



Jade Petracich, "little sister" to Sarah Thompson, director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sherman County, looked inside a gift box to see what the teddy bear had for her. The bear was a gift from the 'Tis the Season Collectors Club, which also gave Thompson a check for \$467 raised to help her group.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Ornaments bring fun, friendship

By Sharon Corcoran
slicorcoran@nwkansas.com

For a group of Goodland-area collectors, gathering special ornaments and other seasonal decorations has led to friendships, fun and ways to raise money to help others.

Members of the 'Tis the Season Collectors Club barely knew each other before the club formed, said Judy McKee, president of the group, and now are friends. They have also raised \$5,992 in five years with their annual Holiday Garage Sale.

This year, the club raised \$476 for Big Brothers Big Sisters and gave the check to Director Sarah Thompson and a teddy bear to her little sister, Jade Petracich, 10, Friday at Jacque's Hallmark downtown.

The money was raised at the club's fifth annual sale Saturday, Oct. 20, as a community service project, an undertaking which McKee said is required of all registered Hallmark Collector Clubs.

Members of the Goodland group are Ann Middleton, Linda Saint, Mary Jane Sponsel, Jo Herl, Marcia Emig, McKee, store owner and Hallmark sponsor Jacque Cooper and Jan Malpert, who founded the club in 1994.

"As parents ourselves," McKee said, "we know only too well that the more kids you have, the more money it takes to provide for them, and this mentoring program is no different."

Eighteen Sherman County youths, or "littles," are paired with mentors, known as "bigs," through the organization, which has 30 more on its list waiting for a volunteer to step up.

Thompson and Petracich said they have a lot of fun together, shopping and eating at Dairy Queen. That's the only place she wants to eat, Thompson said, and she gets a blizzard and fries every time.

She said her little loves to shop and has a great time at Wal-Mart looking for "any toy that makes noise." At the Hallmark shop, Petracich couldn't resist looking for cards that make noise.

The club holds its garage sale and bake sale each year, specializing in holiday decorations and crafts, to raise money for area organizations. In past years, the club has raised \$5,516 for Sherman County Hospice.

The group wanted to focus their attention on helping kids this year and made contact with Big Brothers Big Sisters.

"We appreciate every donated item, as well as the shopper support for this fund raiser," McKee said.

McKee said she hopes money raised will help more kids enjoy the friendships developed through Big Brothers Big Sisters. Nothing given for the sale was wasted, she added; leftovers were donated to Genesis and Relay for Life.

County gets lesson on striping

By Tom Betz
ntbetz@nwkansas.com

Sherman County commissioners got a lesson last Tuesday on the regulations and requirements for striping rural highways, and decided to put the issue on the agenda for their meeting today.

Darin Neufeld, an engineer for Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, said at a meeting Dec. 11 he brought in the information at the request of Commissioner Mitch Tiede, who had been out to his office at the city airport to see him.

The commissioners have been looking into whether they should stripe old U.S. 24, which runs for 35 miles across Sherman County. Citizens have complained that the new asphalt applied this year is hard to see at night or in bad weather.

The commissioners had been told that if the road is marked, it would have to be done over and over. The cost could be as high as \$74,000 a time, depending on the type of paint used.

Neufeld handed out copied pages from a 2001 book, "A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets," put out by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

He said the book, which he called an "engineering resource," has a section about traffic control devices. Neufeld said it refers the engineer

to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways, published by the Federal Highway Administration.

He also gave each commissioner a map of Sherman County from the Kansas Department of Transportation showing the traffic counts at various points along old U.S. 24.

The first part of the manual Neufeld talked about was a section on "Do Not Pass" signs, which says the sign "may be used in addition to pavement markings to emphasize the restriction on passing."

He said the section does not say the signs "shall" be used, but says "Pass With Care" signs should be installed at the end of a no-passing zone if "Do Not Pass" signs are being used.

Neufeld said it does not require a center line, but says one should be placed on all rural arterials and collectors that have a traveled way of 18 feet or more and an average daily traffic count greater than 3,000. He said old U.S. 24 is more than 24 feet wide, but that based on the map of traffic counts, the highest are 1,097 west of Goodland, 877 near Kanorado and 882 between Edson and Brewster.

"The road does not have that much traffic on, so you do not have to do the stripe," Neufeld said "It is totally up to your judgment.

"If you do the centerline stripe,

you do have to do the no passing sections."

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked how the no passing zones would be determined. Neufeld said his firm can do it off their computer software.

"Engineering firms do this," Thomas said. "The company doing the striping doesn't do it?"

"Yes," Neufeld said. "We have survey shots down the centerline, and based on the 3.5-foot height for line of sight and the 900 feet distance, we'd let the computer software figure out where the no passing zone should begin and end.

Thomas asked about edge stripes. Neufeld said the manual leaves that up to the county's judgment also.

"Nowhere does it say you have to do this under any traffic regulation," he said.

"Is this a liability situation?" Thomas asked.

"I am not an attorney," Neufeld said, "but it would be up to the attorney involved to show how well you as commissioners reviewed the need to protect the traveling public."

"What about only doing the center stripe," Thomas asked.

"There is nothing in the manuals that says you have to do this," Neufeld said. "The county as the owner is taking the liability.

"It is also not required to use the

signs and you do not have to stripe the whole 35 miles. Based on the traffic count, you would stripe all the way to Kanorado if you were looking at 300 cars a day. Then you might only stripe to halfway between Edson and Brewster."

"What if we stripe it once? Thomas asked. Do we have to do it all the time?"

Neufeld said under the requirements set out in the manual, that, too, would be up to the commissioners.

Because of the low traffic volume, there is no requirement to say what kind of paint has to be used, either. He said there are recommendations on reflective paint, but refer to highways with more than 3,000 vehicles per day.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said the commissioners had been discussing the striping because people have asked about it, including the mother of a young man recently killed on the road west of town.

Thomas said he has been paying more attention to the highway as he is driving, and can see where the lack of striping might be a problem.

Neufeld said it all comes back to a judgment call.

With Commissioner Mitch Tiede absent, Thomas thanked Neufeld for the information, and said the striping would be on the agenda for the meeting today.

matters of record

District Traffic

The following fines have been paid in the Sherman County District Court:

March 10, 1984: J.W. Bobbit Jr. \$105 for speeding.

April 27, 2006: Jonathan M. Peck \$121 for speeding.

Sept. 12, 2006: Refugio Castillo \$144 for speeding.

Nov. 22, 2006: Eryn J. Bowman \$183 for speeding.

June 1: William P. Blunt \$142 for speeding.

June 9: Matthew J. Hayes \$156 for speeding.

June 11: Michael L. Bray \$144 for improper parking.

June 18: Kenneth T. Engle \$174 for speeding.

July 15: Karl A. Liske \$126 for speeding.

July 23: Brian L. Salmons \$114 for speeding and \$60 for violating laws on child passenger safety, restraining systems and seat belts.

Aug. 8: David L. Graybill \$138 for speeding.

Aug. 8: Aisha R. Lee \$192 for speeding.

Aug. 10: Sean N. Farmer \$123 for being over weight limits on wheels and axles.

Aug. 22: Jose G. Hernandez \$391 for driving while suspended, second or subsequent conviction.

Aug. 31: Lesley L. Murphy \$138 for speeding.

Michael W. Smith \$157 for speeding.

Sept. 1: Andre P. Beghyn \$126 for speeding and \$30 for not wearing a seat belt.

Sept. 3: Rodney S. Berry \$66 for speeding.

Darin M. Clayton \$246 for failing to yield to an emergency vehicle.

John P. Thornburg \$120 for speeding.

Sept. 8: Joseph C. Smith \$366 for driving while suspended, first conviction.

Sept. 10: John W. Tate \$132 for improper parking.

Sept. 22: Paulo A. Rios \$366 for driving while suspended, first conviction, and \$180 for speeding.

Sept. 24: Jesska Senn \$144 for speeding.

Sept. 25: Claude T. Griffin \$76 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations, guilty verdict in bench trial.

Oct. 3: Brandon M. Williams \$166 and \$100 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations.

Oct. 4: Sarah C. Tully \$192 for speeding.

Oct. 6: Saul Gonzalez \$125 for speeding.

Oct. 7: Surendra P. Patel \$156 for speeding and \$60 for violating laws on child passenger safety, restraining systems and seat belts.

Claudia Ponce-DeBeltran \$126 for speeding.

Oct. 12: Richard L. Carpenter \$132 for speeding.

Jenna D. Freitag \$126 for speeding.

Oct. 13: Michael D. Bezdicek \$158 for speeding.

Logan K. Campbell \$144 for speeding.

Karla L. Carlson \$174 for speeding.

Zlastan Makic \$156 for speeding.

Classifieds work! 899-2338

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12		13		14					15
16					17		18		19
20			21			22		23	
28	29	30		25	26		27		
33			34				35	36	37
39		40		41				42	
43			44		45		46		47
		48		49			50	51	
	52	53				54			
55				56			57	58	59
61			62		63			64	
65				66		67	68	69	

CLUES ACROSS

- Pea shell
- Slavs
- Tooth caregiver
- Winglike
- Seaport in Cameroon
- Macaws
- Gambling town
- Among the largest bony fish
- Just acquired
- Spherical
- Capital of Venezuela
- Expires
- Got stuck
- Hanks TV show
- Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- Soft creamy white cheese
- Not intoxicated
- Light: hermetical
- Before
- International defense organization
- Beloveds
- Draws from
- Distilled from fermented molasses
- Reference
- One to whom money is paid
- Original matter
- In a fake way
- Expressed pleasure
- Lilly, drug company
- Monetary unit in Yemen
- Romanian city
- Blot
- Small lizard of the Old World
- Boxing champ Spinks
- juris: sane
- Chick-pea plant
- Gas usage measurement
- Irish mother of gods
- South Dakota
- I, Portuguese
- Drive against
- A group of countries in special alliance
- Highly spiced fatty sausage
- Tap or ballet
- Fearful anticipation
- Cutting tools
- Kia crossover vehicle
- 1st sign of the zodiac
- Lacking in brightness
- Malicious burning to destroy property
- The outward flow of the tide
- Something that is certain
- Small nail
- Off-Broadway theater award
- D. Day son, Que ____ (X2)
- Paul __, British physicist
- Profoundly
- Lyric poet
- Ladies' bag for small articles
- Popular tomato for Italian cooking
- Three pip cards
- Scornful smile
- Old French coin
- Relating to the abdomen
- Leguminous plant fruit
- Electronic communication
- Pacific Islands
- A way to excuse
- National law-enforcement officers
- A sharply directional antenna
- Red organic pigment containing iron
- Stock ownership plan
- Ringing sound
- Resinous secretion used in shellac
- Of I
- One of the six noble gases

The crossword puzzle brought to you by:

1803 Cherry Goodland, Kan. 67735
899-3661

dine-in
carry-out
delivery

Brewster All-Star Booster Club

Calendar for Dec. 18 to 25

- Wednesday:** First semester exams
- Thursday:** First semester exams
- Friday:** First semester exams. Half day of school.
- Monday:** Christmas Vacation
- Tuesday:** Christmas Vacation



The Goodland Star-News
1205 Main
Goodland, Kan. 67735
(785) 899-2338
Check our On-Line Site at
star-news@nwkansas.com



Gambino's Pizza
402 E. 17th
Goodland, Kan. 67735
785-890-5988

102.5 FM KKCI
Best of the 70s, 80s, & 90s
KWGB 97.9
KLOE 730am
Full Service Radio

WAREHOUSE SHIPPER

Valmont Irrigation, the world leader in mechanized irrigation equipment, has an immediate opening at our McCook Distribution Center.

This position will pack/load shipments and operate with continuous quality improvement and cost reduction efforts. Selected individual will develop and maintain a working climate with high standards of ethical discipline and morale, as well as workplace safety and building a team environment.

Applicants must have HS diploma/GED, forklift certification or ability to become certified, valid driver's license, basic math skills and ability to become proficient with Valmont's software. Must possess good interpersonal and communication skills, solid organizational skills and be detail-oriented. Also requires the ability to work with all levels of the company while maintaining a positive, customer-oriented attitude. Must be able to lift up to 50 lbs. and climb, stoop or stand for extended periods of time.

Valmont Irrigation offers a very competitive starting rate, full range of benefits and good potential for advancement. For job details, contact Tracey Mai, Distribution Manager, at: 308-345-4116 or 1-866-222-5803. Applications will be accepted at the Workforce Development Office located at: 220 W 1st St., McCook, NE 69001.

valmont IRRIGATION
AA EOE M/F/D/V