



## Croatian artist displays work

An artist who fled war-torn Croatia with his fiancée in the early 1990s will have his work on display at the Carnegie Arts Center through Sunday.

As a child, Leonid Bjelanovic enjoyed all forms of art, including sketching, drawing and some painting. He uses brilliant colors for his oil paintings, with landscaping or religious themes, and has moved into photography. His work will be at the center until Sunday, July 27.

Also on display will be artwork by residents of Wheat Ridge Acres Retirement Community, where Goodland Artist Shirley Houston has been teaching summer classes. "The community will be amazed by the talents of these senior citizens," said Kay Younger, arts center director.

Jena McCall, a 2007 Goodland High School graduate, sang for the opening reception Sunday.

Bjelanovic was born and raised in Zadar, Croatia, where he lived until 1991. The war between the Serbs and the Croats forced his family to relocate to the Serb Republic of Benkovac, Croatia.

After four years of fighting, the family, along with hundreds of thousands of their fellow Serbs, was forced to flee in the middle of the night. With only a few of their belongings, the family, fearing for their lives, left their home and sought refuge in Serbia.

Bjelanovic and his new fiancée Irena, separated from the rest of their families, found safety living with relatives for only a few months before he was pulled back into the war.

"It was supposedly my duty to fight again, even though I had nothing left to fight for," he said, "even

though I never wanted to fight in the first place... We had already lost our houses, and all we had was the memories of our short childhoods, our stolen happiness."

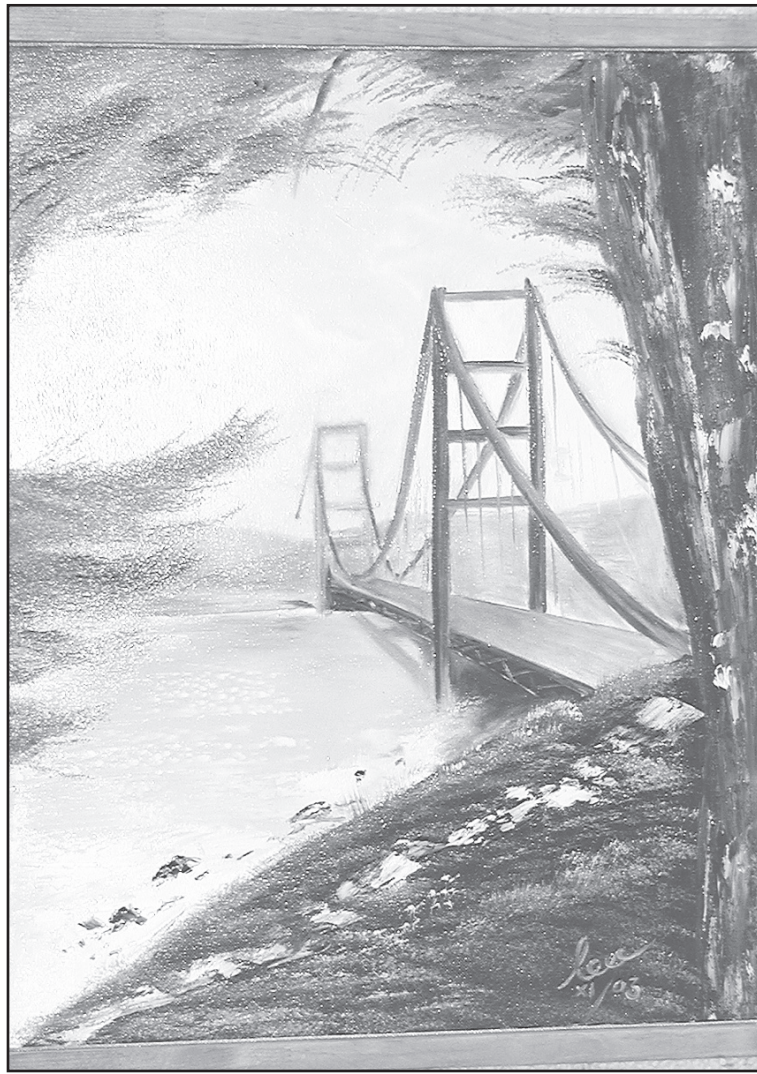
Once wounded, he was allowed to return to his family, and they soon learned of a place where there was promise of an opportunity of a fresh start, in Kosovo. There would be jobs and a place to live.

Upon arriving, they found instead substandard living conditions and few jobs. To make matters worse, Albanians began to ethnically cleanse the country of Serbs, leaving the family no other choice but to flee to the capital city of Pristina. There, they applied to foreign organizations for permission to immigrate.

Finally in 1998, after three years of escalated fighting in Kosovo, Bjelanovic and his fiancée were granted permission to marry and, along with his sister, were allowed to relocate to Denver.

In 2000, his parents were granted permission to immigrate to America and the family was finally reunited in Denver, where their daughter was born.

The exhibit is sponsored by Accounting and Tax Service and Paxton Construction.



The Mountain Lake (top) and Golden Gate Bridge (above) are two of the paintings by Croatian artist Leonid Bjelanovic on display at the Carnegie Arts Center through Sunday.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

## Deputies led on 100-mph chase

Cheyenne County Sheriff's deputies tried July 4 to stop a vehicle suspected of a hit-and-run accident and ended up chasing the vehicle over dirt roads, going over 100 miles an hour.

John Stephens, 21, St. Francis was driving. He refused to stop, leading deputies on a chase reaching speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour on dirt roads. The chase covered over 26 miles of Cheyenne County roads and a wheat stubble field.

Sherman County Sheriff's officers and the Kansas Highway Patrol responded to assist in the chase which ended four miles into Sherman County with Stephens being arrested.

Stephens is currently charged with fleeing and eluding and driving under the influence of alcohol. He is currently being held on a \$10,000 bond.

A passenger, Nick Raile, St. Francis, was released.

Stephens confessed to stealing tractors in three western Kansas counties last year and then pled guilty to theft at the Cheyenne

Bowl in St. Francis and burglary at the Frontier Equity Co-op in Bird City.

He was sentenced in May 2007 to serve 24 months on probation and pay \$88 restitution for the door he broke.

He pleaded guilty to theft at the bowling alley of money, signs, quarters and tokens on Sunday, April 9, 2006. The neon beer signs and tokens were recovered by police and returned to the bowling alley.

He was sentenced in May 2007 to 24 months probation with an underlying 21-month prison term, meaning that if he messed up once during the two years, he could serve up to 21 months in prison and have 12 months of post-release supervision. That sentence would run at the same time as sentences from the Frontier Equity break in and the tractor thefts.

Sheriff Craig Van Allen said that he appreciated the help of the Sherman County officers and the highway patrol as they helped in stopping the chase.

## Bird City to hold thresher show

The Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show will start Thursday, July 31, and end on Saturday, Aug. 2, featuring steam engines, old tractors and working displays of life on the farm a century or more ago.

The show has been a part of Bird City area since 1953, when it was started on a farm northeast of town. As the show grew, it was moved to grounds on the east side of Bird City along U.S. 36.

Each July, the building doors are opened and the antique machinery is brought out for another year's show. The big steam tractors, old gas tractors and early harvest equipment are all put on display.

This year, organizers expect more than 200 tractors, including 10 full-sized steam tractors. All must be operational to be on display. Several implements will be displayed, in-

cluding an eight-bottom plow used in field demonstrations. Volunteers will demonstrate threshing, corn shelling, sawmill and braker fans as well.

People can watch the steam tractors race and blow their whistles and a pyramid stunt performed daily with a steam tractor.

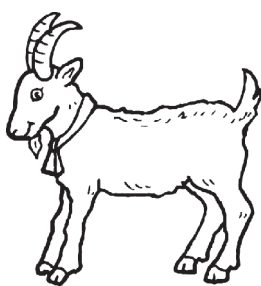
Other aspects of life a century ago also will be on display, including a blacksmith shop, print shop, quilt shop, museum, car museum and creamery. An old country church on the grounds houses a service on Sunday morning. A sod house shows what life was like for pioneer families.

An old cook shack that might have fed the harvest crew many years ago will offer lunch, including homemade beans, salads and desserts to go with a burger or sandwich.

### 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.

## "Don't Let Cancer Get Your Goat"



Sponsored by:

**Sherman County Relay For Life Committee**  
**July 26, 2008**  
**8:00am-11:00am**

If you would like for the SCRFL Committee to place a Goat in a yard, or if you just want to make a donation to the Sherman County Relay For Life. **Call Josh Dechant @ 785-728-7700 or Darren Kannady @ 785-821-3692**

The first 3 callers start the event by placing the Goats for \$10.00 each. After that:

**\$10.00 Donation**—For \$10, you can have the goat removed from your yard and choose who the next lucky recipient will be!

**\$15.00 Donation**—For \$15, you can have the goat removed and placed in another yard, plus get insurance so it never comes back to you!

**THANK YOU for your support of the American Cancer Society & the Sherman County Relay for Life.**

Come by the Goodland HS Track on Aug 15th from 7:00 PM to Aug 16th at 7:00 AM for the 2008 Sherman County Relay for Life



## Sunflower Contest

### RULES

- Write down as many words (at least 3 letters) that you can think of using the word "Promotion"
  - Do not use proper names
  - Bring your completed list to The Goodland Star-News office at 1205 Main or at our booth at the Fair by 12:00 p.m. by Monday, August 13th
- Winner will be announced in the Friday, August 15th edition

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(If you have more than 50, please attach an additional sheet)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Winner of the Sunflower Contest will receive a FREE 1 year subscription to:

The **Goodland Star-News**

### VOTE AUGUST 5TH!

**Scott Showalter**  
**Republican**  
**District Judge**



Actual Sherman County resident, Sherman County Attorney for 10 years. Will provide a strong and effective voice in the legal system with the experience to handle the job. "Honest, dedicated, experienced." This is my home and has been for the past 33 years. "I didn't just now show up for the job!"

(Paid for by Showalter for Judge-Tom Palmer Treasurer)

## Thank You

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported us in the 2nd Annual Gage Cloyd

Memorial Scholarship Raffle. We were able to raise \$2,500 for the welding department at NCKTC in Beloit in memory of Gage.

The winner of the "Henry Golden Boy" was TJ Yarger.

Special thanks to Kay and Bill Thornburg for their help with the tickets, and to Melody Knudson, Shea and Jessica Vrbka, and Rich Simon for selling tickets for us.

We truly appreciate each and every one of you who bought tickets. Hope to catch you again next year!

Greg and Tammy Cloyd