

## birthday

**Vera Fortmeyer** will turn 80 on Wednesday, March 17. Send cards to her at 1555 W. 23rd North Apt. 123, Wichita, Kan. 67204.

## patient news

**Viola Jacobs** has been moved to North Valley Hospital, 8451 Pearl St., Thornton, Colo. 80229 for continued therapy.

## student news

**Kayla Rasure**, a Goodland High School senior, has been awarded a scholarship from Wichita State University for the 2004-05 year. The amount of scholarships awarded range between \$1,000-8,000 and are based on academic achievement and extracurricular activities.

## activities

**Tours of the 1907 Victorian House** at 202 W. 13th are from **1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday.**

**“Prairie Past Times,”** a photographic history of entertainment in Sherman County is on display from **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday** and from **9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday** at the museum, 1717 Cherry Ave.

The **Carnegie Arts Center** is open from **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday** and from **1-4 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Monday.** Elementary Art is the February display.

The **Goodland Public Library** will have **story time** for 4 and 5-year-olds from **10-10:45 a.m. Wednesdays** and from **11-11:45 a.m. Thursdays.** Story time for 3-year-olds will be from **10-10:45 a.m. Thursdays.** **Born to Read** for children birth to age 3 will be at **10 a.m. Fridays.**

**Emotions Anonymous** meets at **7:30 p.m. Wednesdays** at the Goodland Regional Medical Center board room.

**Century Families**, for people whose family came to Sherman County more than 100 years ago, meets at **7 p.m. the second Monday** of the month at the Senior Center. For information, call 899-2835.

**Aerobics Classes - 7:30 a.m.** aerobics classes are offered daily at the Goodland Activities Center. Tena Tompkins leads a step aerobics class at **5:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.** On Tuesday and Thursday, a less intense class is offered. Call 890-7242.

**TOPS Meetings -** Take Off Pounds Sensibly meets at **5:30 p.m. Mondays** at North Elementary School. Weigh-in is at 5 p.m.

**Big Brothers/Big Sisters** of Sherman County is seeking mentors and children to mentor. Call 899-3665.

**Alcoholics Anonymous S.O.S. Group** meets at **7 p.m. Monday** in the cafeteria in the basement at the Kit Carson County Hospital in Burlington. Call Pamela at 719-346-7711, Laura at 785-890-5417 or Dave at 890-2858.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** meets at

# the calendar

## calendar

**Annual World Day of Prayer Service** will be at **2 p.m. today** at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 13th and Sherman.

**Sign up** for kindergarten through sixth grade **soccer** will be **until today** at the Goodland Activities Center. Call 890-7242.

The **Early Iron of Western Kansas Car Club meeting** will be at **7 p.m. tonight** at Hank's. Call Scott Lockhart at 899-5137.

The **Farm/City banquet** will be at **6:30 p.m. Monday, March 15**, at the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The farmers are hosting the business sector for a prime rib dinner. There is a charge for dinner. Call Valerie Kaup at 821-1257, Jeannie Schields at 899-5851 or Jeff Deeds at 899-7230 for **reservations by Sunday.**

The **Goodland Public Library Board** will discuss updates to the library Internet safety policy at the board's regular meeting at **4:30 p.m. Monday** at the library. The update is necessary to meet requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act.

The **Goodland After-5 Club**, affiliated with Christian Business and Professional Women, is having the "Precious Moments are Special Moments" **dinner party from 7-8:30 p.m. Monday** at the Butterfly Cafe at Renner Field. Peggy Lee of Shawnee Mission will be the special speaker, and Precious Moments by Lori Titus will be the special feature. Call Lori Titus at 899-3828 or Carol Tupper at 890-5955 for reservations. There is a charge for dinner.

The **Sherman County Economic Development Council** will meet at **noon Wednesday** at

Gambino's. The 2004 Leadership Sherman County class will be guests and would like to meet all board members.

**Boy Scout Troop 142** is having a **chili feed from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, March 13**, at the Methodist Church, 12th and Sherman.

**SHARE sign up** for the March distribution of food will be until **Monday, March 15**, at the Sherman County Health Department, Harvest America, the Regional Prevention Center or the Kanorado Senior Center. **Pick up** will be **Saturday, March 27**, for the March distribution.

**Christ in the Passover** will be at **7 p.m. Monday, March 22**, at the First Baptist Church, Fifth and Center. Robyn Wilk will be speaking on behalf of Jews for Jesus and will answer the question, "What do the Jewish Passover and Jesus' Last Supper have in common?" Donations will be accepted.

## school activities

**Today:** Black day. Substate basketball at Ulysses.

**Saturday:** Substate basketball at Ulysses. Kansas State DECA Career Development Conference.

**Sunday:** Kansas State DECA Career Development Conference.

**Monday:** Kansas State DECA Career Development Conference. State assessments. Track rules meeting at Oakley. Golf meeting 3:25 p.m. in the cafeteria. Student of the week: family and consumer science.

**Tuesday:** Black day. Seminar — GAA and G-Club. Kansas State DECA Career Conference. State Assessments.

**8 p.m. Monday-Thursday and Saturday** at 1013 Center. Saturday is an open meeting with Al-Anon, families of alcoholics, meeting in the same room. **Al-Anon also meets at 8 p.m. on Monday** in a different room. For Alcoholics Anonymous, call Rob at 890-3023 or Linda at 399-2353. For Al-Anon, call Cheryl at 890-3023.

**Fibromyalgia and Chronic Myofascial Pain Support Group** meets from **6:30-8:30 p.m. the third Wednesday** of every month in the Emergency Medical Services building, 257 15th St., in Burlington. Call Debbie at 719-346-4612.

**Goodland Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)** meets from **6:30-8 p.m. on the first Monday of the month** at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 220 W. 13th.

**Prairie Piecemakers Quilt Guild** will meet at **7 p.m. the second Thursday** of each month. Call Cora House at 899-6551, Joan Reid at 899-7301 or Carol Tupper at 890-5955.

## area events

**Sen. Stan Clark, Reps. John Faber and Dan Johnson and Kansas Attorney General Phill Kline** will be visiting area communities **Saturday** and presenting information on many of the issues being considered in the 2004 Kansas Legislature. They will be at the **St. Francis Senior Citizens Center from 7:30-8:30 a.m. Central Time**, at the Blue Bird Junction in **Bird City from 9-10 a.m. Central Time**, at the Bank Meeting Room in **McDonald from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Central Time**, at Park Hill Restaurant (Dutch treat) from **noon-1:30 p.m. Central Time in Atwood**, on the third floor of the courthouse from **2-3 p.m. Central Time in Oberlin** and at the Town

**Wednesday:** Gold day. City/county recreation sports 7:30 p.m. in the Max Jones Fieldhouse and junior high gym. State assessments.

**Thursday:** Black day. Seminar — STUCO and GRACE. State assessments. Elk Hoop Shooters 7-9 p.m. in the junior high gym.

**Friday, March 12:** Gold day. State assessments. 4-H Day in auditorium and classrooms after school.

**Sunday, March 14:** Taylor's basketball team practice 4 p.m. in the high school gym.

## school menu

**Monday:** Roast beef gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner roll, fruit and milk. **Tuesday:** Chili, cinnamon rolls, crack-ers, peaches and milk. **Wednesday:** Pig in a blanket, tator tots, baked beans, strawberry banana cup and milk. **Thursday:** Cooks' choice. **Friday:** Cheese pizza, lettuce salad, corn, brownie and milk.

## seniorcenter menu

**Friday:** Salmon patties with sauce, mexicali corn, noodles romanoff, bread and blushing applesauce. **Monday:** Cook's choice entree, Spanish green beans, citrus slices, bread and pudding cup. **Tuesday:** Baked chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, sunshine salad, bread and cherry cobbler. **Wednesday:** Hamburger, potato salad, baked beans, bun and strawberries/bananas. **Thursday:** Bierock casserole, mixed vegetables, mandarin oranges and oatmeal raisin cookie. **Friday:** Sausage links or patties, egg potato bake, California mixed vegetables, cinnamon roll and apricots.

and Country Kitchen from **3:30-4:30 Central Time in Norton.**

The **Colby Community College Sunflower Singers** and the college's **jazz ensemble** will perform at **7:30 p.m. Central Time Thursday, March 11**, at the **St. Francis High School** auditorium. Admission is by Western Plains Arts Association season passes or can be paid at the door.

**“Here's the Picture: Solving the Puzzle of Mental Health Care for Older Adults,”** a one-day seminar will be **Wednesday, March 31**, at High Plains Mental Health Center, 208 E. Seventh, Hays. There is no charge, and lunch will be served. Pre-registration is necessary. Send registration to High Plains Community Mental Health Center, Attn. Karen Beery, 208 E. Seventh, Hays, Kan. 67601 or fax to 785-628-1438. For cancellations, call Beery at 785-628-2871.

The **Sappa Valley Shoot-out youth three-on-three basketball tournament** will be held **Saturday, April 17**, in the Decatur Community Junior and Senior High School gyms and is sponsored by the **Oberlin Cyclones** Mid-America Youth Basketball team. Boys and girls in grades 2-10 are eligible to participate, and entry forms will be distributed in area schools. Entry fees per team are due to Sue Glodt by Wednesday, April 7. Call Glodt at 785-475-3383 or 475-8926 or Barbara Olson at 475-3602 or 475-7015.

**Colby's three-on-three basketball tournament** will begin at **8 a.m. Central Time Saturday, April 24**, at the Colby Elementary and Middle School gyms, 700 block of W. Third. Doors open at 7:30. Boys and girls in grade divisions of 3/4, 5/6 and 7/8 can participate. Entry fees need to be paid by Saturday, April 17. Call Donna Henry at 785-460-6363 or 465-5300 or Bonnie Dinkel at 462-2751 or 462-7247.

**Dedication ceremonies** of the Birthplace of the Legend **“Buffalo Bill” Cody**, a more than two-times life-size bronze sculpture by Charlie Norton, will be at **11 a.m. Central Time Saturday, May 22**, at the U.S. Highway 83 bypass and Second St. in Oakley. The Fick Fossil History Museum will be hosting and exhibition and sale of bronze and paintings by Charlie and Pat Norton May 17-June 30.

Admission to the **Prairie Museum of Art and History** will be free from **1-5 p.m. Central Time Sundays** at 1905 S. Franklin in Colby. The museum is also open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Central Time Monday-Friday and 1-5 p.m. Saturday.

## health department

The Sherman County Health Department at 1622 Broadway is open from 8 a.m.- noon and 1-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

**Monday:** WIC in Oakley. Scheduled appointments. Voucher pickup 11 a.m.-1 p.m. **Tuesday:** WIC in Colby. Scheduled appointments. **Wednesday:** WIC in Colby. Scheduled appointments and voucher pickup. **Thursday:** Scheduled appointments. **Friday:** Scheduled appointments.

The next cholesterol clinic will be Wednesday, March 24.

Infants', children's and adult's immunizations, physicals, fasting blood sugar, cholesterol and hemoglobin, family planning and toenail clipping available by appointment. Sharps containers are available free. Call 899-4888.

If you have questions, concerns or complaints about child care, call the health department.

**Water Testing**—The Northwest Local Environmental Protection Group does free well evaluations, including testing for bacteria and nitrates. To schedule an evaluation or discuss environmental concerns,

call the Health Department at 899-4888.

## hospital volunteers

**Monday:** N. Finley, a.m. **Tuesday:** Bonnie Daily, a.m., and Beulah McClung, p.m. **Wednesday:** Helen Armstrong, a.m. **Thursday:** Jessie Owens, a.m. **Friday:** Ruth Morton, courtesy, and Virginia Bell, p.m.

## recycling

The **Goodland High School library is recycling used cell phones, ink jet printer and LaserJet cartridges.** The school receives from nothing to \$2 for cartridges and nothing to \$5 for cell phones. Drop them by the high school library or office. If you have several and would like them picked up, call the library at 899-5656 to make arrangements. The money goes to support National Honor Society, Scholar's Bowl, Science Olympiad, Electric Car and extra library projects.

## tax help

The American Association of Retired Persons is providing free tax aide from 1-4 p.m. every Friday at the Senior Center, 205 W. 15th, and Goodland Public Library, 812 Broadway. Call 890-7245 or 899-3938.

## thrift store

Anyone wanting to donate to the Goodland Churches Thrift Shop are asked to call 899-2007 to arrange to meet by the door in the alley to take donations directly from the car to the warehouse.

## reunions

USS Maddox Destroyer Association Reunion (DD168, DD622, DD731) will be Wednesday-Sunday, Aug. 25-29, in Kansas City, Mo. Contact Cliff Gillespie at 215 Wichita Ave. #605, Huntington Beach, Calif. 92648, 714-960-5283 or CWGILLES45@AOL.COM.

USS Saint Paul (CA-73) and the USS Minneapolis-Saint Paul (SSN-708) Association will hold its 11th reunion in Boston Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 24-28. Contact George M. Takis Jr., Secretary, USS Saint Paul Assoc., 125 Spaulding Dr. N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30328; phone 770-393-3185; fax 770-351-9573; or gtakisatcom.net@mindspring.com.

## colby college

Colby Community College will offer spring classes over the interactive television network. Classes available in Goodland are:

**Anger/stress** will have a receiving site in Goodland and will meet from **4:30-10 p.m. Mountain Time Friday, April 2**, and from **8 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday, April 3.**

## animal shelter

Lost a pet? Call the Goodland Police Department at 899-4570. Interested in adopting a pet? Call the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter at 899-6464.

# Colby body shop finds 85 pounds of cocaine in secret compartment

By Patty Decker

Colby Free Press

State troopers thought they had a pretty good bust when they found 87 pounds of cocaine in the silver Nissan Xterra last year.

They seized the car and pretty much took it apart looking for drugs, guns and loot. Then it was scheduled for a sheriff's auction, and the patrol sent the Nissan to a Colby body shop to be put back together.

The vehicle would have been a real steal at auction, though maybe a little too hot to handle.

Employees at Butch's Body Shop discovered a second hidden compartment under the seat last Friday, said Randy Jones, Colby police chief. In it was another 85 pounds of cocaine.

The Kansas Highway Patrol seized 87 pounds of cocaine from the 2001 Nissan exactly one year ago to the day.

Capt. Kelly McGuire, commander of the patrol's Troop D in Hays, said that on Feb. 27, 2003, two men from Juarez, Mexico, were arrested after Trooper Terry Kummer stopped them just outside of Colby going east on I-70.

The Nissan had no tag information and was registered in Mexico, McGuire said. The men, Nevarez Vencoma, 36, and Armando Contreras, 39, were taken into custody by the federal Drug Enforcement Agency and the car was left in Colby to be sold.

Jones said two or three auctions passed before the Nissan could be placed on the next round of sales, partly because the vehicle was registered out of Mexico.

After the car was cleared for sale, the next step was getting it back together.

While removing and repairing the hidden floor compartment, Jones said, employees at the body

shop saw something unusual under one of the seats and found more cocaine.

"The second compartment was well-designed," Jones said, "and this does happen."

Jones said drug runners look for many places to stash drugs. It's almost a game.

"We have found drugs in radiators, tires, spare tires, airbags, in the door panels, gas tanks and elsewhere," he said. "In fact, if we can think of a hiding place, so can they."

Most of the time, Jones said, officers do find all the hiding places, but in this case, with 85 pounds of drugs in hand, the patrolman probably thought he had it all.

"Normally, there are telltale signs of something different about the vehicle," Jones said, "and our only other alternative would be to completely tear up the entire car."

McGuire said he is "amazed" at some of the hiding spots.

"One time we found drugs in the engine, and while it was still running," he said.

The days of stashing drugs in the trunk or under the seat are over, he said. It's gotten to be harder and more work to find the stuff.

"Ordinarily we don't miss that big of a chunk," McGuire admitted.

Jones said whenever cars are sold at a sheriff's auction, buyers are warned to be aware of possible hid-


den contraband.

"Maybe a gun or some other kind of weapon could be missed or hidden in an area that was overlooked," he said. "Sometimes the false floors or other hidden areas look like the real thing, complete with a second undercoating."

Asked what would happen to an innocent buyer in the event drugs, guns or other illegal items turned up, both McGuire and Jones said the person could be arrested.

"It has happened," McGuire said, "but ordinarily when we find out the car was purchased at an auction, people are cleared."

One case Jones remembered in-



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## Thank You

We would like to thank the Rural Volunteer Fire Department for their fast response to our grass fire. Also the neighbors that helped contain the fire.

Thanks again.  
Ralph and Wava Duell

# Got facts?

Some people think their second hand smoke isn't harmful. FALSE: Second hand smoke is a major cause of heart disease, stroke, respiratory disease and lung cancer. Furthermore, second hand smoke can cause children to develop asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia and ear infections.

## So, let's clear the air and get the facts!

Brought to you by the Sherman County Motivation, Achievement, Success Youth Group - Support for this project was provided by a grant from the American Legacy Foundation, Washington DC.

## New Listing



**5815 Road 26, Edson, Kan.** - This wonderful country property is situated on approximately 80 acres. It includes a 5 BR - 2 3/4 bath home with full finished basement which has new carpeting. The property also includes a barn, 40x68' quonset, new horse shelters w/piping runs and mature windbreaks. This property is in excellent - ready to move in condition. Call Rose Anderson to see this prime country property at 899-3060 or 899-7464.

**Make an appointment to see any of our fine Homeland listings! WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO...CALL!!**  
Check out our web page at [www.goodlandnet.com/homeland](http://www.goodlandnet.com/homeland)



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