

# Flatlander Fall Festival

Fun for the entire family

Saturday - Sunday September 24-25



The Goodland Star-News



# New Flatlander Committee expands days events, entries

By Kathryn Burke

*The Goodland Star-News*

The Flatlander Fall Festival is set to kick off on Friday, with people from all over flocking to Goodland for the fun.

The opening event is the stock car races at 6:30 p.m. on Friday at the Sherman County Speedway. The races continue at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.

They will feature mini stock, econos, bomber, super stocks and modified contests.

Saturday, the festival revs up with the car and motorcycle shows on Main Avenue.

Registration for the Early Iron Car Club Rod Run starts at 8 a.m. at Central Elementary School, 1301 Main. The show is split into classes from the first automobiles to 1949; 1950 to 1964; 1965 to 1975; 1976 to 1989 and 1990 to present; and trucks.

The morning features a "show and shine" and a continental breakfast. Door prizes, games, dash plaques for

winner and a "motor blow," a contest where organizers drain oil from an engine and let it run until it blows up. The evening fun starts with a meal followed by an evening cruise through town.

The motorcycle show starts with registration at 9 a.m. at 9th and Main.

The bike events start with a show, followed by rodeo games in the afternoon. The evening starts with a dinner and awards before all the riders all head out for a parade of motorcycles on Main.

Sunday, the motorcycle club gets together for a religious service and then they plan a poker run.

Starting at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Main Avenue will be lined with vendor booths.

The fun includes a Scruffy Dog Contest at 11 a.m. at 11th Street and Main. Participants can sign up at the Animal Shelter booth.

A scale model show will be set up from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at High Plains Office Supply, 1118 Main.

Off Main, the Goodland Activities Center will hold a Punt, Pass and Kick contest for boys and girls ages 8 to 15 at 10 a.m. at the high school.

The south end of town will feature the fourth annual flea market and garage sale all day Saturday in the parking lot of the Antique Warehouse Mall at 17th and Main.

An Army Reserve fire truck display will be set up in front of the Cowboy Loop on Saturday. The parking lot of the store will have spaces for booths.

Greg Shores is sponsoring the annual swap meet at 15th and Main. He said visitors can swap any motor-sport related items. Last year, he said, one person sold a race car motor to a driver who won using the new motor in the races the same night.

Tractor and Jeep displays will be set up on South Main, too.

"Hopefully we can make it worth the trip to come all the way down,"

See FLATLANDER, Page 5



Kids had fun last year riding the bucking bull. This is one of the many rides and games set up by the Northwest Kansas Technical College.

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# Life-long biker leads Flatlander parade

By Kathryn Burke

*The Goodland Star-News*

Nearly 60 years and 150,000 miles after his first ride on a motorcycle, a Cheyenne County man will take his place as grand marshal for the motorcycle club during the Flatlander Fall Festival.

Milton Murray, 72, was 13 when he took his first motorcycle ride, on a Harley Davidson no less, with family friend Hale Conor of McDonald.

"I was hooked from then on," he said.

His next ride was on an Indian motorcycle in Bird City in 1947, but he weighed only 80 pounds and was too small to handle it.

The next year, he said, his dad bought him an American motor scooter. Some of his friends in Goodland had Wizzer scooters and they rode together.

Murray took his first big trip on this bike in between his eighth-grade and freshman years with his cousin, Willis McGriff of Seibert, Colo.

He said the two loaded the scooter's trunk and road out to Pike's Peak, where they camped overnight. The ride was slow going since the bike peaked at 45 mph.

"I got my first real motorcycle in '73," Murray said, a Suzuki 750 cc.

He said has owned a 850cc Suzuki and a 1400cc Suzuki Cavalade, and the family has taken several trips on those three bikes.

"We've covered all but six states," he said, adding they have gone into Canada, too. Murray estimated he has driven about 150,000 miles total on motorcycles.

His wife Twila (Kinderknecht) Murray accompanied him on all of the trips.

One of his favorite vacations was to Goshen, Ind., he said, where they toured Amish country.

The couple took a ferry into



Milton Murray (middle) posed with his wife Twila and grandson Travis before heading out on a tip to Minnesota and Canada with friend George McClelland (right). Travis, now 34, was 6 years old when the photo was taken.

Canada, where they spent the night camped in a city park.

"It was a great trip," he said.

Today, Murray said, he has only

two bikes in his garage, an 700cc Honda Magna and a 250cc Honda Rebel.

He said he still loves riding for "the

thrill of it."

When you travel by motorcycle, Murray said, you camp out and get to talk to more people.

"We've met so many neat people through the years," he said.

See MARSHAL, Page 4



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Milton Murray (above) and his wife Twila pose for a photo in Cody, Wyo. in 1986. Twila (right) stood near the motorcycle and camp trailer at Bear Lake, Utah.

**MARSHAL, from Page 3**

Murray has passed his love of riding down through his family to his son Rick and grandson Travis; son Roger and grandsons twins Cory and Jeremy; son Rex and grandson Ryan; and son Ron and grandsons Matt and Mike.

Murray and Twila belongs to several clubs including the Christian Motorcycle Association, American Motorcycle Association, Hi Plains Riders, Serenity Riders and Putin Sober clubs.

Murray said he's been sober for the past 30 years and the Alcoholics Anonymous program is a big part of

his life. He likes to help new members of AA since so many people were there for him when he joined.

Riding has its price, and Murray said he has taken a bad spill on a bike. He advises riders to stay safe and always wear a helmet. He has been caught in bad weather, once taking refuge under a bridge during a storm in Limon, Colo.

Murray was born in Bird City and raised north of Goodland. He went to country schools and graduated from high school in Goodland in 1951.

He married Twila in 1952 and started farming with his father, Ralph Murray.

In 1954, Milton left the area to work in coal mines in Colorado. He worked his way up to detonating the dynamite in 1958 before he headed back to Goodland.

He continued to farm with his father and drove trucks for the Davis Brothers.

From there, he started working for the Yellow Freight System, hauling loads from Goodland to Colorado. He drove truck for 20 years, retiring in 1996.

The company gave him a medallion and a gold watch for logging 4 million miles accident free.

Through his career and his hobby,

Murray said, he loves to travel.

As a veteran rider, he said he advises new bikers to enjoy the ride and be safe.

About his spot as grand marshal, Murray said he isn't sure exactly what

he'll have to do. He plans to sit on Main on Saturday, Sept. 24, and visit with other bikers. He said being appointed is a great distinction.

"It is an honor being part of the Flatlander Fall Festival," he said.



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On the south side of Main at last year's Fall Flatlander Festival, two Jeeps were driven up on top of a car. A jeep show is planned for this years events. The street in front of Central School was crammed with hot rods for the show.

**FLANDER, from Page 2**

Shores said.  
 The tractor display, he said, will feature some with engines used for pulling.  
 He said plans for the Jeep display have not been finished, but they are considering an articulation ramp to demonstrate how the suspension on a Jeep flexes.  
 He is trying to get some paragliders – a mo-

torized vehicle that glides in the air – to set up a few of the crafts for visitors to examine.  
 “They’re just cool to look at,” he said.  
 A beer garden will be set up between 16th and 17th Street on Main. Shores, who ran the garden last year, said they will start setting up around 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. and will close at 5 p.m.  
 A couple of vehicles are up for grabs, including a fully restored 1997 Ford Mustang from the Northwest Kansas Technical College and a

Harley-Davidson motorcycle from the Goodland Knights of Columbus. Tickets are available from both groups.  
 Saturday night, the fun moves to the Howard Johnson Hotel, 2218 Commerce Road, for a burn out pit and beer-bobbing contest.  
 The hotel will welcome cars and motorcycles in the parking lot to pit their engines against each

other in the burn out contest, a new event for this year.  
 The Wild Card Lounge will hold a beer bobbing contest, another new event, where participants bob for beers the same way people bob for apples.  
 Sunday morning there will be a Church in the Park at 11 a.m. at Gulick Park. The Harvest Evangelical Free Church will hold the service.

# Photo contest features work of Sherman County people

The Flatlander Fall Festival on Saturday, again will feature the Flatlander Photo Contest, with the doors of the Carnegie Arts Center open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 The show opened on Sept. 11, and stays up through the end of the month.  
 Tina Goodwin, center director, said the display features photos taken by Sherman County people. She said anyone can enter and photo-

graphs have to be original. They is no theme this year, she said, so they have no specifications on the type of photos.  
 The center will be serving refreshments during the festival.  
 Goodwin said over the month, visitors will be asked to vote on favorites and they will add up the winners with awards for the top three adult photos and the top youth photo.



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# Something for every member of the family



At the Carnegie Arts Center, Chloe Goodwin, 9, added the finishing touches to a sun painted on the community canvas at last year's Flatlander Fall Festival, a co-operative painting project set up all day.



The motorcycle parade at 8 p.m. on Saturday has become an annual event that lines Main with people watching the lines of bikes as they parade.

## Potato Bar, brooms help raise money

Goodland Lions Club members will be selling baked potatoes and brooms next Saturday as part of the annual Flatlander Fall Festival.

Money from the sale will be used to provide college scholarships for Goodland High School students, and to help Goodland residents get eye exams, glasses, hearing exams and hearing aids. This year, the club will

donate part of the money to the Lions International Foundation to help victims of Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

"Money raised will allow Lions to meet pressing needs in our community and our nation," said Don Keihl, president of the Goodland club.



The modified Volkswagen Beetle was a crowd pleaser at the bike show last year. The car, which qualified as a bike because it only had three wheels, was brought to the show by Rex Rosenberg of Great Bend.



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The street in front of Central School was crammed with hot rods for the Early Iron Rod Run show last year. Central School will be the headquarters for the car show this year.

# Car, motorcycle lovers ready for Flatlander

By Kathryn Burke

*The Goodland Star-News*

Car and motorcycle lovers have already started drooling, owners of scruffy dogs are working on their talents and business people are gearing up for this year's Flatlander Fall Festival.

The festival, Friday, through Sunday, will feature stock car races, a car show, a motorcycle show, food and game booths on Main, and more.

Brent Wood, a member of the festival committee, said the booths will feature everything from food vendors to game booths.

Wood said the three-day festival is being run by a new combined committee instead of being mostly organized by the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the car and

motorcycle clubs.

The Chamber sends a representative to work with the other clubs in the committee.

The new group, Wood said, is working toward complete independence for the festival.

"We're trying to become self-funded," he said.

The portable bathrooms alone will cost \$900. Wood said they are looking for a clean-up crew to help after the festival.

This year, the group has gotten \$1,000 from the county and has opened up a separate bank account. Tuesday the Flatlander committee received \$500 from the Sherman County Economic Development Council.

The Madd Hatters Music Emporium will provide a stage and sound system for entertainment

Saturday, he said.

While not every deal has been set in stone, Wood said the committee is working on posters to promote all of the events.

This year, Wood said, the committee plans to

provide people movers – transportation trams – to move people from one end of Main to the other.

"We've got a lot of things planned," he said.

"Everything's come together pretty nicely."

## Sherman County Speedway



### 16th Annual Flatlander Race

Friday, Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 24, 5:30 p.m.

Modified, Stock, Bomber, Econo & Mini Stock

Modified trophy sponsored by the Carolyn Hurst Family in her memory

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# Flatlander Fall Festival 2005

## Sept. 24 - 25

### Street Festival

Saturday, Sept. 24, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Main Street Mile Downtown Goodland  
Food • Games • Drawings • Entertainment • And much more

### Stock Car Races

Friday, Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m. Sherman  
County Speedway  
Saturday, Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m.  
Sherman County Speedway

### Swap Meet 15th and Main

### Scruffy Dog Contest

Saturday, Sept. 24, 11 a.m.  
11th Street and Main  
Sign up at Animal Shelter Booth

### Scale Model Show

1118 Main  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Antique/Modified Tractor Show

1600 Block of Main  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Goodland Activities Center 808 Main

Punt, Pass & Kick Boys and Girls  
ages 8-15, 10 a.m. (Cowboy Stadium)  
Call the GAC for more information  
at 890-7242

### “The Flatlanders Photo Contest Month of September”

Carnegie Arts Center, Saturday, Sept. 24  
Open House and Refreshments  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Northwest Kansas Bike Show By Registration Only

Saturday, Sept. 24, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Main Avenue Display  
3:30 p.m. Games (BankWest Parking)  
5 p.m. Awards/Dinner  
8 p.m. Parade of Motorcycles

### Early Iron of Western Kansas Rod Run

Saturday, Sept. 24, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Show and Shine  
6 p.m. Dinner.  
Cruise through city after dinner.

Sunday Sept. 25  
8 a.m. Sunday Service  
9 a.m. Poker Run

Sunday, Sept. 25  
10 a.m. Poker Run  
Awards Ceremony

### Beer Garden

16th and Main  
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Church in the Park, 11 a.m. Sunday

at Gulick Park, Cherry and 8th.  
Harvest Evangelical Free Church