

Special grant approved to reduce school bullying

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

A \$750 grant has been approved to pay for a program to reduce bullying in the Goodland schools.

Sharon Gregory, principal at Central Elementary School, applied for the grant from Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect. A bullying problem at the high school came up at an educators' retreat, Gregory told the Community Partnership for Prevention and Education at its October meeting.

Partnership members agreed to sponsor the school district as an applicant for the grant, and Roxy Cabral, director of Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, announced at the partnership's November meeting Tuesday that the application had been approved.

In writing an implementation plan for the grant application, Gregory said she and Nancy Farris,

counselor at the high school, would plan to have sessions on bullying in high school seminars, junior high advisory groups and elementary classrooms between Jan. 9 and April 13.

Cabral said she has done a program on bullying and would work with the girls. She is trying to find a young man to present a similar program for the boys. Boys and girls bully differently, Cabral said, and should be dealt with separately. She said it would be best to have a young man, someone the boys could relate to, to do a program for them.

The site councils at the schools will arrange some activities, Gregory said, and there will be follow-up activities and an evaluation.

The grant will pay \$200 for stipends for personnel, \$200 for supplies, \$150 for training and education, \$50 for printing and \$150 for advertising.

In other business:

• The second session of Partnering with Parents was scheduled for 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at Western State Bank. The program is for child care providers and early childhood educators from Sherman, Wallace and Cheyenne counties, and it is paid for by a grant.

• Cris Riebel, a teacher at Creation Kids Preschool, reported that although the partnership's "Safety Month" program at Wal-Mart, a self-defense demonstration by Jim Engel of Colby, had been canceled due to a family emergency, Engel is still interested in having a free self defense class for women. The program may target juniors and seniors in high school and college students, Riebel said, and will be scheduled after the first of the year.

• The partnership's next meeting was set for 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, at Gambino's.

Increasing electric, water rates to balance budget on city agenda

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

In order to balance the city budget for next year, the commissioners agreed to raise the electric and water rates.

Following the last regular meeting, the commissioner spent about two hours in a work session discussing how much to raise the electric and water rates to bring them up to balance the budget.

Ordinances for both rate increases will be on the agenda for Monday's meeting.

The commissioners had a consensus at the work session to raise the electric rates by 2 cents per kilowatt-hour. For the average home using 638-kilowatt hours, it will be an increase of \$2 per month.

The other change will raise the base rate from \$28 up to \$70 that the city is covering with the rates. City Manager Wayne Hill said the raise in the base should reduce the amount of fuel adjustment the customer sees.

"It does not reduce the total amount of the cost," Hill said, "but it will mean there will not be a fuel adjustment charge unless the cost to produce the power exceeds the \$70

per mega watt."

"Two cents is a small increase," said Mayor Rick Billinger.

City Clerk Mary Volk said the fuel adjustment was begun in July 2001, and there has only been one month since where there was not a fuel adjustment cost on the monthly bills.

"We are already paying part of this," said Rod Blake, power plant superintendent, "with the change we will take more of it in through the base rate."

"It is not a fun thing to raise rates," Hill said, "but we have to do it or have another form of income."

If passed, the rate increase would go into effect with the December bills.

There was more discussion on the water rates, but a majority of the commissioners agreed to follow the staff recommendations to raise the usage rates by 25 cent rather than raising the monthly minimum charge.

During the budget session, the commission had discussed raising the monthly fee by \$4 to cover the cost, but Hill said the staff recommendation was to leave the monthly rate alone and raise the usage fee.

A variety of alternatives were discussed to raise the base rate and the usage to reach the combined income to balance the water budget.

At the end of the discussion, four of the commissioners had agreed to go with the staff recommendation, but Mayor Billinger said he would not support the increase.

Hill said Thursday the commission can amend the ordinance or change it before adopting it on Monday. If passed, the rates will go into effect in December.

Other business on the agenda includes:

• Selection of the style of lights for Pioneer Park.

• Discussion of a joint resolution and ordinance dealing with the Sherman County central dispatch.

• Approve bids for a front-end loader.

• An update on the progress between the city and Goodland Activity Center on combining the recreation activities.

The commission meets at 5 p.m. on Monday, upstairs in the Administration Building, 204 W. 11th. The front door is locked, push button on the wall for admittance.

Construction pilot car driver breaks leg in rollover

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

A wreck south of the Smoky Hill River bridge about 10 a.m. Monday landed a pilot car driver in a Hays hospital with a broken left leg.

The Kansas Highway Patrol reported that Tiffany Grissom, 20, Lyons, was driving north on K-27 about eight miles south of Goodland when she apparently fell

asleep. The small pickup went into the east ditch, crossed the road, then went into the west ditch and rolled, landing on the passenger side.

Grissom was trapped and Goodland volunteer firemen freed her using hydraulic tools. She was taken to the Goodland Regional Medical Center, then transferred to Hays Medical Center for surgery on her leg.

Troopers Bryon Wilson and Brian Horney handled the accident with help from the Sherman County Sheriff's Department.

The patrol said Grissom was not wearing a seatbelt. She was working for Venture Corp. of Great Bend, the contractor building the new bridge over the North Fork of the Smoky. A Venture official said Tuesday that Grissom was doing fine.

corrections

In a Veterans Day story on the front page of Tuesday's Goodland Star-News, the speaker was identified incorrectly as Bill Bennett. It should have been Philip B. Finley, retired teacher and Korean War soldier from Colby. This was a reporting error.

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 believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

Oz characters read to kids



Dorothy and the Tin Man (Judy and Dave Daniels), dressed as characters from the Wizard of Oz, were at North Elementary last week to read to kids as part of Children's Book Week. Dorothy read to one sixth-grade class and two fifth-grade classes. She read "If I Only had a Green Nose," by Max Lucado. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Internet
tonight!
899-2338

student of the week



Name: Jessica Lu
Parents: Andy & Anna Lu
Grade: 11
Age: 17

We've nominated this student because:..a very good student in class, a dedicated club member in DECA, President of Deca I, active in band and vocal. Jessica is a member of the "Entrepreneurship Promotion" team for DECA this year.

Student Comment: My favorite aspect of school life would be social. I enjoy meeting new people, socializing with my friends, and

participating in club activities. I enjoy my marketing classes and band. In these classes, I can have fun and do something I like for a grade. Out of all my memories at GHS, the one memory that I will never forget is my freshman year at State DECA.

Activities involved in at school: DECA, AFS, Band, Vocal, and STUCO.

My choice of movies, books, and games: I'm definitely a fan of chick flicks. I enjoy comedy. I enjoy reading Harry Potter books and chick books.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: earn an associate degree in my business & marketing and then continue into pre-law at UCLA. My goal is to become a corporate lawyer.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: finishing my law degree.

Favorite Quote: "Dream as if you'll live forever and live as if you'll die tomorrow." James Dean

China Gardens
1108 Main Ave
899-3345

Can your Realtor offer all of this?

Commitment
Enthusiasm
Hard Work
Integrity
Experience
RESULTS!

Charlene Cole, Broker
Call me to **LIST**,
your result a **Sold Sign!**
Call me to **BUY**,
to make your real estate dreams come true!

NEW LISTING IN WONDERFUL NEIGHBORHOOD!
Brick front, siding, 6 bedrooms, 3 bath, 2 car garage, beautiful kitchen, formal dining room, screened in porch, full basement, sprinkler system, storage building, dog run. This home has it all - won't last long as priced to sell.

www.goodlandksmls.com
Cole Real Estate
112 West 13th, Goodland, Kan. 67735 785-899-2683
Charlene Cole, Broker Diana Spinney, Salesperson

*Holiday
Open House
Nov. 19*

*Make the Holidays
memorable for
everyone on your list...
with our unique gifts!*

*Mann's
Jewelry & Gifts*
1005 Main ~ Goodland
899-6100