

# Students, parents have picnic lunch at school



Central Elementary Principal Sharon Gregory flipped burgers at the school's Parents Day barbecue on Friday. Tina Goodwin and her daughter Chloe had lunch and talked with Lori Phillips at the barbecue. Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

## Teen pregnancy forces changes in family

"Mom, I'm having a baby." For some parents, these are among the words they fear most from their teen.

Finding out your child is pregnant and planning to have the baby means that a lot of things are going to change in your family. And though it's certainly not what most parents expect, it happens every day — nearly half a million teenage girls give birth every year.

Parents have a wide range of reactions when they find out their teen is having a baby. Some are shocked and upset over the news and angry at their teen for having been "irresponsible."

Some feel a sense of disappointment and grief, knowing that the dreams they held for their child are about to change forever. Some worry about the future — will their teen be able to handle the demands of parenthood? Will they finish school? Go on to college? Get a good job?

Still other parents feel a sense of guilt, as if their teen's pregnancy represents some failure in their own parenting. They may think that if only they'd done more to protect their child, this wouldn't have happened.

And although some parents are embarrassed by their teen's pregnancy and worried about how family, friends and neighbors will react,



### cris lovington

• prevention center

others are happy over the news of a soon-to-be grandchild — especially if the teen is older and in a mature relationship.

Whether you feel one or all of these emotions, you're not alone — this is likely to be a difficult time in the life of almost any family. The important thing to realize is that your teen needs you now more than ever.

Being able to communicate with each other, especially when emotions are running high, is essential. Teens who are carrying their baby to term have special health concerns, and your child will have a healthier pregnancy, emotionally and physically, if she knows she doesn't have to go it alone.

Without parental support, some teens are more likely to make bad decisions with even worse consequences (like running away).

So what can you do as the parent of a teen having a baby? Recognize your feelings and work through them so that you can accept and support your child.

Does that mean you don't have the right to feel disappointed and even angry? No. Such reactions are common and not unexpected.

You might have a strong flood of emotions to deal with, especially at first. But the reality of the upcoming baby means that you'll have to get beyond your initial feelings for the sake of your teen and her child.

If you need help coping with your feelings about the situation, talk to someone you trust or seek professional counseling. A neutral third party can be a great resource at a time like this.

Just a short time ago your teen's biggest concern might have been hanging out with her friends and wondering what clothes to wear. Now she's dealing with morning sickness and scheduling prenatal visits. If you think your world has been turned upside down, can you imagine what your teen might be feeling?

Most unmarried teens don't plan on becoming pregnant, and they're often terrified when it happens. Many, particularly younger teens, keep the news of their pregnancies

secret because they fear the anger and disappointment of their parents.

Some might even deny to themselves that they are pregnant, which makes it even more important for parents to step in and find medical care for their teen as early in the pregnancy as possible.

Younger teens' pregnancies in particular are considered high risk because their bodies haven't finished growing and are not yet fully mature.

Teen boys who are going to become fathers also need the involvement of their parents.

Although some boys may welcome the chance to be involved with their children, others feel frightened and guilty and may need to be encouraged to face their responsibilities (the father is legally responsible for child support in every state).

That doesn't mean, however, that you should pressure your teen son or daughter into an unwanted marriage.

Offer advice, but remember that forcing your opinions on your teen or using threats is likely to backfire in the long run.

There's no "one size fits all" solution here. Open communication between you and your teen will help as you consider the future.

If you would like more information please call me at 785-899-3848 or e-mail at crisl@st-tel.net

## public notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERMAN COUNTY, KANSAS CIVIL COURT DEPARTMENT

CENTEX HOME EQUITY COMPANY, LLC, Plaintiff,

V.

JUAN B. LOPEZ and ROSI DALIA T. LOPEZ, et al., Defendants.

Case No. 03C59  
Court No.  
K.S.A. Chapter 60

NOTICE OF SHERIFFS SALE

By virtue of an Order of Sale issued to me out of the said District Court in the above-entitled action, I will on Wednesday, the 9th day of June, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. of said date at the front door of the Courthouse in Sherman County, Kansas, in the City of Goodland, Kansas, offer at public sale and sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in hand, the following described real property, to-wit:

Lots Seven (7) and Eight (8), Block Seven (7), in the C.K. & N. Addition to the City of Goodland, Kansas, according to the recorded plat thereof

also referred to as:

Lots Seven (7) and Eight (8), Block Seven (7), C K & N Addition to the City of Goodland, Kansas, according to the recorded plat thereof

The above-described real estate is taken as the property of the defendants Juan B. Lopez and Rosi Dalia T. Lopez, et al. and is directed by said Order of Sale to be sold, and will be sold without appraisal to satisfy said Order of Sale.

Doug Whitson  
Sheriff of Sherman County

SUBMITTED BY:  
McNEARNEY & ASSOCIATES, LLC

Timothy McNearney  
#13037  
Chris Troppito  
#20595  
Brandon T. Pittenger  
#20296  
11350 Tomahawk Creek Parkway, #100  
Leawood, KS 66211  
(913) 323-4595  
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

NOTICE  
Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. Section 1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Published in The Goodland Star-News on Friday, May 14, 21 and 28, 2004.

## Area students receive \$500 scholarships

Several area students received \$500 scholarships from the Pete Henry Foundation, including:

- Brewster:** Quentin Bear.
- Sharon Springs:** Tessa Howard, Lindsay Bussen and Tyler Smith.
- Bird City:** Hayley Young,

Stephanie Hubbard, Kylie Dixon and Amanda Banister.

The scholarship fund was created by Pete Henry, a farmer for many years in the Brewster area. Henry did nearly all the work on his farm until he was 88 years old, and made

the management decision until his death in 2002.

Although he had only an eighth-grade education, Henry never stopped learning and appreciated the value of education. He established the foundation to award academic

and technical training scholarships to students from Sherman, Wallace, Thomas, Cheyenne, Decatur, Gove, Logan, Rawlins and Sheridan counties. This is the fifth year scholarships have been awarded, and 24 students received them.

**Internet tonight! 899-2338**

# Shop Burlington for all your needs



**William's Floral & Garden Center**  
Authorized Ferti-lome Dealer  
Complete line of Ferti-lome starter mix  
• Houseplants  
• Bedding plants  
• Garden supplies  
• Fresh cut flowers

242 S. 9th  
Burlington, Co.  
719-346-9535

**The Feed Bunk**  
Your authorized dealer for Barenburg Irrigated Grasses  
"Forage For Profit" and now carrying High Plains Brand Sorghum-Sundangrass and Annual Forages  
1847 Rose Ave.,  
Burlington, Co.  
719-346-5220 or 800-428-7560

*In Stitches*

**Your Total Scrapbooking Store**  
Hundreds of papers, stickers & accessories. Many albums to choose from.  
337 14th Street,  
Burlington, Co.  
719-346-5538 1-800-247-9081  
**New Arrivals weekly**

Bras for petite to full figure  
Playtex, Olga, Vanity Fair

**M.A.E.'S**

Men & Women's Jeans for all sizes  
Levi, Lucky, Tommy Hilfiger

397 14th Street,  
Burlington, Co  
719-346-8459

**Memory Lane**

1 hour film developing  
Digital services  
• Prints to CDs  
• Memory cards  
• Printing Digital pictures

1988 Rose Avenue  
Burlington, Co. 80807  
719-346-7627  
Roy & Jeanie Walters

**EE**

**Errington & Errington Park Place Interior Design**  
Interior Design & Specialty Floral  
Specializing in all your design needs

- Space planning
- Custom floral arrangements
- Specials on window treatment & wall coverings

524 15th St., Burlington, Co.  
719-346-4626

**Health Essentials**

Natural Foods, Vitamins,  
Massage Therapy,  
Acupuncture & More

**Natural Living Cottage & Wellness Center**  
314 14th Street, Burlington, Co.  
719-346-4681

**MOHAWK COLORCENTER**  
Flooring, Wallpapers

- Flooring
- Gourmet Chocolate
- Gift Items

**Superior Flooring & Rugs**  
360 14th Street, Burlington, Co.  
719-346-7579  
Dan & Myrna Troyer

Come see our scrapbooking corner for all your scrapbooking accessories

**Computer Central, Inc.**  
367 14th Street  
Burlington, Co.  
719-346-5177

Your one stop computer shop