Colby ER facing changesghghhghghghghghghg

By Patty Decker

Colby Free Press next 10 days in physician coverage at the Citizens Medical Center emergency room, officials at the Colby hospital said Thursday, but they refused to say just what those might be.

the hospital, said that a letter had been sent on Wednesday to the Medical Arts Inc.

tion available to fully discuss the impact. He said that it was his understanding that There could be some changes within the Medical Arts, one of two groups contracted with the hospital to provide emergency room coverage, would still have some part in the emergency room. He said he was unable to clarify further.

Kevin Trenkle, chief financial officer of emergency calls are Medical Arts, with Drs. days. Victor H. Hildyard and LaDonna Regier, and also Docs Who Care, with Dr. Gary clinic, but he did not have enough informa- Morsch being among the doctors in that not be covering the emergency room as letter and agreement.

Dr. Hildyard and the hospital board have been fighting for more than a year. The board tried to revoke Hildyard's right to practice at the hospital, but he sued to block the action. He has complained about the The two groups contracted to handle obstetrics specialist on call over the holi-

> Trenkle said the letter sent to Medical Arts could mean that this organization will

much as they have in the past.

ing Citizens Medical Center's board of trustees, refused to elaborate, saying that she believes it is important to maintain confidentiality among all the parties involved. emergency room not having a surgeon or She did say that the hospital had an agreement with Medical Arts for emergency physician services.

Bonebrake said it might be a good idea to call the physicians directly affected about the

"I really don't know what the status is at Carol Bonebrake, an attorney represent- this point," Hildyard said Thursday. "I don't know if this letter is saying we are 'in' or 'out' with respect to emergency room coverage.".

Michael Boyles, chief executive officer at the hospital, was called, but he is on vacation until early next week.

Dr. Gary Morsch with Docs Who Care was not available today.

"One thing I can say for sure," Bonebrake said, "is that the Citizens Medical Center

Essay competition judged

By Michelle L. Hawkins

The Goodland Star-News As a part of the National Career and Technical Education Week at the Northwest Kansas Area Technical College, Grant Junior High seventh graders participated in an essay contest based on inventions for the future.

Admissions representative Donna Kroskey said about 22 students entered. Kids were asked to write a minimum of 300 words using the theme "Inventions for the Future, for the Technology of Tomorrow." Students could also submit a drawing.

Essays were judged by the leaders of the college Ambassadors: Jesse Jordan, an engineering student from McCook; Shelly Jones, a

business technology student from Colby; Robert Dinkel, an auto body student from Hays; Brian Stienert, an auto body students from Russell;

Luke Parke, a

Ihrig

carpentry student from WaKeeney; and Andra Schwindt, a communications technology student from LaCrosse.

On Wednesday, Jordan and Jones joined Kroskey to deliver the awards at a special assembly for seventh-grade students.

Some student chose to work in pairs on the project, and prizes were





Philbrick

Abernathy McCullough served in two wars

KOREA, from Page 1

The injured were treated on site, he said, and then taken to hospital ships when time allowed. They had to be transported by sea, McCullough said, because aircraft were used for supplies. Treating the soldiers was a dangerous job, McCullough said, and the death toll for medics was in the 90s sometimes.

and Warning Squadron during the 2001, he said, the Guard served in Korean War. The National Guard is airports, patrolling the concourses. an auxiliary support for the military, McCullough said. Except for veterwith a little more.

war do everything anyone else in Goodland hospital since 1967. He the military does, he said. In peace- said he has had a private practice in McCullough said he was called time, they sometimes are called to his home for about 15 years.

up as part of the 138rd Air Control help in disaster areas. After Sept. 11,

McCullough said he taught general science and math for a year in ans, those in the guard have some Oakley right after college and then training, he said, and can function taught biology two years in Denver. He said he went to medical school Guardsmen called up during a in 1954 and has been on staff at the

Agexpo draws over 30 booths



Over 30 booths were set up on the floor of Max Jones Fieldhouse on Thursday for the 12th annual High Plains Ag Expo sponsored by KLOE, KKCI and KWGB radio. People were able to listen to a speech by Kansas State University ag economics expert Barry Flinchbaugh, and grain marketing strategies from Pete Lorenz and Roger Stockton of K-State.

Photo by Bill Wagoner / The Goodland Star-News

County delays trash collection and sorting until after city meets

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News Sherman County commissioners decided Tuesday to delay any action on a letter received from the city commission about the trash collection and sorting issue.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede had to leave the meeting early for another commitment, and Commissioners Kevin Rasure and Chuck Thomas felt it was better to wait nated material in the load. until the city meeting on the 18th

before discussing the city letter. The letter, signed by the five city county asking the trash truck driv-vinced the only real solution is to commissioners, was written after ers to wait at all, and suggested the place all components of solid waste the Feb. 3 city meeting in response city turn the county proposal down to a letter from the county to the city in late January. The county's letter said they would handle all the sorting of the trash at the transfer station if the city would keep the collection system. The letter also asked the city to establish a special construction and the county letter was tabled in the fer station as is currently being fee, the city letter suggests that the dumpsters. demolition fee to be part of the public meeting.

building permit process, and to establish a special collection point for sioners received was dated on Tuescitizens to bring small items for drop off that should not be put in the regular dumpsters.

In the letter, the county said they would expect the city drivers to wait trash collection. at the transfer station while the load was inspected, and that the driver the only way to fully remedy the might be asked to help if there was an "excessive" amount of contami-

at that time.

The letter the county commisday, Feb. 4, the day after the city meeting, and asks the county to reconsider the original proposal of having the county take over the

"We sincerely believe this will be problems we all have experienced with solid waste," the letter says.

At the city meeting, Commis- ency and feel we must work to re- ingly deliver any waste contamiunder the control of a single entity, Sherman County," the city letter

by both entities. Sherman County will be responsible for sorting all waste delivered to the transfer station by the city. The drivers ... will not assist in sorting and will immediately return to the city The county will agree not to refuse any loads of waste delivered to the transfer station by the city trucks. "We share a common constitu- The city agrees they will not know- provided."

lect a tipping fee and pay the county lution requiring anyone in the with this, the city must then conat a rate per ton that is decided upon county to obtain a special debris sider other options to do what is best permit before a building permit or demolition permit is issued.

"The city would be willing to work with this requirement," the city letter says. "The debris permit would be handled by Sherman County, but the city would not issue a building or demolition permit until proof of the county permit was

sioner Curtis Hurd objected to the solve this issue and are firmly con- nated with hazardous materials or letter said the city would provide collect the city waste and it is hauled them with the location to be agreed upon by both:

for the Sherman County citizens who live within the City of Goodland.

The letter mentions the U.S Waste Industries proposal to be presented at Tuesday's meeting, and the county commissioners said they had been told someone else is planning to present a proposal to the city.

The city goes on to say that if they As to the extra dumpsters, the city use an outside service provider to out of the county, "there should be no landfill fee placed on the property tax of any business or resident within the city, or in fact in all of Sherman County. This fee should be assessed as a user fee to any person or entity that brings waste to the county transfer station. Those that use the facility should pay; those that don't should not."

The other commissioners suggested waiting until after U.S. Waste Industries of Colorado conditions if the county does not Springs presents its new proposal at the Tuesday commission meeting. The question of responding to and deliver solid waste to the trans-

says The city letter adds some specific

take over the city trash collection. The city "will continue to collect done. The city will continue to col-

medical waste.

The city letter says the county should charge a tipping fee to everyone who dumps trash at the transfer station.

"I all fairness one segment or group should not be singled out to pay the expenses for all that use the service," the letter says.

county commissioners pass a reso-

"Sherman County would be responsible for the collection of any materials placed in such dumpsters on a scheduled basis or when notified that a container is full. The county would be responsible for cleanup of the area immediately On the special building permit surrounding any of these

"If Sherman County disagrees from the county by Tuesday.

The city letter asks for a response

County commission approves agreements for Kanorado bridge replacement

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News Sherman County commissioners Tuesday approved two agreements on the Kanorado bridge replacement on old U.S. 24.

They also approved the annual noxious weed report and discussed options for juvenile detention.

Curt Way, county public works manager, brought commissioners an agreement with the state Department of Transportation and one with S&T telephone for the bridge work. The S&T agreement was for right of way in the area, and the state one was a property acquisition agreement, saying the county had acquired the three tracts required for the project.

The commissioners approved both

Daryl West, head of the county noxious weed department, asked the commissioners to approve the annual noxious weed report for the state. West said the report says the weed levels are about the same as the year before.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked West if he had enough chemicals for the year and Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked about the price of the spraying chemicals.

West said he purchases chemicals from several firms in the county, and that he is pretty well stocked for the upcoming season. West said the chemical prices are pretty steady and he has not heard of any drastic price increases.

He said the county department

every three years.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby was asked her opinion on a pro- Road 52 about three miles west of posed agreement with Trego County for the use of their regional that in 1998 several people who live juvenile detention center. The along the road, including Isaac, had county is being asked to become a member by sending a check for daily cost to \$125 from \$250.

agreement and her only question under the road. A new entrance to was that the previous agreement said it was a secure facility, but the new one said it was a non-secure facility.

"I don't know if that means they have reduced the number of guards or made other cuts to save money," Selby said. "I want to check that out." Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked if Selby had an

Selby said the only place other than the Trego facility the county had used was a detention center in Dodge City. She said that had been arranged when the Trego facility was unavailable.

"The Trego facility is the preferred because it is a 90 minute trip down the Interstate," Selby said.

She said she would see what information was available on the Garden City facility as well as checking out the security question.

Commissioner Tiede asked Selby if she had looked at the letter from attorney Ron Vignery concerning a road complaint from Vernon Isaac. Selby said she had.

Way and Butch Vandiver of the was audited last year and had road and bridge department were

passed. West said they are audited gave Selby and the commissioners some background on the situation.

> Way said the section of County K-27 had been washing out, and asked for the road to be improved.

Way said that after discussing the \$1,000, and this would reduce the issue with Isaac, they had agreed that the road had to be raised and a Selby said she had reviewed the tube put in to allow the water to run the corrals was created for Isaac, Way said.

> was a big rain and hail storm in August," Way said, "and Isaac com- about 200 yards west of the present plained he could not get his trucks into the corrals."

Vignery and Isaac appeared at a commission meeting at the end of November asking that the county remove the culverts and put it back the way it was before the road was raised.

At the time, the commissioners said they would take the matter under advisement. Vignery sent the county a letter in December reviewing the issue and asking for the county's decision.

Tiede said he had gone out and looked at the road, and felt the best thing is to leave the road as it is.

"This is a low-volume traffic

DIGITAL Ben Affleck on a drinks EXP. 12/31/ Mon - Thurs. 7:00 ng this A re for \$1 popcorn Movie Bucks Make Great Gifts PG-13: Action violence: some sensuality. Sherman

road was raised, there was a family living west of this who had school age children and it was the only road the school bus could go down. Although there are not any children down there now, the other people who use the road were some of those who wanted the road improved."

Commissioner Rasure said he did not see any reason to change the existing road, and Commissioner Thomas agreed.

Tiede said there were two options "Everything was fine until there he would propose to Isaac. One would be to build a second entrance one, and that the county would build a small burm along the west edge of the right of way to keep the water from flowing into Isaac's corrals.

The commissioners asked Selby to draft a letter to Vignery and Isaac setting these options out and the county decision not to change the existing road.

She suggested this might be seen as a negotiating position for further

The commissioners approved the first half of the months' bills total-

road," Way said, "but at the time the ity bill received before Friday could production of methamphetamine. be added. The vote was unanimous 2-0 as Commissioner Tiede had already left for another appointment.

The claims vouchers included medical bills for two people who rested Dec. 19 for production of had been held in the Bastille. Sheriff Doug Whitson was called and the commissioners asked about the bills. He said they were for Scott Baumfalk, who broke a toe, and for Justin Kibel, who had been taken to the hospital with complaints about will be 8 a.m. on Tuesday in the pain. The sheriff said he had an inflamed liver which may been

Kibel, of Goodland, was arrested on Jan. 8, as part of a Quad-County Drug Task Force investigation. Baumfalk of Kanorado was armethamphetamine as a part of the task force investigation.

Sheriff Whitson said a new law would allow the county to seek repayment of the medical expenses.

The next commission meeting commission room on the main floor of the Sherman Count courthouse, caused by the chemicals used in the 813 Broadway Ave.

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counter proposals from Vignery, but the commissioners said they feel this is their best option and are not willing to negotiate any further.