

Workers, big equipment tackle street maintenance



Workers dumped rock onto the oil on Eighth Street last Tuesday morning as part of the city's annual street sealing project. The "chip sealing" project helps the city maintain the pavement.

The schedule is designed for sealing about one-third of the streets each year.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

St. Francis shooting ruled an accident

The Dec. 13, 2003, fatal shooting of William Joseph Schwab, 43, of Oberlin was an accident, Cheyenne County authorities have ruled.

Kansas Bureau of Investigation completed an investigation, and after reviewing the report, Cheyenne County Attorney Kevin Berens determined that no criminal charges should be filed against former St. Francis Chief of Police Jason Ryan.

The shooting took place in parking lot of the Dusty Farmer Restaurant on Dec. 13. The KBI, assisted by the St. Francis Police Department, was conducting an undercover felony investigation on Mr. Schwab for solicitation of murder.

When officers tried to arrest Mr. Schwab, he fled. Mr. Berens, in his report, said officers identified themselves as "police" and order

him to stop. However, Mr. Schwab kept on running.

During a foot chase, the former police chief grabbed hold of Mr. Schwab and as both men fell to the ground, Chief Ryan's handgun discharged, wounding Mr. Schwab. He was taken to the Cheyenne County Hospital, where he died.

Mr. Berens said no other shots were fired during the incident. There are no other suspects in the investigation for the solicitation of murder, Mr. Berens said.

Chief Ryan was placed on administrative leave after the shooting and later resigned, moving to Tucson, Ariz., to be near family.

Mr. Schwab's family has been informed that the case has been completed and that it had been ruled an accidental shooting, Mr. Berens said.

matters of record

Goodland Police

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

July 23 — The City of Goodland reported damage to the gravel and tar on the street due to racing in the amount of \$100 at 16th and Broadway.

First National Bank and Frontier Equity Exchange reported forgery in the amount of \$2,099.50 at 202 E. 11th.

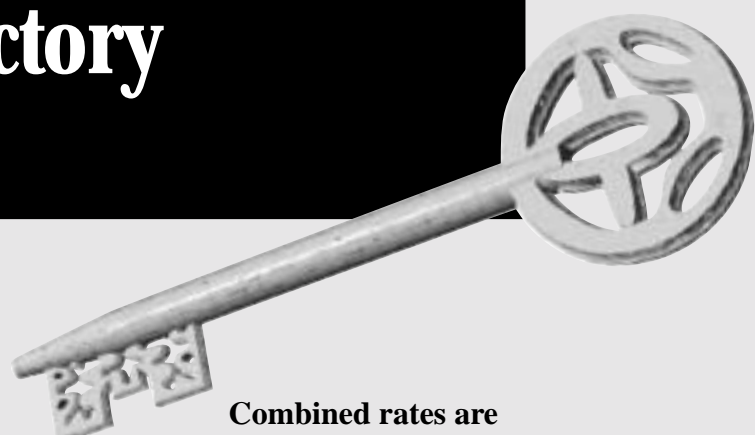
July 24 — Jeremiah B. Hunter reported the theft of four cargo tarps and a yellow strap damaged in the amount of \$2,030 at 2710 Commerce Road.

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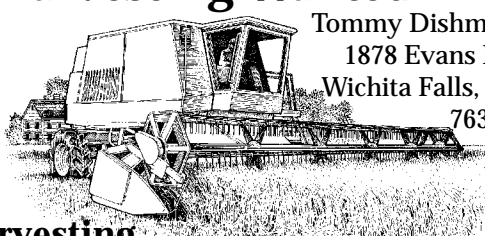
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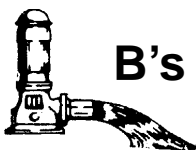
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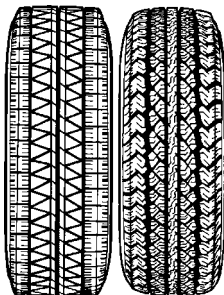
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