

Church, garage help women by servicing vehicles for winter

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in mind, Rains said they won't necessarily turn down men.

"We obviously don't want anyone to take advantage of us," he said, "but we won't turn away someone who is truly needy."

People can sign up for the program by calling Rains at (785) 899-3698. So far, 14 women have called, he said, which is a better response than he expected. In Missouri, women from the churches used the program, he said, but not many from the general public. Here, church members and non-members alike have signed up.

Goodwin said he was enthusias-

tic when Rains approached him with the idea.

"This sounded like a good way to give people a little help," he said.

The garage owner said he is pressing a few of his employees into the work crew, and is trying to round up some volunteers from Northwest Kansas Technical College.

Rains said if the program is a success, he might bring it back next year.

Goodwin says he's just glad he can help.

"We'll be helping people who might otherwise not been able to get this done," he said. "Now they won't have to worry about going through the winter without it."

County helps finance medical training class

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The ambulance service in Goodland needs more emergency medical technicians, so on Tuesday the Sherman County commissioners approved paying \$2,000 to help train five people.

Bruce Gleason, head of the Sherman County ambulance service, brought five signed agreements to the commissioners and said he had explained the details of the agreement to each person individually.

He said the agreements say the county will pay \$400, which is half the cost of the emergency medical training class now underway through Colby Community College.

The county commissioners had a new agreement drafted in September that says the county will pay the first half of the cost up front, and reimburse the person taking the class for the second half if they successfully complete the course and pass their state certification test.

Gleason said the hospital foundation has agreed to help those who can't afford the \$400 for their half of the cost, and that this would be paid back to the foundation when the terms of the agreement have been completed.

Commissioner Chuck Frankenfeld said by signing the agreement the students have committed to using their skills in Sherman County for at least two years.

It was discussed that the two-year

service commitment would be pro-rated on a yearly basis.

That means that anyone of the five who complete their course and then complete one year of service would have one remaining, but if they left at that time they would only owe the county the \$400.

However, if the person was only able to serve for less than one year and had to leave they would owe the county for the whole \$800.

The five people submitting the request for money were Oura Garrett of Goodland Greenline; Vickie Baker, nurse; David Griffith, student; and Debra Fahey and Susan Adams, both of Kanorado.

Gleason said the students from Kanorado would be able to run the ambulance service in Kanorado.

There is an ambulance stationed in Kanorado, he said, but there is no one living in the city to run it.

He said there are a total of 15 in the class, with seven from Colby using the interactive television system at the Northwest Kansas Technical College, two from Brewster and six from Sherman County.

Commissioner Frankenfeld made the motion to approve the agreements and pay \$2,000 to Colby Community College for half the cost of the class. Commissioner Mitch Tiede seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with Commissioner Kevin Rasure voting in favor.

North Koreans break promise

U.S. asking Pyongyang to stop developing nuclear weapons

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and South Korea, stung by North Korea's admission that it has a secret nuclear weapons program, are calling on Pyongyang to reverse course and abide by promises to renounce development of these armaments.

President Bush characterized the announcement as "troubling, sobering news," a spokesman said today.

The startling disclosure, revealed Wednesday night by the White House, changed the political landscape in East Asia, setting back hopes that North Korea was on the road to becoming a more benign presence in the region.

Talking to reporters who accompanied Bush on a trip to the South today, spokesman Scott McClellan said the president planned to bring up the issue in talks here next week with Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

But McClellan drew a clear distinction between Pyongyang and Iraq. "Clearly, North Korea is oppressive, has starved people, but these are different regions, different circumstances," he said.

McClellan said that Bush decided to address the issue through diplomatic channels. "We seek a peaceful solution," he said.

Privately, White House officials said Bush and his senior advisers decided to confront the problem in a low-key fashion. Bush, for example, planned no public statements on it today.

Said Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D.: "Two things have to be done immediately. First, they have to open up their country to allow inspections to examine the facilities. And second, they have to agree to destroy whatever weapons of mass destruction they have. That has to be a commitment."

Senate Republican Leader Trent Lott of Mississippi said, "Obviously, North Korea is a matter of concern. But clearly, the one we have to deal with immediately is Iraq."

The disclosure adds to the administration's list of foreign policy headaches, coming on top of a possible U.S. attack on Iraq and the overall U.S. war on terrorism.

A senior U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said North Korea acknowledged having "more powerful" weapons. U.S. officials have interpreted that statement as an acknowledgment that North Korea has other weapons of mass destruction. However, the same officials say they are unsure whether North Korea actually does possess biological or chemical weapons.

On Aug. 29 U.S. Undersecretary of State John Bolton said: "In regard to chemical weapons, there is little doubt that North Korea has an active program."

Any administration inclination to try to confront North Korea, which Bush

has labeled as part of an "axis of evil" with Iraq and Iran, could be tempered by a desire not to become overextended internationally.

Presidential spokesman Sean McCormack said North Korea was guilty of a serious infringement of a 1994 agreement with the United States under which Pyongyang promised to be nuclear-free in return for economic assistance.

"The United States and our allies call on North Korea to comply with its commitments under the nonproliferation treaty and to eliminate its nuclear weapons program in a verifiable manner," McCormack said.

U.S. officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said North Korea told U.S. diplomats that it was no longer bound by the anti-nuclear agreement.

In Seoul, South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Lee Tae-sik, said South Korea has consistently pursued the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula in line with international agreements. Japan and South Korea are treaty allies of the United States.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said late Wednesday the United States had been ready to offer North Korea economic and other benefits if Pyongyang agreed to curb missile programs, end threats and change its behavior in other ways.

"In light of our concerns about the

North's nuclear weapons program, however, we are unable to pursue this approach," Boucher said.

For a time, North Korea had seemed ready to shed Bush's "axis of evil" designation.

Pyongyang was carrying out capitalist reforms and reaching out to both Japan and South Korea. It also resumed talks with the United States earlier this month.

As McCormack made the announcement, Undersecretary of State John Bolton was flying to East Asia to consult with allies on the changed situation.

Under the 1994 agreement, in return for renouncing nuclear weapons, Pyongyang was to receive two light water nuclear reactors to replace the country's plutonium-producing reactors.

Groundbreaking for the new reactors, which were supposed to have been completed by 2003, just took place in August, with a State Department official on hand.

The two countries had just resumed high-level security talks less than two weeks ago for the first time since October 2000. It was during those discussions that North Korea informed the United States of its nuclear activities.

The United States has been suspicious about North Korea's nuclear intentions for some time despite the 1994 agreement.

Sebelius makes pledge to colleges during debate

DEBATE, from Page 1

Shallenburger said he believes higher education is important and that the state must provide adequate funding although he didn't suggest where it would get the money.

He also said keeping promises made in 1999 aren't so expensive "that we can't do it," but added, "We need to batten down the hatches and find ways to help you save money."

Sebelius and Shallenburger also said they favored a comprehensive review of the state's tax system, to determine whether it is fair.

Shallenburger was more specific, saying he would examine exemptions to the state's retail sales tax. He also has pledged not to increase taxes.

Sebelius has stopped short of mak-

ing an absolute pledge, but she has said the state needs to do more with less money and that she would initiate a top-to-bottom review of state government to find efficiencies.

Both also have said they wouldn't cut aid to public schools, which represents 52 percent of the \$4.4 billion state budget.

Sebelius has said her goal would be to increase annual spending on public schools by \$400 million. Shallenburger said he is receptive to the idea if legislators think it is necessary to provide a suitable education to all children.

Promising not to cut higher education spending would make it more difficult for Sebelius to solve the state's financial problems without a tax increase.

Higher education spending, \$700 million, represents 16 percent of the budget. Together it and aid to public schools consume more than two-thirds of the budget.

"Part of what we have is an opportunity to make some fairly dramatic shifts in this state, to reframe the way we see government, the way we deliver services," she said. "My priority is that begins with an absolute commitment to education."

Asked later by reporters where she would find efficiencies, Sebelius replied: "Well, that's what we've got to look for."

Shallenburger was quick to jump on Sebelius' promise to protect higher education spending.

"If you want someone who's just going to promise everything to every-

body, there was another candidate who spoke to you earlier," he said.

Shallenburger has said the state can protect aid to public schools, about \$2.3 billion, and cut \$200 million from the rest of the budget. That's about 10 percent of what remains, and Shallenburger has called that figure reasonable.

But asked whether the state could trim 10 percent from its higher education spending, Shallenburger said: "I don't know."

In endorsing a review of the tax system and sales tax exemptions, Shallenburger said he wouldn't go into such a review looking to raise new revenues for the state.

"We could broaden the base, for example, and lower the rates, and bring in the same revenue," he said.

U.S. Airways stops flying from Wichita to Kansas City

WICHITA (AP) — US Airways Express says it will stop flying from Wichita to Kansas City, Mo. on Nov. 3, leaving the two cities without a direct air connection.

Air Midwest, which operates the commuter airline, had already cut the number of daily flights on the route from five to three.

Airline consultant Mike Boyd said the cut will not have a significant impact on Wichita air service.

"If there were a lot of people flying there, they'd be adding flights, not pulling out," he said.

US Airways, based in Arlington, Va., does not have much of a presence in Kansas City anymore, he said.

"Nobody was connecting on it any-

way."

Other airlines serving Wichita recently added routes to other cities. Discount carrier AirTran Airways began service to Chicago and Atlanta from Wichita in May, and Frontier JetExpress began service to Denver in September.

The Wichita to Kansas City route used to be a big market for Air Midwest, said Jonathan Ornstein, chairman and chief executive of Mesa Air Group, the airline's parent company. Air Midwest has operated the service using Beech 1900D 19-seat aircraft for more than 20 years. But recently the airline has been losing more than \$50,000 a month on the service, Ornstein said.

Congress spending bill includes millions for Kansas programs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Approving one of the only spending bills Congress has finalized this year, the Senate on Wednesday cleared a defense spending measure that includes millions of dollars for Kansas-built programs.

Among them is Boeing Co.'s Airborne Laser system, which is mounted on a commercial 747 platform and designed to shoot down Scuds and other ballistic missiles before they leave enemy territory.

Workers at Boeing Wichita are employed on the program, which will get \$598 million from the measure approved Wednesday for the current fiscal year.

"The Wichita economy is still struggling and these programs will

help provide thousands of jobs for local workers," said Rep. Todd Tiahrt, R-Kan., a member of the House Appropriations Committee and its defense spending panel.

Passed last week by the House, the measure won Senate approval on Wednesday, clearing the way for President Bush's signature. The bill costs \$355.4 billion, an increase of \$34.4 billion over last year.

The measure also provides \$238 million for undergraduate pilot training planes, mostly for the Air Force but some for the Navy, built by Wichita's Raytheon Aircraft.

"Kansas continues to contribute significantly to America's national security," said Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., a member of the Senate Armed

Services Committee.

Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., said defense dollars will go beyond aircraft makers to companies like Excel Manufacturing Co. and Plastic Fabricating Co. of Wichita.

Included in the measure are: —\$270 million for Army UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters. Excel and Plastic Fabricating make parts for the Black Hawk.

—\$5 million for a collision avoidance system and terrain awareness system in the C-130 aircraft. Honeywell makes primary components for the collision avoidance system in Olathe.

—\$103.2 million for the Joint Standoff Weapon program. Parsons-based Day & Zimmerman make mis-

sile components for the program.

—\$126 million for the Air Force Sensor Fused Weapon program, for which Day & Zimmerman does final assembly at the Kansas Army Ammunition Plant.

—\$681 million for the Army's family of medium tactical vehicles, for which Marysville-based Landoll Corp. is a subcontractor.

—\$3 million to study re-engineing of Boeing B-52s.

—\$8.3 million apiece for Marine Corps and Air Force UC-35s, made by Cessna.

—\$5.2 million for Civil Air Patrol Cessna planes.

—\$3.5 million for an All-Terrain Lifting System made by John Deere in Coffeyville.

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