



Carpentry student Ian Kohart used a coping saw to make some fine cuts in molding he was installing in the house the technical college students have been finishing for the open house on Sunday.
Photo by Bill Wagoner/The Goodland Star-News

Student-built home has open house Sunday

The newest house built by carpentry students at Northwest Kansas Technical College will be on display from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, and if you like what you see, you can bid on the house a couple of weeks later.

The annual open house will be held at 914 E. 15th Street on the college campus. This is the 39th year the students have built a house stretching back to 1964, the year the college opened.

"Many special details are included in this custom, energy-efficient home," said Robert Woodrow, carpentry instructor, "including a beautiful raised barrel ceiling, arched doorways, built-in arched china hutch, kitchen soffit plant ledge and canned lighting. This is a three-bedroom, one and three-quarter bathrooms, living room, kitchen and dining room."

Woodrow, who has been with the program for four years, said the electrical department installed the

wiring and communications technology students put in a Leviton Integrated Home System, which allows the resident to control satellite receivers, security cameras, multi-line telephone systems and other electronics though one location. It's the third year that type of system has been installed.

Goodland contractors installed the plumbing, heating and air conditioning, and the flooring was purchased here, Woodrow said. The students installed the laminate floor in the kitchen and entry as well as linoleum in the bathroom and laundry room.

"It gives the students something tangible to build," said Woodrow. "When they graduate, they will be working in some phase of carpentry, and this gives them a basic knowledge of building and good experience."

This Mediterranean-style home will be sold at public auction at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 26, at the house

with broker Terry Richardson handling the sale.

"You must see this home to appreciate the craftsmanship and the quality of fine building materials," Woodrow said.

The house the department built last year cost about \$90,000 in materials, Woodrow said. There are 1,600 hundred square feet of space in the house, which is 32 by 50. The school doesn't make much building the houses, he said; but hopes to cover its costs.

"I had a group of 15 excellent young carpenters who did a fantastic job building this house," Woodrow said.

If anyone misses the open house, they can drop by during the next week as the students will be doing finishing work and painting the outside, Woodrow said.

Contact the business office at 785-899-3641 for information or log on to www.nwktc.org to view building specifications and plans.

Developmental Services asks for \$40,000 budget

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

Representatives from Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas asked the Sherman County commissioners Tuesday to give the agency \$40,000 again next year for services to the mentally and physically handicapped.

Executive Director Jim Blume said the agency, headquartered in Hays, serves 18 counties.

Clarence Scheopner, Sherman County representative on the Developmental Services board, was present along with Colleen Rohr and Ruth Lang, parents of agency clients. Laura Dorn of the Hays office was also present.

"I want to start out by saying we are not asking for any more money," Blume said. "We would like to ask you to stay at the same level as this year."

"When I was here last year I would not have believed some of the changes we have seen, including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, which means we cannot talk about the people we serve. We have been required to do emergency planning for environmental and biological contamination incidents, and now we have to have a Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome emergency plan."

Blume said the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services has had a major cut from the state budget for this year and next year totaling \$342,000.

"We cut 14 positions and had to layoff seven," Blume said. "I told Gov. Sebelius that there was a budget mistake and that we could save money by closing one state hospital. Some of the cuts to the SRS sys-



Sherman County commissioners Chuck Thomas, Kevin Rasure and Mitch Tiede, took a break from their agenda Tuesday to help

move the old mailing machine out so there would be more room for the new machine.
Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

tem were matching funds from the feds, so we actually had a total cut of \$25 million."

"The governor said she was going to do something about the 127 on the waiting list, but we are not able to handle the costs of those we

have now," he said. "Of the waiting list, there are four from Sherman County, and one needs services this year. We are only serving those people who are in crisis."

Blume presented the commissioners with a breakdown of the ser-

vices that have been delivered to the 17 people from Sherman County who are now enrolled. He said that the total cost of services provided here last year was \$329,739.

"We need to keep kids in mind when we look at the costs," Ruth

Lang said. "It used to be the kids sat a home and had no hope. We have to keep their needs in mind. They need the support. We have come a long way."

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said the county would do their best

to keep the budget where it is.

"We understand the important work you do," he said.

In other business:

- Public Works Manager Curt Way brought more documents for the commissioners to sign on the Kanorado bridge replacement project.

He said the project is expected to begin in late September and should be done within 90 days.

- Commissioners looked at options for repairing the county car, a 99 Crown Victoria with 95,000 miles, because the transmission is slipping.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said he had contacted Dan Brenner Ford about a replacement transmission that was estimated to cost \$1,850.

He said he was also asking Brenner, Finley's and Herls about the price of used vans to replace the car.

- Heard that the new mailing machine had been installed and was in operation.

The commissioners took a break from the agenda to help move the old machine into the vault so there was more room in the mailing room.

- Approved a bid from Marty's Electric for \$618 for wiring the fans in the ag building and the pavilion at the fairgrounds.

The other bid was \$690 from B and B Electric.

- Discussed purchasing some trash barrels for the fairgrounds that could be used around the carnival and food vendors to collect the trash.

- Discussed with Crystal Linsner the renewal of the lease of the Household Hazardous Waste building from Kendall Cooper. They will put this on the agenda for the next meeting on Tuesday.

City commissioners want to hold line on property taxes

CITY, from Page 1

cut something out or to find a way to increase the income. I feel we need to do our best for the citizens and hold the line on expenses."

"I believe we can shift money from several places to get the money we want and keep the property tax at the same level," Billinger said.

The public library was the only department that asked for an increase for next year, seeking a \$4,500 boost because of the rise in utility expenses. Looking at the library budget on Monday, there was some discussion among the commissioners as to whether this was enough to cover the costs.

However, on Tuesday, after all the departments had made their presentations, there was discussion

about reducing the amount the library wanted to \$2,100.

The commissioners had agreed to increase the amount given to the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for their help with the animals picked up and held at the veterinary clinic.

Repairing streets was another area where the commissioners

wanted to see an increased effort. They agreed to add \$25,000 to the street budget.

To keep the property tax at the 50 mill level, which should bring in about \$2,100 less than what the property tax produced for the city this year, Pickman suggested giving the library the increase of \$2,100, increasing the animal shelter by

\$1,000 and adding the \$25,000 to the street repair budget, and to shift \$9,000 from the grant match fund and cutting \$15,000 from the airport maintenance budget. This, along with the \$2,400 cut from the library request, would keep the property tax at the same level as this year.

"I think that will work," Billinger said. "Can we agree on doing it by

shifting the money around. I think this is a bare-bones deal."

"I don't like it," Blume said, "but then I knew coming in that I was not going to like anything we did because it was not a good year. I think we are using up our carryover and believe we will find the situation

worse unless the economy gets a lot better."

The city staff will revise the budget based on the preliminary agreement and it will be approved at the next meeting and then published. The budget hearing will be held on Monday, Aug. 4.

corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.



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