

# Taco John's looking for employees

TACO, from Page 1

people, the franchisee said, and besides the addition of a salsa bar, will be set up much like the restaurant in Colby.

Cooper, who ran K&K Tree Service with Kevin Zimmerman, said he'd been in that business for over 20 years and was looking to try something else. He enjoys eating at the Taco John's in Colby, he said, and after KFC/Taco Bell closed late last year, decided there was an empty niche in Goodland.

This year three other food places opened in town: Picnic in the Park, Daylight Donuts and Reynaldo's Real Mexican Food. Copper isn't swayed in his conviction that there is still room for his business.

"We could probably handle three of four more," he said. "Each has a different type of food than the others. I hope Reynaldo's does good business. There's room for everybody."

The new Taco John's will be within walking distance of four other fast-food restaurants, but Cooper said that will be good for business, not a detriment. When travelers come off I-70, he said, they want choices. More choices means more people will stop in Goodland rather than somewhere else down the road.

Cooper said he thinks his business will be good for Goodland's economy. He said there will be room for 25 employees — people who might have moved to find a job somewhere else.

He used his new manager as an example.

"Hayley is young," he said. "If she wasn't working here, she might have gone somewhere else, and that would be another young person the town lost."

Cooper said he's never worked in a restaurant before, but he and Jarmin attended a month-long training class in Cheyenne. They spent three weeks in a working restaurant, learning what it takes to run the business, everything from food safety and employee retention to preparing tacos.

The owner said he's received a lot of support from people in town, and he's looking forward to opening his doors. "I'm excited," he said. "This is something I think will help build up our town."

# Cities rated on how well elderly treated

DODGE CITY (AP) — If Kansans believe that elderly citizens should be able to live in their own homes as long as possible, then their hometowns ought to provide elder-friendly settings.

So goes the thinking behind the Lifelong Communities Initiative, a new project in which eight cities — with help from the state — will assess how well they serve older residents and then make plans for doing better.

"We want to make sure that your community has a continuum of care, services and choices, especially for senior citizens," Aging Secretary Connie Hubbell said Wednesday in Dodge City.

"Our goal is to keep seniors in their home and their home communities as long as possible."

The other participating communities are Atchison, Concordia, Garden City, Great Bend, Hiawatha, Topeka and Winfield.

Cities were nominated for participation in the yearlong project by area agencies on aging.

Step one for each city will be an assessment of its strengths and shortcomings.

It will be followed by submission of an action plan to the state Department on Aging by next April.

"Ultimately, it will be your decision on what needs to be done to make this a Lifelong Community," Hubbell said.

Cities may make simple changes, such as adding more curb cuts on sidewalks for wheelchair access and replacing street signs with larger signs that are easier to read.

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Goodland High School students Clenisha Yarbrough (clockwise from bottom left) Tess Schultz and Megan Leonard worked together to build a tower during a Family, Careers and Community Leaders of America convention on Wednesday at the Northwest Kansas Technical College.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

# Students learn life skills at conference

CONFERENCE, from Page 1

with current trends. The interviewer may not be up on the latest fashions, Lunsway said, but will know if you took the time to dress appropriately.

His last tip was to check your shoes. Some people make sure the clothes they wear are perfect, but then footwear clashes.

"Make sure everything matches," he said. "You want to look good from head to toe. If you dress nicely, you'll feel better about yourself."

Lunsway then showed the class how to tie a half-Windsor knot for a necktie, but cautioned them to practice every day for a week or they'll forget how to do it.

In other sessions, students learned about different skills which will help them later in life, and one focused on "star events," club-wide contests which use different abilities.

In this session, the students were split into groups and given a pile of marshmallows and dry spaghetti sticks. They were simply told to, "work together and build a tower."

Some groups build towers four feet high, while others

focused on stability. One group tried for height but had its structure collapse. When done, the groups were asked what skills they used. Team work, cooperation, organization and creativity were some of the answers.

All of those would help in the star events, said Jessica Fisher of Norton, the district vice-president of public relations, as well as throughout life.

High school teachers Sarah Short and Gwendolyn Cebula are Goodland's chapter advisors. Short said this is the first time in years the fall academy has been here.

The club is divided into several districts in Kansas. Goodland's includes 13 schools from the northwest part of the state.

There are about 5,500 members in the state, Hoffman said during her session, and she urged students to recruit more. The state-wide goal is 6,000 members for next year, she said.

Topliff and Hoffman aren't the only Goodland students to hold high positions in the club. Erin Abernathy is the district secretary and Shawn Weber is the chapter president.

"Goodland has a lot of leaders," Short said. "The kids are stepping up and want to make a difference."

# Labeling beef may hurt industry

By Becky Bohrer

Associated Press Writer

BILLINGS, Mont. — Some ranchers and Canadian feedlot operators are worried a new system for labeling beef with its country of origin threatens a program that sends thousands of U.S. cattle across the border each year.

"Have you ever heard of, 'Be careful what you ask for?'" said Ron Axelson, general manager of the Alberta Cattle Feeders' Association. "Because what we have now is a system that's going to be unbelievably cumbersome and provide no real value."

Montana is one of eight states that participates in the Restricted Feeder Cattle Program, which allows cattle from the United States to be sent for feed in Canada. The program helps ranchers by providing competition to

Midwestern feedlots, and helps the Canadians by providing another source of animals.

Montana accounts for most of the animals sent north, but ranchers in North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho, Washington, Hawaii, Alaska and New York also benefit from the program.

Since the federal government issued guidelines this month for a voluntary labeling system — to last for two years while a mandatory system is developed — ranchers have raised concerns about whether consumers will pay the costs.

Under the guidelines, retailers can label designated goods as products of the United States if they meet certain standards. For beef, it means the animals must be born, raised and slaughtered in this country.

Those of mixed origin — including animals in the feeder program —

would have labels noting the separate countries, according to the guidelines.

Lynn Cornwell, a rancher from Glasgow in northern Montana who regularly sells yearling steers to Canadian feeders, said he is worried a costly and complicated labeling system will hurt a market that now provides him with decent returns.



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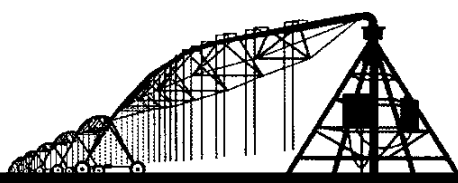
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# Witness may be arrested for lying

SNIPER, from Page 1

Charles Moose urged people today not to let the discredited witness case inhibit them from coming forward with information they think could be useful in the investigation.

"This is not an effort by police to credit or discredit them," Moose said.

Investigators are revisiting some of the shooting scenes to see if they yield more clues, Moose said. He said they also are looking at a Sept. 14 shooting at a beer and wine store in Montgomery County's Hilldale to see if there is any connection.

Police said they don't have a composite sketch of the sniper who has terrorized Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia, and authorities haven't ruled out the possibility there could be multiple suspects.

U.S. investigators are questioning terrorism suspects at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba over whether they had any information about the sniper attacks, a law enforcement official confirmed today, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The official characterized the interviews as an effort to cover all possible investigative avenues, adding that officials do not necessarily believe al-Qaida might be responsible for or even

knowledgeable about the shootings.

The only known communication believed to be from the sniper is a tarot death card found at one scene with the words: "Dear Policeman, I am God."

Acting on tips and leads, police have served search warrants, checked motor vehicle records, searched military documents and used other tactics to sift through a constantly changing list of suspects.

Many people own guns that can fire the .223 caliber bullets used in the attacks, or drive white vans similar to vehicles seen leaving the shootings.

Police had several people under surveillance Monday night, according to a law enforcement source. They were cleared after the FBI agent was shot in a parking garage around 9 p.m.

That incident initially appeared to give police a big break in the case — the first witness to see the sniper.

But Moose said Thursday the witness was not credible. He also chastised reporters for running reports about the weapon and descriptions of the suspect as olive-skinned, possibly Hispanic or Middle Eastern.

"We get this noise ... out there that gives people tunnel vision and makes them focus in on things that are not appropriate. ... We would like to be able to do our job."

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