

# Annual Flatlander Festival plans shaping up

Plans are being finalized for Goodland's annual Flatlander Festival beginning with car races on Friday, Sept. 24, the car show, bike show and talent contest on Saturday, Sept. 25 and picnic in the park on Sunday, Sept. 26.

Brent Wood, Flatlander Festival board president, said things are looking good for the annual event. He said the golf tournament on Friday will not happen, because no one has stepped forward to organize the tournament.

The weekend events will begin on Friday at 5 p.m. with car races at the Sherman County Speedway, and the Brick Top Cruisers will have an early registration and evening social from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Central Elementary School on Main Ave.

The Flatlander 5K Run and walk will start at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday at Steever Park. There will be three different runs to participate in sponsored by the Goodland Activity

Center: the Elementary "Mile" for children sixth grade and under, the Competitive 5K run for all ages and the Family Fun Run/Walk for families.

All races will start at Steever park. The Elementary "Mile" will be a lap around Steever Water Park. The competitive 5K Run and Family Fun Run and walk will start at 16th and go east and then North on Arcade Ave. to Second St., turn west to Main Ave. and South on Main back to 16th turning east and ending at Steever Park.

The Brick Top Cruisers will have their 24th annual car show on Main on Saturday beginning with registration from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The Brick Top Cruisers Car Club will have a second year of valve cover racing at 12:30 p.m. in front of Central Elementary. For information call Bob Gittinger at (785) 890-2447, or visit their website bricktop-cruisers.com.

The area motorcycle group will have the Annual Northwest Kansas Bike Show with registration from 9 a.m. to noon at the Goodland Veterans of Foreign wars.

There will be motorcycle games from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on the lot behind Bankwest. To enter the bike show call Dave Daniels (785) 890-6538 or visit nwbike-show.com.

The cars and motorcycles plan to parade on Main Ave. at 8 p.m. on Saturday.

The Frontier Ag Chili Cook-Off will be held on Main Ave., with sampling beginning at 11 a.m. Chili Cook-Off teams are being sought now and to sign up contact Buddy Williams at (785) 899-3681.

The grandstand will be set up at 12th and Main on Saturday for the Scruffy Dog contest at 11 a.m. The scruffy dog contest is sponsored by Eagle Communications and the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter. For information call Marty at (785) 899-3371.

The Carnegie Arts Center will hold the Flatlander Talent Show at noon following the dog contest at the grandstand. Call Kay Younger at (785) 890-6442.

At 2 p.m. on Saturday, a skateboard competition will be held at the Steever Skate Park. For information contact Iris Scheopner (875) 899-6454.

At 3 p.m. on Saturday the David Clark Memorial Truck and Tractor Pull will be held, but Wood said the location may be changed because of the construction on K-27. For information call Stan Meissinger at (785) 899-7323 or visit www.cttpapull.com.

"We are expecting 40 to 50 vendors with 15 to 18 from Northwest Tech," said Wood.

Vendors include games, food, crafts and bake sale, he said. For Flatlander booth information call Wood at (785) 821-5441, or visit flatlandfestival.com.

Fixsen Electronics, 1516 Main, is planning to hold a garage sale on Saturday.

A first time auto and motorcycle swap meet will be located at 12th and Main Ave., Wood said. The contact for the swap meet is Elizabeth and Daniel Estes (785) 995-9097 or (785) 399-7591.

The second night of car races will start at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday at the Sherman County Speedway.

On Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. there will be free food and music at the Picnic-N-the Park at Chambers Park, 13th and Center Ave.

The Flatlander Festival Committee will have a drawing for a Harley Davidson to be held at noon on Sunday at the Picnic in the Park at Chambers Park. For information call Wood at (785) 821-5441.

"It is shaping up to be another good event this year," Wood said.

## Labor Day weekend programs planned at Bonny State Lake

By Vickie Schleppe  
*Great Outdoors Colo. Interpreter*

Labor Day Weekend is here! Workers at Bonny Lake State Park are ready to make this last summer holiday weekend an enjoyable one for the visitors and campers.

For this Labor Day weekend we will be having several programs at the park amphitheater to entertain and inform.

On Saturday at 7 p.m. we will have Pam Coulter from Wray. She will present her program "Learning with the Heart." Join us as Pam teaches us about the culture of the Native American Indian and entertains us with Native American music. This is a fun and interesting program.

On Sunday, at 7 p.m. the Crooked Creek group will be entertaining us with popular western songs along with a few songs from the 60's and 70's. Come, relax, and enjoy an evening of music entertainment.

There will be a scavenger hunt for the kids and family this weekend. This is a fun way to explore the park and see what you can find. There will be lots of things you didn't expect to see! Pick up your scavenger hunt packet at the Visitor's Center and start having fun finding all the items. You have all weekend to enjoy the hunt. After you have completed all the tasks bring the scavenger hunt sheet back to the Visitor's Center for a surprise!

Check out the newest activity at the park, **Geocaching**, using a GPS (Global Positioning System) unit. The activity basically involves a GPS user hiding "treasure" (a container and its contents), and publishing the exact coordinates so other GPS users can come on a "treasure hunt" to find it.

The only rules are: if you take something from the cache, you must leave something for the cache, and you must write about your visit in the logbook. We have hidden 5 boxes for you to find with a GPS unit, some are easy, some are more difficult.

Stop by the Visitor's Center to get the coordinates to start your treasure hunt. For those of you who want to try your hand at this, but don't have a GPS unit, we have units available to loan you for a small donation of \$2 per unit.

**Water Levels and Boating** – As of Aug. 26, Bonny Lake elevation was 3,653 feet or 11,900 acre feet. The State Water Engineer has stopped the flood water release with 5,000 acre feet being released.

This means the boat ramp should be usable for most all boats for the Labor Day weekend! Water level is currently 4 feet in depth and 3.5 foot depth at the sandbar. The lake is open for boating.

Night operation is not allowed weekdays (Sunday night to Thursday night) due to budget cuts. Due

to staffing reductions, there will be times that boating will be at your own risk. Pre-inspection is not necessary for ANS to launch in-state boats. An ANS inspection station will be open for Labor Day weekend. Random, spot checks will be done at other times

**Hunting** – The Park is closed to hunting until the day after Labor Day (Sept 7th). Dove population is about average. Cover is very thick.

**Fishing Report** – The water temperature is at 71 degrees. Several walleye and white bass have been taken off the face of the dam with crank baits.

A few (some people with limits) catfish have been taken off the north shore or off boats with typical baits. White bass have been taken while schooling. Due to budget cuts, fishing licenses are no longer sold at the visitor center.

**Trails and Road Conditions** – The OHV area is accessible but with a few ruts due to recent rains. There are a couple of trails still closed due to water and ruts. For the most part, roads throughout the park are in good shape.

**Swimming** – The swim line has been pulled and the swim beach closed. Swimming is only allowed from boats displaying an orange flag and swimmers wearing PFD's. Some sandy beach is starting to show up near the dam at East Beach.

**Camping** – Wagon Wheel campground is currently booked full for the Labor Day weekend. Foster Grove campground will have 15 sites open for first come/first served campers (no reservations) for Labor Day weekend. East Beach and North Cove campgrounds have been closed permanently due to budget reductions. The road construction between Idalia and Bonny Lake State Park is nearly all done.

**Fire Restrictions** – Fires are only allowed in Wagon Wheel and Foster Grove campgrounds inside designated fire rings. No fires anywhere else. Propane grills and stoves are OK.

## Goodland hospital, clinic prices go up 10 percent in September

HOSPITAL, from Page 1

Jolly said this would bump up against the 60 days and bring the hospital below that for a day or two.

The board unanimously approved the purchases.

• Approved bank resolutions for new board officers for the board for signature cards. The resolutions were for People's State Bank, Western State Bank and First National Bank.

Jolly said the resolutions were standard and that Jacque Drennan is the new secretary-treasurer who will

## Setting forms for transformer pad



City of Goodland electrical crew members were setting forms for a concrete pad to hold the transformer for the city water treatment plant on Kansas Ave. on Wednesday afternoon. The underground power lines have been installed and after the pad is poured the transformer can be installed. Behind the electrical workers is

the skid of treatment tanks that has been set in place inside the treatment plant. Jerry Nemechek of Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, said the company is expected to arrive next week to build the large water storage tanks to be south of the building. Miller Construction is in charge of the treatment plant project.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

## County commissioners take axe to balance budget

BUDGET, from Page 1

because the health department received federal grant money that was not accounted for in this year's budget.

Kosmatka said the department received about \$28,000 that had to be spent this year. She said they paid for one-quarter of the preparedness trailer and supplies for this year as the H1N1 will be included in the seasonal flu shot this year.

Rumpel said she was not sure if the health department would be over budget, and would check with the auditor on this since it was unexpected grant revenue.

Kosmatka said the federal money paid for the H1N1 shots last year and the health department gave them out for free.

She said the health department has had a decrease in revenue this year because of staffing problems early in the year, and has given less vaccinations and had less services. She said that should improve beginning in September, but shows a decrease in income for about eight months.

Strnad asked how many employees were in the department. Kosmatka said four full time including herself and one who is three-quarters time.

Strnad asked Kosmatka to get her

the total payroll figures for the employees. Kosmatka said she would do that as in the budget each is broken down by the work being done.

A question came up about the employee benefits and Rumpel said those are all in the employee benefit fund, but when the health department bills the surrounding counties for work being done in Women, Infants and Children (WIC) the benefit figure has to be added to come up with the right total.

In other business the commissioners approved

• Two neighborhood revitalization projects for Joe Scheopner and Sally and Vernon Patton.

• End of month bills totaling \$169,601.

The next regular commissioner meeting will be 7:30 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 13.

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