

# State offers to pay county to improve Smoky Gardens

**By Tom Betz**  
*The Goodland Star-News*  
Smoky Gardens will reopen this year for fishing, and the state is proposing a program which would pay Sherman County \$1,000 a year to help improve the community lake. Lynn Davignon, area fish biologist for the Department of Wildlife and Parks, presented details of the new program to the Sherman County commissioners at Tuesday's meeting.

Randy Bellamy, a farmer and head of the Smoky Gardens board, was present, as was Kenny Sander-son a former member of the board who has recently moved back to Goodland.

Davignon said in the past, when the county sought grant money, it was through the Community Lake Assistance Program, but he said this is being changed to the new Community Fisheries Assistance Program this year.

"We will continue to operate under the memorandum of understanding you signed last year," he said, "but under the new program with enhanced options, we will pay the county a minimum of \$1,000 a

year to lease the lake. "You will not lose any control of the lake, but it would give the state more opportunity to improve the fisheries management." He showed the commissioners and audience a computer slide show with the details of the program. The increased money will come from the federal excise tax on fishing equipment. The program has three options, he said. There is a basic option, which is similar to what the county has now, but would not include any payment from the state and would not include any state fish stocking. The enhanced option would provide the payment from the state and depending on the county's support of the lake, there would be grants available and state fish stocking. Davignon said Johnson County took the third option, which is not to participate in the community lake program. He said the Johnson County officials did not want to give up their independent management of their lakes or open them to all anglers.

He said one of the main reasons for the new program was to reduce the number of community lakes

where a person wanting to fish has to purchase an additional permit from the city or county. "There are 249 community lakes in the state," Davignon said, "and there are some in the eastern part of the state where these extra permits exist. The idea of paying to lease the lakes is to remove these barriers to open fishing and to help the cities and counties pay the costs of maintaining the lakes for fishing. "I told my supervisors that was good for the lakes in the eastern part of the state, but what were they going to do for the smaller lakes in the western part where there is no extra barrier.

"They agreed that something should be done and that is where the idea of paying the county a fee came in, and they agreed to a formula plus a minimum payment level. "The objective is to have more family-friendly areas where people can enjoy fishing, and Smoky Gardens is one of those places." To qualify as a family-friendly area, he said, there are supposed to be flush toilets, security lighting, regulations on the use of alcohol and regular security patrols. Davignon

said that Smoky Gardens qualifies in most those, but the toilets are not flushable. In return for the \$1,000 payment, he said, the state will ask the county show that at least 75 percent of the money is put back into maintaining and operating the lake. In the case of Smoky Gardens, he said, things the county does to maintain the lake would be counted as part of the \$750, and if the county shows a

higher percentage, that will help raise the ranking for grants and additional fish stockings. Bellamy said the program looks good, and he will have a board meeting in the next week or two to get a recommendation. Davignon said as a part of the new program, they would officially re-open the lake to fishing this year, and later this spring the state would stock the lake with 1-pound catfish.

"There are some fish in the lake, and we know some fishing has been going on although the lake is supposed to be closed until next year," he said. "We believe the new program will give us more of an opportunity to help manage the lake. "You have some very good volunteers here, and this lake has probably more fish habitat and is more accessible than most of the nine lakes I have in my region."

## Former resident has acting career

**ACTOR, from Page 1**

with the airline, he was a supervisor or manager for about 20 years.

Now that he's been in front of the cameras, though, he has an acting coach and is interested in continuing his career. Since his retirement doesn't depend on the income, he added, he doesn't have to take it too seriously.

"It's all just fun," he said. "I don't need the work."

Cole said he lived in Goodland until he graduated from high school. He said he went straight into the Ma-

rines and served in Vietnam in 1965 and 1966. After an honorable discharge, he moved to California, where he began working for United, eventually retiring in 1999.

He and his wife moved to Franklin, where they live now. Pete Fitzgibbons, one of Cole's friends from high school here, said he remembers they used to drive to Colby to drag race.

"We ran around quite a bit," he said.

Fitzgibbons hasn't seen "The Last Castle" yet, he said, he is kept up to date by Boll on Cole's career.

Cole said he has friends and some family in Goodland. He said his step-father lives here and a cousin of his, Bill Cole, farms 3 1/2 miles west of town.

Cole said he has watched "The Last Castle" three or four times to see his cousin.

"I was real excited when I first heard about it," he said. "I never did expect him to be a movie actor."

He hasn't been home in a while, Dan Cole said he enjoys Goodland every time he visits.

## Gym gets hits on eBay

**GYM, from Page 1**

ings in 1982, three years after the Goodland and Edson districts consolidated. The gym has been mostly used for basketball practice by Grant Junior High and for games when the courts here were full.

The gym is next to the old Edson school building and the school's old football field and bus barn on roughly eight acres of land that be- longs to Melvin Musil.

Selby said the prospective buyers are concerned about insuring the gym with the school building so close. The board discussed the state of the school building, saying it has never been cleared of asbestos and has been left in ill repair.

"We don't want that," Selby said.

The buyers also worry they will not have any control over that part of the property. Selby said both have expressed an interest in buying the land. In the past, he added, Musil has indicated he would sell the property for around \$20,000.

The first buyer wants to use the building for a wrecker service. Selby said he discussed fencing the lot and setting up a yard for wrecked cars.

Although the deal is still preliminary, he said, Edson residents told him they didn't want a salvage yard in town.

Another buyer out of California contacted Selby on using the gym for an Internet business. Selby said that buyer purchases contents auctioned off from storage units and

then sells them.

"It would be a permanent-type flea market," he said.

Both buyers made offers, but Selby said, he will wait for written proposals before presenting anything to the board and to Musil.

"We have no firm proposals yet on either one," he said.

He said the Internet auction seems to be working, since the school has received several inquiries on the building.

"We get about one a day," he said adding that they have even heard from one Hawaiian businessman interested in using the space for mobile home sales.

The brick gym is on 2.23 acres of land and features 11,689 square feet of space inside.

The gymnasium has bleachers, four overhead heaters, and a scoreboard. The hardwood floor is in great condition. The remainder of the building is heated by a forced-air furnace.

The total price the building and land has been set at \$50,000.

The district has been working to sell the gym for more than three years, turning down several offers and eventually agreeing to place the building on the Internet auction site.

Dave Rose, a real estate broker from Salina, put the building on eBay in June at a cost of \$850 plus 3 percent of the sale price.

Selby said Rose has had success selling former school property for the Moreland and McCracken districts.

## Kids pack boxes to troops

**TROOPS, from Page 1**

along with the letters.

"I think it meant so much to them," said Mangus.

To mail the boxes, Mangus and Danny, will pay postage. Mangus said the two boxes will take from nine to 10 days to make it to Iraq. The

post office will handle them as long as they are under 70 pounds.

The best part about the donation, Mangus said, is that it snowballed as more and more people signed on.

"It just took one idea," she said, "one parent and then another joined. Maybe it will give some other people some ideas."

## Pioneer Park bid on city agenda

The Goodland City Commission will review bids for Pioneer Park when it meets at 5 p.m. Monday.

The park, at Cherry Avenue and Business U.S. 24, started as a drainage mitigation project several years

ago, and the landscaping portion of the project has been in the planning for over three years.

The commission may approve the bids which would mean work on the park can begin this spring.

### Worship warms the heart

**Calvary Gospel Church**  
**Pastor:** Rev. Steve Rains  
Fourth & College • 899-3605  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:15 am  
Morning Service: 10:30 am  
Small Group Ministries  
**Wednesday:** Prayer and Worship: 7:00 p.m.  
Youth @ the Rock House: 7:00 p.m.

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help**  
**Pastor:** Father Norbert Dlabal  
307 W. 13th • 890-7205  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
4:30-5 pm Saturday or by appointment  
**Mass Schedule:**  
Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am  
**Spanish Mass:**  
1st & 3rd Sunday: 4 pm

**Sonrise Christian Church**  
Ninth & Caldwell • 899-5398  
**Minister:**  
**Youth Minister:**  
**Sunday:** Worship Service: 9:30 am  
Sunday School: 10:45 am  
**Wednesday:**  
Junior/Senior High Meeting: 7 pm  
Adult & Children's Classes: 7 pm

**Word of Life**  
**Joursquare Church**  
10th & Clark • 899-5250  
**Pastor:** John Coumerilh  
**Service Schedule:**  
**Sunday:** Worship Celebration  
and Kids' Church: 10:30 am  
First Wednesday: K.W.A.M.!  
Grades 1 through 5: 7 p.m.

**Pleasant Home Church**  
**Serving the rural community**  
**for over 100 years**  
Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70  
**Pastor:** Charlie Busch  
694-2242  
**Sunday:** Worship Service: 9 am  
Sunday School: 10 am  
Evening Service: 6 pm

**Bible Baptist Church**  
**Pastor:** Glenn Hermanson  
Fifth & Broadway  
890-7368  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9 am  
Morning Service: 10 am  
Evening Service: 6:30 pm  
**Wednesday:** Evening Bible Study: 7 pm

**Church of Jesus Christ**  
**of Latter-Day Saints**  
1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO  
(719) 346-7984  
**Sacrament Meeting:** 10 am  
**Sunday School:** 11:15 am  
**Priesthood/Relief Society:** 12 am

**Iglesia Del Dios Vivo**  
La Luz Del Mundo  
Spanish Speaking Church  
**Minister:** Esteban Ortiz B.  
1601 Texas • 899-5275  
**Daily Prayer:** Sunday thru  
Saturday: 5 am & 6 pm  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 10 am

**United Methodist Church**  
**Brewster:**  
**Pastor:**  
Worship Service: 10:45 am CST  
Sunday School: 9:45 am CST  
**Winona:**  
**Minister:** Rev. Bob Winters  
Worship Service: 9 am CST  
Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

**First Christian Church**  
(Disciples of Christ)  
**Pastor:** John Park Winkler  
Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233  
**Sunday:** Worship Service: 10:30 am  
**Sunday School:** 9:15 a.m.  
**Activities:** Junior High & High School Youth Groups,  
Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups,  
Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship  
**Special Notice:** Handicap Accessible, Hearing  
Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler  
Nurseries Available

**Kanorado**  
**United Methodist**  
**Church**  
**Pastor:** Leonard Cox  
399-2468  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9 am  
Worship Service: 10:15 am

**Church of the Nazarene**  
**Pastor:** Bob Willis  
Third & Caldwell  
899-2080 or 899-3797  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:45 am  
Worship Service: 10:50 am  
Evening Service: 6 pm  
**Wednesday:** Evening Service: 7 pm

**First United Methodist Church**  
1116 Sherman  
899-3631  
**Pastor:** Rev. Janet Hernandez  
**Saturday:** Informal Worship: 5:30 pm  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:15 am  
Worship Service: 10:30 am

**Goodland Bible Church**  
109 Willow Road • 899-6400  
**Pastor:** Chad DeJong  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Morning Worship: 10:45 am  
Evening Worship: 6 pm  
**Wednesday:** AWANA (Winter)  
and prayer: 7 p.m.

**First Baptist Church**  
**Pastor:** John Meckling  
Fifth & Center • 890-3450  
**Sunday:** Sunday School for all ages:  
9:15 am (Child care provided)  
Morning Worship: 10:30 am  
**Wednesday:** Bible study 7 p.m.  
Call church for information  
**Thursday:** Bible study 9:30 a.m.  
Wheatridge Center

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
13th & Center  
Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969  
**Priest:** Father Hal Lycett  
**Holy Eucharist:** 10:00 a.m. Sunday  
10:00 a.m. Thursday  
**Morning Prayer:** 8:00 a.m. Wed. - Sun.  
For emergencies Wed. - Sun. 890-6969  
Sr. Warden for emergencies  
Mon. and Tues. 890-3320

**Grace Fellowship Church**  
104 E. Hwy 24 • 890-6423  
**Pastor:**  
**Sunday:** Sunday School: 10 am  
Worship Service: 11 am

**Seventh Day Adventist Church**  
1160 Cattletrail  
**Pastor:** Jim Martin  
**Saturday:** Sabbath School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 11 am

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**  
13th & Sherman • 890-6161  
**Pastor:** Scott Grimshaw  
**Sunday:** Christian eduction/fellowship:  
10:15 a.m.  
Worship Service: 9 am  
**Wednesday:** Confirmation: 6 pm

**Church of Christ**  
401 Caldwell  
890-6185  
**Sunday:** Bible Study: 9:45 am  
Worship Service: 10:45 am  
**Wednesday:** Bible Study: 7 pm

### The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:

**Short & Son Trucking**  
Hwy. 24

**Koons Funeral Chapel**  
North Main

**Atens Department Store**  
1103 Main

**Good Samaritan Center**  
208 W. 2nd

**KLOE/KKCS/KWGB**  
3023 W. 31

**Bateman Funeral Home**  
211 E. 11th