

# I want to take your blood!

The Fellowship Hall at the Goodland United Methodist Church in was buzzing with people eager to give blood to the American Red Cross over the lunch hour Wednesday afternoon.

"Be nice to me, I gave blood today," said the stickers pasted on the chests of donors as they left the hall.

Visitors checked in at the front of the room with a driver's license, an ID card or a Red Cross donor card from a previous visit.

From there they were sent off to enclosed booths where volunteers helped check the medical history of each donor.

A long line of donors filled seats in the hall before they were taken to a lawn chair, where they rolled up their sleeves and gave blood.

After they were done, donors were escorted to tables full of juice and snacks to recover.

Everyone who donated received a free beverage cooler from the Red Cross.

The Red Cross was accepting all blood types, especially types O-positive and O-negative.

They group says 500 donors are needed every day save lives in Kansas and northern Oklahoma.



Mark Pianalto, 20, gave blood as he lounged in one of the lawn chairs at the First United Methodist Church on Wednesday.  
Photo by Kathryn Burke  
The Goodland Star-News

## Chamber asks for ideas, help

CHAMBER, from Page 1a

Chamber board members said the rent is \$513 a month where they are, and it is paid through the end of the month. Asked about a lease, Linin said the Chamber could get out of it if needed.

Swager said the Chamber did not make enough money from the Tracy Lawrence concert to make a dent in its carryover debt.

"Our plan of action has not worked," Linin said. "Doing festivals and fund raisers has not gotten us ahead. We need a director to focus on our members and their needs, not on the festivals."

Council member Don Newell asked if the Chamber had a zero starting point, could they operate on the membership dues.

"Can we operate on what we get from members?" Linin said. "Not without sharing some services."

"All options are open," Clouse said. "We do not want to ask you on an annual basis to pull us out of debt. To live in the \$22,000, we cannot do the outside things."

Council Member Harlan House said many members felt the economic development, Chamber and visitors bureau offices need to be together, but that was not going to happen overnight.

"We need to look at this carefully," House said. "We need to spend the time to put the three together. Part of the problem is that we are using tax money and so is the visitors bureau, but yours is mostly private money. The finances scare me, but we need to get it done."

"We need to keep the Chamber and work together. If you fail, we fail."

There was a suggestion the economic development office and visitors' bureau could apply for grants next year, but that would not help now.

"The chamber board members have put their hearts and souls into the chamber," said Steve West, a council member. "We want to thank you for that effort. I agree we need to look for a solution for the betterment of Sherman County. I'm not sure what that solution is tonight."

Garcia said moving the Chamber office would be a start.

"The Chamber is very vital to the future," he said. "We need to find a way to keep it going. It is not good to close the doors for a day or two or cut it back."

He asked the Chamber board to look at what they could do and have some options for the meeting on Tuesday.

# Commissioners plan to add storage building, garage

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Sherman County hopes to solve its storage problems with a new building behind the courthouse where the tennis court is, and there are plans to expand it into a justice center for the police and sheriff's departments in the future.

County commissioners met last Tuesday with Jeff Gillam, an architect from Jones-Gillam Architects of Salina, who came to listen and gather information from county and city representatives about future needs that might be part of a phased development.

At the end of about two hours of discussion with both county and city employees and members of the city commission, county commissioners asked Gillam what he could do and how much would it cost.

He asked the commissioners to give him a priority list.

"Do you want me to look at 100 years, 50 years or the next five years?" he asked.

The commissioners agreed the storage building and garage are the top priority.

Second would be adding room for central dispatch and the city police.

Third would be expansion and remodeling of the Bastille.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked what the fees would be to give the county two or three design options.

Gillam said he could provide four site options for about \$5,000.

Tiede asked if he could provide three for \$4,000, and Gillam agreed. The commissioners approved paying up to \$4,000 to have the Salina architect draw up three site plans.

Gillam said he would come back with the plans as soon as possible.

City Commissioners Josh Dechant, Annette Fairbanks and Mayor Rick Billinger were at the meeting along with Police Chief Ray Smeed, Tom Armour, interim city manager, and Rich Simon, head of the city street and water departments.

Sheriff Kevin Butts and Mary Messamore, head of central dispatch, were representing the county.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure, who invited Gillam, opened the discussion and said he felt the top priority was a storage building and a garage for county vehicles.

"I think we need to look into the future and see if it is possible to expand the building as a location for all law enforcement under one roof," Rasure said. "We are not talking about consolidation, but we want to get everyone's thoughts."

They tried to include County Clerk Janet Rumpel and City Clerk Mary Volk by cell phone, as they were on the road to Denver, but there was too much static.

Rasure said part of the plan was to free up the Telephone Building to provide office space for the Economic Development Council, Convention and Visitors Bureau and Chamber of Commerce.

He said they wanted to include

the city in the design phase to see if the idea of a single building for law enforcement and dispatch would work.

Messamore said she had worked at the law enforcement center in Colby, and thought it worked well to have both the county and city officers together. She said there was a better working relationship with both departments in the same building.

"I see it as a win-win," she said. "I agree you need to make sure you have enough space."

Messamore recommended having a basement dispatch area for emergency protection. In a disaster, that area could serve as a shelter and communications center.

Sheriff Butts said he thought having the city police and dispatcher near or connected to the Bastille would work.

"The closer the departments are the better off they would be," Armour said. "That includes, dispatch, police fire and safety. There might be a problem moving the fire trucks, but at least the fire chief should have an office."

"The ultimate goal would be to have them all together to serve the citizens...."

Someone asked where the county's property is, and Simon said it runs east to the middle of Clark Avenue, near the restrooms at Gulick Park.

The commissioners invited Gillam and the city officials to tour the telephone building to see what

is stored there, and give the architect a look at the building the county is considering remodeling and opening for public use.

Gillam toured the area around the Bastille and the basement storage areas in the courthouse. Later, Sheriff Butts gave him a tour of the Bastille and he was to visit the City Administration Building to get a look at the police and dispatch center.

Rasure said the building will need to have secured storage for the sheriff, health department and county clerk, plus room for the other items now stored at the telephone building.

Rasure asked Sheriff Butts about garage needs, and Butts said there would need to be at least two bays for sheriff's vehicles. He said it would be good if one had a floor drain where the vehicles could be washed.

Tiede said he would like to see six bays to handle the county vans and sheriff's vehicles.

"I would rather overbuild rather than under build," he said.

The county commissioners said they were thinking of using brick to match the courthouse.

"I think you need to look at the cost to the taxpayers," Mayor Rick Billinger said.

Gillam said he would take all the suggestions and work up a plan for the whole area to include the city police and dispatch center, plus the storage building and garage. He said he would review the plans for the Bastille and suggest a renovation plan, but said that might call for a major change in the interior design.

Tiede asked about saving the tennis court to use as a base for the storage building, but Gillam said he did not feel that would be a good idea. He said the concrete would probably not be strong enough, and that if a basement is needed, the tennis court would have to be removed.

## Goodland man to visit Asia

TEDFORD, from Page 1a

He will start from Denver International Airport and fly to San Francisco.

He said they will make a pit stop in Honolulu and then stop again in Manila before heading to Leyte.

The first trip over, he said, totaled 6,400 miles and took 24 days by ship.

He plans to travel this time with a duffel bag to carry his camera and the diary he kept in the service.

The first thing this airplane pilot

will do when he lands is to check out the airport.

Next, he plans to head to the base where he was stationed.

"I'll be in the same areas I was before," he said. "I want to see how much has changed."

While he isn't packing a swimsuit, he said, he wants to visit the coast to see the ocean.

"It's just a beautiful sight," he said of the Leyte ocean views.

Tedford said until recently he really didn't think he would go back to Leyte, but he's excited about re-

opening the chapter in his life.

"The last few years I've been thinking I'd like to go back," he said, "because that was quite an experience."

He said his fond memories of the island are mostly because of the joy he saw in Filipino people delivered from the war.

Tedford said the Philippines are largely Christian and everyone speaks English.

"The people have a low standard of living," he said, "but they're happy."

## Teachers, school board reach agreement

TEACHERS, from Page 1a

per hour.

"We were pleased with that," he said.

In negotiations, teachers requested that the board review the supplemental salary schedules, the amounts given to teachers who coach, sponsor or oversee activities outside of their classroom assignments.

Selby said the board agreed to look at all supplemental salaries this year to be ready to negotiate next year.

He said they will look into the amount of time spent and the pres-

sure put on teachers for each activity.

Selby said the board agreed to set up a morale and recognition committee.

He said while it wasn't part of the negotiated agreement, the board agreed to put two administrators and five teachers on a committee to look at ways to improve morale in the district.

"I thought the negotiations went very well," Selby added.

Through the years, he said, a great deal of trust has been built up between the teachers and the school board.

"It went kind of like it's sup-

posed to," he said, adding that each party came to the table with some demands and reached a compromise.

Selby told the board the teachers voted to approve the agreement 53-0. The board approved salaries for school administrators, too.

All of the district's administrators, Central Principal Sharon Gregory, North and Grant Junior High Principal Jim Mull, West Principal Shelly Angelos, High School Principal Harvey Swager, High School Assistant Principal Steve Raymer and Superintendent Marvin Selby all got a \$2,400 raise.

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