

# Sherman County may pilot health care evaluation

**By Sharon Corcoran**  
*The Goodland Star-News*

Sherman County may soon be one of two Kansas counties selected to pilot a grant program to help rural areas evaluate their health care systems, resources, needs and issues.

Community leaders and officials from Goodland Regional Medical Center flew to a training program in Great Bend last Thursday, Oct. 21. The Goodland hospital was one of 10 represented at the program, which was mandatory for hospitals to be considered for the pilot program.

Not all of the hospitals were interested in piloting the program, however, and Goodland sent nine of the 20 people present. The decision will be made next week, Hospital Administrator Jay Jolly said.

Those who attended were Jolly; Larry McCants, a hospital board member who flew the group to Great Bend; Lynn Hoelting, chairman of the hospital board; Donna Price, director of the Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau; Donna Swager, director of Wheat Ridge Acres retirement community; Dana Belshe, county

extension agent; Cheryl Ketter, office manager at the Sherman County Health Department; Dave Daniels, a city commissioner; and Dr. Dan Golden, a chiropractor.

There were more people involved in the planning, Jolly added. "I think we've positioned ourselves as well as we can," he said.

The Kansas Rural Health Works Program is part of a national initiative administered through the Kansas Rural Health Options Project, a partnership between the Kansas Office of Local and Rural Health, the Kansas Hospital Association,

the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services and the Kansas Medical Society.

The Rural Health Options Project has in turn partnered with Kansas State University Research and Extension through the Sherman County office. K-State is providing the research and planning leadership.

The project is paid for with a grant, Jolly said, which goes to the state health options project.

Part of the process, he said, is a survey that will provide information on how people use health ser-

vices in Sherman County. Those who don't use the services, as well as those who do, will be included in the survey, Jolly said.

The project is planned in phases, with the first being an economic impact study for each of the 105 Kansas counties released in February. Two counties will be chosen to pilot phase 2, which is now ready to begin.

Interested counties were asked to identify committed and enthusiastic community and agency leaders to serve on a steering committee, attend the training program, iden-

tify a project contact person, arrange a visit or conference call from the K-State resource staff and have a kick-off meeting, presenting the information from the economic impact study.

The program's process intends to help communities identify their health care needs; examine the social, economic and political realities that affect the delivery of health care; determine desires and realistic goals for add to and strengthen the system to meet community needs; and develop an action plan to meet those goals.

# Goodland soldier, home after year in Iraq, spends time with family

**By Greg Stover**  
*The Goodland Star-News*

A Goodland soldier is home after serving a year in Iraq with the 1st Infantry Division.

Army Specialist Douglas Lalicker came to Goodland on leave earlier this month to visit family and relax after his tour in the war zone. He is the son of Ray and Jamie Lalicker, and the grandson of Ray Lalicker and Shirley Dupsky, all of Goodland.

While home, Lalicker joined the Goodland Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and took part in its color guard for the flag-raising ceremony for last Friday's football between the Cowboys and Concordia.

Lalicker said he planned to leave soon to visit his other grandparents, Garry and Roayne Hagan, in Spavinaw, Okla., before he has to report back to Fort Riley on Nov. 4. Lalicker is a chemical operations

specialist assigned to the decontamination platoon of Headquarters Company, 1st Engineer Battalion. His unit deployed to Iraq last September and returned to Kansas on Sept. 26, flying into Forbes Field, an Air National Guard base south of Topeka.

Except for a few decontamination missions soon after arrival in Iraq, Lalicker said, his platoon spent most of its time on convoy security or serving as a quick-reac-

tion force.

During a convoy security mission around the end of August, when his vehicle, a high-mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle (HMMWV or Humvee), was hit by an improvised explosive device set up along the roadside. Lalicker said he was in the vehicle's gun mount, manning the .50 caliber machine gun, and had some minor shrapnel wounds in the left cheek, wrist and hand.

He said he was treated at his

battalion's aid station and returned to duty. The only other casualty was a soldier inside the vehicle who suffered some hearing damage. Lalicker said extra armor on the vehicle prevented further injuries.

Lalicker said most of his unit is currently on leave, but once the majority get back, they will spend the next 60 days or so "squaring away" their vehicles and equipment as it arrives back to Fort Riley.

Lalicker joined the Army in Sep-

tember 2002 for four years. Asked what his future plans were, he said he has thought about leaving active duty and getting a job, or possibly pursuing his education.

He might stay in the Army, he said, but added he has two years to think about it.

Lalicker, who was promoted to specialist on May 1, said he wants to make sergeant before his tour is up, and that will be a major factor in his decision to stay in.

# The Bible doesn't offer Christians easy path to salvation, but work is worth it

I got a call last week from a reader who was concerned about my soul. She said I should expect to go to heaven and that there is an easier way than to preach door to door.

What she doesn't realize is that I'm not looking for an easier way. If you hire someone to do a job, would you prefer someone who will pay attention to details and do the best work possible or someone who will cut corners?

Should you expect God to ask less of Christians than we would of a contractor? James 2:26 says, "Indeed, as the body without spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead."

Jesus never offered his followers an easy way. At Luke 9:23, he said, "If anyone wants to come after me, let him disown himself and pick up his torture stake day after day and follow me continually."

Jesus did not allow people to make excuses for not following him or tell them it was fine to wait until it was most convenient.

Luke 9:59-62 says, "Then he said to another: 'Be my follower.' The man said: 'Permit me first to leave and bury my father.' But he said to him: 'Let the dead bury their dead, but you go away and declare abroad the kingdom of God.' And still another said: 'I will follow you, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those in my household.' Jesus said to him: 'No man that has put his hand to a plow and

looks at the things behind is well-fitted for the kingdom of God.'"

Jesus commanded his followers at Matthew 28:19, 20: "Go therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit, teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you. And look! I am with you all the days until the conclusion of the system of things."

Romans 10:11, 13-15 says, "For the Scripture says: 'None that rests his faith on him will be disappointed.' For everyone who calls on the name of God will be saved. However, how will they call on him in whom they have not put faith? How, in turn, will they put faith in him of whom they have not heard?

How, in turn, will they hear without someone to preach? How, in turn, will they preach unless they have been sent forth? Just as it is written: 'How comely are the feet of those who declare good news of good things!'"

By preaching the good news and teaching others about the Bible, Christians can build their own faith and that of others, leading to their salvation.

1 Timothy 4:16 says, "Pay constant attention to yourself and to your teaching. Stay by these things, for by doing this you will save both yourself and those who listen to you."

2 Peter 2:21 says, "In fact, to this course you were called, because even Christ suffered for you, leaving you a model for you to follow his steps closely."

Jesus spent his time on earth preaching and teaching. He put

those he taught above himself, and he suffered hardship when necessary and even torture and death. And he set a model for Christians.

If we have to suffer for the sake of God's kingdom and are even called upon to give our lives for it, then we have to. There is no excuse — the one who left a model for us did.

The caller also said I have the idea that all people are against my religion. That is not the case.

When I go door to door preaching, some people are happy to talk to me and those with me. Some are glad to have someone answer their questions about the Bible and teach them.

But the Bible warns that not everyone would be happy with Christians, who do as the Bible says.

2 Peter 3:12 says, "In fact, all those desiring to live with godly

devotion in association with Christ Jesus will also be persecuted."

Those who are looking for an easier way are against Christians. They want to be told it is easy.

2 Timothy 4:3 says, "For there will be a period of time when they will not put up with the healthful teaching, but, in accord with their own desires, they will accumulate teachers for themselves to have their ears tickled."

Even when life as a Christian is difficult, and even though it requires sacrifice, there are blessings that cannot come from any other way of life.

1 Corinthians 3:9 says, "For we are God's fellow workers. You are people are God's field under cultivation, God's building."

What could possibly be a higher honor than to be God's fellow worker?



sharon corcoran

- use it or lose it

# Book suggests holiday activities to bring our families together

As the season approaches for the holidays, it is easy to forget the important thing is our families. It is important to spend quality time with our families.

"Together creating family traditions" by Rondi Hillstrom Davis and Janell Sewall Oakes gives suggestions how to make the most of the holiday time we have together. The activities are suggested for children, but I think the young at heart might like them as well.

The holidays the book works with are New Years, Valentine's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Fourth of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Recipes are an integral part of any holiday.

For a Halloween party they suggest letting the party goers assemble scarecrows from clothes, stuffing and materials for the head including a styrofoam balls, raffia, yarn, felt, corn husks, and carrots. They suggest using two pair of panty hose for the body. One pair for the arms and the other pair for the legs.

Songbird wreath

Ingredients: 12-inch grapevine wreath, raffia, peanut butter, birdseed, pinecones, sunflower seed heads, dried corn, nuts, dried fruit, and so on.

1. Use the grapevine wreath for the base.
2. Tie a large sunflower seed head to the top of the wreath with raffia.
3. Coat several small pinecones with peanut butter and roll them in birdseed. Attach them to the wreath with raffia.
4. Add small ears of corn, dried fruits, shafts of wheat, grass, milo, millet or others.
5. Secure everything to the wreath with raffia or tucking it into the wreath.

They suggest putting it on the outside of your window so bird watching is easier. Wonder what my cats would do.

Gilded nut garlands

Ingredients: variety of nuts, bottle of gold leaf adhesive size, 1 package of gold leaf sheets, drill, long embroidery need, and heavy-duty



pat schiefen

- postscript

thread.

1. Gather the nuts you want to use. Pecans, walnuts, hazelnuts and almonds all work well.
2. Drill a hole through each nut. Put a board underneath. Have plenty of nuts because a few will crack and break.
3. Cover a table with newspapers in a well-ventilated area. Use a craft brush or small sponge to dab on a thin coat of gold leaf adhesive size to the surface of each nut. Work quickly because your hands will become sticky. As the adhesive begins to dry, it will change from milky white to clear in color. It will take an hour before you can apply the gold leaf.
4. Wash the brushes immediately in warm soapy water.
5. Gold leaf comes of packets of 25. Craft store handle a variety of inexpensive leaf in gold, silver and copper colors. Use your fingertips to lift the very thin sheets of foil. The leaf will adhere immediately to the tacky surface of the nut. Don't worry if the leaf will wrinkles and crumples. If you don't want to cover the entire surface don't.
6. You may want to do the actual stringing for another day. Thread a long embroidery needle with about 24 inches of heavy duty button thread.

The individual nuts could be used as ornaments.

**VOTE  
PRO-FAMILY  
VOTE  
TIM PETERSON**

[www.tim4senate.com](http://www.tim4senate.com)

paid by Peterson for Senate,  
Chris Gordon, Treasurer



# Advertise Now

if your organization is going to have a special

# Hunters

breakfast, lunch, dinner or event.

Call Ann or Robin at 899-2338

Before Monday, Nov. 8 to be in

<sup>The</sup> **Goodland Star-News**

special Hunters Pages to be printed Friday, Nov. 12

*We'll help you make money.*

# The Goodland Star-News

1205 Main, Goodland, Kan. 67735 (785) 899-2338