

# Recycling, animal control topics for talks

By Tom Betz

nt.betz@nwkansas.com

Two Sherman County commissioners met with four city commissioners on Monday at the city meeting to talk about possibly changing and expanding the recycling program, and what do do about an animal control officer with the joint dog pound in operation.

The two commissions agreed to look into possibly renting or leasing a building that might be used to collect cardboard and plastic to be baled and sent to the Northwest Regional Recycling center in Colby.

City Manager Doug Gerber said he and County Commissioner Chuck Thomas recently attended a meeting of the regional recycling organization in Colby.

He said the organization represents a combination of eight counties in northwest Kansas, and charge \$2 per person to join the group. He said the big difference between what the city and county are doing now and the regional group is the regional group accepts plastic and cardboard.

He said the organization suggested the county have a dedicated building for collecting the recycling material and a couple of part time employees for an hour or two a day to handle and bale the plastic and cardboard.

Thomas said representatives from the recycling organization including Roger

Jensen of St. Francis and Greg Nemechek and Sandy Rogers, Sherman County representatives on the regional Western Prairie RC&D, were at the commission meeting on Wednesday.

Thomas said City Commissioner Dave Daniels was at the meeting and he is the county representative on the East Central and Southeast Colorado Recycling board, which is the group that has been handling the recycling of paper, glass, tin and aluminum for the past nine years.

Daniels said the Colorado recycling group charges \$2 per person and if the county wanted to opt out they would have to notify the group by September. He said Sherman County is usually the second or third of the 18 counties in the system taking about 187 cubic yards a quarter to the organizations headquarters in Las Animas, Colo.

The Colorado group has a specially equipped truck and trailer that come to Goodland once a week to empty the containers at Walmart, by Rasure Lumber and by the city shops.

Thomas said it was his understanding the city owns the recycling containers. He said the representatives from the regional group said they thought they might be able to dump the containers, but would rather have the city and county change to different containers if they join the regional group.

He said the regional group charges \$2 per person, but said they expected to raise that to \$3 per person or possibly \$4 per person by the end of the year.

Jensen told the commissioners at their meeting on Wednesday the reason for the increase in the rate was the grant money is running out.

Daniels said the Colorado group had already decided they were not raising the rate this year, and he did not expect it to raise next year.

Acting Mayor Rick Billinger asked if the city and county go with the regional group would they do away with the Colorado group.

Daniels said the regional people said they were willing to take what is not being collected now.

Thomas said the cost of the building was something he was not sure the county could afford a this time.

A question was asked about what the estimate is for the amount of cardboard being put in the landfill, and Daniels said he was told it was about 70 percent.

He suggested staying with Southeast Recycling and going with the regional group for the cardboard and plastic.

Thomas said the problem is the county would have to have a building and a vertical baler.

Commissioner Cynthia Strnad said the

county was facing some huge expenses coming up including the chip sealing of old U.S. 24 across the county, a boiler for the courthouse and repair of the alley behind the courthouse. She said she was not sure they could add a building into that.

Commissioner John Garcia said unless the city and county continue the present system they would have to make an investment in a building and go ahead and bale the materials.

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said the success hinges on people using the recycling facility. She said she liked the idea of having all the containers in one place where people could drive up and separate out their recycled materials.

Strnad asked about leasing a building or several storage units.

Billinger said they would need a large area for cardboard. He said it sounded like both commissions were short of money. He said they might look for a building, and agreed with Fairbanks it would be best if it was all in one place.

Daniels said the other containers could be moved to a single location. He said if the regional people will take the plastic and cardboard they could make it work if they can find a building.

Strnad said she thought she had seen a building that might work. She said she would talk with Gerber and let him contact

the owners.

On the animal control officer Gerber said he saw three options.

First, the city hire someone full time and the county continue their contract. Second, the city hires someone and the county contracts with the city. Third, is the city and county jointly contract with someone for the service.

Billinger asked if Larry Harper, who had expressed an interest in doing the animal control for both the city and county, had contacted Gerber.

Gerber said he had not heard from Harper and had not contacted him until after the two commissions had talked about how to handle the animal control.

He said the police are picking up the dogs now, but that is not a good long term option. He said they moved the animals to the joint shelter last week.

Billinger asked the county commissioners if they had an opinion on the options.

Strnad said the county likes the contract they have with Bob Juleson. He has a day job, but charges mileage and a set cost per dog.

Gerber said it was a policy decision and was asking for options. He suggested the city could do an advertisement asking for proposals.

Billinger said he thought that was a good idea. He said it is a 24-hour project.

## Fifth grade sings movie, tv themes

By Pat Schiefen

pjschiefen@nwkansas.com

North Elementary School's fifth grade entertained the audience on Tuesday night at the Goodland High School Auditorium.

The students sang themes from various movies and television shows including "Happy Days," "I Love Lucy," "Mister Ed," "Ballad of Jed Clampett," "The Brady Bunch," "Addams Family" and "The Little Mermaid."

In a skit several boys carried pizza boxes and a group of girls joined them singing about how much they loved pizza's with its cheese, sauce and crust. Those in the skit were Josh Smith, Jacob Brown, Austin Keim, Dominick Lewis, Kennedy Dinkel, Savannah Brighton, Kelsey White, Abigail Neal, Jamie Nemechek, Janessa Selbe, Paige Cullens, Rebekah Salams and Kinsey Volk.

The students, directed by Char Avila, sang several patriotic songs with Amanda Coon singing a solo on one.

Before the program started White, Volk, Sianna Miller, Alex Goodwin, Kate Zelfer, Matthew Wood and Amanda Coon each played a number on the piano.

Students from Anne Coon's class are Maria Aguirre, Ashley Anderson, Zane Bateman, John Boone,

Brighton, Brown, Kaylee Christenson, Kaitlin Daise, Dinkel, Lewis, Amber Martell, Neal, Leo Perez, Ashton Roberson, Makayla Schartz, Tobi Stegall, Jeffrey Turner, Alexi Vasquez and Tate Withington.

Paula Fisher's class includes Brenae Bahe, Simon Bassett, Coon, Dillion Gillming, Anthony Hernandez, Noah Hernandez, Autumn Johnson, Dusty Johnson, Devin Lewton, Calvin Linnell, Miller, Samantha Mojica, Myrna Ruiz, Abigail Santana, Alonzo Soto, Margaux Thompson, Volk, Isaac Walton and White.

Members of Emily McQuitty's class are Adison Avelar, Nolan Deeds, Kelcie Dhoyas, Rebecca Farrow, Erin Floyd, Ussiel Gallegos, Gabriella Galindo, Mercedes Garza, Erica Hernandez, Nemechek, Keim, Chalee Luther, Nora Ordonez-Castillo, Alyssa Wear, Selbe, Josh Smith, Claudia Soto and Ariel Tabor.

Students from Myron Tedford's class are Cullens, Jared Dreilling, Elizabeth Fulcher, Michael Garza, Goodwin, Alyssa Helpingstine, Braelyn Hoelting, Lacey Hopkins, Hagen Hoss, Jose Ledesma, Trace Mason, Tyka Ruhs, Salmans, Kasey Stramel, Tayler Thorson, Wood and Zelfer.

Jim Mull is the principal of North Elementary School.



North Elementary fifth graders Austin Keim (from left), Jacob Brown and Josh Smith were pizza delivery men in the skit about pizza love.

The class sang about their love of toppings, cheese and crust.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

## Contracts approved on two projects

By Tom Betz

nt.betz@nwkansas.com

Contracts to replace the asphalt with concrete on K-27 from the I-70 interchange north to the Walmart entrance were selected by the Kansas Department of Transportation and the city approved the contracts on Monday.

The city commission received letters from Ronald J. Seitz, direc-

tor of local projects awarding the two project contracts to Smoky Hill Construction of Salina.

The two projects total \$1,218,246 with the city receiving \$583,803 in federal stimulus money and \$473,883 from the state.

The city portion of the two projects totals \$160,000.

On the federally paid portion

the city will be paying \$18,600 for items not covered by the stimulus program including the construction engineering cost.

On the state paid portion the state pays for 80 percent and the city pays 20 percent or \$142,000.

The commissioners approved the commitment of city funds for both K-27 projects.

Darin Neufeld, engineer for Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, said the contracts should be finalized in the next month and expects work to begin later this spring.

The commissioners approved payment of \$2,060 to EBH for work on the K-27 project done in March.

## matters of record corrections

### Municipal Court

These are cases decided by the Goodland Municipal Court:

**Feb. 26:** James E. Ornelas, battery - domestic violence, diversion, \$360.

**March 1:** Misty Monic Fink, driving under influence, diversion, \$1,060.

**March 2:** April Ann Weisshaar, failed to report hit unattended vehicle, diversion, \$260.

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.

## Sherman County Household Hazardous Waste Collection

**Saturday, April 17, 2010  
7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Mountain time**

**HHW Facility  
1820 Cherry Street, Goodland**  
For more information,  
please contact Kenny Griffith at 821-1024.

No early drop-offs or no drop-offs  
without personnel present.  
There will be no **USED OIL** collected at this time.

FOR SHERMAN COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY!

**Classifieds work! 899-2338**

up to **\$1,400** Lennox® Rebate\*  
+ up to **\$1,500** Tax Credit\*\*  
**\$2,900** Total

Between the **rebates** and the **tax breaks**,  
you're gonna need a bigger jar.

**Dave Lennox PREMIER DEALER LENNOX**

**PLAINS HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING**  
New Installations • Repair Service • All Brands  
Commercial and Residential  
Serving Eastern Colorado Since 1976 and now Western Kansas  
**Toll-Free (800) 678-2914 • Limon (719) 775-2914**  
**Calhan (719) 347-3064 • Goodland (785) 890-2914**  
Plains Heating & Air conditioning – for all your heating and cooling needs!!

**LENNOX**  
HOME COMFORT SYSTEMS  
Innovation never felt so good.™

Offer expires 6/30/2010 \*Rebate offer is valid only with the purchase of qualifying Lennox products. \*\*See dealer for details and visit www.energystar.gov for more information on the credit guidelines and list of qualifying heating and cooling equipment. © 2010 Lennox Industries Inc. See your participating Lennox dealer for details. Lennox dealers include independently owned and operated businesses.

## New Listing From Homeland!

**1407 Arcade...** You need to see this home to appreciate all it has to offer. The living-dining room is spacious and the built-in hutch is a focal point which will provide a beautiful display for your pretty dishes and pictures. There is a family room, a bright, cheery sunroom, two spacious bedrooms and convenient kitchen. You will love the built-in desk and storage in the hallway. The fenced backyard is lovely with lots of perennials and a garden spot plus underground sprinklers. The package is completed by the 28' X 30' heated garage. Call Rose Koggie for your opportunity to check out this wonderful home. 785-899-7464, 785-899-3060 or 866-899-3060.

**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!

**HomeLand REALTY AUCTION**  
"Western Hospitality"

**Tom Harrison**  
Broker/  
Auctioneer

**Rose Koggie**  
Assoc.  
Broker

**Hazel Estes**  
Sales  
Assoc.