

about our friends

calendar

The Sherman Theatre is having free holiday matinees at 1:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. "Clock-stoppers" will be this weekend; "Like Mike" will be Dec. 14 and 15; and "Ice Age" will be Dec. 21 and 22.

SHARE sign up for the December distribution of food will be until **Friday** at the Sherman County Health Department, Harvest America, the Regional Prevention Center or the Kanorado Senior Center. **Pick up** will be **Saturday, Dec. 21**, for the December distribution.

Project Graduation 2003 will meet at **7:30 p.m. tonight** in the high school cafeteria. All parents of seniors are encouraged to attend.

Jodi Tubbs of the **Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs** will be in Goodland from **1-2:15 p.m. Thursday** in the Assembly Room on the third floor of the courthouse to help veterans and dependents with claims. Call the office in Colby any Monday, Wednesday or Friday at (785) 462-3572.

Terri Tedford will be giving a **Christmas concert at 6 p.m. Sunday** at the Goodland Bible Church.

The **Goodland Elks Lodge, 1523** Arcade, will have a **memorial in remembrance of members who have died** in the past year at **2 p.m. Sunday**. The lodge will honor the families of men and women in active duty in all branches of the military at **3 p.m. A blue star banner will be presented** to the families who have submitted the names of their sons or daughters who are serving. The lodge has 26 families to honor so far.

The **Christmas Senior Citizen's Dinner** will begin with **entertainment at 11 a.m. and lunch at noon Wednesday, Dec. 18**, at Goodland High School. Enter through the south doors on 13th Street. Call 899-5656 if you need transportation or to have a meal delivered if you are unable to go to the school. The members of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, National Honor Society and Girls' Athletic Association will be hosts and hostesses.

activities

Tours of the 1907 Victorian House at 202 W. 13th are from **1-5 p.m.**

Wednesday-Sunday.

"**Prairie Past Times**," a photographic history of entertainment in Sherman County, is on **display from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday** at the museum, 1717 Cherry Ave.

The **Carnegie Arts Center** is open from **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday** and from **1-4 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Monday**. Anna Seeber Shaw's watercolors, gouache and pastels will be on display until Nov. 30. The December show will be watercolors, acrylics, oils, woods and metals by local artists and will be displayed from Sunday through Dec. 31.

Born to Read will be at **10 a.m. Fridays and Story time** will be at **10 and 11 a.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays** at the Goodland Public Library. Call 899-5461.

Emotions Anonymous meets at **7:30 p.m. Wednesdays** at the Goodland Regional Medical Center board room.

Century Families, for people whose family came to Sherman County more than 100 years ago, meets at **7 p.m. the second Monday** of the month at the Senior Center. For information, call 899-2835.

Aerobics Classes - 7:45 a.m. aerobics classes are offered daily at the Goodland Activities Center. Tena Tompkins leads a step aerobics class at **5:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday**. On Tuesday and Thursday, a less intense class is offered. Call 899-7242.

TOPS Meetings - Take Off Pounds Sensibly meets at **5:30 p.m. Mondays** at the Good Samaritan Center. Enter the east door on Center Ave. Weigh-in is at 5 p.m.

Hanging by a Thread will meet from **7-9 p.m. the second Thursday of the month** at Wheat Ridge Acres.

Goodland Women of Faith monthly celebrations will be from **9:30-11 a.m. the second Saturday of the month** at Wheat Ridge Acres. Babysitting provided.

area events

Admission to the **Prairie Museum of Art and History** will be free from **1-5 p.m. Central Time Sundays** at 1905 S. Franklin in Colby. The museum is also open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Central Time Monday-Friday and 1-5

p.m. Saturday.

The Eller House displays furniture, clothing and objects representing farm life in the "Dirty Thirties;" the Cooper Barn, one of the largest barns in Kansas, houses an exhibit of machinery, tools and photographs telling over 100 years of agricultural and settlement history; and the Kuska Collection includes glass, ceramics, dolls, silver, toys, textiles, furniture, clothing, stamps, clocks, lamps, coins and jewelry.

Pioneer Country Development Inc. and the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission will meet at **6:30 p.m. Central Time Wednesday** at the Elks Club in Hill City. **Dinner** will be served at **7 p.m.**, followed by the evening's speaker and a presentation of this past year's business loan, grant and housing activity.

The **Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging** is sponsoring an **information day** for senior citizens from **10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Central Time Thursday, Dec. 12**, at the Grainfield American Legion.

Guest speakers will talk about stroke and heart attack information, tax information and the SHARE program. Harriet Berg will lead the singing of Christmas carols. All attending should bring a holiday treat to share at the Christmas tea table.

Reservations for the noon luncheon are required by **Monday, Dec. 9**, and can be made by calling 800-432-7422. A \$2.25 contribution is requested for the meal.

school activities

Monday: Project Graduation 2003 will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. **Tuesday:** Black day. Seminar—GAA and G-Club. FCCLA council meeting at Hesston. Scholar's bowl 3 p.m. in Tribune, dismiss 1:30, depart 1:45. Girl's/boy's basketball scrimmage 6:30 p.m. at the Max Jones Fieldhouse. **Wednesday:** Gold day. City/county recreation sports 7:30 p.m. in the Max Jones Fieldhouse and junior high gym. FCCLA council meeting at Hesston. **Thursday:** Black day. Seminar—STUCO. Scholar's bowl 3 p.m. at Atwood, dismiss 1:30, depart 1:45. City/county recreation sports 7:30 p.m. in the high school gym. **Friday:** Gold day. JV-V basketball versus Imperial 5:30 p.m. here. After game party

at the Elks Lodge. Pep assembly 3 p.m., dismiss band and cheerleaders 2:45. **Saturday:** Varsity wrestling 8:30 a.m. at St. Francis. JV wrestling tournament 9 a.m. here. **Sunday:** Junior olympics volleyball 1-3 p.m. in the junior high gym. Open gym 1-3 p.m. in the Max Jones Fieldhouse.

school lunch menu

Tuesday: Tacos, lettuce, tomato, potato square, strawberry/banana cup and milk. **Wednesday:** Barbecue rib sandwich, hash browns, relishes, cookie and milk. **Thursday:** Fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, hot roll, peach crisp and milk. **Friday:** Burrito, lettuce, tomato, cheese, tri-tators, spiced pear and milk.

senior center menu

Tuesday: Chili, 1/2 orange, bread and cinnamon roll. **Wednesday:** Roast pork, sweet potatoes, 5-cup salad, rolls and cranberry fluff. **Thursday:** Philly steak sandwich, cheesy hash browns, green beans, bread and pineapple crunch. **Friday:** Lasagna, spinach salad, peach cup, garlic bread and pudding.

health department

The Sherman County Health Department at 1622 Broadway is open from 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Tuesday: Technical college 9-10:30 a.m. **Wednesday:** WIC in Goodland. Scheduled appointments. **Thursday:** Office closed 8-9 a.m. for a staff meeting. Blood pressure checks 9 a.m. at Wheatridge Acres. WIC in Goodland 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Voucher pickup and scheduled appointments. **Friday:** Scheduled appointments.

Children's physicals, immunizations, fasting blood sugar and hemoglobin, family planning and toenail clipping available by appointment. Sharps containers are available free of charge. Call 899-4888.

If you have questions, concerns or complaints about child care, call the health department.

Water Testing — The Northwest Local Environmental Protection Group does free well evaluations, including testing for bacteria and nitrates. To schedule an evaluation or discuss environmental concerns, call the Health Department at 899-4888.

today in history

Dec. 1, 1902: Frank Rockefeller has a ranch nearly as large as Dewey. Ranchers fight with settlers is of long standing and broken out anew.

Dec. 2, 1902: Thanksgiving Day was observed the old fashioned way. Businesses were closed most of the day. A good audience attended at the Methodist Church.

From *The Goodland News*, provided by the Sherman County Historical Society.

stork report

Hunter Nathan Weirich was born Friday, Nov. 22, 2002, at St. Catherine Hospital in Garden City. He weighed 5 pounds, 9 ounces, and was 18 inches long. His sister, Sydney Jo, 2, welcomed him home.

Nathan and Ronda Weirich of Lakin are his parents. Ron and Gloria Ribordy of Brewster and John and Dawna Weirich of Eads, Colo., are his grandparents.

Marvin and Mary Ruth Garrett of Brewster; Wayne and Barbra Weirich and Jack Gardner, all of Eads; and Linda Gardner of Denver are his great-grandparents. George Crow of Eads is his great-great-grandfather.

anniversary

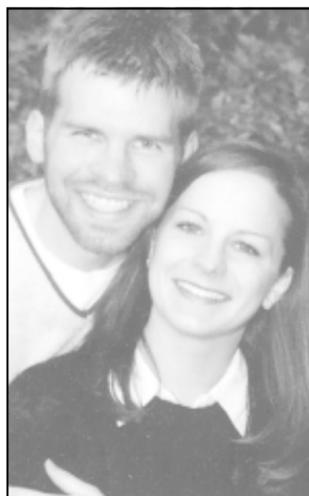
Cleo and Melba (Munyon) Beeson were married Dec. 1, 1937, at her parents' home in Bird City. The Beesons moved to Kanorado in March of 1942. Their children are Karen (Gary) Coon of Goodland, Ronald (Jeanie) Beeson of Kanorado and Robert (Marlene) Beeson of Newton. They have seven grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. Cards for their 65th anniversary may be sent to the Beesons at 280 Rd. 64, Kanorado, Kan. 67741.

reunion

The Southern Arizona All Airborne Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association will host the 13th annual mid-winter conference **March 13-16** in Tucson, Ariz.

Veterans from all airborne units will attend, including troopers from the 11th, 13th, 17th, 82nd, 101st and today's special forces.

Write the Western Airborne, 5459 Northcutt Pl., Dayton, Ohio 45414, call 1-937-898-5977 or e-mail srgabn@aol.com.



Schrag and Duell

Couple to marry in January

Sandra Louise Duell of Manhattan and Kevin Bradley Schrag of Ottumwa, Iowa, plan to marry Saturday, Jan. 4, 2003, at Moundridge.

Ben and Evelyn Duell of Ruleton are the bride-to-be's parents, and Robert and Marcy Schrag of Moundridge are the groom-to-be's parents.

She graduated from Goodland High School in 1998 and will graduate from Kansas State University this month with a degree in family studies.

He graduated from Moundridge High School in 1997 and from Kansas State University in May of 2002 with a degree in mechanical engineering.

Students play violins at festival

Six northwest Kansas violin students joined with over 600 other string students from eight different students at the Western Kansas Orchestra Festival Friday and Saturday, Nov. 22 and 23, in Hays.

Mary Beth Dawson and Elizabeth Waterman of Colby, Bethanie Holste and Andrew Vrbas from Atwood, Andrew Peterson from Monument and Natalie Metcalf from Quinter practiced for several weeks prior to the festival. Jan Wolf of Colby, string instructor, worked closely with the students to help them prepare.

"My students are very dedicated," Wolf said, "and they share the mutual problem of not having a string program in their school."

"This festival gives them the opportunity to play in an orchestra."

The young people at the festival were divided into four orchestras, and each orchestra was led by a nationally recognized director. The four orchestra directors are also known for their teaching abilities and worked with the students for many hours on Friday and Saturday, providing tips and ideas and sharing their knowledge from professional performances.

The festival has been under the leadership of western Kansas string directors and Fort Hays State University for 50 years.

Rural students more likely to use drugs than urban youths

Information from the Executive Director of Narconon of Georgia:

The Center of Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University has recently released the results of a study on drug abuse in rural American communities. This study, funded by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, is shocking and rattling the rafters of rural America.

For example, the study finds that eighth graders living in rural American communities are 34 percent more likely than their urban counterparts to smoke marijuana; 83 percent more likely to use crack cocaine, and 104 percent more likely to have used amphetamines within the last month.

The study also reports that drugs are as readily available in rural areas as in large cities.

Besides striking fear in rural America and painting a pretty bleak picture of the fate of our youth, what does this information portend for our future? To answer that, let's track the last 45 years of history.



cris lovington

- prevention center

In the mid-1950s, the illegal drug problem was not yet on society's radar screen. In the '50s all anyone knew about illicit drugs like marijuana was that jazz drummer/band leader Gene Kruppa and actor Robert Mitchum smoked it and got caught, and the media damned them for it.

Cocaine? That was a word in a line from the popular Cole Porter hit "I get a kick out of you." As for heroine, that was a drug of horror used only by the most degenerate and despairing individuals.

Frank Sinatra's character in the movie "Man With A Golden Arm" teaches us that most Americans tended to view drug addiction as an affliction of the urban poor or an evil obsession

of a handful of musicians and actors, too far left of center to worry about.

In short, Americans were completely naive to what drug addiction was. And we were most certainly clueless about the role illicit drugs would play in the course of our country's future.

Moving forward 10 years, in 1965 the country was in the mourning years of President John F. Kennedy's assassination. The first onslaught of the English rock 'n' roll music invasion with the Beatles and the Rolling Stones hit our shores and took American youth by storm while President Lyndon Banes Johnson was grappling with the escalating Vietnam War.

LSD was finding its way from the experimentation laboratories of the Hoffman LeRouche Drug Company to the streets of San Francisco. It was also at this time the first indication of increased heroine abuse in urban ghettos

caught the attention of President Johnson's White House Staff.

The increased use of heroine, considered small by today's numbers, was of enough concern for Johnson to convince Congress to enact the Drug Rehabilitation Act and ask for annual appropriation of \$15 million.

At the time, no one in government at the federal, state or local levels had any idea that in just over 20 years time heroine abuse in the United States would escalate to the point where it would cost \$50 million annually to treat the problem. Society's radar screen was beeping; unfortunately, not enough of us noticed.

In the mid-60s, adult Americans still tended to view drug addiction as a problem inherent to the underprivileged. By the end of the decade, however, America's views on drugs began changing. Drugs, in particular marijuana, hashish, LSD, cocaine and other hallucinogens became socially acceptable on a large scale during the Flower Power era. While this was alarming to many parents of this period, most of us

thought of mid-sized cities and rural America as drug-free oases that would insulate our kids from these pro-drug influences. The truth was that drugs did not respect geographic boundaries: they broke out of the big city limits and began to swarm into the heartland of mid-sized cities, rural towns and farm communities.

Hindsight is 20/20, and looking back, it is easy to see our nation's failure to fully recognize and act effectively to stop the drug problem then.

However, if we look closer we will see that this failure was driven in no small measure by the assumption of the masses that it was someone else's problem, not our problem. And it was this assumption that allowed drugs the time they needed to seep into every neighborhood in every city and class across America without prejudice.

As we begin the 21st Century in America, the message is loud and clear: There is no place to hide from the problem of substance abuse and addiction.

Children 'want it all' for holidays; parents want to oblige

It's normal for children to "want it all," especially during the holiday season. And it's natural for parents to want to make those dreams come true.

According to Jo Robinson and Jean Staeheil in their book "Unplug the Christmas Machine," all parents can give their children four things they really want for the holidays.

- Those four things are:
- love and attention. Every adult can give the message, "You are important to me." Children want and need caring and love in steady, relaxed, constant doses.
- realistic expectations. Be clear



high plains mental health

- plain sense

about the amount and cost of gifts. In addition, encourage children to think about giving to others.

- an evenly-paced holiday season. Guests, gifts, decorating, school events and other plans can become too much for any family.

Space events out or eliminate some

altogether. Choose quality of activities over quantity.

- family traditions. Children find security and comfort in knowing how the season will unfold—calling grandpar-

ents, using certain ornaments or decorations, preparing and serving special and traditional foods.

Include older children in the planning process for the holiday season. That way, when time and money is limited, traditions are changed and events are rescheduled, they are aware of the

reasons.

As a result, whether the final decision is in their favor or not, they will be more likely to be understanding when they had some say-so regarding the outcome.

Contributed by Karen D. Beery, consultation and education department. The views expressed here are those of the individual writer and should not be considered a replacement for seeking professional help.

Mail questions to High Plains Mental Health Center, Plain Sense, Consultation and Education Department, 208 E. Seventh, Hays, Kan. 67601.

Three killed on Kansas roads

By the Associated Press

At least three people have died on Kansas roads during the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, authorities said. A 12-year-old girl who was a passenger in a truck died in a one-vehicle accident Saturday morning in Pawnee County. She was identified as Nicole H. Rodriguez of Clio,

Mich. Tina Catlin, 31, of Oxford was thrown from her car when it overturned on U.S. 77 south of Arkansas City, Cowley County authorities said. A Missouri woman was killed Wednesday in a two-car collision in Dickinson County.

The patrol identified the victim as Diana Whitaker, 50, of Nixa, Mo.

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