



Elizabeth Craig added another row of batteries to the shelf as she helped set up the new Radio Shack store off of 2215 Enterprise Rd. The new store will be open on Wednesday, but will wait for the grand opening celebration until Monday.  
Photo by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

# New store will feature electronics of all kinds

By Kathryn Burke  
The Goodland Star-News

As the doors are unlocked Wednesday morning, a wide world of electronic goodies will be open for business in Goodland.

A new Radio Shack outlet has moved into the old location of the El Dorado clothing store at 2215 Enterprise Rd.

Justin Bentzinger, a businessman here and a board member with Kansas Towers Inc., which owns the store, said the space gives the store access to K-27, old US 24 and I-70 traffic.

"Over 27,000 people per day pass by here," he said, adding that he hopes every one of them will shop at the store.

This Radio Shack will carry a select line meaning about 1,600 items, he said, plus catalog orders.

Among the rows of electronic devices are telephones, intercoms, televisions, radios, weather radios, iPods, digital cameras, stereos and Sirius satellite radios.

The store sells all types of accessories, too, from resistors to tools of the electronics trade.

"We have every type of battery," added Anne Hamilton, store man-

ager, as she gestured toward a stack of boxes teaming with batteries ready to be set up.

Bentzinger said workers will be able to order any item not in stock. Customers can even go online and check out items to see exactly what is on the shelf.

The Radio Shack will carry cell phones, including the entire stock from the downtown Unicel store that will move into the store. Hamilton said they will have a full line of Global System Mobile, or GSM, phones that are data capable.

Bentzinger said they will carry Streamlight flashlights, Icom two-way radios and Spyderco knives.

To get ready for the Radio Shack items, Hamilton said, they painted the walls in the store and her new office. She said they build a partial wall for a place to sell drinks, snacks and cigarettes.

The store is set up with a half circle counter set sideways to the front door.

Islands covered with electronic accessories pepper the interior and items line the walls.

Tall silver fixtures framed by bright orange walls hold the electronics.

Behind the fixtures, a lime-green background shows through the fixtures' silver bars. The tops of each row are marked with blue signs declaring in white lettering which section of the store is below.

To get ready for the opening, Hamilton and employee Elizabeth Craig will learn about everything electronic in training CDs that they can take home. To become a certified employee, each has to pass tests in 14 areas of electronics.

After the training, she said, employees will have access to an internal web site that will answer many questions customers might have.

Bentzinger said they have had the Radio Shack franchise since November and have been looking for a place to set up shop. Bentzinger said Radio Shack approached the investment group. When El Dorado moved out, he said, they picked up the space.

Millers Electronics formerly had a Radio Shack franchise here, but dropped the company about a year ago.

Radio Shack will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

# Economic development office extends hours open

By Tom Betz  
The Goodland Star-News

The Sherman County Economic Development office at 1208 Main will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday after the group's board decided to change the office manager from part time to full time.

Council Chairman John Garcia, owner of Garcia's Home Furnishing, said the council had decided to change Kay Younger, who has been handling the office duties since January, to full time at a meeting last Tuesday.

Garcia said the council is continuing to search for a full-time director, but felt there was a need for

the office to be open more during the week to respond.

He said the council has a few more names, but has not made a final selection.

Younger is the wife of Dr. David Younger, who practices at the Goodland Family Health Center.

At the meeting, Younger said she was working to help organize an Artists' Roundtable, and there were 10 people present at the first meeting.

She said Tina Goodwin from the Goodland Art Center said there might be grant available to help get the program started, and she was willing to work on it.

Zach Breininger, an Eagle Scout

candidate, was at the meeting, and explained his project to create a xeriscape garden at the corner of Broadway and 17th. At the City Commission meeting on Monday, received approval to proceed and to get assistance from Phil Erickson, head of the city street crew.

Breininger said it will take about six weeks to get the garden area into shape and that Erickson will help by hauling away the old soil and bringing in a load of soil to be the base for the landscape area.

Garcia introduced Michael Stumpf of Erie, Colo., a co-owner of Town Planning Alliance.

Stumpf said this is a fairly new company that works with municipal

governments and non-profit organizations to help turn development ideas into solid plans and find ways to implement the plans.

"We work with small cities and rural places," Stumpf said. "We all come from small-town backgrounds, and use a market-based approach to find the best way to use an idea. We work to understand the market, and then do a reality check to see if the plan will really work."

He said their approach to the planning process starts with the investigation phase, the original idea.

They do the planning and research to come up with options that can work, then help the people find ways to make the plan become a

reality through grants or foundations. The final phase is the implementation, the construction or development of the final project.

"We come in and evaluate the idea," he said. "We work with the community to develop the idea. We bring our knowledge to the process, and we know the community has knowledge of issues around the idea, which will affect the final design."

"One thing we do in the early phase is to check the city ordinances to see what might create a problem. In one place, the city wanted a covered sidewalk area along a street, but there were city ordinances saying it was illegal to have anything over the sidewalk."

Stumpf gave examples of work he and his partners have been involved in Whitewater, Wis., and Jamestown, N.D., and said that they

were talking to Hays about a possible project.

Don Newell, a council member from S&T Communications, reported that Tracy Purvis has been working with Goodland Regional Medical Center to help them create a web site to link it to the economic development site.

Newell said he had developed a short form for people to fill out who want to create a link from their site to the economic development site. He has been working on a script to go with the video that has been collected.

"Video is worthless without a script," he said. "It is easier to match video to the script."

The council held a 30-minute closed session to discuss personnel. When the meeting resumed, the council voted to approve changing Younger to full time.

# Radio personality faces charges

The Colorado radio personality who emceed the Freedom Fest concert here was arrested over the Fourth of July weekend after allegedly hurting his wife.

Sheriff's officers said Heidi N. Cohn, wife of radio personality known as The Conman, was beaten up after the Tracy Lawrence concert Saturday, July 2.

The Conman, Chris Cohn, spent 48 hours in the Sherman County Bastille after Deputy Burton Pianalto arrested him at the county fairgrounds.

Sheriff Kevin Butts said Cohn was arrested at 10:40 p.m. and not released until Tuesday, July 5. He was released without bond.

Pianalto said he was told about some trouble with Cohn at the beer garden earlier that night. Butts said Cohn allegedly wanted to take beer outside of the designated area.

The State of Kansas, Butts said, requires officers to press charges in domestic battery cases regardless of the victim's wishes. Pianalto said when he is presented with evidence, by law he has to make an arrest.

Butts said the case has been handed over to the county attorney. Although nothing has yet been filed, he said, Cohn is facing possible charges of domestic battery.

The Conman Radio Show, a nationally syndicated country music program, is broadcast live from Denver. The show can be heard in over 100 stations across the country and here on KWGB in the evenings. Cohn also works for the new television network Great American Country, where he is the host of the Hot Country Nights and Fast Forward shows.

Cohn has connections in Goodland with Shad Sheldon, leader of the band Shad and the

Minutemen, who wrote the Conman's radio theme song.

While the Conman's web site says he is single, Butts said the victim is Cohn's wife. The web site also states Cohn's name as Conn; Butts said the correct spelling is Cohn.

## corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

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## MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

## Sunflower Contest

### RULES

- Write down as many words (at least 3 letters) that you can think of using the word "Sunshine"
  - Do not use proper names
- Bring your completed list to The Goodland Star- News office at 1205 Main or at our booth at the Fair by 12:00 p.m. by Monday, August 8th

Winners will be announced in the Friday, August 12th edition

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|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____  | 26. _____ |
| 2. _____  | 27. _____ |
| 3. _____  | 28. _____ |
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| 25. _____ | 50. _____ |

(If you have more than 50, please attach an additional sheet)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

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