

Hospital gets gift after helping people in blizzard

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

If you don't believe every cloud has a silver lining, talk to officials at the Goodland Regional Medical Center.

Blowing snow Monday, Nov. 28, kept hundreds stranded in Goodland, cold and in the dark with no power. But taking people in paid off for the hospital.

One family was so grateful, said Administrator Jay Jolly at the hospital's board meeting Monday, they gave the hospital a check for \$500. After they got home, they sent another \$500.

The blizzard experience was kind of in-

teresting, Jolly said.

The hospital had some problems with its generator and ended up with fireworks and then darkness. Travelers found refuge in the waiting rooms, making the best of the circumstances, even passing time decorating a Christmas tree.

And the hospital ended up adding \$1,000 to its Caring Kind fund drive, courtesy a grateful Denver family.

Twenty-one people stayed at the hospital, Jolly said, and they received several letters from the families. The Ron Clark family was so grateful, he said, they wrote out a check for \$500 that night.

The family sent another \$500 in the mail, said Dale Schields, director of human resources, with a note that said they understood the hospital was having a fund drive, and they wanted to be a part of it.

Kids were decorating the Christmas tree, Jolly said; the people were all trying to make the best of it. Some who were stranded had brought a family member in for treatment, he said, adding he didn't know for sure how others had ended up there.

Generator problems made things interesting for hospital staff, especially maintenance.

The hospital had spent \$7,943 on a transfer switch for its generator and thought they had it made, but machinery proved otherwise.

"We were just congratulating ourselves on the generator working," Jolly said, "and then the starter went out."

The hospital was in the dark for a few hours, he said, but some of those working near the generator were "treated" to a fireworks display. It was shooting sparks everywhere, he said.

Neil Normandin, director of maintenance, did some good troubleshooting under duress, Jolly said.

The generator hadn't done that bad, though. Emergency planning experts, the administrator said, recommended to plan for 24 hours without power. The generator had been running 24 hours before it had trouble, he said.

In other business, the board:

• Approved the 2006 budget.

• Approved having Roger Johnson of the accounting firm of Wendling, Noe, Nelson and Johnson do an audit at a cost of \$90 per hour.

• Set the next meeting for 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23, in the hospital's large board room.

State auditor gives schools more money

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

The Goodland School Board had got its picture taken before a short business meeting and holiday dinner Monday evening.

A state auditor was here and said the district had around \$19,000 more for its budget than expected. The money was determined by the body count of students on Sept. 20, said Superintendent Marvin Selby.

The board signed an agreement with Adams, Brown, Beran and Ball, a certified public accountant firm from Colby, to do the audits for 2006, 2007 and 2008. The audit for 2006 will cost \$6,669, 2007 \$6,869 and 2008 \$7,075. An extra audit needed for federal money will cost \$552 in 2006, \$580 in 2007 and \$609 for 2008. The board does not have to get bids for the audits, said Selby.

The board agreed Max Heim of the Kansas Association of School Boards, did not need to come to Goodland again to explain the superintendent search process. He was at a board meeting on Monday, Dec. 5, when the board agreed to hire the association to help with the search.

Appointments to various committees were adjusted due to the resignation of Danny Whalen in July and the appointment of Andrew House to take his place:

Marty Melia will represent the district on the Northwest Kansas Technical College board, with Fritz Duke as alternate.

Duke will serve on the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center board with LeAnn Friedrichs as alternate. Dick Short and Melia were listed for the Kansas Association of School Boards' Governmental Relations Network. On the bid committee are House and Melia, with Jane Philbrick as alternate.

House, Principals Sharon Gregory and Harvey Swager, Selby and board secretary Pat Juhl were named to the insurance committee.

Board members Philbrick and Amy Sederstrom will serve on the professional development council. House was named to the district technology committee with Sederstrom as alternate.

Sederstrom and Friedrichs make up the calendar committee. The policy review committee includes Friedrichs and Philbrick, with Short as alternate.

The negotiations team comprises Philbrick and Melia with Sederstrom and House as alternate.

The board accepted the resignation of Regina Mastin as warehouse supervisor effective Jan. 16. Voted to hire Jerry McKee as seventh-grade girls basketball coach.

Community Foundation can help special projects

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Daily News

If you're interested in supporting a particular project in the county, the Sherman County Community Foundation can help you.

The foundation has tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service, so donation are tax deductible.

The foundation's assets have doubled in the past year, with addition of pass-through and scholarship funds. Two scholarships have been started and will be awarded in 2006, said Kin Huang, foundation president.

The first scholarship will honor of Derrick Joseph Lutters, a Goodland High graduate who was killed last year while serving in the Army in Iraq, through memorial gifts. The second is in memory of Eugene Lavern Hall, a farmer in Sherman County, by his wife Donna Hall of Kanorado.

The foundation's first pass-through fund was for the Knights of Columbus, Huang said. The knights received money from WalMart in January and they used it for the

Sherman County After-School Program in October. The board has also established a trustees' fund.

A pass-through account has been set up for money to restore the Christmas scenes usually erected around the Goodland Regional Medical Center. The display was not in good enough shape to erect this year, said Ron Lucas, president of the Goodland Rotary Club.

The foundation uses the Sherman County Courthouse as its address under an agreement with the commissioners. The board picked a logo with a hand print in it and the motto "A Helping Hand for All."

A web site has information on the foundation at www.goodlandnet.com/scsf. The foundation receives email at scsf@goodlandnet.com.

The board includes Huang, president; Jack Lucas, vice president; Mike Briney, treasurer; Linda Knott, secretary; Wilmer Bahe; Juanitia Barnett; Dennis Daise; Dave Daniels; and Pat Schiefen.

The foundation takes donations for its own programs and for purposes designated by other groups, like the pass-through accounts.

"Please consider an investment in the future of Sherman County," said Huang.

Toys ready to brighten kids Christmas



Toys collected by Toys for Tots wait to go to their new homes when families come to pick up their Christmas baskets for Genesis. Toys for Tots has more toys than usual, which is good as the number of Christmas Baskets has almost doubled. There was more money than usual collected besides donated toys which enabled workers to go purchase new toys. Ashley Brown, official toy tester and great-granddaughter of Tillie Smith, gave her stamp of approval as she inspected a bicycle held by Shirley Lamb with Fred Studer.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News.

Wal-Mart pulls products recalled by manufacturer

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

A recall notice forced the Goodland Wal-Mart to pull some of its "Armour Lunch Makers" products and offer refunds to consumers who bought the items.

ConAgra Foods of Marshall, Mo., expanded a Dec. 1 recall of bologna, ham and turkey lunch meal products, said officials. The products were recalled because of possible contamination from cheese testing positive for *Listeria monocytogenes*, said the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service.

Food contaminated by this bacteria cause listeriosis. Listeriosis is not usually a fatal disease, said officials, but healthy people rarely contract it. The disease can cause high fever, severe headache, neck stiffness and nausea. groups that run risk of infection include pregnant

women, infants, the elderly and people with weakened immune systems such as AIDS patients or people undergoing chemotherapy.

The products being recalled include 2.6-ounce packages of:

- "Cracker Crunchers, cooked ham." The USDA seal of inspection will have "Est. 1059" inside and the product code 4660003427, with sell-by dates from Jan. 1-Feb. 20.
- "Cracker Crunchers, bologna." The USDA seal will have "P-9" in it and the product code 466600-03384 with dates from Jan. 7-Feb. 17.
- "Cracker Crunchers," turkey. The USDA seal will have "P-9" in it and the product code 4660003428, with dates from Jan. 1-Feb. 20.
- 2.6-ounce and 8-fluid ounce "Bologna Fun Kit, Cracker Crunchers, bologna." The USDA seal will have "P-9" in it and the product code 4660002263, with

dates from Jan. 2-Feb. 17.

- 2.6-ounce and 8-fluid ounce packages of "Ham Fun Kit, Cracker Crunchers," cooked ham. The USDA seal will have "Est. 1059" in it and the product code 46600-02262, with dates form Jan. 12-Feb. 19.
- 2.6-ounce and 8-fluid ounce packages of "Turkey Fun Kit, Cracker Crunchers," turkey. The USDA seal will have "P-9" in it and the product code 4660002261. The dates are from Jan. 7-Feb. 17.
- "Cracker Crunchers," chicken. The USDA seal will have "P-9" in it and the product code 46600-

03383. The dates to be sold by are Jan. 1-Feb. 21.

The ham products were made between Oct. 13 and Dec. 3 and were distributed nationwide, officials said.

"We pulled the products after we got notice of the recall via email," said Stephanie Leibhart, store manager.

If anyone has bought any of the recall items, they can return them to Wal-Mart, said Leibhart. If you have the receipt, she said, they have a 200 percent refund policy. If you don't have the receipt, they will refund the cost of the item.

student of the week



Name: Briana Taylor

Parents: Dennis & LeAnn Taylor

Grade: 12

Age: 18

We've nominated this student because: Briana helps to lead the class. She has a good attitude and helps out where needed.

Student Comment: I like school, but it can be stressful at times. Vocal, band and art have to be my favorite subjects. I will remember all the fun

times I had with my friends and the band trips.

Activities involved in at school: Band & Vocal

My choice of movies, books, and games: I love all types of music. My favorite books & movies have to be mystery & crime.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: Attend a Junior College and then move to a

University. I would like to major in medicine.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: Hopefully married, starting a family and pursuing the career of my dreams.

Favorite Quote:

Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints on your heart.

Author Unknown

corrections

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