



Carol Tupper introduced Darin Richardson who sang "Where Were You When the World Stopped Turning" by Alan Jackson and "God Bless the U.S.A.," by Lee Greenwald at the After-5 meeting at the Butterfly Cafe Monday.
Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Daily News

Son carried man to safety

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foot was severed by debris and was left hanging by a tendon. At 6 feet, 3 inches, tall and 250 pounds, she said, Mike was able to carry the man to safety. He lost his foot, but lived.

He still had miles to go to get to the Empire State Building, Marcia said, when he encountered a mission that he hadn't realized was always there.

They gave him a bowl of soup, she said, and he said, "Wow, you got here fast!"

He saw people in line to give blood, she said, and got into line. The people in line sang "Amazing Grace" at the top of their lungs, she said, and Mike cried.

He was in blood-soaked clothes from helping the man with the severed foot, had seen horrible things and had barely escaped death himself.

After a long, long walk, she said, he was put on a cruise ship to be taken off the island, as every craft available was being used to move people.

Mike got in touch with a friend who was supposed to meet him, Marcia said, and learned that his friend had been trapped in the subway and never made it to the island.

He went with his friend to his home in Hoboken, N.J., and finally was able to call her at 3 p.m. to tell her he was safe.

Mike's friend wrote to her, she said,

that he had been changed. Mike will be a different man, the friend told her.

Mike said he was amazed at how quick death was, that it was instantaneous.

She was glued to the television all day, Marcia said, and has gained a different perspective of television and a new appreciation for it. From when her daughter-in-law called in the morning, she said, until her son called in the afternoon, she was mesmerized by the images on the screen.

"I saw TV through different eyes," she said, "through a mother's eyes."

She told the group she thanks God for the peace in her heart — to keep everything together.

Legislators want to look at waste before raising taxes

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House Minority Leader Jim Garner, of Coffeyville, said of fellow Democrats: "We have folks who are concerned about writing a blank check without knowing where the money's going to be allocated."

The only tax proposal to win House approval so far actually would add \$1.4 million to the budget shortfall by giving about 6,900 older Kansans an in-

come tax credit for the property taxes they pay. That bill cleared the House on a 75-47 vote Tuesday and went to the Senate.

Later Tuesday, the House rejected by a 108-11 vote a measure to raise \$62.6 million in the upcoming fiscal year by increasing the state levy for public schools to 25 mills from 20 mills. The property tax on a \$50,000 home would increase to \$86 a year from \$69.

"Until there's a focus on waste, some

of us aren't interested in voting for a tax increase," said Rep. Andrew Howell, R-Fort Scott.

On a voice vote, the House did advance a bill repealing decades-old laws preventing some immigrants from inheriting or transferring property. But members voted 73-45 against an amendment to increase estate taxes by \$20 million.

Supporters said the burden would fall on nephews, nieces and non-rela-

tives who inherit property, but Edmonds said people who accumulate wealth already have paid income or property taxes before they die.

"There should be no taxation without respiration," Edmonds said.

Edmonds said the state has options for dealing with its budget problems, starting with spending cuts. He said the state could dip into its treasury reserves to free up about \$100 million.

Rep. Brenda Landwehr, R-Wichita,

an Appropriations Committee member, said legislators should set priorities for government and decide which programs the state can live without.

She compared the state to a family in economic distress, saying, "Some things get done, and some things get delayed."

In other action:

- A bill requiring a thumbprint or other physical identifier — as well as a Social Security number — to obtain or renew a driver's license won Senate

approval.

- A bill requiring more children to use special vehicle seats failed in the House.

- The Senate approved a bill adding \$600,000 to the court system's current budget.

Income tax credit is HB 2377; school finance bill is SB 68; inheritance measure is HB 2867.

On the Net: Kansas Legislature: <http://www.kslegislature.org>

Next goal to find more investors

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pledges that they haven't tried to collect.

The committee's next move, Garcia said, is to hold two more public meetings at 7 p.m. April 3 and 4 in the Goodland High School auditorium.

He said Bruce Gouker, an experienced grocer who lives in Greeley, Colo., and has signed on to manage the co-op, will attend the meetings.

The goal will be to find more investors, Garcia said, and to answer questions people have about the grocery.

By then, he said, the committee will have firmer plans for when the store will open and what services will be available.

Garcia said one thing members will discuss at a committee meeting on Tuesday is what they will do if they can't raise enough money, and at what point they will stop the project.

But, he said, members are sure the grocery will open.

"At the last meeting, the enthusiasm and motivation was so high," he said.

"We have high hopes our goal will be met and we don't foresee any ob-

stacles. We've had several phone calls from people that are totally excited."

Garcia said the committee is working with a lawyer in Hutchinson who specializes in co-operative planning to form the co-operative.

The group is also writing a three-year contract with Gouker, who plans to move to Goodland.

Steve West, a committee member and president of Western State Bank, has said every committee member plans to invest in the grocery.

He has said the store is bound to work because at least the 500 investors

will shop at the new grocery.

Garcia said Fleming sent a letter commending the committee and Goodland for their perseverance in opening the grocery.

For information, call West at Western State, Garcia at Garcia's Home Furnishing, or other committee members, Dan Barker, Bud Luckert, Wayne Luckert, Brenda McCants, Roxann Kling, Don Newell, Roy Dixon, Dan Whalen, Jeanie Schields, Darwin McClung, Mike Cochran, Kevin Rasure, Duane Timm and Tom Rohr.

U.N. Security Council endorses a Palestinian state

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Seeking an end to escalating Mideast violence, the United States won approval for a U.N. Security Council resolution that endorsed the idea of a Palestinian state for the first time and demanded an immediate cease-fire.

The United States avoided references to Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory and other terms critical of Israel, clearing the way for it to introduce the resolution Tuesday — a move that surprised the council, after years of Washington blocking measures it considered biased against its close ally.

The 14-0 vote, cautiously welcomed by Israel and the Palestinians, came after Israeli forces took control of the key West Bank city of Ramallah and several Palestinian refugee camps, searching for Palestinian militants after a string of terror attacks, in Israel's biggest military operations in two decades.

Diplomats said the timing of the resolution was important, with Vice President Dick Cheney in the region and U.S. peace envoy Anthony Zinni heading there Thursday. U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan issued his toughest statement yet as violence escalated Tuesday, appealing to Palestinians to halt "morally repugnant" acts of terror and urging Israelis to end their "illegal occupation" of Palestinian land.

Nasser Al-Kidwa, the Palestinian U.N. observer, called the U.S. resolution "a significant step" and said "the Palestinian side will reiterate its readiness to abide by the provisions." Israel's U.N. Ambassador Yehuda Lancry called it "a rare and remarkable" balanced resolution and said his government would like a cease-fire.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry issued a statement in Jerusalem praising the United States for inserting into the resolution a demand for the immediate cessation of "all acts of terror."

Israeli officials insisted Palestinian statehood must be negotiated.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Arie Mekel said that although Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has publicly accepted the concept of a Palestinian state, it must be of a specified character.

"If such a state is established by agreement between Israel and the Palestinians, if it's demilitarized, if it's not a hostile base of terror and particularly if it's the end of the conflict between the Jews and Arabs once and for all, most people in Israel feel they have no problem with such a Palestinian state," Mekel said.

Acting with unusual speed, the 15-member council approved the U.S.

resolution, with only Syria abstaining, criticizing the measure as "very weak" for not addressing the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land.

The United States has repeatedly opposed Security Council action, arguing that only Israel and the Palestinians can resolve the issues dividing them. U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte insisted that Tuesday's resolution didn't represent a change in U.S. policy.

The United States still believes Israel and the Palestinians have to negotiate agreements. "Our intent in doing this was to give an impulse to peace efforts and to decry violence and terror," he said.

Al-Kidwa said it marked the first time in a long time that the United States had displayed "such a positive attitude ... toward the principle of the engagement by the council in Middle Eastern affairs."

The resolution "demands immediate cessation of all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction." It calls on the Israelis and Palestinians to cooperate in implementing steps leading to a

resumption of negotiations on a political settlement.

A statement added after late-night negotiations affirmed "a vision of a region where two states, Israel and Palestine, live side-by-side within secure and recognized borders," a first time for a council resolution.

President Bush endorsed the idea of a Palestinian state at the U.N. General Assembly in November, as have leaders of other nations.

Previous Security Council resolutions dealing with Mideast peace have not explicitly referred to a Palestinian state because the issue was too contentious. When it became politically acceptable in recent years, there was a stalemate in the council on Mideast resolutions.

"It's the first time the Security Council spells out the vision of two states," Al-Kidwa said. "It names Israel and Palestine, and that's obviously an important step forward."

Palestinian Information Minister Yasser Abed Rabbo said Wednesday that "there is a need now for direct international intervention to implement this resolution through ending the Is-

raeli occupation and evacuating all the Israeli settlements" from Palestinian lands.

Calling the current fighting the worst in a decade, Annan welcomed the U.S. decision to send Zinni back to the region and urged Sharon and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to back his efforts to renew the peace process.

"You can still lead your people away from disaster," Annan said.

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