

Crews begin work on I-70 projects

PROJECTS, from Page 1

will also be working on the project: Sporer Land Development, Oakley - pipe extensions, ditch-liner, dirt work; Bridges, Inc., Newton - box bridge roof repair; Cillessen & Sons, Wichita - traffic control; Dale Dickhut, Scott City - seeding, erosion control; Double D Construction, Lamar, Colo. - guardrail; Dustrol, Towanda - milling; Fulsom Construction, Cedar Vale - permanent signing; J & J Construction, Iola - box exten-

sions; PCI Roads, St. Paul, Minn. - concrete barricades; Surveys Inc., Ellsworth - surveying; Twin Traffic, Kansas City - permanent striping.

Weather permitting the work should be complete by July.

For questions concerning this project, please contact KDOT Area Two Engineer Eric Oelschlagler at (785) 626-3258 or Eric@ksdot.org; or Kristen Brands, Northwest Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 877-3315 or kristenb@ksdot.org.

Snowstorm misses area

STORM, from Page 1

the weekend were cancelled. The Goodland High School basketball games against Ulysses have been rescheduled for Friday, Feb. 24, and the Great West Activities Conference wrestling tournament in Holcomb has been rescheduled for Saturday.

The storm didn't spare all of northwest Kansas, however. Norton and Phillips counties got as much as 11 inches.

Carnival rules may change

Local Carnivals

Last Tuesday, Kansas Department of Labor introduced a bill that will require more inspections for the local owned carnivals. Presently the locally owned carnivals which includes carnivals in Hill City, Hoxie, Colby, Goodland, St. Francis, Sharon Springs, Tribune, Oakley, Ness City, and Leoti, are not required to have Level II inspections on a yearly basis. The State of Kansas is looking at changing these regulations. We will know more Monday or Tuesday of this next week when the bill is introduced. At that time we will find out what will be required of the locally owned carnivals.

I have contacted Senator Ostmeyer, Representative Cassidy and Representative Hineman and informed them of the upcoming bill. We will work together to see that we have the best outcome possible for our local carnivals. We all want to make sure these rides are safe for our communities.

Bio Science Authority

Early last week an external audit revealed concerning details regarding the leadership of the state funded Kansas Bioscience Authority. Based in Olathe, the Authority's primary goal has been to attract



rick billinger
state rep.

high-tech biological science companies and jobs to Kansas through its partnership with the state. Since its inception in 2004, the Authority has received \$175 million in state funding to carry out this mission.

Over the past year, both the legislature and the executive branch had become increasingly concerned with reports of spending abuse and inappropriate business dealings with the Authority. A full forensic audit was ordered.

Results of the audit, performed by national firm BKD, focused on both the Authority board of directors and former Chief Executive Tom Thornton, who resigned soon after the audit was ordered. The 300 page summary confirmed numerous issues under Thornton's leadership including; computer mainframe files. Evidence indicates Thornton may have tampered with files on the Authority's mainframe computer which contained sensitive records only accessible to top level management. However, auditors were

unable to completely prove that tampering occurred because backup copies of the drive are deleted after 30 days.

Bills

HB 2412, Dissolution of Treece, Kansas. The bill dissolves any city in Kansas that was bought out or relocated by the EPA during the 2010 and 2011 calendar years. The City of Treece had long been a victim of under mining and contamination by lead and zinc. As a result, residents of Treece were offered a buyout by the EPA to relocate. All the residents took advantage of the buyout except for one family. The bill passed 122 to 0.

HB2436, Time Limit For Certificates of Public Convenience. This bill amends current law to impose 180 day time limit for the Kansas Corporation Commission to act on applications for certificates of public convenience. All common carriers or public utilities who want to operate in Kansas must obtain a certificate of public convenience from the KCC. The current law does not impose a deadline for action and unless the utility and the KCC agree to waive the deadline, action must be taken on the certificates within 180 days. This bill passed by a vote of 121 to 1.

Deadline coming up for water programs

WATER, from Page 1

County 3 near St. Francis and Sheridan 6, from Hoxie west to the county line along U.S. 24, including one quarter section in Thomas County.

Bossert said the program could use some more applicants and he worries, with grain prices so high right now, farmers may be reluctant to give up any water.

In Sheridan County, though, the new grant may get the program to the point where people can actually see a difference. To help with that, he said, some grant money will be used to pay for more monitoring wells.

The sign-up period is expected to remain open until mid March, and all money has to be obligated by July

2. The state Water TAP program is expected to have some money available this year for buyouts, but the final amount won't be known until the Legislature sets its budget.

The other three Kansas programs are being offered in District 2 (headquartered in Halstead), District 5 (Stafford) and District 3 (Garden City). These programs are, in addition to encouraging the setting aside of irrigated acres, also encourage water conservation efforts such as increased irrigation efficiency via irrigation system upgrades, and eliminating center pivot endguns.

Anyone interested should contact the local NRCS office and send in the application by Feb. 24.

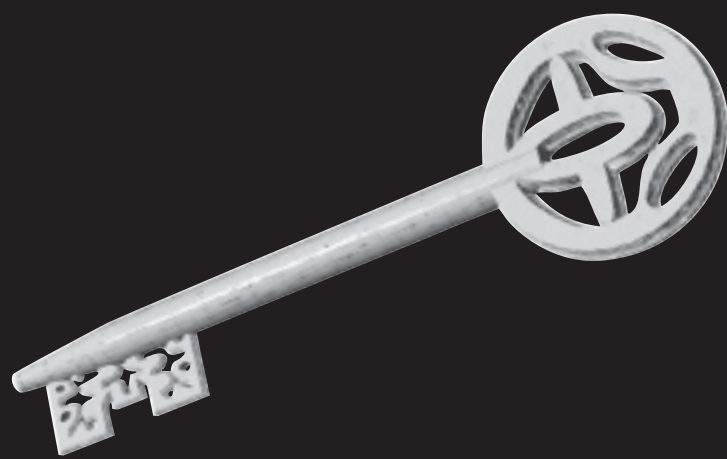
The Goodland Star News Service Directory

785-899-2338

Your KEY to business success.

Have your name up front when a customer needs you. Repetitive advertising is the key to opening the door to new customers.

Combined rates are available to feature your services in the Goodland Star-News and The Country Advocate.



YOUR HEATING AND A/C PROFESSIONAL.

GET COMFORTABLE.
Get hooked up with a great heating or cooling system for your home. Our energy-efficient systems are reliable, powerful and economical.

Bowman's Heating / Air Conditioning

577 W. 31st, Goodland (785) 899-5770

TRANE
It's Hard To Stop A Trane

The Decorating Co.

Interior Design Consultants
Irene Smith & Rochelle Kling

There's no limit to our imagination.

1011 Main Avenue, Goodland, KS 67735
(785) 890-5441
E-mail: decorco@st-tel.net

NEW SYSTEM PROFESSIONAL WINDOW CLEANING

Serving Northwest Kansas & Northeastern Colorado since 1992!

(785) 462-6995 OR (800) 611-6735
egriffith@st-tel.net

www.mywindowcleaner.net

Eldean and Janet Griffith 155 E. 5th, Box 692, Colby, KS

2003 PRESIDENT'S AWARD **Ford** 2005 PRESIDENT'S AWARD

"Where Service is an Affair of the Heart"

DAN BRENNER FORD

222 W. HWY. 24, I-70 BUSINESS LOOP, GOODLAND, KS
(Toll Free) 800-636-8770
(Business) 785-899-2316 (Fax) 785-899-2317

Hendricks Realty, Inc.

Farm, Ranch, Residential & Commercial

Phone: (719) 346-7187 • 1401 Rose Ave., Burlington, CO

Mike Hendricks: (719) 340-0217 (cell #)
Broker & Certified General Appraiser

Debra Miller: (719) 340-0345 (cell #)
Broker Associate

www.hendricksrealtyinc.com

New Contractor in Edson, KS

I have 35 years experience in all types of construction, new or remodeling. I do kitchens, bath, electrical, plumbing and small repairs, inside or out! I will give you a bid, local references. Please call (303) 810-1016 or email: jim@colemanconstruction.com. For job experience, check out: www.colemanconstruction.com

Windy Plains Bike Shop
Professional bicycle repairs since 1978! Parts, accessories and service for all makes. Pick up and delivery available in Goodland!

TIRED OF FLATS? ASK ABOUT OUR NO FLAT GUARANTEE!

Harold Sneath
6085 Rd. 17
(785) 899-4786 • (785) 899-5858 (home)
Same day service on most out of town repairs!

PLAINS HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC.

Scott Sitzman
Residential & Commercial HVAC
New Installations-Replacements-Service

Phone: 785-890-2914 • Toll free: 800-678-2914
1104 Main Ave., Goodland, KS

"Serving Eastern Colorado for 35 years, and now serving Western Kansas!"

Discover the comfort of a Mendota Fire!
www.plainsheating.com

PREMIER DEALER LENNOX

Truck Lettering
800-886-2423

AWARD WINNING SIGNS AND PINSTRIPING SINCE 1974

Hot Brush 204 W. 4th Box 309
Bird City, Kan. 67731

LOVE BBQ?

Come try us out!
• New menus • New savory food • Great atmosphere

Double Barrel BBQ

1016 Main, Goodland, KS • (785) 890-5296

WANTED: DIRTY CARPET
IF YOU HAVE DIRTY CARPET, WE CAN STEAM CLEAN IT.
NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL!

- Commercial/Residential
- Advanced Truck Mounted Steam Cleaning Equipment
- Water Damage Restoration
- FREE ESTIMATES

PRO FLOOR CARE
Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
(785) 462-8313 or (800) 473-4138

Cleaning NW Kansas one house at a time!

Guaranteed Ultra Cleaning Power

Cat's T N T

- UPS shipping location
- Massage Therapy

1018 Main, Goodland, KS
(785) 890-2287

h i s **t h a t**

Brandon's Carpentry

Drywall • Painting • Flooring • Roofing
Doors • Windows • Siding • Decks • Ramps
Small Building Construction • Garages and More

BRANDON LEE (785)332-3370
St. Francis, KS 67756 Cell: (785)332-5264

Serving the tri-state area.

"Seek Shelter Today!"
LIFE • HOME • CAR • FARM • BUSINESS

Jim Alcorn, Agent
1624 S. Main Street
Goodland, KS 67735-0727
Business: (785) 899-2553

www.shelterinsurance.com

SHELTER INSURANCE

Culligan
Better Water. Pure and Simple™
Quality Service since 1948

- * Drinking Systems
- * Water Softeners (Sales & Rentals)
- * Water Coolers
- * Salt Sales & Delivery

Scheopner's Water Conditioning, Inc.
904 Main, Goodland
(785) 899-2352