

Chinese trainers visit Renner Field



Three Chinese Nanchang trainers landed in Goodland Friday morning on their way to a Front Range Air Show. Bob "Kilo" Watts of Muskogee, Okla., checked out his C-47A while it was being refueled and fellow pilots Keith Harbour of Muskogee and Terry Calloway of Pittsburg talked about how the planes were performing. Watts said the trio would join four more Chi-

nese trainers for a performance at the air show at Denver's Front Range airport. The C-47A was designed by the mainland Chinese to train MiG pilots, and first flew in 1961. Watt's wife Carolyn sits in the second seat of his trainer and he calls her his "girl in back," to which she just smiles.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Hospital board hears good news

HOSPITAL, from Page 1a

reduction in the average time it takes to collect a bill has made a positive impact on cash flow. The audit shows an \$801,909 cash flow increase for the year.

The average time to collect a bill dropped from 47 days to 44 days from 2005 to 2006, Johnson said, and appears to be lower than other similar hospitals.

The additional cash was used to reduce the accounts payable, or outstanding bills, from about \$1,095,000 in 2004 to \$397,000 in 2005 and to \$344,000 in 2006.

The rise in gross patient service revenue during 2005 and 2006 is primarily from increased volumes for outpatient services, Johnson said, adding that the outpatient revenue as a percentage of total patient revenue for the two years are comparable to similar hospitals.

Gross patient service revenue was \$14,278,523 in 2004, \$15,414,339 in 2005 and

\$17,196,013 in 2006. Contractual adjustments — reductions in fees by insurance companies and government payers like Medicare — were \$3,040,832, \$3,403,919 and \$4,887,871. The adjustments reflect discounts to meet agreements with agencies that have contracts to pay less than established rates, he said.

This is especially true for the Medicare and Medicaid programs, he said, and is the main reason the hospital became a Medicare-certified critical access hospital with a hospital-based rural health clinic.

For 2006, he said, the services rendered to patients using Medicare and Medicaid accounted for 63 percent of total gross patient service revenue and 54.7 percent of net patient service revenue.

The percentage increases in equity, Johnson said, are primarily due to improvement of third-party reimbursement and more efficient operations.

Plans set for great July 4 family fun

JULY 4, from Page 1a

tougher this year with North Caldwell Avenue closed, Schields said. People can drive up Main to Armory Road and cross Caldwell to the east if they want to park outside the fairgrounds.

Schields said the fireworks money continues to come in. Last week the Sherman County Economic Development Council gave \$750 to the fireworks fund.

He said the fund is getting close to the \$7,000 level, but said it would be great to match the \$10,000 they had last year to have a good start on next year's show.

Jars are out around town to collect donations for the fireworks in-

cluding at Kabredlo's, Presto, Howard Johnson's Harvester Restaurant, the Goodland Steakhouse Diner, the Butterfly Café, Rasure's Do-It Center, the Sherman Theater, Cowboy Loop, Klip 'n Kurl, Hank's Café, Pizza Hut, Gambino's, Crazy R's, Goodland Grind and Gallery, Bubba's Meat Block and *The Goodland Star-News*.

Donations also may be made through the Sherman County Community Foundation to allow people to make donations to the fireworks or the entertainment.

Send check to the foundation at Box 888, Goodland, Kan. 67735, and earmarked for the Freedom Fest fireworks fund or entertainment fund, said Kin Huang, foundation director.

Council to ask city, county for more money

COUNCIL, from Page 1a

In other business, the council:

- Welcomed Chance Schilling, up for appointment by the county commissioners as a new member representing the People's State Bank. The council has a representative from each bank, but until Schilling took a job there, People's State did not have a person living in Sherman County to serve.

- Heard and update on the Shine on Sherman County Beautification action team. McMinn said 45 American flags to be flown on special holidays should be delivered in time for the Fourth of July.

She said she would like to see the council establish a matching fund to encourage the continued beautification of the city. She suggested they set aside \$10,000 to be used for matching money and in-kind contributions raised by the beautification team.

West asked where the action team is on their planning. McMinn said the group has not made these decisions yet, and West said he felt the team should develop a proposed amount they want to raise.

"You can do that," McMinn said, "but it is a question of whether you

have something that they know is there. It is an incentive for them to aim for."

Council member Harlan House, a farmer and stockman, asked City Commissioners Dave Daniels and Josh Dechant if the city has plans to fix the sidewalks, curb and gutter on Main Street.

Daniels said the city has been looking at it, but estimates are it would take about \$1 million to complete the Main Street project.

"It is a question of how much you want to pay to help on Main Street," Daniels said.

Dechant said the city staff and engineer has been looking at this as

well as other street needs, and will be presenting their plans and estimates during the budget process in July.

"Tiffani has some good projects going on," Newell said. "My concern is getting this stuff taken care of. Is this something we do now or wait until next year to see what happens in the budget?"

"I don't think you should hold onto the funds in case you don't get the money from the city and county next year," McMinn said. "We told the city and county we were going to do things with these funds to help in the community. I don't feel this is a savings account."

Gary Slough, council member from S&T Communications, said he was concerned about designating money without seeing a plan.

McMinn said it would not work that way. She said the council would set aside \$10,000, and not spend any of it until there was a plan approved. She said the money would be earmarked and could be used as a match for a larger grant.

House agreed it was a good incentive, especially if it could be used to match what the beautification group could raise and be multiplied into a larger grant. He made the motion to earmark \$10,000 for this purpose, and the motion passed.



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ACROSS

- Business org.
- Katmandu's land
- Lane, who sang with Cugat
- Kent State's state
- In ___ (not yet born)
- Stickshift selection
- 7-foot-tall Cleveland hoopster?
- Chase of stage and screen
- "Dr. Livingstone, I ___?"
- Settles snugly
- Flier to Stockholm
- U. of Maryland athlete
- Stick around
- "No ___" (Chinese restaurant sign)
- Creative flash
- Fruity quaff
- Stage accessory
- Name after "a.k.a."
- New England catch
- Actress Tyler riding a huge boar?
- Beehive State Indian
- Shipping container
- VIP part
- Scratch up
- Neuwirth of "Chicago"
- "___ Maria"
- Noted plus-size model
- Painter of limp watches
- U-Haul rental
- Patterned fabrics
- It's shown on a family tree
- Oodles

DOWN

- Free tix
- Scarlett's surname
- Country star LeAnn
- Toy dogs, for short
- Eggnog spice
- Old-time anesthetic
- Chest muscle, briefly
- Galway Bay's ___ Islands
- Cozy sofa
- Kitchen worker on a Polish ship?
- ___ out (parcel)
- Burger topper
- XL or XXL
- They're splitsville
- Fender dings
- Frankfurt's river
- Tummy trouble
- Tummy trouble
- Make cookies, say
- Noteworthy times
- Triple play trio
- Hide under the mattress, e.g.
- Took the helm of
- Radar gun fig.
- Eat in style
- Way in or out
- All wound up
- Jack Horner's prize
- The Beatles' meter maid
- Really ham it up
- "Moby Dick" captain
- Long-range weapons, for short
- Zeus or Apollo
- 12/24 or 12/31
- Sci-fi visitors
- Overgrown with ivy
- Beats, in chess
- Parcel out
- In effect, like a license
- Staring intently
- "When pigs fly!"
- Agatha Christie's title
- Emcee Trebek
- All there
- Old U.S. gas brand
- Vietnam Memorial architect Maya

The crossword puzzle brought to you by:

SPORTS TELEVISION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY	MONDAY	THURSDAY
10 a.m. 22/28 ESPN AFL Football Wild Card Game 3/9 NBC Wimbledon Early-round play 1 p.m. 4/6 ABC NASCAR Racing Busch Series 7/11 CBS Golf Buick Open 22/28 ESPN AFL Football Wild Card Game 8/8 NBC Women's Golf U.S. Women's Open 5 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 NTRA Horse Racing Hollywood Gold Cup 25/38 IND MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves vs Florida Marlins 5:30 p.m. 22/28 ESPN IndyCar Series Richmond Challenge	5 p.m. 22/28 ESPN MLB Baseball Minnesota Twins at New York Yankees 8 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 AFL Football Wild Card Game Teams TBA 5 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wake Up to Wimbledon Ladies' Quarterfinals 6 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wimbledon Ladies' Quarterfinals	Up to Wimbledon Ladies' Semifinal 6 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wimbledon Ladies' Semifinal
SUNDAY	TUESDAY	FRIDAY
10 a.m. 3/9 NBC Wimbledon Early-round play 12 p.m. 22/28 ESPN Champ Car World Series Grand Prix of Montreal 12:10 p.m. 99/39 WGN MLB Baseball Milwaukee Brewers at Chicago Cubs 12:30 p.m. 28/40 TNT NASCAR Nextel Cup Lenox Industrial Tools 300 1 p.m. 7/11 CBS Golf Buick Open 8/8 NBC Women's Golf U.S. Women's Open 2 p.m. 60/79 UNIV Copa America Chile at Brazil 6 p.m. 22/28 ESPN MLB Baseball Minnesota Twins vs Detroit Tigers 5 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wake Up to Wimbledon Round of 16 6 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wimbledon Men and Women	5 p.m. 99/39 WGN MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Washington Nationals 7:30 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 WNBA Basketball Los Angeles Sparks 8 p.m. 25/38 IND MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves vs Los Angeles Dodgers 5 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wake Up to Wimbledon Men's Semifinals 11 p.m. 22/28 ESPN SportsCenter 5 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wake Up to Wimbledon Men's Quarterfinals 6 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wimbledon Men's Quarterfinals	8 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wake Up to Wimbledon Ladies' Semifinal 12 p.m. 22/28 ESPN Champions Tour U.S. Senior Open Championship 3:30 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 NASCAR Busch Practice Daytona Final Practice 6 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 MLS Soccer New York Red Bulls at Houston Dynamo 8 p.m. 25/38 IND MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves vs Los Angeles Dodgers 5 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wake Up to Wimbledon Men's Semifinals 6 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wimbledon Men's Semifinal
WEDNESDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
10 a.m. 22/28 ESPN Competitive Eating 2007 Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest 99/39 WGN MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Washington Nationals 11 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wimbledon Men's Quarterfinals 4:30 p.m. 60/79 UNIV Copa America Chile at Mexico 5 p.m. 22/28 ESPN MLB Baseball Cleveland Indians at Detroit Tigers 5 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 Wake Up to Wimbledon Men's Semifinals	12 p.m. 22/28 ESPN Champions Tour U.S. Senior Open Championship 5:30 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 NASCAR Busch Series Countdown 6 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 NASCAR Busch Series Winn-Dixie 250 7 p.m. 30/27 FXSP MLB Baseball Philadelphia Phillies at Colorado Rockies 8 p.m. 25/38 IND MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves vs San Diego Padres	11 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 NASCAR Busch Qualifying Daytona 12 p.m. 22/28 ESPN Champions Tour U.S. Senior Open Championship 5:30 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 NASCAR Busch Series Countdown 6 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 NASCAR Busch Series Winn-Dixie 250 7 p.m. 30/27 FXSP MLB Baseball Philadelphia Phillies at Colorado Rockies 8 p.m. 25/38 IND MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves vs San Diego Padres