

Council seeking director

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development effort. One is designed specifically for rural communities, and the money can be used for salaries and operating expenses.

She said the grant is from the U.S. Forestry Service and is aimed at rural communities.

She asked the board to give her some direction and she would keep an eye open for grant possibilities.

The board members agreed the best thing she could find would be money that could be used for the basic operation so the council would not have to ask the city and county for tax money in the future.

Looking at the process for hiring a new director, the board decided to accept resumes through Sept. 1, and they would then hope to conduct interviews that month.

The proposed advertisement would say: Sherman County is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Executive Director of the Sherman County Economic Development Council in Northwest Kansas. Primary duties include daily operating procedures, media relations, recruiting new businesses and business expansion and retention. Two to three years relevant experience in economic development and grant writing preferred. Community Development Block Grant certification a plus. Salary up to \$45,000 plus benefits dependent on qualifications. Deadline Sept. 1.

Seeking resumes from a wide area, the board authorized advertising in local papers, a couple of shoppers, the Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado Associations of Municipal governments and Monster.com.

The resumes are to be sent to Sherman County Economic Development Council, 813 Broadway Room 102, Goodland, Kan. 67735, Attention: Sherman County Clerk Janet Rumpel.

Other members of the board at the meeting were John Garcia, Harlan D. House and Dave Daniels, vice chairman.

The next board meeting will be at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, July 29 at Wheat Ridge Acres.

How high will it go?



Jason Krayca, 11, and Brandon Nemechek, 18, got a plastic bottle rocket ready to launch at a 4-H camp today at the Sherman County Fairgrounds. Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Fire extinguisher costs explained

Sherman County commissioners questioned Dennis Bentzinger of Med-Enterprises about the costs of inspecting fire extinguishers at a meeting Tuesday.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said the commissioners were wondering why there was such a jump in inspection costs from last year.

Bentzinger said the difference was the number of fire extinguishers which were replaced, and the number that needed to be tested.

He explained that every extinguisher has a date of manufacture, and that each year for five years, he does a visual inspection of each one. On the sixth year, the extinguisher must be taken apart and checked, which increases the inspection cost.

"I charge a flat fee of \$5 for the annual visual inspection," he said. "I charge more for the sixth-year inspection because it requires the extinguisher to be taken apart and there are

usually some parts that need to be replaced.

"They can be repaired, and then after 12 years, they have to be taken apart and a hydrostatic test done on the bottle, which raises the cost."

He said the extinguisher can be kept in service beyond 12 years, but at that point the cost of the tests and parts usually is more than the price of a new one.

Bentzinger said the county had a number of extinguishers which were at the six-year level, but there would be less for the next year.

"It is a cyclical thing," he said.

The commissioners thanked Bentzinger and said they were satisfied with his information, and his service.

Bentzinger said he has done several extinguisher tests, and could do one for the courthouse staff to demonstrate what happens when an extinguisher is actually used.

The commissioners thought that was a good idea and left it up to County

Clerk Janet Rumpel to arrange the demonstration.

In other business:

• Schyler Goodwin appeared to say he was planning a second "Junk Parade" to be held Saturday, Sept. 7, and to find out if the county would waive the landfill fees. He told the commissioners the parade would begin at 9 a.m., there would be a concert by the Mad Cows and the Carnegie Art Center would hold a recycled art contest. He said they would not accept tires or appliances with freon this year.

The commissioners said they had no problem, since the other fees have been waived until the end of the year, with the exception of concrete. The commissioners said they would waive that as long as there was not more than about one trailer of concrete.

• Commissioners unanimously approved a revised resolution creating the Sherman County Economic Development Council.

Israeli police on alert for more bombings around the world

By the Associated Press INTERNATIONAL

TEL AVIV, Israel — Israeli police were on high alert around the country today for fear of further attacks after a double suicide bombing in Tel Aviv killed two foreign workers and one Israeli.

The bombing Wednesday night and an ambush shooting on a bus near a Jewish settlement in the West Bank a day earlier delayed high-level contacts between Israel and the Palestinians. A new date for the talks was not set but Israel was reportedly considering measures to ease the situation for Palestinians in seven West Bank towns the army has occupied for a month.

Late Wednesday, two Palestinians were killed in an exchange of fire during an Israeli army operation in the West Bank village of Salit Dahir, Palestinians said. One of the dead was a leader of a militia in the area and the other was a relative of his, the Palestinians said. The Israeli army did not immediately comment.

BEIJING — Swarms have been spotted flying around the capital. Residents are capturing them by the bagful. They're filled with protein and, some say, delicious when deep-fried.

Beijing's summer locusts have arrived, though experts say the sandhued, beady-eyed bugs are more of a nuisance this year than a danger to crops.

The insects, from the outskirts of Beijing or Inner Mongolia, aren't the destructive migratory species that laid waste to millions of acres of farmland around the country earlier this year, said Lei Zongren, a researcher with the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences' Institute of Plant Protection.

A continuing drought and a warm winter have provided ideal conditions for locusts to hatch in great numbers. The young, called nymphs, are wingless and thrive in heat.

The species found in Beijing cannot fly for long distances, Lei said. The 2-inch-long insects have reddish legs and wings mottled with black.

Annoying as they can be, though, they have long been considered a delicacy among many Chinese.

"Locusts are good food. They have a high protein content and the taste is not bad," entomologist Wu Jichuan was quoted as saying by the official

Xinhua News Agency.

NATIONAL

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Sandra Purtle was driving to visit her sick grandson last year when she crossed paths with a man her family insists never should have been roaming the streets.

Derrick Burrell, a convicted rapist, had been out on parole for about five months when he allegedly stole Purtle's car, shot her to death and dumped her body in a wooded area behind a vacant house.

State memos show Burrell was never outfitted with an electronic monitor, apparently never confronted about a positive drug test and had been mislabeled as a medium-security risk after his release from prison.

Purtle's family appeared before a state board Wednesday seeking \$1 million in damages, arguing that the state mishandled the case and that a lack of supervision led to the woman's death.

"All they do is say, 'We are not responsible.' That's what hurts," said Cliff Purtle, the woman's husband. "The only way we are ever going to get their attention is to make them pay."

The state of Arkansas argued it can't be held liable for crimes committed by parolees, even if its probation officers didn't properly monitor Burrell. Officials claim that once inmates leave the gates, Arkansas enjoys sovereign immunity over any future failings.

"We cannot watch each person 24 hours a day," said Rhonda Sharp, a spokeswoman for the Department of Community Punishment. The state has about 38,000 parolees.

LOS ANGELES — A white police officer caught on videotape pummeling a handcuffed black teenager has been indicted on assault charges, less than two weeks after a beating that has drawn comparisons to the Rodney King case.

Inglewood Officer Jeremy Morse, 24, was expected to surrender on Thursday, said his attorney, John D. Barnett. Morse will plead innocent, he said.

"My client believes that an impartial jury will find that the use of force was necessary and he will be acquitted," Barnett said.

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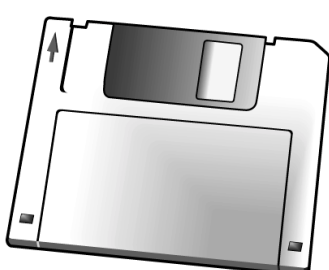
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