

College aims to keep the young in town

By Tom Betz
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 Representatives from the Northwest Kansas Technical College asked city commissioners to consider putting money into a scholarship program designed to help keep high school graduates and other young people in town.
 Bill Finley, director of support services and the college endowment foundation, and President Ken Clouse were at the city meeting last Monday to explain the scholarship plan. They asked the city to think about putting up to \$10,000 in the 2010 budget to help create a base for the program.
 Finley said he had gotten the idea after an

Economic Development Council strategic planning session in August.
 "The group picked six important items, and one was retaining youth in the community," Finley said. "That is important to me and my family, and I took the chairmanship of that task."
 He said he and the staff at the college spent some time talking about how to come up with a way to help kids stay here and go to the technical college.
 "We may be able to keep more of them here," he said. "We don't have the same advantage as the community colleges, which can do more part and full scholarships."
 "They have a tax base and we do not. We feel this is a way to compete with them."

He said keeping young people here helps the tax base and creates new jobs, and he feels it is a part of economic development to get young people to stay.
 He said the college endowment is earmarking \$10,000 a year for Goodland graduates, and that would help 10 students at \$1,000 a year.
 "I think this is a start and a beginning," he said. "We are asking the city and will ask the county to match it to get it up to \$30,000 and that would be 30 graduates each year."
 "We know you have set your budget. We would like you to think about this in the future. We are not asking for the money tonight."
 Mayor Rick Billinger asked Clouse how

many Goodland graduates the college gets now. Clouse said it varies from year to year, but there might be about 30 on campus now.
 "This would not pay the entire bill," Clouse said. "It is about \$5,000 a year and varies by program. We feel our community and the college need to be more competitive about keeping our youth...."
 "We think this program has merit and value. Getting it to \$30,000 is not going to be the total answer."
 Billinger asked if the city or county could do something like Thomas County does with a tax levy for the college.
 Clouse said all community colleges have that, but does not know of a way the techni-

cal college can do it.
 "I think it is a good idea," Billinger said. "Any way to keep students here in the county would be a help."
 Clouse said the program would not only be for Goodland High graduates, but for some who have left, to encourage them to come back.
 He had a list of graduates of the college who have come back and own businesses or work in Goodland that ran six pages of names over 44 years. He said there are about 30 currently.
 "A strong college is dependent on a strong community," Clouse said, "and a strong community is dependent on a strong college."



Maj. Gen. Todd Bunting, Kansas Adjutant General, (right) talked to Spc. Richard Sturtevant (center) and his wife, Melanie Saturday after presenting the National Guardsman a Purple Heart medal and Combat Action Badge for injuries received while serving in Iraq. Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Man awarded Purple Heart

By Tom Betz
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 A short ceremony at the Goodland National Guard Armory on Saturday drew some top brass to award a Purple Heart and Combat Action Badge to one of the members of the 170th Maintenance Company Detachment for an injury suffered in Iraq.
 Maj. Gen. Todd Bunting, Kansas Adjutant General, presented the medal and badge to Specialist Richard L. Sturtevant, Jr.
 Sturtevant, a correction officer at the Kit Carson County Correctional Facility in Burlington, has been in the National Guard for six years.
 The certificate for the Purple Heart said that on June 29, 2007, Sturtevant was a driver in a convoy traveling between two bases in northern Iraq when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. The vehicle did not appear to be damaged, and the convoy continued to the destination.
 Sturtevant began suffering severe headaches caused by the concussion of the explosion. He sought medical help and the company commander later recommended he be awarded the Purple Heart for mild traumatic brain injury, a signature injury of the war in Iraq.
 Sturtevant said he returned to the United States in August last year after 15 months of service in Iraq,

and has been under treatment since for the mental-health issues caused by the explosion.
 Sturtevant said he was a close friend of Staff Sgt. Travis S. Bachman of Garden City, who was killed by an improvised explosive device on August 1, 2007, while conducting a ride along to train soldiers from the unit that was replacing the 714th Security Force.
 Sturtevant rushed to Bachman's vehicle to attempt first aid, but Bachman was killed outright by the explosion. Sturtevant and the unit departed Iraq about two weeks later.
 Sturtevant was a friend of Sgt. Derrick J. Lutters, from Detachment 1 170th Maintenance Company, who was killed while assigned to the 891st Engineer Battalion on May 1, 2005, when serving as gunner in the last vehicle of a reconnaissance patrol securing a supply route into the forward operating base where the unit was stationed in Iraq. Lutters was killed by a vehicle born improvised explosive device which was detonated as the vehicle he was riding in passed by.
 Gen. Bunting told the company he had talked to Lutters' mother, Marian, while he was in the area to see how she was doing.
 Sturtevant's wife, Melanie, was at the awards service on Saturday, and said she was glad to have her husband home. They have two sons,

Travis, 7, and Tyrell, 3.
 Sturtevant said he was born in Pueblo, Colo., in July 1974 and his parents are Richard and Linda. He graduated from Pueblo Central High School and attended Pueblo Community College, where he studied criminal justice.
 He said an instructor at the college gave him a push and he applied for a job at the Wyoming State Prison where he worked for about three years before moving to Burlington to work for the prison there.
 He said he goes to the Veterans outreach clinic in Burlington for treatment, and is thankful it is that close to his home.
 He said his injury has gotten better, and he is glad to be home.
 He said his job was waiting for him when he got back.
 "It was like I never left," he said.
 After the ceremony Gen. Bunting told the guardsmen he was proud of all their service, and he feels there will be missions for them in the future both in Iraq and Afghanistan.
 The Adjutant General said Saturday was the fourth anniversary of the loss of Staff Sgt. Clinton Lee Wisdom, 39, of Atchison, and Spc. Don Clary, 21, of Troy, who were the first Kansas National Guardsmen killed in Iraq. They were killed by a vehicle born improvised explosive device protecting a convoy headed back to the Baghdad airport.

City to buy membership

By Tom Betz
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 Unless there is a legal obstacle, Goodland City Commissioners agreed last Monday to become a corporate member of Frontier Ag at a cost of \$100 for a share of stock.
 Brian Linin, chief financial officer of the co-operative, explained the way the membership works, and said he had looked at the business the city does with the co-op and felt the city could have an advantage by being a member.
 He said the city did \$114,000 in business with the co-op last year. Most of that was not eligible for patronage refunds, he said, because it was fuel, but the remaining \$4,000 would have brought the city about \$360 in return.
 He said most of that would not have been in cash, but would have been put into the city's equity, with \$96 in cash going to the city based

on the 30 percent rate approved by the board.
 "It is up to the board if they distribute earnings back to the membership," Linin added.
 He said the members can build up to \$2,000 in stock. He said if it grows that becomes deferred equity.
 He said the city would be a non-voting member because only farmers and ranchers can own voting stock.
 He said paying of earnings to members is a way to spread out the tax liability, because with a cooperative, every member gets to share in the success.
 Commissioner Dave Daniels asked if the city could legally become a member, and Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said she was about to ask the same question.
 City Manager Wayne Hill said he had the same question, and wondered what would happen if the city

were able to find a better bulk fuel price than Frontier Ag.
 Linin said the city would not be locked into anything. He said the city would only be committed to any contract they had agreed to during the year.
 City Clerk Mary Volk said she did not see how the city becoming a corporate member could be a conflict.
 Mayor Rick Billinger said the city could apply for a membership and have the city attorney check out the legal side. Linin said Sherman County is a member.
 "It just makes sense to do it," Billinger said. "We have a consensus to do it. If there is not a legal problem, we can let Mary and Wayne fill the paperwork out."
 Daniels asked if a person can become a member as an individual. Linin said yes that was possible.
 "I was told once we could not do that," Daniels said.

County to pour parking lot

County Commissioners approved the low bid from Dick Morton to pour concrete for parking areas to the north and south behind the courthouse at their last meeting in October.
 The plan has been discussed previously and bids were received from Morton and from Dennis Malsom, but the award had been delayed to make sure the details were the same from both bidders.
 Commissioner Kevin Rasure said there was considerable difference in

the bids. Malsom had bid \$10,320 for the north part and \$7,250 for the south. He had indicated a 5 percent discount for doing both together.
 Morton's bid was \$6,050 for the north and \$4,484 for the south.
 Rasure made a motion to go with Morton, subject to the exact scope of the project, for a total of \$10,534. Commissioner Chuck Thomas seconded and the motion passed 2-0 with Commissioner Mitch Tiede absent.
 Thomas said he would get a hold

of Curt Way, county public works manager, and get him together with Morton.
 Rasure said it would be good to get everybody who is part of the project involved to be sure everything is clear.
 The commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. on Friday for a regular meeting. The first meeting of the month was cancelled because of the election, and was moved to Friday because the courthouse would be closed today for Veteran's Day.

matters of record

District Traffic
 The following fines have been paid in the Sherman County District Court. All ages are at the time of the ticket.
Sept. 20: Joe F. Wilkinson, 62, Aurora, Colo., \$175 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations, log violation.
Sept. 21: Joseph A. Rateau, 47, Littleton, Colo., \$175 for violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations, not paying Unified Carrier registration.
 Adan A. Warsame, 25, Maples,

Minn., \$135 for speeding.
 Andrew C. Wilcox, 48, Houston, \$175 for violating motor

carrier safety rules and regulations, no Unified Carrier registration.

student of the week



Name: Brianna Klein
Parents: Heidi Malheim
Grade: Senior
Age: 17
We've nominated this student because: She is a determined young lady who has a strong desire to succeed. Brianna is a joy to have in class. She is intelligent, articulate and a very dedicated student.
Student Comment: After moving here from Sundance, Wyoming, I was grateful for everyone's warm welcomes. My favorite thing about school is it's entertaining, and every day and

every class is something new. Science, history, FACS are all some of my favorite subjects.
Activities involved in at school: Family, Career and Community Leaders of America
My choice of movies, books, and games: My choices of movies are ones that make you laugh or make a good point, like *In Her Shoes* or *Blood Diamond*. For music I like everything from country to rock to today's hits.
After I leave Goodland High School I intend to ...: attend The University of Wyoming in Laramie, Wyoming, and obtain a Pharmacy Degree.
And 10 years from now, I think I'll be ...: accomplished and happy. I plan on working full-time and raising a family.
Favorite Quote: "No one said life would be easy... they just promised it's be worth it."

Community Conversation and Free Chili Supper!

Shine on Sherman County invites you to a community conversation and free chili supper.

When: Tuesday, November 18
 Time: 6:00 p.m.
 Location: Goodland Elks Lodge (1523 Arcade)

Come hear what is happening with the five action teams!
 * Youth and skate park
 * Community Beautification
 * Government Alliance
 * Resource Development
 * Regional Health Care

And have the opportunity to give positive input to the future of our community!

TEXAS RED'S BAR-B-Q

will be at Frontier Ag in Goodland on Monday, November 10 to Friday, November 14

Beef brisket • Turkey Breast
 • Chicken Halves • Sausages • Pork Ribs

Fountain Drinks, chips and snacks also available inside!

*Formerly Frontier Equity Exchange in Goodland

Walmart Pharmacy

2160 Commerce Road, Goodland
 (785) 899-2111