

County looks to add bridges to five-year plan

By Tom Betz

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Sherman County has one bridge on the five-year highway improvement list, and two more are being recommended to be added after the 73 county bridges are inspected.

Curt Way, public works manager, said after the previous meeting he had contacted Penco Engineering about inspecting the county bridges.

He said the county has 42 bridges considered major collectors and 31 minor collectors.

The contract with Penco would cost \$82 per bridge and that was up from \$47 a few years ago.

Commissioner Cynthia Strnad made the motion to approve the

inspection contract with Penco for \$5,986 to inspect 73 bridges.

Commissioner Max Linin seconded the motion and it passed 3-0 with Commissioner Chuck Thomas voting in favor.

Way said the inspections are more stringent and it is trickle down from the bridge collapse in Minnesota, and it makes them more detailed and it comes down to the local level.

He said the state inspector had been out and pulled a random list of about 10 percent of the bridges to inspect.

He said he has spent several days compiling bridge files. He said he went back and found the inspections on the individual bridges so there will be files when someone wants

to check on a specific bridge.

He said it is more paperwork, but it will be a help in the future.

He said in talking to Jerol DeBoer of Penco the county has built up a larger amount in the project fund and he recommends the county put two bridges on the list.

Way said the county has about \$700,000 built up, and putting two bridges would help keep the county in line for the money.

He said if the county does not have enough projects to use the money the state might come in and take some of it.

He said the two he is recommending are one on County Road 26 south of I-70 and the other on County Road 32 north of Kevin Ross' that

gets a lot of traffic.

Way said both bridges are at 40 percent sufficient and are in need of rehabilitation or possibly replaced.

Linin asked about the one Way mentioned south of Kanorado.

Strnad said she did not feel that bridge got enough traffic to replace, but agreed something needs to be done.

Way said it is a situation where they may do a study and take the bridge out and put in a low water crossing. He said the county would have to do an engineering study and work with the state water people to put in a low water crossing.

He said if they take out the bridge it might be possible to straighten up the road.

Linin asked about county liability if the bridge collapsed with someone on it.

Way said the bridge is posted as dangerous and if it collapses it is the person's problem.

Strnad said the area is pretty deep and it is going to take a lot of dirt. Way said another one where they might consider a low water crossing is on Road 7 just south of the county line.

He said doing bridges through the five-year plan takes a bit longer, but the county has to come up with 20 percent and the state and feds pay 80 percent.

Thomas said he had made the changes to the mowing contract and got it signed.

Strnad said she did get some feedback on the plan to cut eight feet on the first pass.

She said the concern was that if the weeds got too bad they could call in to get it cut down.

Thomas said in the change to the contract he made the experimentation at the discretion of the public works manager to give Way the option.

Strnad told Way the feedback was not real bad, but the question was about the weeds if they get bad.

Way said the weeds usually won't fall out that far, but if it does he would handle it.

Group flies in for lunch



Nineteen pilots in 11 small airplanes from the Denver area flew into Renner Field and had lunch on Wednesday noon at the Butterfly Cafe. The pilots said they got together to fly. They were also celebrating the 86th birthday of Walt Barbo of Aurora with a surprise birthday cake. The group said they fly every week to somewhere different to eat lunch. They have flown to Salida, Colo.; Granby, Colo.; Sidney, Neb.; LaJunta, Colo.; and Wray, Colo. The pilots are all members of the Colorado Pilots Association.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Constitutional society plans fourth session in series

The High Plains Constitutional Society, a local, non-profit group, is offering the fourth session in the four part Healing of America series on Friday, March 5, and Saturday, March 6, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, at Seventh and Caldwell Ave.

Dr. Glenn Kimber from Salt Lake City, Utah, President of the Thomas

Jefferson Center for Constitutional Studies will present the message, said Ken Klemm organizer for the society.

The fourth Seminar is entitled "Restoring the Founders' Dream." This seminar is most important to attend as it details how America can be healed by restoring the principles of the Constitution, Klemm said.

"Included will be answers as to how we can heal America spiritually and morally," he said. "It is thrilling to learn the solution to these major problems can be achieved by restoring — not only righteousness to our nation's people — but the U.S. Constitution in the tradition of our inspired Founders."

This two-part event is for those

interested in learning more about the Constitution of the United States of America, he said. On Friday, March 5 the first session will be from 7 to 9:30 p.m. and admission is free. Dr. Kimber will address how restoring the individual and the family is central to restoring our nation, Klemm said. Families and children 10 and older are welcome.

On Saturday, March 6, the day long session will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dr. Kimber will lead discussions dealing with healing the community and the State, restoring the Constitution and restoring international relationships.

Saturday's admission is \$39 for adults and \$19 for children 10-18 years of age (no younger children

please). A valuable study guide is included in this cost.

It is not necessary to have attended any prior session to attend this one.

Contact Klemm at (785) 899-5804 for tickets or more information. Seating is limited.

Police investigate open fire hydrant spree

Goodland police are looking for a dark colored four-wheel drive pickup and the occupants who went around town opening fire hydrants on Wednesday, Feb. 10. Police officers were called about 2 a.m., and told of that activity.

A police officer spotted the vehicle and attempted a stop. The driver refused to stop and drove

west of town where a Sherman County deputy sheriff gave chase. The pickup went west on Eighth then turned south on County Road 18 then turned back east at County Road 62 and south on K-27.

The pickup fled into Wallace County, and the Wallace County Sheriff was driving north on K-27, but was unable to locate it.

A total of 11 fire hydrants were opened over a 20-30 minute period of time, and Fire Chief Brian James and Public Works Director Rich Simon were called out to help shut them down. Chief James said he estimated the city lost 542,000 gallons of water from the hydrants. City Manager Doug Gerber said the estimated pumping cost for the

water was \$800.

Police Chief Ray Smee is asking anyone who might have information on this incident to call the police department (785) 890-4570 or Crime Stoppers at (785) 899-5665.

Smee said people need to be watchful and report suspicious activity around fire hydrants or any suspicious activity.

Scholars' Bowl team headed to state meet

By Elaine Felver

The Goodland High School Scholars' Bowl team headed for state competition after placing third at regionals in Lakin on Monday, Feb. 8. The team of Ben Waugh, Parker Sieck, Day Waugh, Michaela Garrett and J.L. Pourin earned third, granting them the go-ahead for the state meet on Saturday, Feb. 13, in Cimarron.

There were teams competing the state meet in 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A from Western Kansas. The Colby

team competed in 4A.

Twice postponed due to weather, the Lakin pool play set Goodland High School against Lakin, Holcomb, Chaparral and Medicine Lodge. "Beating Holcomb was pivotal, as Goodland won after the second tie-breaker," noted Coach Jon Felver. "Parker nabbed a big one for us when he answered how many astronauts have been on the moon." They then advanced to the final pool, facing Cimarron, Conway Springs, Wichita Collegiate,

Wichita Independence and Lakin.

"Each of our team members contributed to this win," observed Felver. "I'm really proud of their efforts."

The journey to Cimarron was prefaced by an appearance at the team's previous event in Brewster on Monday, Jan. 25, where the group nabbed fourth place. That

set of competitors included Brooke Lockhart, Trace Waugh, and Cassie Battistoni as well as Sieck and Garrett.

Back to the jaunt to Cimarron: How many astronauts have been on the moon? Not the 16 as the Holcomb opponent speculated, but rather 12 as Sieck reported.

Large Auction for Virgil & Jackie Baumfalk
Farmland, Grass, Commercial Sites Rural Home and personal property

Saturday, April 24th, at the home site located 3 1/2 miles west of Goodland on Hwy 24. .

Home and out buildings with approx. 7 acres of land, 55 acres of grass, 69 acres of farmland will be sold in 3 separate tracts and then in combination of tracts.

418 East 17th commercial building
715 East Hwy 24 commercial building
1201 East Hwy 24, (road side park) 3.7 acres

Lots of guns, antiques, household items to sell.

Watch for coming advertisement. For more information contact Terry Richardson at 785-899-2328 or 899-8094 e-mail: terry@goodlandhomestead.com

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Relay For Life Benefit
Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament

Saturday, March 27, 2010
GOODLAND ELKS LODGE
Register between 5-5:30 p.m.
Tournament starts at 6 P.M.

All proceeds go to American Cancer Society
Relay for Life PawWash team

STANDARD SEAT=\$45 donation pre-registration or \$55 at door
VIP SEAT=\$100.00 donation (VIP's start with more chips)

Questions or to pre-register call Dee at (785) 899-5144 or Cindie at (785) 821-3999 (Pre-register by Feb. 17 or Mar. 24)

Must be 21 to enter. Elks Members and Guests. Snack food will be served.

POKER

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.

Accepting Sealed Bids

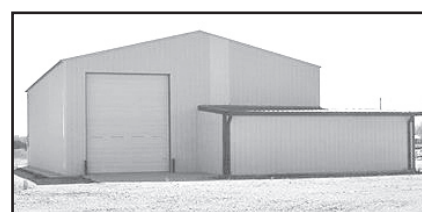
Sherman County Commissioners are taking sealed bids for roof repairs on the north side of the 17th Street building. **Bids need to be turned in by 3 p.m. on February 22, 2010, at County Clerks Office, 813 Broadway, Rm. 102, Goodland, KS 67735. Contact William McKnight for details at (785) 890-4801.**

Commercial Listings from Homeland Realty!

New listing...104 E. Highway 24, Goodland...Great location for an office building with over 1900 sq. ft. Brick building with metal roof, kitchen area and 2 bathrooms. Building has had excellent maintenance and upkeep. Room to expand if needed. Good access from highway. Give Tom a call 785-443-0136.



Price Reduced to \$128,000...525 Cattletrail Ave., Goodland...



This is a 40 x 60 metal frame building. It has 6 inch concrete and heated flooring, with drain. Completely wired (110-220) and insulated. 16 Ft overhead electric doors on the east and west, with a 12 Ft electric door on the south side. 10 x 20 office area which is plumbed for a bathroom. Accessible to City Water. A 33'x48' steel lean to which is also located East of the main building. There are Tax Credits that are transferrable to the Buyer. **Go to our website and see ALL our listings! www.goodlandnet.com/homeland** 1112 Main, Goodland 785-899-3060 Toll Free 1-866-899-3060 *Make an appointment to see any of our fine Homeland listings!*

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