

Goodland to be part of convoy

Goodland and Colby will hear the rumble of the World's Largest Truck Convoy heading on Saturday, Sept. 11 to raise money for Special Olympics Kansas..

Organizer Jane Mentlick of Atwood, said there will be two outlying legs of the convoy this year. The east leg will leave Mitten Travel Plaza in Oakley at 9 a.m. (Mountain Time) and the west leg will leave Wilkens Truck and Trailer in Goodland at 8:45 a.m. (Mountain time). Both legs will head for Colby and join together on Horton Ave. near Oasis Truck Stop.

At 10 a.m., the trucks will form a parade and make a circle of downtown Colby. From Horton they will head north on Range Ave. They will turn right on Fourth Street and head down to Franklin Ave. The convoy will continue on Franklin and turn right on Davis Ave. —by Colby High School — and head west to Range Ave., where they will turn north

and head to the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

After the convoy gets to the fairgrounds there will be a lunch and auction for truckers, athletes and the public.

Truckers who want to join the convoy can contact Mentlick at (785) 443-1682, Tom Sloan at (785) 675-8540, Jack Collins at (785) 675-8375 or Daryl Goetz at (785) 673-4336. A minimum donation of \$100, a valid driver's license and proof of insurance are required.

On Friday, Sept. 10, the Special Olympics will hold a kick-off party from 4 to 6 p.m. (Mountain Time) at the Thomas County fairgrounds. There will be a barbecue and a live concert followed by fireworks after 8 p.m. Donations will be accepted for the Special Olympics to go toward medals and ribbons, meals for athletes, training for coaches and equipment.

The last phase of demolition



Goodys did the last stage of the demolition of a house donated by Ralph and Wava Duell to Northwest Tech to build a duplex as part of the carpentry and other programs at the college. Before Goodys owned by Mike and Cindie Yarger got their chance the

Tech College students had removed siding and prepared the house. Then the Goodland Volunteer Fire Department got to practice putting out fires on the structure.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Bummer and band plays rock, blues, jazz

Bummer the Drummer and the Kansas City Street Band will play at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 12, at the Goodland High School Auditorium. The group has delighted audiences with the "in the pocket grooves," "hard driving blues shuffles," "danceable upbeat funk" and some of the best ballads.

Glen "Bummer the Drummer" Ward studied music as a youngster and, along with clarinet, sax, and sousaphone, picked up the drum kit, conga drums, resonator bottleneck acoustic guitar, electric guitar and electric bass. As fate would have it, the drum kit and conga drums turned out to be his predominant instruments of choice, with his guitar work following a close second.

As the story goes, the nickname "Bummer" came from family and friends who gave him the name because of a brief stint he spent as a youngster as a prizefighter. They stole the "Brown Bomber" nickname from legendary heavy weight champion prizefighter Joe Louis, shortened it to Bomber and immediately corrupted the pronunciation into what we now know as Bummer. Naturally in later years when the drumming and singing came into being, the name "Bummer the Drummer" was the end result.

As 1977 rolled around, Bummer was back in Missouri living in Kansas City where he started his own horn band, "The Kansas City Street Band" consisting of guitar, bass, drums, saxophone,

trumpet and trombone. Bummer and the Street Band worked the Kansas City nightclub circuit and toured extensively throughout the Midwest. The band developed a reputation as a top-notch "rock n soul" act playing cover songs interspersed with originals, mostly written by Bummer. Since The Kansas City Street Band's inception, Bummer and the band have evolved into a dynamic "rock 'n soul" force that has toured all over the country, playing nightclubs, concerts and music festivals.

Admission is with Western Plains Arts Association season ticket or at the door, adults, \$12 and student kindergarten through twelfth, \$6.

Firemen win traveling trophy for blood drive

The winner of the traveling trophy and bragging rights for the 2010 Goodland Battle of the Badges were the city and county fire fighters. The competition was held on Thursday, July 15, at the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. The goal was to get 100 blood donations and the Red Cross ended up with 97, 60 of them attributed to the fire fighters.

The Battle of the Badges is a competition between Sherman County and Goodland City Law Enforcement and fire personnel from the city and county. This is the first year in Goodland for this competition

that raised the awareness for blood during a time when donations traditionally go way down.

"The competition between the public departments is fun, but the real battle is keeping up with blood demand in our hospitals," said Dawn Gabel, donor recruitment representative for northwest Kansas.

"A call went out to both groups that we were all losing the battle for blood this summer and both the fire and law enforcement responded by contacting people in the community to donate blood in July. Even though we missed the goal by three units,

that is a small amount to make up at another drive. The Red Cross ended the month of July with the needed amounts of blood for the hospitals of Kansas and the panhandle of Oklahoma.

"The Central Plains Region is proud to provide the blood needed to over 100 hospitals, including Goodland Regional Medical Center and the many rural providers around us," she said.

The next Goodland community blood drive is from noon to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 16, at the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Studies to be held on Constitution

The High Plains Constitutional Society has planned the first of a series of studies on the Constitution of the United States of America for 7 p.m. on Tuesday.

Meetings will be held the first and third Tuesday of each month from 7 to 8 p.m. in the basement of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 220 W. 13th Street.

These meetings will use the best selling book, "The 5000 Year Leap," By Cleon Skousen, as the frame-

work for study.

Each meeting will provide ample time for lively, civilized discussion, of current events to help further the understanding of the Constitution and the principles behind it.

Additionally, select speeches of leading thinkers such as Dennis Prager, Michelle Malkin, Rep. Michele Bachmann, Arthur Brooks, Lt. Gen. Jerry Boykin (US Army Ret), Foster Friess and Kamal Saleem will be viewed and discussed.

Attendees can expect to vastly increase their knowledge and understanding of the Constitution as well as learn how to apply these principles to current events and topics.

There is no cost to attend and citizens of all political parties are welcome to attend as many meetings as possible. Call Ken Klemm for more information. (785) 899-5804

Energy prices down, affects wind farm developer

By Vera Sloan

Colby Free Press
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Central-Thomas County landowners got good news and bad news from wind farm developer Acciona at a meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 25.

The bad news about energy prices is that they are down. The good news is that Kansas is a state where investor owned utilities such as Weststar and Kansas City Power and Light are allowed to purchase renewable sources of energy which includes wind energy.

More good news is that the wind farm that has been the works for an area in Thomas County, near Colby since 2006 appears to be on the move.

Landowners got the news Wednesday from Peter Kennon and Tiff Thompson of Acciona, a Spanish company. Thompson, who previously worked for Clipper Windpower, a California wind turbine manufacturer and developer, has taken on the job of project manager for Solomon Forks Wind Farm in Thomas County, and she will devote full time to the project.

When completed, the Solomon Forks project will produce 108 megawatts of power with 72, 1.5 megawatt turbines. Construction is expected to begin in 2011. The project should be in operation by the end of 2011 at an estimated \$300 million dollar capital cost.

Expected time of construction is nine months, after a power purchase agreement is signed between Acciona and a power purchaser. Tower height will be 267 feet, with 120 foot long blades for a total height of 387 feet.

Kennon clarified equipment is not sitting and waiting to be put into

place. He said his company prefers the equipment be put into use soon after they've been manufactured, but as soon as they have a power purchaser, they will put in the order for towers, propellers and the turbines, and they will be on site when they need to be.

Placement of the towers has already been micro-sighted and the cultural resource studies are complete. Solomon Forks anticipates approval from the Kansas State Historical Preservation Office.

She said wind has become a viable industry for the past decade, and Thomas County is considered an ideal location for energy production from wind farms.

However, the biggest hurdle yet to come is finding a customer to buy the energy.

"Acciona has been looking for a power purchaser for Solomon Forks for the past two years," Thompson said, "and now the project has the advantage of maturity in development which should be attractive to buyers. Aerial photos for site surveys have been taken, meteorological towers have been measuring wind, transmission line easements have been in place since 2006, and title work for the land owners is mostly complete, with minimal title clean up left."

She said the county commissioners are making sure the right measures are taken to take care of county roads.

Bert Stramel, land owner in the Solomon Forks Wind Farm site asked about township roads, particularly some that seem to be only trails now, questioning who would pay for the upgrades.

"Generally, what happens is the counties and townships end up with better roads after we're finished,

than when we started," Kennon said, "We have vehicles filming the roads before construction begins, to ensure good records of road conditions."

Kennon said the company pays for all the road upgrades, and in some instances makes the intersections bigger than normal to accommodate turning radii of oversized equipment, but put it back to original state, or better at the project's completion."

He noted another thing in favor of the project is Kansas is a state that requires a certain portion of the energy used by Kansas power companies to come from renewable sources. Most bidders for energy don't want to come down to the wire without reaching that requirement, he said, and then have to scramble at the last minute to meet it.

He said Kansas is a part of the Southwest Power Pool and can sell to other states in the pool. So there may be instances where if those states haven't met their requirements, they will be able to buy power from renewable resources in Kansas.

"Google and Walmart buy directly from renewable power sources," Kennon said. "Acciona is exploring the opportunity to sell to smaller municipal utilities if need be."

Thompson said as soon as a power purchase agreement is in place, the project would pretty much be on a slippery slope, meaning it would go fairly fast to reach completion and get energy on the grid.

Both Kennon and Thompson had a positive outlook, and suggested if the land owners were praying people, a prayer for a power purchase agreement soon, wouldn't hurt the project.

Sherman County Household Hazardous Waste Collection

**Saturday, September 11, 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

Flatlander Festival 5K Run, Family Fun Run/ Walk and Elementary "Mile"

Saturday, September 25th, 2010
Check In: Starts at 6:30 a.m.

Start Time: 7:30 a.m. Elementary "Mile"
8:00 a.m. 5K Run and Family Fun Run/ Walk, starting at Steever Park at Cherry and 16th, Goodland

REGISTRATION: Registration through Saturday, September 18th, 2010. If mailing, Entry forms must be postmarked by Saturday, September 18th, 2010.

For more information contact Sarah King at 785-890-7242 or sarah@goodlandgac.com or visit goodlandgac.com or flatlandersfestival.com

RICHARDSON'S HOMESTEAD REALTY AND AUCTION

UPCOMING AUCTION SCHEDULE

Monday, Sept. 27: North Fork Ranch equipment auction, South of Goodland
Saturday, Oct. 2: Frances Jones vehicle, and household auction, North of Brewster
Monday, Oct. 4: Lew Patten Estate equipment auction, North of Brewster

*Watch for sale bills and pictures on
www.goodlandhomestead.com.*

Homestead Realty & Auction, 1023 Main, Goodland, KS.
Terry Richardson Broker/Auctioneer.

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