

# City, county discuss protecting water wells

**By Tom Betz**  
*The Goodland Daily News*  
Four members of the Goodland City Commission met with the Sherman County commissioners Friday to discuss what can be done to protect the wells from underground contamination.

City Public Works Director Ed Wolak said he had contacted the state health department about the situation and was told they were waiting for recommendations from the county.

Wolak said the man he talked to said the two main options for solving the problem were to pump the contaminated water into an above-ground tank to get it mixed with air and then back into the ground.

The second was to pump the water out onto the ground in a sort of irrigation process, allowing the contaminants to evaporate.

Water north of town, near the old county landfill, is contaminated with a chemical known as tetrachloroethelene, a cleaning solution, which may be spreading from the closed landfill or another source.

The city's northmost water well is also near the landfill east of Caldwell Avenue, but has not shown any contamination.

# Tax sale may be held every year

**By Tom Betz**  
*The Goodland Daily News*  
Sherman County Attorney Bonnie Selby told the county commissioners Friday that the tax sale on May 22 brought in \$40,875 in taxes and \$14,089 in costs for a total of \$57,579.

The sale actually brought the county more than \$200,000.

From the time the first notices were sent until the deadline the day before the sale, Selby said, a total of \$148,041 in past-due taxes were redeemed.

This was the first sale since 1993, and Selby says she hopes to hold one each year as property reaches a three-year delinquency.

"I'll never let it go as long as this again," she said.

"This is set up on a three-year basis, but we don't have to do it that way. It could be on an annual basis."

# Economic development group names officers

**By Tom Betz**  
*The Goodland Daily News*  
The seven board members of the new Sherman County Economic Development Council met Monday at Wheat Ridge Acres, where the first action was to select officers.

Royal Reid, a Kanorado elevator operator, was named chairman. Dave Daniels, a rental property manager, was named vice chair.

Kim Bohme, of Miller's Electronics, was selected as treasurer, and Patty Eckhardt was named secretary.

The board members discussed organizing under the county, and City Commissioner Curtis Hurd said he did not see the city being able to budget money for economic development in the future.

"I feel that is a county function," Hurd said, "and under the state laws they can levy a property tax to raise money to support the program."

The next step is to have the bylaws and finance committees meet to produce recommendations about the organizational details, such as whether the council will be a non-profit corporation or be a county board with its own organization and bylaws under state law.

Plans are to present the recommendations to the board, and then have the board report to the general membership at a public meeting on Thursday, June 20.

Board members agreed to ask the finance committee to look at a possible dues structure and a possible budget for the remainder of this year and next year.

Daniels said despite what Hurd said, he felt the council should ask the city to keep economic development as a priority, and that the council should ask for money from the city at the June 17 meeting.

"I understand they may not be able to give us the \$30,000 they have been giving the Chamber," Daniels said, "but I think we need to ask them to look at helping us keep the program moving."

Board members Harlan House, John Garcia and Larry Harper discussed various economic development ideas and suggested that people be asked to give the council any possibilities they may have heard about.

Miller 250 wire welder w/spool gun (less than 2 yrs old) • Acetylene welder w/bottles and cart • Plasma Cutter PCM-875 ESAB • Port A-Cool • Black Gold Oil Burner w/600 gallon tank • High Pressure steamer (Elite) • 7.5 Classic Air Compressor 32.6 CFM • Cherry picker 2-ton • Heavy Duty Battery charger 300 amp • Overhead shop dolly • 2 - Welding benches w/vice • Tire tools w/bead seating tool • Grinder w/stand • Grease pump w/tank • Wheel dolly • Transmission jack • Parts washer • Bulk oil containers • Sanborn Air Compressor • Wheel seal tools • Several hand tools • 1" socket drive • 3/4" socket drive • Impact wrench 1 " drive • Tool boxes • 2 - Air over hydraulic jacks (22 ton) • Air hoses • 2 - Heat Buster fans • Dolly cart • Several air bubbles • Port a Power • Electric air-less power painter.

# Indian and Pakistani troops exchange gunfire again around the world

**By the Associated Press INTERNATIONAL**  
ALMATY, Kazakhstan — The leaders of India and Pakistan angrily blamed each other for more than five decades of conflict, exchanging stony stares across a table today while their troops fired at each other in the disputed Kashmir region.

Russia and China pressed the nuclear-armed neighbors to enter face-to-face talks to prevent the Kashmir conflict from exploding into a full-scale war.

But the tone of the Pakistani and Indian leaders' remarks at during a 2 1/2-hour session at an Asian security summit made dialogue appear even more remote.

Meanwhile, fresh gunfire was reported in Kashmir, where the rivals have deployed about 1 million troops along both sides of the 1,800-mile frontier.

"We do not want war. If war is imposed on us, we will defend ourselves with the utmost resolution," Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf said, sitting about 15 feet across from the Indian leader at a U-shaped table in the Kazakh city of Almaty.

India's Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee rejected Musharraf's repeated assurances that Pakistan would not allow its territory to be used by terrorists. He said there had been no decrease in violence or infiltration by Pakistan-based Islamic militants into Indian-controlled Kashmir.

**RAMALLAH, West Bank** — Yasser Arafat presented a plan for reforming the Palestinian security services to visiting CIA chief George Tenet today, with the Palestinian leader proposing to halve their number and tighten supervision.

The make-over is part of a broader reform package sought by the United States, which has called for greater democracy in the Palestinian Authority and a more effective fight against militants carrying out terror attacks on Israelis.

As part of the latest U.S. moves in the Mideast, President Bush also invited Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to Washington for their sixth meeting in just over a year. The Bush-Sharon meeting at the White House on Monday follows Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's visit to Washington this week.

At Arafat's headquarters in the West Bank town of Ramallah, two dozen Palestinians protested today against the Tenet mission, chanting "Tenet go home" as the CIA chief's convoy rolled into the compound. The protesters said they opposed U.S. involvement in internal Palestinian affairs.

**NATIONAL BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.** — Lew Wasserman, one of the last old-time movie moguls who helped build an entertainment empire while keeping company with presidents and the most glittering of Hollywood stars, died Monday. He was 89.

Wasserman died at home from complications of a stroke, said Susan Fleishman, a spokeswoman for Vivendi Universal Entertainment, which now owns Universal Studios.

As chairman and chief executive, Wasserman was the undisputed ruler of MCA Inc., then parent of Universal Studios. He owned 6.9 percent of the company's stock and, through a variety of trusts, controlled more than 15 percent.

When MCA was sold in 1990 to electronics Japanese giant Matsushita for \$6.6 billion, Wasserman's stake was put at \$350 million, and he was retained as a manager. When Seagram Co. took over the company five years later, Wasserman retired from management with the honorary title of chairman emeritus. But he remained on the company's board of directors until 1998.

During his more than half-century with MCA, he and its late founder, Jules Stein, built it into an entertainment giant involved in movies, television programming, home video, records, consumer products and broadcast station ownership, as well as running its successful back-lot tour of Universal Studios.

**Internet tonight!**  
899-2338

**ABSOLUTE AUCTION**  
**M&M SALES AND DEWAYNE AND ROSE ANDERSON**  
**Saturday, June 8, 2002**  
10:00 a.m. MT (Farm Equipment to sell at 1:30 p.m.)  
Auction Location: 1840 W Hwy 24 at M&M sales lots in Goodland, KS

**VEHICLES, TRUCKS, VANS**  
1992 Chevrolet Pickup, V6, 5 speed • 1989 Chevrolet 1500 Pickup (fresh 350 cu. in.) 5 speed • 1982 IHC 9670 COE, 300 Cummings, 9 speed • 1973 Chevrolet winch truck (newer motor) • 1964 Ford fuel truck 331, 4 over 2 speed transmission • Allis Chalmers fork lift 5000 lb (new overhaul) • 15' Dump bed w/pto and wet kit • 4 - 48' Van trailers, no running gear • 2 - 22' Van trailers, roll up rear door plus side door, no running gear • 5th wheel dolly • 2600 lb Tommy lift • Flat bed • 4 wheeler aluminum ramp • Dodge C-600 cab and fenders (good) • 1998 22' Jet Co trailer • 1997 32' PJ 5th wheel trailer • 1990 Merritt 38' grain trailer • 8000 lb winch • Tucker speed mower • G6 MM tractor - diesel, hydraulic, power steering • 10' Big Ox 3pt blade • 3 wheeler.

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SEWARD COUNTY, KANSAS

DARIC SMITH, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,	x	
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	Case No. 00-CV-26
v.	:	
	:	
PHILIP MORRIS COMPANIES, INC., et al.,	:	
	:	
Defendants.	x	

**NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION**

This Notice May Affect Your Rights.  
Please Read Carefully.

**TO: ALL INDIVIDUALS WHO PURCHASED CIGARETTES AT RETAIL IN THE STATE OF KANSAS FOR CONSUMPTION AND NOT FOR RESALE MADE BY ONE OR MORE OF THE DEFENDANTS LISTED BELOW, OR ANY PARENT, SUBSIDIARY, OR AFFILIATE THEREOF, AT ANY TIME FROM NOVEMBER 1, 1993 TO JANUARY 17, 2002 (THE "PLAINTIFF CLASS").**

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY AND IN ITS ENTIRETY. YOU MAY BE A MEMBER OF THE PLAINTIFF CLASS. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE PLAINTIFF CLASS, YOU SHOULD READ THIS NOTICE BECAUSE IT WILL AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS.

**THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN EXPRESSION OF ANY OPINION BY THE COURT AS TO THE MERITS OF ANY OF THE CLAIMS OR DEFENSES ASSERTED BY EITHER SIDE IN THIS LITIGATION. THE SOLE PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE IS TO INFORM YOU OF THE LAWSUIT SO THAT YOU CAN MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION AS TO WHETHER YOU SHOULD REMAIN IN OR OPT OUT OF THIS CLASS ACTION.**

**BACKGROUND OF THE CASE**

The Plaintiff, who is a Kansas consumer of cigarettes, alleges that since November 1, 1993, Philip Morris Inc., Philip Morris Companies, Inc., Philip Morris International, Inc., R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp., British American Tobacco Co. Ltd. (now known as British American Tobacco (Investments) Ltd.), Liggett Group, Inc., Brooke Group Ltd., and Lorillard Tobacco Co. (collectively "the Defendants") have unlawfully agreed to fix the wholesale price of cigarettes and that, as a result, consumers of cigarettes in Kansas have paid higher prices than they otherwise would have paid. The Defendants deny liability and have denied these claims and charges.

**CLASS ACTION RULING**

The Court has ruled that this lawsuit may be maintained as a class action.

The ruling means that the final outcome of this lawsuit--whether favorable to the Plaintiff Class or to the Defendants--will apply in like manner to every class member, that is, to all Kansas consumers of cigarettes described above who do not timely elect to be excluded from the Plaintiff Class (see "Election by Plaintiff Class Members" below).

The Plaintiff Class is limited to those individuals that made at least one purchase of cigarettes manufactured by one or more of the Defendants between November 1, 1993 to January 17, 2002 from someone other than the Defendants themselves. For example, individuals that bought cigarettes from retailers are included in the class. Examples of retailers include, among other things, grocery stores, convenience stores and vending machine operators. Individuals that bought cigarettes directly from Defendants or that bought cigarettes in order to re-sell them ARE NOT members of the Plaintiff Class.

**ELECTION BY PLAINTIFF CLASS MEMBERS**

If you fit the above description of a Plaintiff Class member, you have a choice whether or not to remain a member of the Plaintiff Class on whose behalf this lawsuit is being maintained. You should understand the consequences of this choice in making your decision.

1. If you want to remain a member of the Plaintiff Class, you are not required to do anything at this time. By remaining a class member, any claims against the Defendants for damages under the Kansas antitrust laws arising from the Defendants' conduct as alleged by the class representative will be determined in this case.

2. If you want to be excluded from the Plaintiff Class, you must notify in writing Plaintiff Class Counsel Rex A. Sharp, Gunderson, Sharp & Rhein, P.C. 4121 W. 83rd St., Ste. 256, Prairie Village, Kansas 66208, by mail postmarked no later than August 1, 2002. By making this election to be excluded:

(1) you will not share in any recovery that might be paid to Kansas consumers of cigarettes as a result of trial or settlement of this lawsuit;

(2) you will not be bound by any decision in this lawsuit favorable to the Defendants; and

(3) you may present any claims you may have against the Defendants by filing your own lawsuit at your own expense, or you may seek to intervene in this lawsuit.

**RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PLAINTIFF CLASS MEMBERS**

If you remain a member of the Plaintiff Class:

1. Counsel for the Plaintiff Class will act as your counsel. If you desire, you may also appear or intervene by your own attorney at your own expense.

2. Your participation in any recovery that may be obtained from the Defendants through trial or settlement will depend on the results of this lawsuit. If no recovery is obtained for the Plaintiff Class, you will be bound by that result.

3. You may be required as a condition to participating in any recovery through settlement or trial to present evidence of your past cigarette purchases. You should, therefore, keep any records you have reflecting those past purchases.

4. If ordered by the Court, you will be entitled to notice of any ruling affecting the Plaintiff Class. Similarly, as the Court directs, you will be provided notice and an opportunity to be heard concerning any proposed settlement or dismissal of the class claims.

**FURTHER PROCEEDINGS**

Discovery on the merits of the case is currently underway. No trial date has been set.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Any questions you have concerning the matters contained in this notice should not be directed to the Court but should be directed in writing to the attorneys for the Plaintiff Class as follows:

Rex A. Sharp Gunderson, Sharp & Rhein, P.C. 4121 W. 83rd St., Ste. 256 Prairie Village, KS 66208	Isaac L. Diel Diel & Seelman, P.C. 4121 W. 83rd St., Ste. 254 Prairie Village, KS 66208
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You may seek the advice and guidance of your own attorney if you desire. The pleadings and other records in this litigation may be examined at any time during regular office hours at the Office of the Clerk, Seward County Courthouse, 415 N. Washington, Liberal, Kansas 67901.

**DO NOT CALL OR WRITE TO THE COURT OR THE CLERK OF THE COURT.  
ADDRESS ALL INQUIRIES IN WRITING TO THE ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF CLASS SET FORTH ABOVE.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
/s/  
Judge Tom R. Smith  
District Court Judge  
Seward County, Kansas