

County may raise property taxes

BUDGET, from Page 1

Commissioners met with the department heads and asked them to take their budgets and revise them. The departments were encouraged to examine their figures to make sure there is no extra padding in them.

In some cases there are hard choices facing the commissioners, and the programs that fall under the elderly health care fund are such a problem.

Rumpel said the citizens presented a petition in September 1982, and it was approved by the voters in November to allow an annual tax of no more than one mill to fund the service program for the elderly, estimated to be \$57,932. This can be combined with revenues from other sources. The requested total for next year is \$63,579, \$1,153 higher than the allowable level.

The Kanorado Senior Center was requesting \$2,815 more, the Goodland Senior Center requested an increase of \$140. The Kanorado meal program is requesting a \$492 increase, and Goodland was asking for \$20 increase for the meals.

The big rise in cost is from the Kanorado Senior Center. Rumpel said the Kanorado center is serving 11 meals a day and 253 days per year at a cost of \$14.95 per day for transportation (\$3,799). The total cost in Kanorado for meals is \$6,562, and the center is asking to increase this to \$7,054 for next year. She said the cost in Goodland is \$2,530 for nearly double the meals.

The Department of Agriculture will reimburse them 56 cents per meal and the Kanorado contribution is 72 cents per meal. The county is being asked to

cover the remaining cost.

Rumpel said there are a number of other elderly programs that receive money from the tax levy, but there will have to be a cut made somewhere to bring the county money within balance.

The commissioners asked about contacting the person in Hays who is responsible for handling the elderly meal program in Kanorado to see if an adjustment can be made. They called and talked to Greg Hoover, executive director of the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging, and asked what would happen if they cut the program. Hoover said it would probably mean closing the Kanorado meal program.

"What do you want to cut?" is the question Rumpel was asking frequently as the commissioners reviewed the department budgets.

She said today the departments have presented revised budgets, and she is working through the numbers to see if there is a significant change.

"I will be talking to the commissioners individually today to see if they feel the new figures are on the right track," Rumpel said.

She thought the new figures would bring the tax levy down to around 50 mills. This would mean there would still be a tax increase from last year, and Rumpel told the commissioners they may need to think about not giving a three percent raise or possibly any raises if they want to avoid a tax increase this year.

"There is a problem with holding the level down too far, because you then find yourself in a catch-up situation similar to what the state is facing," Rumpel said.

Vacant truck stop to be sold at auction

TRUCK STOP, from Page 1

was cleared.

"We've been waiting a long time for everything to be sorted out so the truck stop could be sold," he said. "It took this long for the creditors to come together. Now I'm getting excited."

Harding said one company is serious about buying the business, and a few more are looking at it.

"If we can bring in a big company to run the truck stop and restaurant," he

said, "we'll have a stable employer and someone who can attract business to town."

More cross-country trucking firms will be able to stop in Goodland with the truck stop open again, Harding said, and area firms which use K-27 will have a place to fill up stomachs and gas tanks.

Trucks which haul three trailers can only drive 20 miles into Kansas before they have to take off a trailer, Harding said. When the business is open again,

trucks out of Colorado will have a place to drop off a trailer, and trucks leaving Kansas will be able to pick a trailer up.

"Goodland is the last place on I-70 where these trucks can drop off or pick up trailers," Harding said. "This station will help Goodland's commerce."

A 24-hour restaurant will draw people off the interstate, he said, and many Goodland residents would also like a place to eat in the middle of the night.

"The restaurant will be very benefi-

cial," he said. "It will bring money into Goodland and it will provide people with jobs."

"I'm glad the property can finally be sold and we are going to get a business in here which will be able to hire people and help the town by bringing in sales taxes."

Hospice Services holding open house

HOSPICE, from Page 1

Neb. native, said she and her husband Kent, a farmer, have lived here since 1989.

It can be a tough job, Willems said, and in the past there was a high turnover rate for Hospice staff, but that's going to change.

"We're both planning on sticking around," she said.

Greene and Willems run the non-profit organization, which has a main office in Phillipsburg, with help from trained volunteers. Greene said one of their goals is to let more people know about Hospice and that's why they're having an open house.

She said cookies and drinks will be served in the front lobby of the clinic, which is letting Hospice use an office for free.

Greene said people will be able to meet her and Willems and ask any questions about Hospice.

Willems said they are also organizing the annual Hospice dinner/auction for Saturday, Oct. 5.

Another goal, Greene said, is to recruit more volunteers. Anyone interested can find out more at the open house, she said, and there will be volunteer training sessions on Sept. 14 and 21.

Willems said their goal of reaching more people has been working. In the

past couple of months they have helped more patients in Sherman County than they ever have before in the same period of time, she said.

"We've been busy," she said.

Greene said to help even more people, they are planning to start a grief and bereavement support group for people who are dealing with a death. She said they already provide bereavement support for individual families.

Greene said she and Willems both love what they do and get a lot out of the relationships they form with patients and their families.

"You meet a lot of interesting people," Willems said, "and hear a lot of neat stories."

public notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROBERT NEIL NAGEL, a/k/a ROBERT NAGEL, deceased CASE NO. 02 P 26

NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in the District Court of Sherman County, Kansas by Sharon R. Nagel, praying for the determination of the descent of the following described real estate situated in Sherman County, Kansas, to-wit:

The East half of the East half of section twenty-one (21) and the East half of the Southwest quarter of Section twenty-two (22), all in township ten (10) South, range forty-two (42) of the sixth (6th) p.m. and all other property of Robert Neil Nagel, a/k/a Robert Nagel, deceased, whether real or personal, and all interest therein, owned by the decedent at the time of death; and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 4th day of September, 2002 at 10:00 o'clock A.M. of said date in said Court in the City of Goodland in Sherman

County, Kansas at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Sharon R. Nagel, Petitioner

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Published in The Goodland Daily News Friday, August 9, 16 and 23, 2002.

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Goodland, KS 67735
Telephone: 785-899-6588

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERMAN COUNTY, KANSAS FILED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 59 OF THE KANSAS STATUTES ANNOTATED

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JENNY McCURRY, Case No. 01 P 26

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

The State of Kansas to All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed on the 1 day of August, 2002, in said Court by Mary Ann Mills, Administrator of the Estate of Jenny McCurry, deceased, praying for a final settlement of the estate, approval of her acts, proceedings and accounts as Administrator, allowance for attorneys' fees and expenses, determination of the heirs, devisees and legatees entitled to the estate and assignment to them in accordance with the laws of the State of Kansas. You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 17th day of September, 2002, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on said day, in said Court, in the City of Goodland, in Sherman County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course and upon said petition.

Mary Ann Mills, Administrator

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Attorneys for Petitioners
Published in the Goodland Daily News on Fridays, August 23, August 30, and September 6, 2002.

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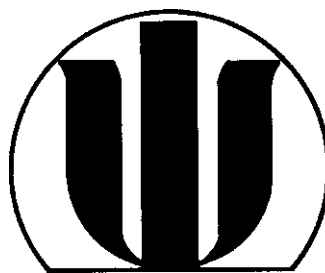
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