

Christmas Family Table feeds about 300



LaVina Perry (left) and Fern Hawks enjoyed a turkey dinner with the trimmings at the Christmas Family Table given Saturday by the Calvary Gospel Church at the Northwest Kansas Technical College Student Union. The church decided in October to give the town the gift of a holiday dinner, leaders said. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Church holds dinner at college cafeteria

A church's effort to nourish the bodies of Goodlanders during the Christmas season, the Christmas Family Table, fed 280 to 300 people Saturday night at the Northwest Kansas Technical College Student Union.

"We were excited to be able to serve our community," said Pastor Steve Rains of the Calvary Gospel Church. "Back in October, a group of people in our church got together and talked about doing something a little different than our traditional kids' Christmas program and adult program."

"We decided to try a community dinner and have Calvary serve Goodland by preparing a Christmas meal and providing some entertainment for their enjoyment. It was our goal in doing so to love God and love people."

"In preparing for the evening, we wanted to get every part of Calvary involved in the evening. Our kids' ministries and youth ministry were involved in bringing our guests their dinner, dessert, drinks, and clearing places once people left."

The members put up posters and handed out tickets. The church advertised in the newspaper and on cable television.

"It was wonderful," said Judy Harper, house manager for Golden West Skills Center. "Two of our individuals got to be involved, and that was great."

Rains said the Sunday morning greeters were at the doors greeting people. Tom Ewing accompanied himself and sang on the guitar humorous and traditional Christmas music throughout the evening. The kitchen crew, lead by Judy Morris, prepared turkey and trimmings.

The room had a couple of Christmas trees up, and the tables were decorated with candy-cane centerpieces.

"I don't think I would be too far off in saying that over 95 percent of our church contributed in some way to make the Christmas Family Table happen," said Pastor Rains.

City approves revised drug, alcohol policies

By Tom Betz
 nbetz@nwkans.com

The city commission spent an hour in a work session on Monday reviewing updated drug and alcohol policies before approving them.

City Manager Wayne Hill said the work session was to review the drug and alcohol policies and other personnel policy changes updated over the past eight months.

City Attorney Jeff Mason was at the work session to explain the three drug and alcohol policies and why they were required.

Mason said there are three policies because one is required by the federal Department of Transportation that covers the van drivers, and that forms the basis for all the policies.

He said the federal regulations set an alcohol level of .02, and the city cannot change that. He said the requirements are to have a second chance with that, and offer the employee an assistance program. He said if there is a second offense, the employee would be fired.

Mason said the second policy is for those who are in safety sensitive jobs and those that require a commercial drivers license. He said the policy is similar in that it has a .02 tolerance for the first offense and includes an employee assistance program. He said this policy includes the random drug testing requirements for those who are covered.

The third drug and alcohol policy is for all those city employees not covered under the

other two. He said it has the same .02 level and the second chance along with the assistance program.

Mason said the policy includes an approval page for the commissioners to sign.

Commissioner Dave Daniels asked why the city couldn't combine two of the policies and have everyone be subject to random drug testing.

Volk said the difference is that one is for those in the safety sensitive positions and are subject to random testing, and the other one is for those in all the other jobs, which aren't.

She said the assistance programs are for more than just drug and alcohol. She said the program is available to employees for other types of personal problems.

Daniels asked what the program costs the city.

Volk said it is about \$1 a month per employee.

Hill said the city is part of a state-wide consortium that helps keep the costs down.

Daniels asked if the policies address prescription drugs.

Josh Dechant said the policies do cover prescriptions and require that the employee has to let their supervisor know about them. He said if the prescription label says you cannot drive then you cannot let them drive.

Mason said that was correct, and that if the employee has not let the supervisor know and

then gets tested, they could be in trouble.

Daniels asked what happens if an employee ate poppy seeds and then got tested.

Mason said the employee is supposed to tell the supervisor. He said in those cases, there are options for declaring a "negative" positive result.

Mayor Rick Billinger asked about another policy change about not wearing uniforms when off duty.

Mason said there are some exceptions because some people are on duty all the time. Billinger said he wanted to be sure we didn't tie the city's hands.

Mason said the policy is to cover employee conduct. He said the policy is to keep the employees from engaging in activities with their uniform on. If caught doing something with the uniform on, he said, you can be fired.

On the funeral leave policy, Billinger suggested changing the wording to give the city manager the leeway to allow more days.

Volk said she thought they had tried to make it as flexible as possible.

The commissioners agreed to change the wording to allow for more days for funeral leave with the city manager's approval.

The commission approved the revised policies during the regular meeting and Hill said the employees know about some of the changes and will be told about the full changes.

Offices, banks close for holidays

Government offices, businesses and banks will be closed the next two Tuesdays for Christmas and New Year's Day, and some will close those Mondays as well.

The Goodland Star-News office will close early both Mondays and will be closed both holidays. No Tuesday paper will be published either week.

Goodland city workers will have a long holiday this weekend, as offices will be closed all day Monday and Tuesday for Christmas. The offices will close Tuesday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day but will be open Dec. 31 and for regular hours, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. starting Wednesday, Jan. 2.

County offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday for Christmas. They will be open Monday, Dec. 31, and will be closed Tuesday, Jan. 1, for New Year's. The landfill and transfer station will be closed on Monday and Tuesday for Christmas, open Dec. 31 and closed for New Year's.

The post office and state and federal offices will close Tuesday for Christmas and Tuesday, Jan. 1 for New Year's. There will be no mail pickup or delivery. The post office will close at 1 p.m. Monday for Christmas Eve, but will be open for Christmas on New Year's Eve.

All banks will close for the holidays but open other days.

The Goodland schools will finish the year today, with no classes next week, and will reopen Wednesday, Jan. 2.

The hospital will be open, but the business offices will close early on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve and be closed for the holidays. Of course, the emergency room will be available 24 hours every day.

The Goodland Family Health Center will close at noon Monday and be closed Tuesday and will close at 3:30 p.m. on New Year's Eve and be closed New Year's Day.

matters of record

District Traffic

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

Oct. 18: Gary Winter \$126 for speeding.

Oct. 19: Richard W. Hegland \$120 for speeding.

Sara M. Tani \$126 for speeding.

Oct. 20: Michael J. Newman \$126 for failure to renew registration of certain vehicles and \$126 for speeding.

Oct. 21: Timothy G. Caster \$132 for speeding.

Nina Dolese \$126 for improper parking.

Lisa R. Gillett \$174 for speeding.

Marvin R. May \$138 for speeding.

Charles R. Schiavo \$120 for improper parking.

Oct. 22: Robert A. Ayer Sr. \$166 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations.

Oct. 23: Joseph M. Williams \$201 for improper parking.

Oct. 24: Lauren M. Dove \$174 for speeding and \$60 for improper driving on laned roadway.

Oct. 26: Ryan M. Bowman \$144 for speeding.

Nicole L. Soto \$120 for speeding.

Cathryn A. Walker \$114 for improper parking.

Oct. 27: William M. Carmichael III \$96 for defective tail lamp on motor vehicle and \$30 for improper lighting equipment on certain vehicles.

Barbara A. Liley \$120 for speeding.

Oct. 28: Elizabeth M. Good \$156 for improper parking.

Corey A. Sandoval \$156 for speeding.

Oct. 30: Gantuga Badarch \$216 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations.

Joanne Brychel \$120 for speeding.

Anghel Cioren \$166 and \$150 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations.

Megan M. Javor \$132 for speeding.

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.

proper parking.

Ross A. Townsend \$183 for improper parking.

You are invited to a retirement party for **Carol S. Armstrong** Sherman County Register of Deeds **Friday, Dec. 28 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.** Main Floor of the courthouse

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

from Our Family to Your Family

To all our patients and friends - On behalf of all of us at VisionSource! of Goodland, we wish you God's richest blessings this Christmas season and peace, love & health in the new year.

Dr. Mark Wahlmeier, Amanda & Family

Vision Source! of Goodland

student of the week



Name: Robert Borneman
Parents: Bill and Donna Borneman
Grade: 12
Age: 17
We've nominated this student because: Robert is usually well prepared, is involved in class discussion and is interested in learning about the subject.
Student Comment: Favorite aspect of school life: club activities. Best liked subjects: marketing, his-

tory. What I will remember about GHS: before school library activities.
Activities involved in at school: DECA, Scholars Bowl
My choice of movies, books, and games: Favorite movies: "Tin Cup," "Legend of Baggar Vance." Favorite music: whatever is on the radio when I listen.
Favorite game: "Follow the Tom."
After I leave Goodland High School I intend to ...: Go to college to pursue a degree in business.
And 10 years from now, I think I'll be ...: Be financially stable, have a good job and hopefully married.
Favorite Quote: "I look to the future because that's where I'm going to spend the rest of my life." George Burns

Truck and Tractor Repair
 Highway 24,
 Goodland, Kan. 67735
785-899-2401