

Office opens as center to sell buffalo meat

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News
While Goodland may be the Sunflower Capital of the Sunflower State, the city also serves as a center for other commodities, including wheat, corn, grain sorghum, or milo — and now buffalo meat. The Buffalo Guys, 104 E. 10th St., opened for business Feb. 10. Ken Klemm and Peter Thieriot are the co-owners and managing partners. Klemm works in Goodland and manages his ranch located about 17 miles northeast of Goodland along Beaver Creek. Thieriot manages his two ranches in



Klemm



Field



Wyoming, one near Elk Mountain about 55 miles northwest of Laramie, and the other in Jay Em about 60 miles northwest of Scottsbluff, Neb.

Between the two, they have about

1,000 head of buffalo. The Buffalo Guys also buy stock from other ranchers in Colorado, Kansas and Wyoming.

Running the office is Leigh Field,

a full-time business assistant. Klemm said Field is his “fire chief,” responsible for keeping problems from flaring out of control. Field moved here from St. Francis, where she worked for No-Bull Enterprises for about a year. She earned a Bachelor of Science in natural science from Panhandle State University in Oklahoma.

The Buffalo Guys’ office processes orders for buffalo meat. Klemm said the animals are slaughtered in Colorado Springs, where the meat is boxed, then shipped to Chicago.

There the meat is processed and

shipped to the customer. Some of the products available include strip, sirloin and ribeye steaks; ribs, ground buffalo, stew meat, jerky and all natural hot dogs.

All orders go through the Goodland office. Customers can call 1(888) 330-8686 or can go to www.TheBuffaloGuys.com to place orders.

The buffalo are raised on the range, never in feed lots, he said. They are never given growth hormones, sub-therapeutic antibiotics or anything containing animal byproducts.

Klemm and his wife Laurie came

to Goodland in 1999. He said he picked the area because it is native territory for the buffalo and the best place to raise them naturally.

Laurie Klemm has put together “Laurie’s Little Buffalo Cookbook,” which is available at the office and comes free with every order. Those recipes and others are available on the web site.

Klemm said the firm is looking for new buffalo ranchers or current ranchers looking for a stable market for their stock.

He also said they are looking for a store here interested in carrying their products.

County supports equipment grant

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News
Emergency heart defibrillators can mean the difference when someone has a coronary, and there is an effort to have these units in as many public locations as possible. The Sherman County ambulance service is seeking support for a grant to purchase four additional units.

Ambulance service director Bruce Gleason asked the Sherman County commissioners Tuesday for a letter of support to be included with the grant request to the state Emergency Medical Service Board.

He said the reason for asking the commissioners is a request to place a defibrillator at the Brewster fire house.

He said one would be placed at the city building through Police Chief Ray Smee, and two units would be placed with first responders Steve Evert and Greg Nemecheck in their vehicles.

Gleason said the ambulance service got a grant two years ago to purchase two units and one of those was placed in the Kanorado ambulance and the second one was placed

County roundup

At their meeting Tuesday, Sherman County commissioners:

- Approved a letter of support for a grant to get emergency heart defibrillators to be placed in Brewster, the city building and two first responder vehicles. Story to left.
- Decided to put the section of Caldwell Ave. north of the airport on the next five-year

plan after learning that the Kanorado bridge on old U.S. 24 is nearly completed. Story on Page 10.

• Heard that the rooms at the Sherman County Good Samaritan Center are full, and there is a waiting list. Story below.

• Learned that the Sherman County Racing Association is back in charge of races at the fairgrounds here. Story below.

at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

“We felt it was good to place a defibrillator at Max Jones because of the many public events there,” Gleason said. “As part of the program, we have to train the people who may be there to use them. I think we trained about 20 people from the school system about the use of the one at Max Jones.”

He said the grant provides money to buy the unit plus money for training. The commissioners agreed to provide the letter.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure

asked about the status of the Kanorado ambulance.

Gleason said that ambulance had been pulled back to Goodland after the main ambulance hit a cow.

He said the damaged ambulance was repaired, but an exhaust leak was found which is being fixed.

He said an inspection has been done, but that it will take about two weeks to get a new license for the repaired ambulance.

That does not mean the Kanorado ambulance will be returned, as the newer green-and-white ambulance

needs to go into the shop for a few days for wheel well repairs.

“Once all the repairs are done, the Kanorado ambulance will be returned to their barn,” Gleason said. “Anytime an ambulance is in an accident, you are required to go through the whole inspection and licensing process.”

“We know it is needed in Kanorado, and it will be back there as soon as possible.”

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked how many emergency medical technicians there are in Kanorado.

They were trying to get an emergency medical tech class going. They thought they were going to have one in January, but it fell through because there were not enough people to make a class.

Rasure asked what the problem might be, as the county has been willing to help pay the costs.

Gleason said there were additional costs that the county was not covering.

Rasure said it might be good to work with the Kanorado City Council to see if they can help these people pay for the classes.

County racing association back in charge

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News
The Sherman County Racing Association is back in charge of races at the fairgrounds here, county commissioners learned Tuesday.

Roger Snethen, representing the association, asked commissioners about leasing the racetrack and fairgrounds for the season.

In February, Lloyd Koel had told the commissioners he and his wife Rebecca, doing business as L and R Promotions, would be handling the races again this year and set up dates with the commissioners.

Snethen said Koel had decided he had lost too much money last year and decided at the end of February to back out of the program.

He said dates will be May 8, 22, June 5, 19, July 10, 24, Aug. 21, Sept. 4 and 24-25 (Flatlander Fall Festival), one more date than Koel had scheduled. William McKnight, county building and grounds superintendent, said he had checked the dates and they were OK.

Snethen asked about signing a new contract with the county, and Commissioner Mitch Tiede said he had asked the county attorney to find a copy of the one from two years ago as a reference.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure

asked about how the association was going to handle the electrical costs, and Tiede said he thought the group had the demand meter charges figured out.

The commissioners agreed to help by setting the deposit for the electrical fee at \$300 per event plus the \$200 rental charge. The final electrical charges are to be settled after the last races in September.

One paragraph added to the contract says that no alcohol is to be sold or consumed on the fairgrounds.

Snethen asked the commissioners to waive the rental fee on the Bill Gray Memorial race Aug. 21. He said the fee had been waived two years ago, but that it was not held last year.

The commissioners agreed to waive the rental fee and the electric deposit for this race.

Talking about the race track, Tiede said there were some guardrails that needed to be fixed before the first race. Snethen said he would see that is done, and Tiede said he thought there might be some guardrail sections that the road and bridge department would donate to the cause.

Tiede made a motion to approve the contract and Commissioner Chuck Thomas seconded it. The

vote was unanimous 3-0.

In other business the commissioners:

• Approved a lease renewal for the building on Cherry Ave. south of the railroad tracks for the Household Hazardous Waste collection, with Kendall and Jacque Cooper. The contract was to be renewed in August, but it was overlooked. There are no changes from the previous year, but this contract will need to be renewed in August. The county pays \$400 a month plus part of the utilities.

• Approved a renewal of the American Fidelity Insurance agreement, a “cafeteria” benefit plan for the employees. The county does not pay any of this cost.

• Approved and signed micro loan papers for JK Radiator. The total is \$16,000 with \$15,000 for the loan to JK Radiator and \$1,000 to Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission for administration of the program. This is the third micro loan approved. Randy Hrabec of Hill City, head of the planning commission, was at the meeting to get the commissioner’s signatures.

• Approved reappointment of the micro loan review committee, Roxann Kling, owner of the Insur-

ance Company; Bill Mehling of First National Bank, John Yost of Yost Farm Supply, Merlyn Stasser of Western State Bank, Kevin Rasure of Rasure Lumber and Carolyn Applegate, economic development director.

• Approved a contribution of \$1,000 to the Northwest Animal Shelter. The commissioners said it was a good program and they matched the city’s contribution.

• Approved reimbursement of \$69,650 as part of the Kanorado bridge project. Hrabec had papers for the commissioners to sign. This is 75 percent of the county’s match for the project and the remainder will be paid after the bridge is completed.

• Held a 15-minute closed door session with Daryl West, head of the noxious weed department, and County Attorney Bonnie Selby on a legal issue. No action was taken. At the end of the meeting, the commissioners held a 15-minute closed door session on a personnel matter. No action was taken then either.

• Approved a proclamation naming April as Fair Housing Month.

The next regular meeting will be at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, March 31, in the commissioners’ room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, 813 Broadway.

Good Samaritan full; waiting list growing

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

The beds at the Sherman County Good Samaritan Center are full, and there is a waiting list building up, county commissioners heard Tuesday.

Director Phil Samuelson told the commissioners things seem to be going well and that the staffing has been the best since he has been at the center.

He said there will be an advisory board meeting on April 1, and he will be welcoming the new appointments which bring the board to full membership.

“We have a new Director of Nursing, Laura Tubbs, who came from Colby,” Samuelson said. “She is getting things charged up and we are making changes that will improve the care for the residents.”

He said the old nurses’ station has

several tabletop ideas, including creative garnishes and entertaining maneuvers. Recruit your family and friends for a fun and relaxing dining experience.

Everyone will receive a free 68-page Taste of Home Recipe Collection Cookbook with the featured recipes. You can follow along as McCutcheon maneuvers through each five-star recipe provided by a major national sponsor. Sponsors include Chicken of the Sea, Crisco, Dunbars Roasted Peppers, Jell-O, Jimmy Dean, Kikkoman, Litehouse Dressings, Nestle Toll House Morsels and Ready Pac Fresh Cut- Produce.

“Here is an opportunity to learn or review basic cooking skills and have fun as well,” directs Sheila Smith of *The Star-News*, who is coordinating the demonstration with Taste of Home Cooking School. “Your name might be drawn for one of the many fantastic door prizes supplied by local businesses and national sponsors.”

If you’re on nightly “KP” duty, take a “leave” from your family “mess hall.” Your special orders are to come for an evening of fun, food and good friends.

Burlington man pleaded ‘no contest’ to charges

A Burlington man pleaded “no contest” last month to charges of attempted aggravated indecent liberties with a child in the Sherman County District Court and was sentenced to 2 1/2 to 11 1/3 years in prison.

Jesus Balderas, 39, of Burlington entered the plea in a pair of incidents last spring.

Complaints in the District Court

file say that Balderas engaged in sexual intercourse with a child who was 14 at the time at the Goodland Howard Johnson Motel about April 25 and again with the same child at the Buffalo Inn about May 2.

Balderas was charged with two counts of aggravated indecent liberties with a child, each a severity level 3 person felony. The maximum sentence for those charges is

over 20 years. He pleaded “no contest” Monday, Feb. 9, to one count of attempted aggravated indecent

liberties with a child, a severity level 5, person felony.

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Saturday, March 27 - 1 p.m.

Be among the first to see the Smithsonian Institute traveling exhibit: **Produce for Victory** And learn more about this fascinating show from Jay Antle, history professor.

Carnegie Arts Center
120 W. 12th, Goodland, Kan.