



Classes teach knit one, purl one

Marilyn Imel helped Holly Wilkening cast on at last Wednesday's knitting class at the Carnegie Arts Center, while Karen Coons helped Lacie Cowan. Chloe Goodwin paid close attention to her stitches. Twenty students, including two boys, showed up for the class, and Imel and Tina Goodwin, director of the center, plan to add knitting to the center's summer arts program.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

City gets five-year plan for improving Gulick Park

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

A plan for improving Gulick Park with sidewalks, a walking trail and a sprinkler system was presented to the city commission Monday evening by the city's park committee.

Jerry Fairbanks, head of the committee, said the plans for Gulick are part of a five-year improvement plan for city parks, but they felt Gulick was one of the most used parks.

Fairbanks said the improvements are planned in stages, with the first being the construction of a five-foot concrete sidewalk around the edge of the park and the north side of the courthouse.

He said the city crew would do the labor and the Master Gardeners would help install a rose garden on

City roundup

At their meeting Monday, city commissioners:

- Were asked to provide electricity for a Rotary project to light the giant Van Gogh painting. Story to come.
- Got a phased plan for improving Gulick Park with sidewalks, a walking trail and a sprinkler system. Story at left.
- Approved airport zoning regulations designed to protect the landing approaches by keeping buildings below 75 feet in height. Story to come.
- Re-elected Rick Billinger as mayor and chose Dave Daniels as vice-mayor. Story to come.

the northeast corner. The cost for the sidewalk was \$10,000 for the concrete and the city labor would be \$11,000.

Second phase of the project would be construction of an eight-foot-wide, quarter-mile-long walking trail through the park with pea

gravel.

Fairbanks said the idea is to give those who like to walk a place that is more comfortable than concrete or asphalt. He said the committee had looked at a variety of material, but the simplest and cheapest was pea gravel.

The cost for the trail is estimated at \$21,000, including \$7,500 for city labor.

The third step is a concrete border around the playground and a safer slide, a springboard teeter-totter and swings modified so they can be used by younger children.

Cost for the playground improvement is estimated at \$21,000 with \$3,500 for labor.

Step four includes an underground sprinkler system throughout the park. The sprinkler system is estimated to cost \$7,500 with \$11,000 for labor.

The fifth and final step would be the conversion of the old tennis court to a skateboard park. Fairbanks said skateboard features could cost from \$25,000 to \$60,000, and there would not be any city labor on this.

Fairbanks said there may be some grants available for the skateboard park, but that they are mostly from skateboard companies.

"We have lots of parks with trees and grass," Fairbanks said, "but they are not being used. We don't go to the park to have picnics like we used to do.

"The committee felt it was better to look at Gulick because it is well used and was more active than others. The parks all serve the same purpose — they are green areas — but we need to provide more activities for people."

"This is a real park," said Jan Wilson a committee member. "This is one that is highly visible when people are driving around and looking at our city."

"We don't expect an answer tonight," Fairbanks added.

"I am pleased to see the park committee come together on this," said Commissioner Dean Blume. "I think all our parks are in need of work, and we need to look at what we can afford to keep."

Fairbanks said the committee is

looking at all the city parks, and there may be recommendations for eliminating some parks in the future because they are not being used.

City Administrator Ron Pickman said he and Fairbanks had approached the Western Prairie Resource Conservation and Development agency about grants for the park upgrade. He said the board will review the proposal and see what is possible.

Pickman said the city has about \$45,000 in the budget for parks this year.

Fairbanks thanked the city commission for listening, and said the committee would await the commission's decision.

Following the regular commission meeting, the commissioners held the annual utility rate review work session.

At the end of the session, the Gulick Park project was brought up and the commission seemed to have a consensus to do the sidewalk and the sprinkler system. Pickman said this would be put on an upcoming agenda.

Owner wants place to attract conventions

HOTEL, from Page 1

tion background." Nonetheless, Wilson said he is grateful to have met a banker with the same vision.

"I have to credit Larry McCants (president of First National Bank) with the ability to acquire this property," Wilson said. "I interviewed several banks for financing for this place.

"Larry McCants really stepped up to the plate. He showed a vision of what this place could be again."

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.

Wilson said he has been in the mortgage business 30 years, and started Lincoln Wilson Enterprises in 1994. He has had an office in Goodland about four years and travels extensively.

Drew Rohlman, the new general manager, credits his wife Angela and her family for bringing him into the hotel's plan. She was born in Edson, he said, and is Dwight Briney's daughter.

Rohlman said his family had come to the area for vacations and enjoyed time at the Briney farm.

"It was the best thing," Rohlman said, "going to Dwight's farm, relaxing."

The manager said he and his wife had talked about moving from Kansas City to Sherman County. And then they found the opportunity.

When she was here for her grandmother's funeral in December, Rohlman said, someone knew someone who knew Lincoln was buying the hotel.

He said when he talked to Wilson, he found they had similar philosophies and they were able to work out a deal.

Rohlman said he had been in the food, beverage and hotel business for 18 years in Las Vegas and Kan-

sas City.

He said he has been involved with the hotel about a month and a half, but his official start date was Friday, March 26. He and his family are selling their home in Kansas City and buying one here.

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student of the week



Name: Michael Mangus
Parents: Danny and Charlene Mangus

Grade: Senior

Age: 18

We've nominated this student because: Michael is very mechanical minded; he works well with hands on projects. He has a good sense of humor. He is very polite and respectful of others.

Student Comment: My favorite subjects are Viscom II and my independant study. I work on the electric cars and my science olympiad projects.

My favorite memories are the times hanging out with my friends.

Activities involved in at school: I'm involved in the electorally race team, science olympiad, band and jazz band.

My choice of movies, books, and games: I have no real preference as far as music and movies. I like science fiction such as Jules Verne and Moby Dick.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: After graduation, I plan to go to Kansas State University for a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: In ten years, I will be living a good life with a rewarding job.

Favorite Quote: "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." From Ferris Bueller's Day Off

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