

Relay for Life changes date back to August

Representatives from the Relay for Life program met with Sherman County commissioners last Tuesday and asked to change the date from June back to August.

Michelle Schoff and Amy Gillming, representing the American Cancer Society, asked the commissioners to allow the Relay to use the fairgrounds on Aug. 13 and 14. Earlier, Dorendo Harrel had asked for a date in June, but Schoff said they had to change the date back to August.

Schoff said most of the team captains preferred an August date rather than June. "We went with what the majority wanted," she said. "There were some conflicts with the dates in August, but we settled on the 13th."

The commissioners approved the use of the fairgrounds, and Schoff and Gillming thanked them for allowing them to use the

fairgrounds this year, and for donating the utilities.

The commissioners canceled their meeting today, as they did not have any appointments. They held a special meeting Friday to approve bills.

Carolyn Applegate, economic development director, gave the board an update on activity and invited them to an open forum held on Wednesday.

She told the commissioners that 36 businesses had opened or expanded in the last year while seven had closed. One of the stores that closed reopened under new management.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby came in to discuss a proposed oil and gas lease for the county property at Caruso. Commissioner Kevin Rasure said he had heard from representatives of Archer Daniels Midland,

which operates a sunflower oil plant at Caruso and is taking over the sewer ponds, and they were concerned about the proposed drilling.

Rasure said they did not have any problem with the county severing the minerals from the land, but that they did not want to have any drilling close to the sewer ponds. Selby and the commissioners agreed that this should be addressed in the lease.

Hiram Lucius of Rosewood Resources Inc. of Dallas, met with the commissioners to discuss the revised oil and gas lease and a seismograph permit.

The commissioners addressed the concerns about drilling close to the sewer ponds. Lucius promised that they would stay at least 200 feet away from the ponds. He showed the commissioners a map of the area, and where they would be doing the

testing.

The commissioners called Commissioner Mitch Tiede, who was not at the meeting because of the snow storm, on his cell phone, and put him on the speaker so he could hear Lucius and ask questions. Tiede said he did not have any problems with the plan as long as the ADM request was addressed.

Lucius said had Selby put in the wording the way she wanted it and he and she initiated the changes.

Rasure made a motion seconded by Commissioner Chuck Thomas to accept the contract with Press Oil Investments Inc. for \$5 per acre for the seismographing and \$25 per acre for the oil and gas lease.

Selby told the commissioners she had talked with Dr. Travis Daise and he was willing to be the deputy coroner. She said

he asked if the county would help pay expenses for some classes that deal with the duties of a coroner.

Rasure made a motion, seconded by Thomas, to approve the appointment. The commissioners said they would consider helping with the costs of the classes.

The commissioners approved donating \$50 to the Good Samaritan Center for a fund raising project.

Appointments to the Good Samaritan Center advisory board were discussed, but they decided to table the matter until Tiede could be present. Rasure said they are one person short of filling the board.

The next regular meeting will be 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 23 in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, 813 Broadway.

Woman found shot in Colby

By Tisha Cox
Colby Free Press

A 41-year-old Colby woman was found last week east of town on a road near the salvage yard with a gunshot wound to the head, the Thomas County Sheriff's office said Wednesday.

The office initially classified the incident as an attempted suicide, but Undersheriff Mike Baughn said the investigation was not completed.

The woman, whose identity was not released, was lying beside a vehicle on Taft Road, north of U.S. 24 and near the salvage yard, when a passerby saw her. The person called the law enforcement center at 10:23 a.m. the morning of Sunday, Dec. 7.

Within minutes, he said, officers were at the scene.

Baughn said Wednesday the woman was taken to Citizens Medical Center in Colby by Thomas County Emergency Medical Services and later flown to either Wichita or Denver.

"We still don't know her condition," Baughn said. "The last we heard she was still alive."

Due to the sensitive nature of the incident, he said, details will not be released.

Carolers enjoy music of the season



A semi load of 97 kids and 20 parents from the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church took a 'hoe down hay ride' Sunday evening and brought Christmas cards to people at Sparks and Handy Towers, the Good Samaritan Center and Wheat Ridge Acres. Mary Ann Weishapf said the kids, from the Share Your Faith classes,

had made cards which they handed out to the people they visited. Fataher Norbert Dlabal followed in his car as a warm backup. The truck was provided by Chuck Wilkens of Wilkens Truck and Trailer and Greg Nemecek provided the hay bales and drove.

Photo by Tom Betz /The Goodland Star-News

Familiar face appears on TV soap opera

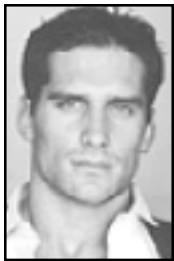
By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Star-News

A familiar face to many in northwest Kansas will appear on a television soap opera this month.

Tinker Keck, a 1995 Goodland High School graduate, and the son of Jane Keck of Brewster and Phil Keck of Colby, will have a brief appearance and a couple of lines on General Hospital next Wednesday, Dec. 24. The show is on at 1 p.m. Mountain Time on ABC.

Keck, a former football player, is a personal trainer in Los Angeles. He has done some modeling and has had a few television appearances, his mother said, but this is his first part with lines.

Keck played football during his two years at Hutchinson Community College before being recruited



Keck

by the Cincinnati Bearcats. He signed as a free agent with the New York Giants but was released during the preseason.

Keck then played for the Los Angeles Xtreme, who became the world champions of the XFL. After the league dissolved, Keck stayed in Los Angeles and has worked for fitness companies. His mother said he plans to open his own gym soon.

Of Tinker's football career and television appearances, Jane said he has been fortunate but hasn't taken it too seriously.

"He's had good opportunities," she said, "but he takes it as it comes. He's still Tinker; he hasn't let fame go to his head."

She said Tinker will be on his way home when the show airs and will be visiting her in Brewster for a week and a half at Christmas.

corrections

The name of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act was stated incorrectly in an editorial in the Dec. 12 issue of *The Goodland Star-News*. This was the writer's error. We knew better. We looked it up. The error was not changed.

☆☆☆☆

A front page article in the same edition said that the 4.4 inches of snow received in Goodland equated to 1.8 inches of precipitation. The correct amount of precipitation is 0.4 of an inch. The mistake was a reporter error.

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The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story.

student of the week



Name: John Hamilton
Parents: Jane Hamilton and Avion Webster
Grade: Senior
Age: 18
We've nominated this student because: John contributes energy and hard work to my class. He is open to try different activities and encourages others to do so, as well. He cares about others and has a great sense of humor, qualities that will help him succeed in the future.
Student Comment: I love the atmosphere of all the people. I am a people person and love to be around all different types of people. I would have to say my

favorite class is English because of Mrs. Hall. She is an outstanding teacher and inspires me to do well in school and keep my head up. I appreciated all the people in the school who helped me feel wanted and accepted when I moved from Colorado. Miss Helmut's PE classes were incredibly fun.

Activities involved in at school: Track, AP Art and DECA
My choice of movies, books, and games: My favorite movies are mostly horror but I'll watch about anything. Favorite music is Rap and Hip Hop with Ludacris as my favorite Rap artist. Reading is one of the most boring things to do. I am a hands on person. When I have time I'll play RPG's or a racing game on PS2.
After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: go to the Art Institute of Colorado in Denver and work for a major art studio for computer graphics.
And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: Rich, Rich, Rich!!! Have a good family and live a great married life.
Favorite Quote: "Why am I dying to live if I'm just Living to die." 2 Pac



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The Goodland Activities Center

Dinner/Dance was a huge success! Thank you to all that attended. A special thanks to those that contributed their time and efforts towards its success:

The Conman, Shad Sheldon, Brian Somers, WalMart, S&T Telephone, Jacque's Hallmark, Leo Hayden, Cobblestone Floral and KLOE/KKCI

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