

Hiring new director top council goal

COUNCIL, from Page 1

West of Western State Bank. "I think that is a big key this year." "I agree the director is important," said Gary Slough of S&T Telephone. "The director could have a good deal to do with the direction for the future." Harlan House, farmer and rancher said he also agreed having a director was important. "I think we need a director," he said, "but I think with what Kay (Younger) is doing we don't have the pressure and that allows to be more selective. I am not sure we have a consensus on what we want in a director. I don't feel a consensus at this time." Duane Timm of First National Bank, said the leadership of the council was a top priority, but he questioned how it would be set up. "We need a Chamber committee," he said. "We may need to have

it like a wing or included with the council to be viable. "I always felt the Chamber and the council should be together. Getting someone to handle both jobs is going to be tough because of the division of duties. The Chamber is the business portion and the economic development is the future of the community." Chuck Wilkens said he agreed that the top priority was hiring a director. "I agree with what people have said," he said. "I know the thoughts of the community are about the problem with the chamber. We have done what we could do so far. "The Chamber hasn't been out in the community. They want members. At least they should come out and visit and pickup a check. "We have three entities, but we need some leadership to change the attitude and show people we are interested. This survey program we

are doing with the chamber we want the truth and not just positive feedback. "One or three times will come up consistently that we or with the other groups and the community we can find a way to help. "We need the Chamber. The energy center is going to be a great thing for this community, and there should be some spin off businesses that will be coming to town. "We are fishing for business to come here. Do we have a plan in place to help if they need a building or property. We need such a plan. We were lucky with Adronics because we had a building that the city had gotten ready. "We are a step ahead of where we were," West said, "with the rebate and abatement programs in place." "We need someone to be out there as a leader," Thompson said. "That is our number one goal. I would be happy to be on that committee."

The director search committee will be West, Newell, Thompson and Bohme. "One thing I would like to know is what do you want us to do," West asked. "Do we examine every spectrum or get a lot of five characteristics of what we are looking for? "I don't want to interview everybody. You need to direct us and tell us what you want." The suggestion was to have preliminary phone interviews, and then bring the finalist or finalists to a full meeting for an interview. "I think it is a good idea for all to be involved," Thompson said. Newell said that was a way to screen the applicants. "We need to be prepared to sell them on Goodland," House said. "We need to be more serious about that." Newell suggested the council members bring their ideas to the next meeting.

Moran lists major issues for new session

MORAN, from Page 1

ports is how the Congress earmarks money in the appropriation bills. "I think these need to be voted on one by one on the floor rather than as a rider on the conference bill," Moran said. "After voting on the conference report now you can wake up the next day to find you voted in favor of building or paying for some things you are embarrassed about." He said another area is to do away with the Political Action Committees run by the Congressional leaders. "The House leaders raise a lot of money," Moran said, "and by deciding who gets the money they can buy the loyalty of some members. I feel it is important to have a level of independence." The top issue Moran hears about is health care costs. He said it affects us as a family taking care of our kids and then taking care of our parents. He said the senior drug program is a mess and very confusing with 40 plans to choose from. "My best advice," Moran said, "is to talk to your druggist before trying to decide. I talked to a druggist in St. Francis today and he said narrowing the plans there are about eight that work. "I voted against the plan. I think

we are disproving a theory that to get people on your side you give them a benefit. I think this is turning people against us, and it will have an impact on our hospitals. "We should be looking at why drugs cost so much. This transfers the cost to the taxpayers who can't afford it." Moran said the drug benefit will come out of the Medicare fund, and will impact that and cause hospitals a problem in the future. Another problem Moran sees is the efforts to find lower cost medicines will put some of the druggists out of business as people turn to the Internet. He said the second big issues is agriculture and the new farm bill. The first hearing will be held at Fayetteville, N.C. "I have invited the committee to come to Kansas," Moran said. He chairs the sub-committee on farm programs. "I was stopped on the House floor by a Congresswoman from Connecticut," Moran said. "She asked about farm programs. When I went to visit with her and tried to tell her about the different farm programs she said that is not what she wanted to know. 'What does a farmer do?' was her question. "I have invited her to come to

Kansas, and suggested traveling K-27. If she comes she will be shocked, and you will be shocked by her." Moran said he was glad to see the Goodland Energy Center development. He said agriculture has a role to play in developing our ability to be less dependent on Saudi Arabian oil. Opening a veterans outreach clinic in northwest Kansas is one of his priorities, and that he has been told as soon as the money is available this program will become a reality. He said the Goodland Regional Medical Center has shown the need for the clinic, and would be one of the sites considered for the clinic. Moran said he had recently made a trip to Iraq and Turkey to talk to Kansas soldiers. "I know the war is creating a split in the country," he said. "I was told that progress has been made, but I wanted to know how we move forward in Iraq. "Can we have success in Iraq with my question having grown up with Vietnam in the background. "I don't want that to be the way we conduct a war. If we cannot win, then we should not try to succeed. "The belief of those I talked to is

we have made progress, and the violence is less than it was last year. "The truth is it is awful, it is difficult, and there is not a panacea that it will ever be peaceful. It is more in the hands of the Iraqi people than ours. They have to decide if they want to work together. "What I want us to do is be worthy of the sacrifice that these soldiers have given. This is serious stuff. We may know in a matter of months what the future is and it depends on the actions of the people in Iraq. "I am glad to see Chuck Lutters here today. He fully understands the sacrifice our soldiers are making and why I want to make decisions worthy of that sacrifice."

Goodland man faces his victim before sentencing

By Jan Katz Ackerman

The Colby Free Press
A Goodland man faced his victim behind closed doors last Monday in Thomas County District Court. The 16-year-old victim of Terry L. Sapp, Jr. 38, wanted his time in court before District Judge Glenn Schiffner before he sentenced Sapp for exposing himself in 2004. Due to the boy's age, Thomas County Attorney Andrea Wyrick asked Schiffner to listen to his statement in the judge's chambers. The teen, along with Sapp, Schiffner, Wyrick, Sapp's attorney, Scott Beims of Atwood, and Thomas County Undersheriff Jason Moses were the only ones allowed in chambers. The case against Sapp in Thomas County is a companion case to one against him in Sherman County. As part of a dual-jurisdiction agreement, Sapp pleaded guilty in Thomas County to one count of lewd and lascivious behavior. On Dec. 12 in Sherman County District Court, Sapp pleaded guilty to one count of

exploitation of a 16-year-old child and one count of lewd and lascivious behavior. Sentencing in Sherman County will be 10 a.m. on Feb. 13 in Goodland. Beims argued Sapp should receive a mid-range sentence in Thomas County since he has lost his home and vehicle since being arrested and has not tried to have contact with any of his three victims. Beims wanted mercy for his client for having surrendered all parental rights to his own two children offering them for adoption to his ex-wife's current husband. "He's trying to turn his life around," Beims said about Sapp being employed at Herl Chevrolet in Goodland. While state law does not bind a judge to the terms of a plea agreement, Wyrick asked Schiffner to honor the agreement and to send Sapp to prison. "It's been my general policy to honor plea agreements," Schiffner said. He told Sapp since he was being

sentenced first in Thomas County it would be up to District Judge Jack Burr whether his sentences would be run back to back or one after the other. "While you were originally charged with a level 5 felony, which would mean a prison term of 10 years, I assume because of the skillful part of Mr. Beims you are getting this reduced to a level 9 (felony)," Schiffner said. Schiffner granted Sapp a mid-range sentence and ordered him to a prison term of 14 months with the Kansas Department of Corrections and a post-release probation term of 12 months. Should Burr follow suit and sentence in the mid-range as outlined in the Kansas Sentencing Guidelines, Sapp is looking at a prison term of 44 months out of Sherman County. Sapp faced fines up to \$300,000; however, Wyrick and Sherman County Attorney Bonnie Selby agreed to ask that fines not be imposed in return for Sapp's guilty pleas. Sapp agreed not to appeal his convictions as part of the plea agreement.

Volunteers trained to do business surveys

Business survey volunteers ready to begin interviews
New businesses open and after a few months or years some close. What can be done to help these businesses be more successful in Sherman County is the subject of a business retention survey program being conducted this month. Fifteen volunteer community leaders met at the Howard Johnson Hotel Restaurant on January 20 to prepare to learn about how to help the community's economic future. The two-hour meeting was the formal kick-off of a local Business Retention and Expansion Visitation Program sponsored by Sherman County Economic Development and The Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce. This program is receiving technical and research support from the Kansas Department of Commerce. The orientation program was led by Cary Catchpole, a Certified Business Retention and Expansion Master Consultant, certified by Business Retention and Expansion International. "Existing business are the best sources of growth. We want to find out how we can help them grow in our community," said Kay Younger, program coordinator for the Economic Development Council. "We have an excellent team in place to work on this and expect excellent results." "The survey program is designed to help stimulate economic development by assisting existing businesses," Catchpole said. "To assist businesses, a community must first identify businesses' needs and problems and then address those to improve the business climate." The volunteers from the Development Council and Chamber will be visiting 42 local businesses in the next four weeks. Each team of two volunteers will use a special questionnaire to gather information about each business. The training session was held to help prepare the volunteers for their interviews. "I think it will be a great thing for all our businesses and I think it will help us get a real feel for new businesses," said Trevor Linton, one of the volunteers from the Chamber. "This will be one way we can detect the needs of businesses, and it will help us determine how to fill that need." During the training, volunteers viewed a videotape documentary about one of the first towns to complete the BR&E Visitation Program. They also viewed the questionnaire in detail. Younger said the information gathered through the surveys will be strictly confidential. She said once the surveys are completed the Department of Commerce will enter the information into the computer and produce a report to be given to the Development Council. "It is my hope we will learn what resources are needed to better serve the businesses community. I expect to get an overall assessment of the business climate towards our anticipated growth in the near future," she said.

Can you help find this missing offender

SHERIFF, from Page 1

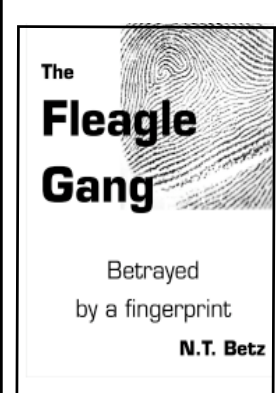
Convicted felons are required to register with the sheriff if they are required to register under any federal, military or other state law or if convicted before the Kansas law, say officials. Under the law people convicted must notify the local sheriff and the KBI within 10 days of moving, if they are going to school or working for one, if they are going to school or working in a different location for more than 10 days or a total of 30 days in a year, if they are no longer going to school, if they are working and if they are no longer working. A person on the list is required to verify the information every 90 days. They are sent a form that they have ten days to complete and send back. If they don't do these things it is a level 10 non-person felony, Butts said. The registered offender list is on the Internet and anyone can look at it. Butts said the easiest way to get to the site is to go to the Sherman County web site at www.sherman.ks.gov, go to the link for sheriff and there is a link to the list. If anyone needs help to get to the

site they can call the office, said Butts. "As a parent I want to know who they are and where they are," said Butts. **Classifieds work! Call 899-2338**

Earn Extra Money
\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Flexible Hours • Temporary Positions
We are recruiting individuals to deliver the phone books and be verification operators in the following communities:
Goodland, Oakley, Hill City
Call Today 1-800-373-3280
Monday thru Friday • 7:30am to 7:00 pm CST
Must have valid driver's license, insured, dependable auto and be 18 years or older.
Yellow Book USA™
Equal Opportunity Employer

Kansas' earliest 'CSI' story

Fingerprint ends nationwide '20s manhunt



Author Tom (N.T.) Betz, editor of *The Goodland Star-News*, has spent a lifetime in journalism and on the Great Plains. "The Fleagle Gang" details the robbery/murder case which hinged on a single fingerprint — precursor to today's CSI shows — found on a murdered Dighton, Kan., doctor's car. The fledgling FBI played a crucial role in turning the fingerprint into solid forensic evidence used to find, arrest and convict members of the Fleagle Gang. The FBI credits the Fleagle case as the first time a single fingerprint was used to identify and convict criminals. The Fleagle Gang robbed banks in Larned, Kinsley, Marysville, Ottawa and McPherson Kan., Lamar, Colo., Eugene, Ore., and countless others of over \$1 million in the 10 years they operated.

"The Fleagle Gang" is available at the **Big Timbers Museum** in Lamar, Colo., the **Holly Library**, Holly, Colo.; the **Lane County Museum** in Dighton, Kan., the **Fick Fossil and History Museum** in Oakley, Kan., the **Finney County Museum** and **Hastings** in Garden City, Kan., the **High Plains Museum** in Goodland, Kan., the **Keystone Gallery** north of Scott City, the **El Quartejejo Museum** in Scott City, and the **Colorado Prison Museum** in Canon City, Colo. It is available on-line from the publisher **Authorhouse.com**, Linda Knott's web bookstore **knottjustbooks @spreadtheword.com**, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble and other major book stores. Check out "The Fleagle Gang" web site at: nwkansas.com/home/fleaglegang.



Pictured are Sondra Krayca, Josephina Garcia, and Janna Eisenbart and the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce and Ambassadors.

The **Goodland Star-News**
and The Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce and Ambassadors
welcomes
Pioneer Health
Downtown Goodland and Goodland Ambassadors welcomed Janna Eisenbart, ARNP and Sondra Krayca, ARNP, LLC at the opening of their clinic, Pioneer Health at 910 Main Street.
Janna has 21 years of RN experience and has been a Nurse Practitioner for 3 years. Sondra has been in nursing for 30 years and has a special interest in Medical Aesthetics. She has practiced as a Nurse Practitioner for 11 years.
Also working at the clinic is Josephina Garcia, who received her Medical Assistant Degree at the Northwest Kansas Technical School 4 1/2 years ago.
The clinic operates under the supervision of Dr. Kenneth Austin, however Janna and Sondra work with all physicians in town for referral purposes and would like to convey that it is not necessary to change physicians in order to visit their clinic. Office hours are 9 to 5 Monday through Thursday and 9 to 3 on Fridays.
Pioneer Health ~ 910 Main ~ 890-7950