

Goodland senior gets plaque, check for essay

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News
Anthony Johnson, a senior at Goodland High School, received a plaque and a check for \$100 Sunday for placing second in this year's Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy essay contest for the 9th District of Kansas.

Johnson received his awards during the Sunday's banquet at Goodland's VFW Hall as part of the district's spring convention.

Johnson enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in December and will report in August for basic training at Lackland Air Force Base near San Antonio, Texas.

Also recognized Sunday was Amanda Kyner, a senior at Wallace County High School in Sharon Springs, who received a plaque and a check for \$75 for finishing third in the contest.

Amanda, the daughter of Katrina and Earl Dipert of Sharon Springs,

said she plans on attending Colby Community College next fall.

First place for the 9th District was Kaitlin Peterson, a senior at Hays High School, who was unable to attend the convention.

She will receive a \$150 check along with her plaque.

JoAnn Wahrman read her winning essay about this year's theme, "My Commitment to America's Future."

The Voice of Democracy is an

annual essay contest for high school students who have the chance to write about their personal obligations as an American and their responsibility to the country.

Each state winner gets an all-expense paid trip to Washington to compete for college scholarships. The national winner receives a \$25,000 award.

Amy Billinger of Ulysses was this year's state winner.

She placed eighth at the national

competition.

Pat Thompson, a first-grade teacher at West Elementary, was recognized at the convention as the Kansas Elementary Teacher of the Year.

Thompson spoke to the guests about why she became a teacher and some of her goals, which includes keeping the spirit of America and patriotism alive for future generations.

Dick Leiss, a member of Good-

land's Veterans post, served as the banquet's master of ceremony for the banquet and was a district judge for the essay contest.

Speakers included Bill Selby, commander of the 9th District; Linda Marshall, district auxiliary president; Barbara Manghen, the department auxiliary president; and McKinley Smith, department junior vice commander.

Businesses add displays

DISPLAYS, from Page 1

Dana had gone on 35 missions before being wounded and spending seven months in the hospital, Ron said, then came back for one mission with a new crew and was shot down.

Among the items displayed at the dealership are letters and telegrams sent to Dana's family from officials letting them know he was missing and letters from Dana to his family while he was in the prison.

One letter said five of the six men in the crew had been seen in parachutes, but that they couldn't be sure he had gotten out. In the letter, officials offered their condolences to the family.

As it turned out, that wasn't necessary. Dana, 84 now, Ron said, lives in Florida. He will be driving up to Goodland in about a week. After being released from the prison camp May 27, 1945, he had 45 years with his wife Marilyn before she died in 1990.

Dana received seven medals: the Purple Heart, Distinguished Flying Cross, World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Prisoner of War Medal and Air Medal. The medals are also in the display.

Also displayed are uniforms, pictures and other items belonging to Richard Nestor, father of Regi Woodard, administrative assistant; Don Renner, father of Sharon Borgmann whose husband John works at the dealership; and Edgar Leroy Osborn, father-in-law of Michael Borgmann, the parts manager.

Items in the window at Klip 'n Kurl include the uniform of Vernice (Gowin) Leslie, an Army nurse during the war. Her hat, dress hat, purse, pay records and picture are there also.

And a uniform and memorabilia belonging to Freddie Harrison, father of Nancy Cole, owner of the salon, are on display. Harrison served in the Navy on the submarine USS Redfish.

Cole said her father was from Roosevelt, Okla., and the story was that he ran away to join the Navy while he was too young. They took him anyway, she said, and he served 19 years.

Cole said her parents had six sons overseas during World War II, and all six made it home. One, a paratrooper, was injured, she said.

There are pictures of those Harrison served with and a picture of the christening of the Redfish, pillow covers, German money and

a Christmas card.

The Honolulu Star Bulletin's first and second extra editions from Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, are in the window. Cole said she and her sister went to Pearl Harbor 10 years ago and bought the papers there.

"Everybody needs to go see that," Cole said.

Darrick Leiker, owner of High Plains Office Supply, said that he's too young for his parents to have served in World War II, but that didn't stop him from having a display in his window.

Among the things he has are models of World War II planes that Leiker built, plus some odds and ends he's collected, some from garage sales.

There are pictures of planes being built in factories during the war. Leiker said he thought it especially went with the home front theme of the Smithsonian display because most of the workers in the pictures were women. He also has a copy of the ad to get workers for the plant in the picture.

The thrift store has vintage clothing, a 1946 calendar and other memorabilia in one of its display windows. Volunteer La Vaughn Becker said the store had an old tin suitcase in the display until someone made off with it.



Models of air craft from World War II, a clock, a newspaper page and a picture from a factory where planes were built are among the items displayed at High Plains Office Supply.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Thieves find keys in cars

STOLEN, from Page 1

recovered on I-70 southwest of Caruso with no significant damage.

Smee said in two of the three cases, the keys were left in the vehicle. Although the key was not in the 1988 pickup, the chief speculated that the ignition had not been locked, making it relatively simple to start the vehicle.

This weekend, Jason Peterson reported about 1 a.m. Sunday morning that a 1997 Mitsubishi sedan had been stolen sometime late Saturday night or

early that morning from 1526 Cherry Ave. The car was recovered, severely damaged, near the intersection of County Roads 61 and 23, about five miles southeast of Goodland. Chief Smee said the keys had been left in the vehicle.

Smee said people need to make sure they lock their cars and take the keys. He said people should watch for suspicious activity. He said there is a city ordinance against leaving vehicles unsecured, so you can get a ticket for leaving the keys in your ignition. The damage thieves do might hurt worse, however.

matters of record

Goodland Police
The following crimes have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

April 10 — Jennifer D. Hatman was arrested at 104 W. Hwy. 24 for driving with a suspended license and no proof of insurance. She was charged in municipal court.

Brad J. Parker was the victim of obstruction and disorderly conduct at 2810 Commerce Rd., and the city of Goodland was the victim of criminal damage to a side window of a patrol unit. Eugene Fuller was arrested for driving under the influence, transporting an open container, criminal damage, obstruction and disorderly conduct. Charges were filed in district court.

Jeremy E. Holm reported a burglary at 727 W. 9th St. and the theft of a CD player, subwoofer and ciga-

rettes taken, valued at \$304. Also reported was an estimated \$25 in criminal damage to wiring of a CD player.

April 11 — Larry E. Woodard reported the theft of a 2001 Ford Ranger taken from 1207 Colorado Ave. The vehicle was later recovered.

Billie J. Knitig reported the theft of a 1991 Pontiac, valued at \$4,000, taken from 902 W. 15th St. The vehicle was later recovered.

Ruben L. Garcia reported the theft of a 1988 Chevrolet pickup, valued at \$2,500, taken from 916 Syracuse Ave. The vehicle was later

recovered.

Northwest Kansas Education Service Center was the victim of an estimated \$500 in criminal damage to the back window of a 1991 Plymouth van at 912 W. 12th St..

April 12 — Culligan Soft Water, 904 Main Ave., was the victim of an estimated \$250 in criminal damage to a windshield and brakeline.

Doug Hilty reported a burglary at 514 W. 9th St and the theft of CDs, valued at \$240, taken from a vehicle.

Kyle Sutton was the victim of an estimated \$200 in criminal damage to two tires at 208 E. 13th St.

New agent at insurance firm

By Greg Stover
The Goodland Star-News
Kevin Pettay began working full-time as the manager of Sherman County's Farm Bureau Insurance agency, 1610 Main Ave, on April 1 after spending most of March dividing his time between here and the office in Oakley.



Pettay

Pettay was agency manager in Oakley for eight months before getting the Goodland assignment. He started working for Farm Bureau in August 2001 spending his first two years in Jetmore.

"I look forward to working here," Pettay said. "I plan on being here for some time to come."

Pettay said his agency's mission

is to service the financial and insurance needs of its clients. He said it is a challenging time in the insurance business; since the Sept. 11 attacks insurance rates in all areas have gone up steadily and Farm Bureau is working to stabilize them for its customers.

Pettay grew up in Sublette, graduating from Sublette High School in 1983. He attended the University of Kansas for three semesters. He joined the Dighton police force in 1986 and received his training at the Hutchinson Police Academy. He served on the force for eight years. In 1993, Pettay was elected as a district magistrate judge, serving un-

til 1997.

After leaving the bench, he concentrated on managing his business interests before joining Farm Bureau four years later.

Pettay met his wife Linda in 1996 when she worked as a city clerk in Dighton, now she is office manager for Western Plains Energy in Oakley. The Pettays will move to Goodland sometime this summer.

Between them the Pettays have seven children, Ashely, 25, of Olathe; Ryan, 21, of Hays; and Eric, 19, a freshman at Fort Hays State University; and two boys who will attend Goodland High next school year. Brent, 16, will be a junior and Keith, 14, a freshman. Christopher and Crystal, 11-year-old twins, are heading for the sixth grade at North Elementary.

correction

A story in the April 16 issue of *The Goodland Star-News* about the preliminary hearing for Lanny Bevington in the murder of his wife misspelled the name of the victim, Kerrie Bevington, as Carrie. Also,

a witnesses, Bruce Gleason, was misidentified as Paul Gleason. These were reporter errors.

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The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunder-

standing in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. 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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First National Bank employees
will be attending a
Spring Conference on April 21,
therefore we will be closing early on that day.
Please note the following
closing time on your calendar:

Wednesday, April 21, 2004
FNB will close at 2:00 MT.

Thank you!

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