

Road work started



The long-anticipated brick replacement started Monday on Main Avenue with city crews removing benches (above) and putting up road closing signs. The brick replacement from 11th to 12th should take about eight weeks with the 12th to 13th block to follow. The project is supposed to be finished before Flatlanders Fall Festival in September. To the right is the Kansas Department of Transportation doing maintenance on the overpass of K-27 over the railroad tracks.

Photos by Kevin Bottrell and Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News



El Dorado non-profit feeds world's hungry

By Ron Wilson

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"Manna from heaven." That term comes from the Old Testament description of a time when the Israelites were lost and hungry in the wilderness, and bread miraculously appeared overnight. Today we'll learn about a modern day form of manna which also feeds the hungry. Sharing this food may derive from heavenly inspiration, but it comes by way of rural Kansas.

Rick McNary is CEO of Numana Inc., a non-profit, international hunger relief organization based in El Dorado. For 20 years, Rick was the pastor of the Disciples of Christ Church in the rural community of Potwin, population 449 people. Now, that's rural.

In 2001, his church went on a mission trip to Nicaragua. While there, a little five-year-

old girl climbed onto Rick's lap and said simply, "Please feed me. I'm starving."

"It touched me and changed my life," Rick said. He began studying how to deliver food to the needy internationally. After lots of research, a non-profit public charity was formed in August 2008. The mission statement was simple: To empower people to save the starving.

Based on the Old Testament story of manna from heaven, this new organization was named Numana. Rick McNary became CEO. But with all the start-up expenses, by August 2009 the organization was down to \$209.39 in its business account. Fortunately, a contact had been made with the Salvation Army which generated more support.

"They told us, 'if you feed school-children, we'll get volunteers and money,'" Rick said. Numana Inc. set out to organize a lot of volunteers in a special event to package the food supplies which the organiza-

tion had acquired.

Based on the research, Numana had procured meal components consisting of rice, soy-protein, freeze-dried vegetables and 21 vitamins and minerals targeted to help the immune system of malnourished people. But as a practical matter, how could these products get packaged and shipped at an affordable cost?

On December 29, 2009, Numana and the Salvation Army launched its first food packaging event in El Dorado. Churches, citizens and other organizations were invited to participate and send volunteers.

"In two days, 4,000 people showed up and helped us fill a 40-foot trailer (with meals)," Rick said. The ingredients were measured into bags, sealed, boxed, and prepared for shipment to Haiti.

The trailer was being driven to a ship at a port in Virginia when a snowstorm hit and the food had to be put into storage. But then came

another event: On January 12, 2010, a catastrophic earthquake hit the island of Haiti.

"Two hours later, the Salvation Army director called and said, 'I need that food. Can I get it right now?'" Rick said. "We airlifted that first load into Haiti."

The need was immense. Three million people were affected by the earthquake. Numana organized another food packaging event and the concept took off. Subsequent food packaging events have been held from San Francisco to Philadelphia. Volunteers are asked to donate non-perishable items for local food banks also.

In its first full year of operation, Numana Inc. involved 125,000 volunteers and produced 21 million meals.

The cost of each of these meals is only 30 cents. The meal comes in a plastic pouch which has printed on it: "Not to be sold. This food is to be given freely because Jesus loves

little children." Through the Salvation Army World Service Office, these meals are distributed to school feeding programs in nine countries of the most impoverished areas of the world.

In Kansas, the City of El Dorado sold Numana two buildings for one dollar. Those buildings house Numana's operations. Numana is now working on a locally-grown, healthy foods project in El Dorado, plus much more. For more information, go to www.numanainc.com.

In February, 2012 at Washington, D.C., the Alliance to End Hunger presented its Innovation Award for Hunger-Free Communities to Numana Inc. and Rick McNary.

"Manna from heaven." That's a historic phrase from the Bible, and now Numana is making history. We commend Rick McNary and all those involved with Numana Inc. for making a difference by serving and saving the starving.

Summer Matinee Movie passes on sale at Public Library!

TONIGHT 7 PM
The Avengers 3D (PG-13)
Starts Friday at 7 PM:
The Lucky One (PG-13)

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Thomas County to have annual wheat plot tour

The Thomas County Extension Council will be holding their annual Wheat Plot tour at 6:30 p.m. (Mountain Time) on Tuesday, June 5, at Solomon Creek farm (Mike, Jeanene, and Tanner Brown) located 4.5 miles south of the Levant/I-70 interchange, in the shop on the east side of the road. Mattson Farms is providing rolls and Kansas Wheat Alliance is sponsoring the beverages.

Jim Shroyer, Kansas State University extension agronomist and

Erick DeWolf, Kansas State University extension plant pathologist, will be our guest speakers for the event. Before touring the plots there will be discussion on Stripe Rust, Barley Yellow Dwarf, how to identify diseases and wheat Farm Management Data. While touring the plots we will view the varieties and their stress levels caused by Stripe and/or Leaf Rust as the plot was not sprayed with a fungicide. Additionally, Jim and Erick will point out any visible signs of insect,

disease or weather damage to help improve our crop scouting skills.

This year the plot tour is about a week earlier than normal due to the early development of the wheat, so plan to attend on Tuesday, June 5. Bring any wheat questions you have or any wheat samples you would like to have Jim or Erick look at.

For more information contact the Thomas County Extension Office at (785) 460-4582 or email milliman@ksu.edu.

corrections

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.

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STEEVER WATER PARK OPENING DAY MAY 27, 2012

REGULAR POOL HOURS
Monday-Saturday 1:00pm-7:00pm
Sundays 1:00pm-5:00pm

SWIM ACTIVITIES

Aerobics	Friday Fundraiser Night
Mon-Wed-Fri 12:15pm-1:00pm	7:30pm-9:30pm
Family Swim	Lap Swim
Sundays 5:30pm-7:00pm	Mon-Wed-Fri 6:00am-7:00am 12:00pm-1:00pm

POOL FEES (Per Day)

Ages 0-4	FREE
5-adult	\$3.00
FRIDAY'S	\$1.00 DAYS

SEASON PASSES

- *Individual Pass
- 5yrs to Adult for \$40
- *Family Pass
- Immediate Family for \$80
- *14 day punch pass for \$35

(All hours and fees are subject to change)

Swim Lesson Signup to begin on May 28, 2012 at Steever Water Park

SWIM LESSON INFORMATION

- 1st Session to begin June 11-22
- 2nd Session to begin June 25-July 6
- 3rd Session to begin July 9-20

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