

County weed mowing cutting through



County Road and Bridge employee Lynn Abbot attacks the tall weeds along the south side of County Road 79 on Tuesday afternoon. Butch Vandiver, public works manager, said he had three county mowers out including Abbott, Dave Hagerman and Ernie Gonzales. Contract employee Darrell Schrader was using a disc mower and moving along County Road 78 west of K-27. Vandiver said his mowers have moved to the northwest part of the county, and hopes to be north of Kanorado by next week. He said he has been pleased with how well the mowing has been going.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Driver in trooper chase sentenced to 13.4 years in state prison

PRISON, from Page 1

Romine asked the judge to order consecutive sentencing, and said the incident involved two officers being shot at and their vehicles hit.

"It was lucky no one was hit," she said. "The state feels the people of Sherman County were in danger because of his actions."

Romine said Patrick was on parole from Missouri and asked that the sentences for these charges run consecutive to that sentencing. She asked that Patrick be labeled as a violent offender and require him to register for 16 years.

Trooper Perry made a statement saying he felt based on his crime Patrick is a dangerous criminal and asked the judge to make his sentences consecutive to keep him off the streets and keep us safe.

In his statement Patrick's attorney said he could not disagree with the severity of the crime, and said he felt the safety of the troopers is

paramount.

"I think the court needs to look at the length of time my client would be in prison," he said. "It would seem that eight and one-half years seems to be a fit punishment for my client and keep him out of the system long enough to keep him from getting more education from the criminal world. I hope my client will find something beneficial in this rather than continuing to be involved in this type of action."

Judge Showalter asked Patrick if he would like to make a statement, but Patrick said no.

Judge Showalter said he would then sentence Patrick to 102 months for charge one and 59 months for count two. He said a request for probation has been denied. He said the crime was committed with a firearm and he was on parole and the sentences would be consecutive. He said Patrick would get 15 percent

credit for time served.

Judge Showalter said Patrick will be a registered offender and fined him \$10,000, but suspended the fine. He said attorney fees in this matter would be waived.

Showalter said he was required to read Senate Bill 37, which details what Patrick will have to do as a registered offender once released from prison.

When he finished reading the document, Showalter said he hopes Patrick will continue with his mental health treatment. Showalter said he would determine that Patrick is indigent.

Attorney Romine asked for clarification on whether the two sentences were to run consecutive to the Missouri case.

Judge Showalter said it is consecutive for the two Kansas cases, but to run concurrent with the Missouri case.

School board approves budget, hiring

SCHOOL, from Page 1

City Manager Doug Gerber gave a framed proclamation from 1994 signed by Mayor John Golden. He said it was being stored at the city building, and he said the district should have it.

Goodland teacher Connie Bergquist gave a presentation on how the Professional Development Council worked with teachers on their recertification from the state. Bergquist said they went electronic in 2007.

In other business the board:

- Hired paraprofessionals, Kelsi Ihrig at Grant Junior High School, Lisa McNeely at Central Elementary School, Leslie Miller at West Elementary School, Nancy Shores at Grant Junior High, Mary Solomon at Grant Junior High School, Jeannie Toppliff at West Elementary, Karlene Traschel at Central Elementary, Matthew Wahl at West Elementary, Waylon Walker at Central Elementary, Jennifer Wallendorff at West Elementary, Meghan Weber at Central Elementary, Rhonda Wheat

at Grant Junior High and Brandi Wise at Central.

- Accepted the resignation of Jenna Hill as a paraprofessional at Grant Junior High.
- Tabled the retirement of Karen Colip as a Central Elementary paraprofessional.
- Hired Amy Cebula as the assistant Goodland High School girls golf coach.
- Tabled the oral evaluation of Superintendent Biermann until he could be present.
- Paid \$17,267 in bills.

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Ag and Rural issues discussion

Senator Pat Roberts will join Farm Bureau and others for a discussion of Ag and rural issues.

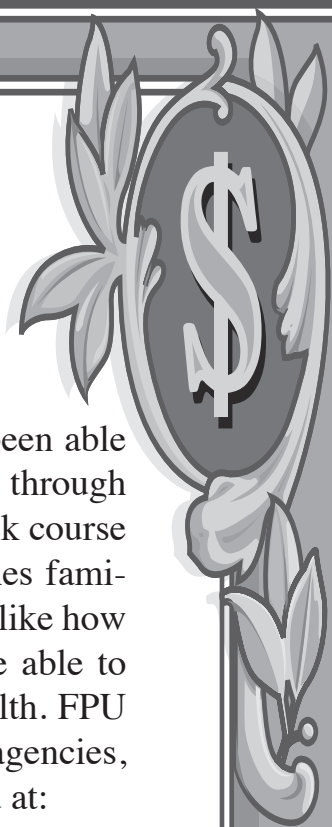
**Monday, Aug. 29
6-7 p.m. (MT)**

The event will be held in the Student Union on the campus of the Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland.

Light refreshments will be served.

Please join us to welcome the Senator and to share your thoughts on the issues!

Financial Freedom



Nearly one and a half million families have been able to positively change their financial situation through Financial Peace University (FPU), the 13-week course taught by Dave Ramsey on DVD. FPU teaches families and individuals common-sense principles like how to make a plan with their money so they are able to free themselves of debt and build lasting wealth. FPU is available for churches, military, non-profit agencies, and businesses. FPU will be held in Goodland at:

First Baptist Church
1121 Main Avenue, Goodland
Wednesday, September 07, 2011 at 6:30 PM.
Contact Mike Nachtigall at (785) 890-3450 for more information or to register

After each lesson there is a small group discussion that provides accountability and encouragement. Topics include saving for emergencies, budgeting, relationships and money, and getting out debt.

The current economy has people feeling more hopeless than ever when it comes to their money. In an effort to recover the economy from the ground up, Ramsey has begun The Great Recovery that challenges individuals to take personal responsibility for their finances and leaders to educate others about finances through programs such as FPU.

Each class participant needs a kit that includes a lifetime family membership to FPU, an FPU workbook, an FPU envelope system, 13 audio lessons, bonus CD, budgeting forms, debit card holders, and Ramsey's best-selling book - Financial Peace. Special rates are regularly available on daveramsey.com or by calling 888-227-3223.

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Saturday, Sept. 10, 2011
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