

Artist says display should be ready for Christmas



By Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News

The crew restoring Goodland's community Christmas display hopes to finish by summer so the panels can be used for the 2007 holidays.

The 100-piece display ended up with not just a paint touchup but a full repainting, said Josh Dechant, a member of the Rotary Club in charge of raising the money for the restoration, city commissioner and vice president of Bankwest.

"Work is on hold 'til warmer weather," said Jeanette Foust, one of the original artists, who's in charge of the restoration. "It's shaping up pretty well. Connie Hatcher came and helped in the month of August."

Hatcher, who lives in Arizona, was another of the original painters.

She said most of what's left to be done is on the large pieces. They plan to replace the backs and use heavier and sturdier stands to hold those up. The steel for the stands will be the most expensive part of the project, Foust said.

The bigger pieces fold up, and they need heavier hinges, Foust added. After the art has been worked on, the surface will be sealed to protect the painting.

Koren Dechant helped members of the Goodland Kiwanis and Rotary clubs move pieces of the community Christmas display to be worked on by artists at the old Corner Garage building last spring.

Photo by Pat Schiefen
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The display was finished in 1988 by Foust, Maxine Rauscher and Hatcher.

Foust said they have the original drawings and the formulas for the colors, since the artists mixed their own.

The late Ordie Billenwillms gave the money for the display, Rauscher said. The welding department of the Northwest Kansas Technical College made the original and replacement stands.

The display was not put up for Christmas 2005 because of its condition. Ron Lucas, then president of the Rotary Club, said only about half of the panels were in good enough shape to put up, so they decided to shelve it. Rotary has been in charge of putting the display up and taking it down with help from students from the Technical College.

The deterioration was caused by weather, wind, assembling, dismantling, transporting and storage over the years, said Lucas. For Christmas 2004, only about two-thirds of the display could go up.

The scenes tell the Christmas story, showing the Holy Family's journey to Bethlehem for a census and Joseph and Mary finding no place to stay, a scene with Jesus in the manger, angels appearing to the shepherds with the news, and the three wise men making their journey. Lots of sheep, camels and donkeys decorate the trip. The project took over 2,000 hours to complete, Foust said.

Dechant said they will need carpentry and welding help with the bigger pieces. Anyone who would like to donate time or money can call him at 899-2342 or Kin Huang of the Sherman County Community Foundation, which is handling the money, at 899-3115.

Relaxed dining and flavorful food features of show

Cooking trends are ever changing, and today, leisurely dining is making a comeback. Taking time to appreciate every bite and enjoy both the food and the social experience is catching on as a healthy trend.

The trend to savor the flavors of food has renewed interest in seasoning.

Bland is definitely out and highly seasoned is in. Americans want healthier food, but they want it to be quick and easy.

Taste of Home Cooking School is ready to "Savor Spring" with 10 flavorful fast-to-fix recipes.

Culinary specialist, Kristi Larson will be coming to Max Jones Fieldhouse in Goodland on Tuesday, Feb. 20, to prepare tantalizing brunch, dinner and dessert dishes.

"I'm very excited about the selection of recipes I'll be sharing with audiences this season," Larson said.

Advance tickets for the show are available at the *Star-News*, 1205 Main, *Colby Free Press*, *Saint Francis Herald*, *Norton Telegram*, *Oberlin Herald* and *Western Times* in Sharon Springs, for \$8 each.

The doors will open for the event at 5 p.m., and the program will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Recipes prepared on stage will include a super quick jam that's packed with beneficial ingredients. "Apple-Berry Pomegranate Freezer Jam" will brighten any breakfast or brunch table.

Pomegranates are becoming a popular ingredient because of their many health

benefit, Larson said. The juice is rich in antioxidants, vitamins A, B and C and oxalic acids. Pomegranates are a vibrant red berry with hundreds of seeds that are the source of the sweet, tangy, juice. If you're aim is to eat healthy, this recipe is a must.

Looking to spice up your meals a notch? "Spanish-Style Paella" combines sausage, chicken and shrimp with rice. The spicy flavor comes from a blend that includes the distinct aroma of saffron.

Saffron comes from the yellow-orange stigmas of the purple crocus plant. Each flower has three stigmas which must be hand-picked. More than 14,000 tiny stigmas are needed to produce just one ounce of saffron, so it's no wonder it is the world's most precious spice. Fortunately, its strong

intense flavor means cooks can use it sparingly to achieve appetizing results.

Everyone at the show will receive a complimentary Taste of Home Cooking School Classic Cooking magazine with all 10 featured recipes plus 150 more Taste of Home tested, tasted and approved recipes.

"If you have never attended a Taste of Home Cooking School, make plans now to join the festivities," said Sheila Smith of *The Star-News*.

"Your name might be drawn for one of the many fantastic door prizes we have collected."

"Area businesses have donated a variety of merchandise. National sponsors that work in association with the school have

contributed special gifts, as well."

Taste of Home Cooking School will give the new Taste of Home Cookbook to three lucky winners.

"Taste of Home is about great food and real people who take pride in what they cook and have fun doing it," said Larson. "People treasure Taste of Home recipes, but they value equally the connection they feel with other cooks just like themselves who want their families leaving the table full, happy and raving about their meals now and for generation to come."

The Taste of Home Cookbook is an everything-you-need durable reference book. This is one book you will want to add to your library of cookbooks.

Group wants to draw attention to child abuse

By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Star-News

One group hopes to raise awareness of child abuse for Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness Month in April and to address underage drinking for National Alcohol Awareness month.

Wendy Wellman, prevention specialist for the Regional Prevention Center, told the Community Partners for Prevention and Education at their meeting Thursday that Roxy Cabral, director of Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, is working on ways to promote awareness of child abuse.

It's worth a try to have a community program, said Cris Reibel, owner of Joyful Noise Preschool and treasurer of the partnership. The problem, she said, is those who really need to hear the program probably wouldn't be there.

People don't want others to see them and think they must be an abusive parent, she said.

Cabral suggested doing a program on bullying, Wellman said. Maybe the program could be open to children, too, Reibel said; often

parents don't realize their children are targets.

Often, she said, they don't think of things that happen to their kids as bullying, such as someone making fun of their shoes or threatening to beat them up. They think of bullying as physical, she said.

The Prevention Center may plan a program for April too, Wellman said. Sherman County got a \$1,000 grant, she said, for a town hall meeting to address underage drinking.

The center can use the money however it will benefit the program most, she said; Rawlins County did one last year and used all the money on nice prizes.

They required that students attend the whole program and have a parent with them to get a prize, she said, and over 100 people showed up.

Proposals for Lawn Mowing & Maintenance

The Goodland Housing Authority is accepting proposals for lawn mowing and maintenance. Interested parties may pick up a proposal form at 515 E. 5th Street. For more information, call (785) 890-5591.

Deadline is 4 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2007.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

student of the week



Name: Tyler Hillmer
Parents: Marlin & DeAnn Hillmer
Grade: Senior
Age: 17

We've nominated this student because: a diligent worker, who always gives 100% in all endeavors he encounters. He treats his peers & teachers with respect and is a positive influence on the classroom environment.

Student Comment:

Finally getting baseball in school and senior football season.

Activities involved in at school: Football, Baseball and G-Club.

My choice of movies, books, and games: Movie is Talledega Nights

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: go to college and play baseball.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: married, have a family and a good job.

Favorite Quote: "The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary."

- Vince Lombardi



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