

about our friends

calendar

Beginners bridge workshop 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, beginning tonight, at the Carnegie Arts Center. Class size is limited, and there is a charge. Call 899-6442 to sign up.

West Elementary School second grade is having a warm, southern winter with the musical program, "Once Upon a Lily Pad," at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the high school auditorium. There will be no admission charge.

Blood profiles will be done from 7-10 a.m. Monday-Friday, Jan. 20-24, at the Goodland Regional Medical Center for a charge. The results will be distributed at the health fair Saturday, Feb. 1.

The Topside Lions will sponsor the Kansas Lions Screening Bus for hearing and visual screening at no charge; Osteoporosis Services from Topeka will offer osteoporosis screening for a fee; and the Goodland Police Department will be doing IDENT-A-KID from 8-11 a.m.

The American Cancer Society is having an informational meeting from noon-1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, at the Sherman County Health Department. Each year 23 people are diagnosed with cancer in Sherman County. The meeting will discuss the services available to these people, how others can help and what the society is doing in Sherman County to help cancer patients and their families.

SHARE sign up for the February distribution of food will be until Monday, Feb. 10, at the Sherman County Health Department, Harvest America, the Regional Prevention Center or the Kanorado Senior Center. Pick up will be Saturday, Jan. 25, for the January distribution.

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-Fri-

day 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. 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 will not meet until the Spring Fling in April. Watch for upcoming information.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Sherman County is seeking mentors and children to mentor. Call 899-3665.

area events

A workshop, "Ethanol: Fueling Opportunities in Kansas" will be from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Central Time Thursday, Jan. 23, at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Topeka. There will be a reception from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday.

The Kansas State Research and

Extension is having a water quality meeting from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Central Time Wednesday, Jan. 29, at the 4-H building in Norton and from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Central Time Thursday, Jan. 30, at the 4-H building in Grainfield.

The extension service will have a drought in dry land cropping systems meeting from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Central Time Thursday, Jan. 30, at Comfort Inn in Colby and irrigation school from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Central Time Tuesday, Feb. 4, and from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at City Limits in Colby.

Basics of precision agriculture will be from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Central Time Thursday, Feb. 20, at the 4-H building in Hill City, and soil and nutrient management will be from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Central Time Friday, Feb. 21, at the 4-H building in Hoxie. RSVP to Brian Olson at 785-462-6281. There is a charge for some of the programs.

The McCook Optimist Club's 11th annual MAC Attack Youth Basketball Tournament will be Saturday and Sunday, March 29 and 30, for fourth, seventh and eighth grade boys and girls and Saturday and Sunday, April 5 and 6, for fifth and sixth grade boys and girls. Entries must be received by Monday, March 10. Call event chairman Bob Elder at 308-345-4296 or the club president Craig Olsen at 308-345-1575.

Citizens Medical Center in Colby is participating in the Health Careers Foundation Scholarship Loan Program for the 2003-04 school year. Interested students need to pick up applications at the center by Friday, March 28, and turn them in by Tuesday, April 1. Fields of study include dietetic, medical records/transcription, medical technology, nursing, occupational therapy, pharmacy, physical therapy, radiology, respiratory therapy and speech pathology.

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.

school activities

Friday: Varsity wrestling 10 a.m. at Newton. JV-V basketball 5:30 p.m. at Atwood, depart 3:30. Western Kansas Liberty League basketball tournament in the Max Jones Fieldhouse. Cheerleaders to Atwood, dismiss 3 p.m., depart 3:30. Cheerleaders depart to Newton.

Saturday: JV wrestling 8:30 a.m. in Hays, depart 5:30. Varsity wrestling at Newton. Western Kansas Liberty League basketball tournament in the Max Jones Fieldhouse. Jr. Cowgirls basketball 9-11 a.m. in the fieldhouse.

Sunday: Open gym 1-3 p.m. in the Max Jones Fieldhouse. Junior olympic volleyball 1-3:30 p.m. in the junior high gym.

school menu

Friday: Cheeseburger, lettuce, pickle, onion, tomato, french fries, strawberry/banana cup and milk.

senior center menu

Friday: Hamburgers, potato salad, cook's choice, bun and Jell-o with pineapple and mandarin oranges.

health department

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

Friday: Scheduled appointments.

Children's physicals, immunizations, fasting blood sugar, cholesterol 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

Jan. 16, 1903: New officers take charge — Official term for county officers began Monday. The board of commissioners organize and install new members.

The directory of county officers is as follows: George M. Bradley, sheriff; Alfred A. Prewitt, county clerk; E.F. Murphy, county attorney; Ichabod Warner, county treasurer; J.J. Knight, register of deeds; H.M. Heston, clerk of the court; G.L. Calvert, probate judge; Dr. A.C. Gulick, coroner; D. L. Dunn, surveyor; N.E. Albertson, commissioner of the First District; Alfred Dawson, commissioner of the Second District; and J.W. Germann, commissioner of the Third District.

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

care packages

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary is looking for the names and addresses of military personnel from this area who are in the service and are being deployed for possible military action. The auxiliary would like to send phone cards and care packages to these service personnel. Call Jo Ann Wahrman at 899-3277 or Floriene Whisnant at 899-2412 if you know the name and address of such a person or if interested in helping with the care packages.

ruleton history

Arbutus Topliff and Lois Sieck are seeking stories, pictures and other memorabilia for a history book about the Ruleton school. Call Topliff at 899-2625 or Sieck at 899-2733.

food drive

Harvest America Corp., 212 E. 17th, needs non-perishable food,

personal hygiene items and household supplies to distribute to low income, elderly and disabled people in Sherman County. Harvest America is also looking for a freezer. Bring donations to the office on Mondays or call 899-3878 for pickup.

crimestoppers

Goodland has had a rash of criminal damage reports in the last two weeks, including damage from paint ball, BB or pellet guns and the destruction of Christmas decorations. Crimestoppers are seeking information on these crimes.

If you have information about any crime, call the Goodland Area Crime Stoppers "Look Line" at 899-5665. Your call will be confidential and you will not be asked your name.

If the information results in the arrest and/or conviction of those involved, you could be eligible for a reward of up to \$1,000. Goodland Area Crime Stoppers is a nonprofit organization formed by citizens against crime.

family shelter

The Northwest Kansas Family Shelter provides services day or night to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Weekly support groups are available for women and children. For information or help, call (800) 794-4624.

tree donations

Many trees at the Goodland Cemetery have died and the cemetery board is trying to replace them. Contributions for the Goodland Cemetery Memorial Tree Fund can be left at Koons or Bateman funeral homes or sent to the Goodland Cemetery Board, Box 59, Goodland, Kan. 67735. Donations may be made in memory of a loved one.

animal shelter

Lost a pet? Call the Goodland Police Department at 899-4570. Interested in adopting a pet? Call the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter at 899-6464.

Stories in area papers highlight drug problem in northwest Kansas

How big of a drug problem do we have in our rural communities? If you have kept up with *The Goodland Daily News* and other surrounding newspapers, you will know it's a lot bigger than many people had imagined, as the confiscation of 700 pounds of marijuana in Thomas County shows.

This person didn't even bother to "properly" seal his load! That's how confident he was, assuming he wouldn't get caught! And how many have and will get away with this?

The Quad County Task Force did a great job confiscating and shutting down a few meth labs. What about the after effects, such as the cleaning of the contaminants? Fortunately the two meth labs in Good-



cris lovington

• prevention center

land were small enough they didn't require extensive cleaning. Even though they were not large labs, they certainly weren't insignificant. What about the one in Kanorado, what cleaning has it required?

The chemicals that are used to manufacture meth leave behind toxic chemicals which soak into the soil. The cost for these clean ups may fall on the landlord or tax paying citizens. The longer they are in

business, the more chemicals are left behind. Federal agencies spent \$1,265,807 in 2000 in Kansas alone to clean up 238 meth labs (approximately \$5,318 per lab). This did not include money spent on local law enforcement.

Wallace County Sheriff Townsend has taken an extra step to decrease the drug problem in his area by hiring extra help. I applaud his efforts and wish him the best. It's great to see this take place. We can no longer bury our heads in the sand and pretend it's not there or it will

go away. This only allows the problem to grow larger and become even stronger.

The Regional Prevention Center has held a variety of community awareness programs, usually held at the high school auditorium, and our participation rate has been extremely low. A couple of years ago we had a program regarding meth called "Life or Meth," and our participation was about 60+ people, which also included our experts and our families.

I believe many do not attend because they assume it isn't a problem in our community much less in our family. But the truth is there is no one immune from alcohol or drugs. It's more possible for adults to assume there is no problem than for

kids. Why? Because our kids are faced with this issue every day. They know or at least have an idea who sells, who uses and where they may be able to get it.

When was the last time you sat down with your kids and asked them about alcohol, tobacco or other drugs in our community? We can no longer ignore that this is a real issue for us and our families. We must remember that people who manufacture or sell these drugs will get (or try) to get to our children sooner or later. They may be the people our kids go to school with, people we go to work with or the person passing you by on the street.

Our Community Partners coalition targets issues just like this to educate our community. There are

only a few of us, but we always welcome more people to join.

Law enforcement can do their part, but they also need involvement from the community. I don't mean becoming vigilantes. I mean if we educate ourselves such as what signs to look for if someone suspects possible drug trafficking and or labs, then we can inform law enforcement.

We can no longer wait around until the drug problem is out of control or until someone overdoses or a drug lab explodes causing major damage or even death.

If you would like more information on how to become involved or increase your awareness, call the prevention center at 785-899-3848 or come by 109 W. 11th.

Republicans say Sebelius' budget proposals encouraging but need to be specific

By John Milburn

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — Republicans offered a muted response Wednesday to Gov. Kathleen Sebelius' budget proposals, saying while some are encouraging, a lot of work must be completed.

Senate President Dave Kerr said Sebelius correctly identified critical

areas of the budget, but legislators need more specifics.

"It was a good speech, but it kind of assumes a best-case situation," said Kerr, R-Hutchinson. "It will work if we don't suffer further declines.

"It was designed not to break any more campaign promises than absolutely necessary."

Kerr said Sebelius' budget was hard on the state's \$13.5 billion transportation program, as well as local units of government, while protecting education.

However, Kerr said, state revenues so far this fiscal year are already \$22 million below estimates, something not factored into Sebelius' budget proposal.

House Speaker Doug Mays said he is pleased Sebelius was able to present a budget without proposing new taxes.

"That's the thing we are impressed with and agree with her on, that we can do this without raising taxes," said Mays, R-Topeka. "At first blush, not bad."

Mays said a proposal to add 70 troopers to the Kansas Highway Patrol and not to cut some prison funding addressed legislators' concerns about public safety.

The governor's budget would require some agencies to increase fees, including for driver's licenses. Also, because local governments would lose almost all of their state aid, some cities and counties could increase local property taxes to prevent cuts in services they provide.

House Minority Leader Dennis McKinney, D-Greensburg, said Sebelius displayed leadership and set an agenda for legislators.

"I think she demonstrated that we can protect education, yet fund the most critical of services for our poor and not forget the critical role we have in stimulating the economy," McKinney said.

House Appropriations Committee Chairman Melvin Neufeld, R-Ingalls, said he was pleased with the lack of tax increases.

Neufeld said his committee would receive the budget Thursday and begin work quickly.

"We'll have to look at the details," Neufeld said.

Mays agreed with Sebelius that if state government is making cuts in bad economic times, local governments should not be any different.

He said local units should cut services instead of jumping to tax increases.

Mays said he is not yet willing to take any programs off the table for consideration. Sebelius proposed no cuts to elementary and secondary schools, which represents 52 percent of state general fund expenditures.

Kerr said while the budget will be the focus of the 90-day session, other issues will get attention, including rebuilding the state's economy.

"Circumstances dictate that we must re-examine our priorities and re-evaluate the best way to accomplish our goals as a state," Kerr said.

Sebelius' budget hits transportation, not schools

BUDGET, from Page 1

promises included not cutting education spending and not seeking higher taxes.

Under her budget for fiscal 2004, public schools would continue to receive \$3,863 per student in state aid, and higher education would lose only \$5 million in general tax dollars, mostly in the central Board of Regents office.

But she would take \$165 million from highway projects and eliminate \$86 million in aid to local governments — on top of the \$95 million Graves withheld from highway projects and \$48 million he kept from cities and counties.

Sebelius also made a campaign promise to build all projects promised under the state's 10-year, \$13.5 billion transportation program.

After her address, Sebelius said that the largest, most visible projects are scheduled for the final years of the program, so other, smaller ones can continue in the meantime. Also, she said, Congress may provide more federal funds, and the Kansas Department of Transportation will look for effi-

ciencies. Her budget proposals also would:

- Allow the Kansas Highway Patrol to hire 70 new troopers.
- Keep four minimum-security prison units and two inmate boot camps from closing.
- Give state employees a 1.5 percent pay raise.
- Decrease total spending in fiscal 2004 by about \$21 million, or 0.2 percent.

Wedding Registry
Jessica Kashka
&
Darren Kannady
January 18, 2003
Jacque's Hallmark
1124 Main • Goodland, Kan. 67735

ENJOY
TONIGHT AT THE MOVIES
AT THE MOVIES
The Goodland Daily News
SUBSCRIBER
Jared Graybill
You receive two free passes to see
The Two Towers
PG-13
Sherman
1203 MAIN - Phone 899-6103
Present Ticket at Box Office
Tickets are Non-Transferable

Non-surgical treatment
of hemorrhoids.
John D. Ferris, MD
will be at:
291 15th Street
Burlington, CO
Wednesday, Jan. 22
Saturday, Jan. 25
For information or
appointment, call
1-800-593-0009
Hem
cure

All You Can Eat
Mexican
Buffet
Friday, Jan. 17th, 2003
5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Safari
Steakhouse
1523 Arcade Ave.
Goodland 899-6275