Kearny, Logan, Scott and Wichita counties and this would be about 21,000 in population base to support the business development program.

Frankenfeld said there would need to be an intergovernmental agreement, and the county would have to commit to spending about \$5,000 a year.

Frankenfeld made the motion to pursue the project, and Rasure seconded the motion. Commissioner Tiede made it unanimous.

Over the next month the commissioners asked local business people for letters of support, and developed a list of people who would be willing to be part of the support committee. They also asked the chamber for background information and received a letter of support from the City of Goodland.

## City looking for ideas to solve trash problem

By Doug Stephens  
The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland City Commission will hold a second workshop Monday to hear discussion and get input from citizens on how to deal with trash.

The workshop will follow the regular 5 p.m. commissioner's meeting at the city building, 204 W. 11th. Commissioners will discuss starting an endowment trust for parks and hear about street improvements.

City Manager Ron Pickman said the solid waste collection system is currently not paying for itself, and the city will have to do something to avoid raising rates. The commissioners would like people to turn out Monday and bring ideas.

The county started charging the city a \$32-a-ton tipping fee at the landfill for loads of trash on Jan. 1. Loads which contain items the landfill will not accept are separated, and the county weighs those items again, charging the city \$11 a ton.

Pickman said people are putting items into dumpsters that do not belong, saying "it is the few ruining it for the many." He noted he thinks most people try to follow the rules.

Private contractors the city con-

tacted said they would not be able to collect solid waste at the rate the city now does. They estimated they would have to charge up to four times as much.

The workshop is an informal meeting to exchange ideas.

Pickman suggested at the first workshop on Monday to give everyone an individual roll-out trash can, eliminating residential dumpsters. No decision will be made until the city commissioners can meet with the county commissioners.

Pickman's plan would include providing roll-out dumpsters to all residences and selling some of the 2,200 dumpsters the city has, keeping some for commercial sites.

Commissioner Rick Billinger suggested a plan where the city would hire two employees to sort trash before it gets to the landfill. City Clerk Mary Volk estimated it would cost \$25,000 to pay each man, including benefits.

Another idea suggested from the audience Monday was fitting all community dumpsters with metal lids and locks. Residents would be held responsible for what goes in their trash, and might be charged higher rates if they can't control it.

## Board hires superintendent for one year, salary unknown

The Goodland School Board hired a bookkeeper, teacher's aide and tutor at the Monday meeting, accepted resignations from three district employees and decided to hire Superintendent Marvin Selby for another year.

After going behind closed doors for an hour to talk about personnel matters, the board agreed to hire Marcia Harkins as bookkeeper and board of education treasurer, Jodi Koza as a teacher's aide at North Elementary School and Jami Bergman as a tutor in the district's drop-out recovery program.

Members accepted resignations from Marlin Roeder, school maintenance; Cynthia Hurst, a library technician at Grant Junior High; and Kris McCool, a bus driver.

After reviewing a written evaluation in closed session, the board approved a one-year contract for Superintendent Selby and will decide his salary later.

In other business, the board:

- Discussed a date to meet with other school districts served by the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center in Oakley to talk about how they can help each other. Members chose March 16 and 23, but the meeting date will be set according to all of the districts' choices.
- Voted to allow the X-Pressos, the high school show choir, to organize a

basketball game at Max Jones Fieldhouse on Sunday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m. The choir is holding the game to raise money to attend a competition in Branson, Mo., in the spring.

• Decided to let Tiffany Schwasinger, a junior at Goodland High School, take classes at Colby Community College next year. She will be a part-time high school student and will graduate with the rest of her class.

• Accepted a Professional Development Council report from Grant Junior High Principal Jim Mull, council representative. The council tracks the number of hours teachers spend in training sessions and how they use new information in their classrooms.

• Reviewed two calendars for next school year. The calendar committee will discuss options at two meetings later this month, before the board approves a final product.

• Approved an agreement to have West Elementary School make lunches for the new Topside Tots daycare center on Cattletrail.

• Decided to pay \$52,100 to Hicks-Ashby, a furniture company from which the district ordered lab centers and cabinets for the new science classrooms at the high school.

• Approved paying \$315,303 in monthly bills.

## Red Cross talks to Afghan detainees at U.S. base

By Associated Press

INTERNATIONAL

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba — A team from the international Red Cross began its evaluation of whether the U.S. military is violating the rights of more than 100 prisoners taken from Afghanistan to this arid Caribbean outpost.

As the latest batch of al-Qaida and Taliban prisoners settled in to hastily built chain-link cells, bringing the total number to 110, four members of the International Committee of the Red Cross met with U.S. officials Thursday to plan interviews with dozens of detainees.

It was the first time independent experts were given a look at Camp X-ray. Human rights advocates say the prisoners must endure inhumane conditions. U.S. officials maintain the captives' rights are respected.

The Red Cross team, which included a doctor and linguist who has worked in Russia, arrived on a small plane from Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Urs Boegli, head of the team, said findings of the prisoners' conditions would be shared with U.S. authorities but said he wasn't sure whether they would be made public. The first interviews were expected to be today.

JERUSALEM — Israeli warplanes destroyed Palestinian government headquarters in the West Bank town of Tulkarem today, in what the military said was a response to a Palestinian attack on a Jewish confirmation party in which six revelers and the gunman were killed.

A Palestinian policeman was killed and about 20 injured in the Tulkarem attack, in which missiles from the aircraft reduced the large, two-story government complex to rubble, Palestinian security sources said.

Elsewhere, Israeli forces overlooking Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's headquarters in Ramallah were reinforced, as were a number of other Israeli positions in and around the West Bank town.

The night's violence marked the latest in a chain of events which appeared to spell the end to a shaky cease-fire declared by Arafat on Dec. 16.

The Al Aqsa Brigades, a militia linked to Arafat's Fatah movement, said it carried out Thursday night's attack on a bat mitzvah — a confirmation party for a 12-year Jewish girl — in the Israeli city of Hadera, in revenge for the death of Raed Karmi, the militia's leader in the town of Tulkarem. Karmi was killed in a bomb blast earlier this week that is widely believed to have been carried out by Israel.

NATIONAL

CLEVELAND — A helicopter crashed just after taking off from the

## ap news capsules

roof of a Cleveland hospital early today, killing two people and seriously injuring another, officials said.

The helicopter slammed into an unoccupied car at University Hospitals of Cleveland and busted into pieces, with only the tail recognizable in the twisted wreckage. Witnesses reported loud explosions and large flames shooting into the air after the crash.

The pilot and a nurse were killed, said Lt. Sharon MacKay, a police spokeswoman. A 29-year-old medic, whose name was not released, suffered burns over 25 percent his body and was listed in serious condition at Metro-Health Medical Center, a nursing supervisor said.

Hospital spokesman Eric Sandstrom did not know what caused the crash, but said the crew was heading to another hospital to pick up a patient.

BOSTON — The last time Richard Reid was in court, he faced a single charge of interfering with a flight crew for allegedly trying to ignite crude homemade bombs in his shoes during a U.S.-bound flight.

Now he's facing nine terrorism-related charges, with federal authorities saying he was trained in Afghanistan by the al-Qaida terrorist network.

Reid, a 28-year-old British citizen, was scheduled to be arraigned today on

charges issued by a federal grand jury Wednesday, including attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction.

The indictment accuses Reid of attempting to kill the 197 passengers and crew members aboard American Airlines Flight 63 on Dec. 22. Reid was subdued by flight attendants and passengers on the Paris-to-Miami flight after he allegedly attempted to light a fuse protruding from his shoes.

Authorities said each shoe contained a plastic explosive often used by terrorists. They said the homemade bombs could easily have ripped a hole in the plane if Reid had successfully ignited them.

He could get five life sentences if convicted.

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON — Appealing to the public for help in tracking down terrorists, the Justice Department released videos and photos of five suspected members of al-Qaida, including one shown cradling a rifle and a Yemeni man who authorities believe was supposed to take part in the Sept. 11 attacks.

The tapes were released without sound, but Attorney General John Ashcroft said they showed "martyrdom messages from suicide terrorists." He urged anyone who has seen the men to call the FBI or an American consul-

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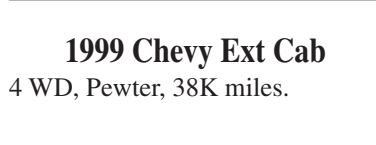

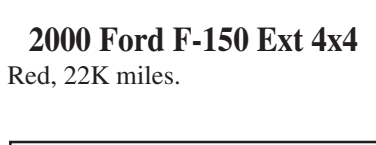

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