Families carry on tradition

Sales on fireworks down because of dryness, burn ban

FIREWORKS, from Page 1

S&M Family Fireworks out of their home three miles west of Goodland on U.S. 24, have been in business for five years, but they too are carrying on a

"When I was a kid," Steve McIlroy said. "I used to love watching my uncles set all the fireworks. Those are some of my most vivid memories.'

One of his uncles ran a fireworks stand one year, McIlroy said, and that gave him the idea to try it on his own. As he went over his stock, describing what each product does, he stopped

"This one was a blast when I was a kid. It was the best there was," he said. "This one over here is even better, but back then, nothing was more fun than

and smiled at certain items.

So far, sales have been down some this year, all the entrepreneurs said, probably because of the dry weather, but they expect business to pick up today and tomorrow, July 4.

A burn ban imposed by the county



little, too, McIlroy said. People are afraid that if they accidentally set a fire with fireworks they will be charged

"I understand why the burn ban was set," he said, "but I'm sure it has hurt business some."

Topliff said a poor economy might make people pause before spending money on fireworks, and Diaz said little money," he said. "What could be with harvest coming early this year, better?' some people have been too busy to come out to the stands yet.

"Harvest is about over, though," Diaz said, "so it ought to be picking happy memories associated with sell-

Goodland people aren't the only ast week has probably hurt sales a ones who buy fireworks from the we possibly can," he said.

stands. Selling fireworks in Chevenne County and most of the rest of Colorado is illegal, Topliff said, so some people have been driving over the border to buy them in Kansas.

"We have even gotten some people from Denver," she said.

Tradition plays a big part in putting up the stands, but none of them are doing it for free. Signs are spaced out on the highway leading drivers to the stands, and each points out its advantages over the other two.

"It's been a pretty good moneymaker for college," Topliff said.

Joselin's cousin, Chris Topliff, 12, who is spending the summer in Goodland, say the money is nice, but basically, "It's just fun."

"We do it as a family, and we make a

McIlroy said his family enjoys working the stand. The kids are gone this year, he said, but there are a lot of ing fireworks.

'We plan on doing this for as long as



A sign advertising fireworks (above) on Old U.S. sits in front of a windmill painted with the colors of the American flag. On County Road 17 (left) a sign asks people to have a safe holiday. Photos by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

to buy system By Sharon Corcoran The Goodland Daily News

Tax credits

Hospital

meeting

At its meeting Monday, the

• Received \$254,000 in tax cred-

• Elected new officers. See story

its to replace its information system.

Goodland Regional Medical Center

See story below.

Administrator Jay Jolly told the Goodland Regional Medical Center board on Monday that the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing approved the hospital's application for \$245,000 in tax credits.

The hospital applied for the credits in April, hoping to have the money to replace its computer information system. Jolly had told the board the hospital's system is obsolete and that the hospital would need to upgrade the mainframe computer soon, anyway.

With the tax credits, Jolly said, the hospital can afford the new system. which will remove the need to enter information in patient charts manually, saving doctors and nurses time and preventing mistakes that can occur when handwriting is misread.

He said the system will keep a comprehensive file for each patient which can be accessed by more than one person at a time, a measure that will save doctors and nurses time.

The updated system will include a fiber optic data line to handle all modem, Internet and other types of computer traffic. With the present system, Jolly said, information is transmitted on phone lines, which has at times made the phone lines inaccessible.

The tax credits are a fundraising tool for community organizations engaged in services for children and families, health care or crime prevention.

The Wallace County Foundation in Sharon Springs was awarded \$59,850 to renovate the Strand Theater for educational and entertainment events in the community.

Festival features fireworks display

FESTIVAL, from Page 1

electronic ground and aerial fireworks display, which will cost about \$7,500

Here is a new list of donors since Thursday.

Butterfly Aviation and Cafe, Dairy Queen, Goodland Medical Arts Pharmacy, Motel 7, Attorney Michael V. Foust, AgroCulture Liquid Fertilizer, Alcorn Shelter Insurance, American Family Insurance, Applebee Golf Carts, City of Goodland, Commercial Federal Bank, Cowboy Loop, Crazy R's, Dr. Duncan Davis, Dr. R.K. Driver, Dr. A.L. Goalden, Dr. Clinton Porterfield, Eagle Cable TV, EBH and

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Hospital board elects officers The Goodland Regional Medical Cullough and Dennis Shank.

Center board held an organizational meeting to elect officers after its regular meeting Monday. The board elected Lynn Hoelting

as chairperson, Joyce Moore as vicechairperson and Pete Whalen as secretary and treasurer. The board selected Moore, Artie

Showalter and Steve Evert to serve on the finance committee. Larry McCants, Whalen and

the hospital's professional commit-Another person will be selected appointed to the board at their meet-

ing Friday. The commission reappointed Evert and appointed Gennifer House and Kim Duell to replace the posi-

tions vacated by Dr. Robert Mc-

In other business, the board:

 Approved credentialing for Delane Wycoff, a pathologist consulting from North Platte, and tabled the credentialing for W. Duncan Davis, a Goodland physician, and Stuart Kennedy, an ortho-

pedist from Denver, as some docu-

ments were missing from the files.

• Decided the aircraft liability coverage was a dead issue as the insurance company would not give Doug Irvin were chosen to serve on the hospital a quote for \$15 million in coverage.

- Heard from Administrator Jay from those the county commission Jolly that Dietitian Wendy Charron had resigned and would be leaving in August. Her husband took a promotion that would require them to move to Alberta, Canada.
 - Scheduled the next meeting for 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 29.

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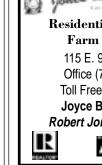
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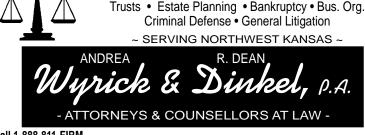
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