

# Volunteers take to the streets for final cleanup

CLEANUP, from Page 1

Ken Clouse, president of the Northwest Kansas Technical College and chairman of the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce Beautification and Revitalization Committee, had planned to cover several parts of the highway.

Since the turnout was less than expected after two previous weekend cleanups, the group decided to focus on the west Goodland highway entrances.

The cleanup began with an idea from the Beautification Committee to pick up Goodland.

After enlisting the help of the city and county to volunteer trucks and time, April was declared cleanup month.

Starting on Saturday, April 2, and continuing on Saturday, April 16, volunteers took to the streets to pick up the town. The group brought in over 40 tons of garbage. Volunteers picked up construction debris, metal, furniture and tree limbs.

All of the trash collected Saturday was left close to the road for the Kansas Department of Transportation to take care of.

"I think our community has really



Volunteers Rich Whitmore (right), Kathy Melia and Arlo Hansen rolled up their sleeves Saturday to pick up trash along K-27 south of I-70. Linda Knott (above) joined in on the north side of I-70.

Photos by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

stepped up," Clouse said. "I think it has been a big hit, a home run."

Committee member Christie Ra-

sure said the cleanup project has done a lot for Goodland.

"I think it was excellent," she

said. "People worked together. To see that is so wonderful."

With the success of the project, he

said, they will plan another highway cleanup in October.

As long as he remains on the

committee, he said, he'll will work to organize a citywide event each year.

# Laptop could help troubleshoot county equipment

LAPTOP, from Page 1

asked Commissioner Mitch Tiede.

"Not really," Way said. "I will have to take it out of equipment."

The commissioners told Way to go ahead with the program and to come back with the bids for a computer.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Approved a request from Kin Huang, president of the Sherman County Community Foundation, to use the county clerk's office as the permanent address for the foundation to be listed on the state forms.

Huang said the foundation

would keep its post office box, but the state requires a specific physical address.

The commissioners and Clerk Janet Rumpel said the foundation could use 813 Broadway, Room 102, for the physical address.

- Approved a bid from Midwest Mailing Solutions of McCook, Neb., for \$2,895 for a Formax

folder for the county treasurer's office.

Treasurer Shelby Miller said she had checked out the various folders and felt this was the best.

There were three other bids, with Topside Office bidding \$2,875, High Plains Office \$3,586 and Pitney Bowes \$3,890.

The commissioners did not take

either local bid because the companies could not give Miller a list of anyone using the Martin Yale brand of folder, and neither local company had sold a folder.

- Approved appointment of Sonya Vandiver, a secretary at Goodland High School, to the Smoky Gardens Board.

- Talked about the possible

projects for a bond issue. Rasure said he would ask for a joint meeting with the new city commission to discuss future needs of both the city and the county.

The next commission meeting will be 8 a.m. Friday in the commission room on the main floor of the county courthouse, 813 Broadway.

# New school calendar posts sports online, sends updates

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Throw away your old wall calendar and move into the digital age with the new Goodland High School online calendar, up and running at [www.highschoolsports.net](http://www.highschoolsports.net).

Just pick Kansas from a list and then click on Goodland to pull up a color-coded school schedule.

The site starts at the top with events happening that day.

From the Sixth Grade Music Rehearsal to the co-ed track meet at Holcomb High School last Friday, the web page lists all official events.

High School Activities Director Steve Raymer said listing times and locations online makes it harder to double book a venue.

The schedule allows him to book

a bus or activity van for certain events, too.

Events on the calendar are highlighted in colors to make it easier to read.

Forgetful sports fans can go back to check out games from last month or two months ago.

Eager fans can look into the future with events online all the way through 2007.

The calendar can be filtered to specific sports or adjusted to show preferences, Raymer said.

Users can add or delete information on practices, scrimmages, school events and other events.

The calendar can be filtered down to specific sports.

Baseball fans who aren't interested in school board meetings can get only the information they want.

Academic meets like Scholars' Bowl can be singled out for schedules, too.

Even some sports events from Grant Junior High have been included.

Raymer said they are looking at a separate site for the junior high since there are so many sports events at each school.

He told the school board in Feb-

ruary that the calendar has room to fit events like music programs and special events at all district schools.

He said with a password, principals could add in information from any of the schools.

"I think it's a communication tool for everybody," Raymer said.

The calendar has a feature to alert people when the schedule changes,

to make sure they know when events are canceled or moved.

To participate in the e-mail alerts, users have to sign up with an e-mail address and a password.

He said in other areas, the site is even programmed to send text messages to parents who sign up.

The calendar includes a current forecast displaying conditions,

temperature and windspeed.

The site, through Schedule Star/Athletic Organizational Aids, costs the athletic department \$225 per year, Raymer said.

He started out with a 90-day trial and has been using it ever since.

"I've gotten to where I just really like it," he said. "I'm very happy with it so far."

# Fun run planned for Roundup

Runners will line up on their marks at 8 a.m. Saturday as Sharon Springs celebrates the city's annual Rattlesnake Roundup with the Rattle Run.

The race includes runner and walkers of all ages in a 5K, or 3.1-mile, race and a half mile "fun run."

The event will start and end at the Wallace County Fairgrounds.

The overall fastest time and the top finisher in each age group in the 5K will get a prize.

Prizes will be given to the runner or walker who can most accurately guess how long it will take to complete the course.

Money earned through the walk will provide church camp scholarships for Wallace County youths.

Participants can fill their stomachs afterwards with a breakfast served by the Economic Development Association at the Community Activity Building at the Fairgrounds.

Sponsors include First National Bank, Witzel & Rhea Implement, Heartland Carriers, Hennick Lumber, Van Allen Implement, Miller's Food Store, Hill Trash Pickup, Wallace County Co-Op, Penny's Diner and Goodland Dental Arts.

Organizers say they expect the Rattle Run to become an annual event.

Anyone interested in running, walking or volunteering to help can call Megan Pearce at (785) 891-3551 or come to the fairgrounds at 7 a.m. to register.

**News tip?  
Story idea?  
899-2338**

**"Hemorrhoids? Here's what my doctor recommended."**

When I first heard about Hemcure - the painless non-surgical hemorrhoid cure - I was skeptical.

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# Notorious 'Fleagle Gang' Fingerprint ends nationwide '20s manhunt

True crime from the roaring 20s, "The Fleagle Gang, Betrayed by a fingerprint," begins with a brazen daylight bank robbery of the First National Bank in Lamar, Colo. on May 23, 1928. Four men are dead, and the robbers escaped.

The author Tom (N.T.) Betz, editor of *The Goodland Star-News*, has spent a lifetime in journalism and on the Great Plains.

**Knott Just Books of Goodland, Kan. will hold a book signing from 2-5 p.m. on Friday, May 20. Bookstore owner, Linda Knott, said people can call 890-7105 to reserve a book. She said several people have called or come in to reserve the book and purchase the copies she has been ordering.**

**"It seems to have stirred up some interest," she said.**

"The Fleagle Gang" details the case which hinges on a single fingerprint found on a murdered Dighton, Kan., doctor's car. The fledgling FBI and new boss J. Edgar Hoover play a crucial role in turning the fingerprint into solid evidence used to find, arrest and convict members of the Fleagle Gang. The book includes photos taken from the court files and places where the gang robbed banks.

A U.S. Navy journalist and a graduate of the University of Colorado, Betz started his career delivering papers for his family's newspaper in Lamar, Colo., winning the first of numerous journalism awards as a teenager.

The Fleagle Gang robbed banks and trains in Larned, Kinsley, Marysville, Ottawa and McPherson Kan., Lamar, Colo., Eugene, Ore., Pittsburg, Calif. and countless others of over \$1 million in the 10 years they operated.

Three gang members — Ralph Fleagle, George Abshire and Howard Royston — were "jerked up" at the Colorado Penitentiary a little over two years after committing the Colorado bank robbery. The fourth, Jake Fleagle, was shot on a train in Branson, Mo. in Oct. 1930.

"The Fleagle Gang" is available at **Knott Just Books** in Goodland (Call 890-7105). A book signing is planned for 2-5 p.m., Friday, May 20.

Betz will be signing books from 9-11 a.m., Saturday, May 21, at The Barry Patch in Lamar, Colo., which is the site of the original First National Bank of Lamar. The book is available at The **Finney County Museum** in Garden City, and online from the publisher *Authorhouse.com*, and other book stores.

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**By N.T. Betz**

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