

# Neighborhood group donates to library

By Sharon Corcoran

*The Goodland Star-News*  
Looking for a way to convince your children to be cautious with strangers and people they barely know? Need a way to convince your teenager that bad choices today have real consequences for their future?

Sherman County Neighborhood Watch is donating a digital disk that teaches kids safety tips in a fun and entertaining way to the Goodland Public Library and will be showing the video to students in the after-school program.

A committee of the Community Partnership for Prevention and Education is planning a "teen maze" to teach youngsters about real-life consequences that can result

from just one evening of "fun."

Judy McKee, president of the Neighborhood Watch program, told members of the partnership about the safety program at their regular meeting Tuesday, and Cris Riebel, a member of the committee, gave an update of plans for the maze.

The video was created by Julie Clark, founder of the Baby Einstein Co., and John Walsh, host of "America's Most Wanted." It is billed as "laugh-out-loud funny", something kids will love watching.

It doesn't just address strangers, McKee said, but also people kids "kind of know." Neighborhood Watch will be showing the video to students in the after school program, she said, and is donating one to the library for the summer reading program.

It encourages kids to list three "safe-side adults," McKee said, grownups a child knows very well, and then encourages children to keep at least one of those adults close by.

The video tells kids not to answer the door without a safe-side adult with them, tells them to beware of tricks and "don't go without asking." There are questions for class discussion, McKee said.

It gives the information in an enjoyable, memorable manner, she said, and Neighborhood Watch wants to institute it through the schools. The program may get law enforcement involved, she said, possibly having the "crime dog" character McGruff help the kids know how to get out of situations before they become dangerous.

The video will be available to libraries across the state, she said, through interlibrary loan.

The teen maze will be from 6-8 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at the Elks Lodge, Riebel said. All Goodland High School students are invited, she said.

Kids will be given scenarios about drinking, drugs and pregnancy. There will be professionals dealing with those issues, she said, and the Elks will help implement the maze.

The committee will be asking for money from the partnership to buy food, probably frozen pizzas, Riebel said, and will ask members to bring cookies.

"There are almost 200 high school students," she said. "We hope to get a third of

them."

Riebel said she had big dreams at first with the maze and was going to tackle a lot of issues, but the committee decided it would be more practical to start small for the first maze.

Besides the scenarios for teens, she said, the committee is planning a separate area for their parents to get information on those issues.

The committee plans to work with the Goodland Police Department to provide a kit for parents to help them know about various drugs their kids could be offered, Riebel said, to help them know what those drugs look like and what signs to look for to know if their kids are using drugs.

# County explores options on weeds

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Star-News*  
Despite the dry winter, when the weather warms up, the proverbial weeds will spring forth to be sprayed and mowed.

Darrel Schrader, who has the contract for mowing weeds along county roads, and Curt Way, public works director, met with the Sherman County Commissioners last Tuesday to consider some options for the upcoming season.

The contractor said he might need an increase this year to cover soaring fuels costs, and commissioners said they'd look at the situation.

Schrader said he can't contract fuel, and that the cost might be close to \$3 a gallon when it is time to start. Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked how many gallons the mowing used last year, and Schrader said 23,716. A 50-cent increase in price could mean \$12,000 more in costs.

"I need some storage," Schrader said. "Then I could get a transport load."

Commissioners Mitch Tiede and Rasure asked Schrader about problems he had finishing up last fall, especially in the southwest.

Neighbors complained about late mowing along County Roads 8 and 57.

Schrader said the 21 miles that had been brought to the commissioners' attention had been mowed twice. He said he had to finish after the big blizzard in November.

"That is the only negative we heard," Tiede said.

"What about this year?" Rasure asked.

Schrader said he was looking at some options because of increases in fuel costs, insurance and parts.

"I was wondering about cutting the mileage down," Schrader said, "possibly taking only one swipe (about 15 feet in width). We might be able to get three times around the county, or mow it all (meaning two cuts of 15 feet each) in one operation rather than twice.

"On the main roads, we would mow the intersections back."

Way said he did not feel there was an easy way to just do one swipe with the mowers.

He said they have gotten the farmers used to how the mowing is

done.

"I think the way we are doing it is the best," he said.

Tiede said weed growth depends on how much moisture the county gets.

Way said the county crews will be trying to spray the edges of the roads on a few sections this spring to see if that will help.

"We will do this on a trial basis," Way said. "We hope it will help especially on the amaranth (also known as pig weed or devil's claw)."

Way said Schrader runs four tractors and that seems to work well.

Rasure said the county would look at the money to see what might be done.

"Thanks for what you did last year," Schrader said. "It cost almost \$15,000 more for fuel. I like what I am doing, but need to make it work financially."

Way said some of the surrounding counties do cut only one pass, but it looks nice to have it more manicured with the second cut, and he said it gives a better line of sight on the roads.

"I think if we go back to one pass," Tiede said, "we would be back in the situation where we were a few years ago."

Schrader said the only other problem he has is the ending date and the penalty clause, which says it costs him \$100 a day if he is not done by the contract date of Dec. 1.

"I would like to see the penalty part changed," Schrader said.

"We can't control the weather. A snow day gives you one more to mow, but it might take three days to dry out enough to get back in the field."

Way said that if Schrader calls and says it is muddy, he considers it a rain day.

Thomas asked how many rain days Schrader gets?

Way said there is no specific number. He keeps track of them on the calendar.

Way said the mowing usually gets started in May. Rasure said he would like to see the same plan as last year.

He asked Schrader to get together with Way to work out the numbers for fuel costs and bring them back to the commissioners.

## Spring road work starts



Kansas Department of Transportation workers were out in the wind Friday, working on the pavement on K-27 by Eighth Street. Warmer weather signals the beginning of road work. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

## corrections

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## FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

**KNOTT FARMS, LLC - OWNERS**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2006**  
**Sale Time: 9:30 MT / 10:30 CT**  
Location: From Cheyenne Wells, Colo., 4 miles north on HWY 385 to Road V, 2 miles East, 1/2 miles North.

**Combine, Skid Steer, Tractors:** 1988 JD 8820 combine, Titan II, hydrostat, chopper, bin extension, 3200 hrs., 30 ft. platform, shedded; JD platform w/ 4 belt pickup attachment, used little; 1993 JD 1243 corn head, 12 row, low tin, low acres; 1999 JD 7775 skid steer loader, diesel, hydrostat, 1,505 hrs, nice; 1989 Ford Versatile 976 4-wheel drive tractor, duels, 24.5-32 tires, 4,965 hrs., no 3 pt., recent transmission overhaul; 1981 JD 4840 tractor, 3 pt., pto, PS, 5,000 hrs., duels, joystick, w/JD 740 classic loader & grapple (loader is like new, nice unit); Big 12 grain cart; Header trailer

**Trucks, Trailers and Pickups:** 1979 GMC 7000 tandem truck, 5,000 miles on rebuilt motor, 5x2 spd. trans., 22 ft. bed and hoist, rollover tarp, with Westfield; Hydraulic drill fill auger; 1973 GMC truck, V-8 motor, 70,000 miles, 4x2 spd. trans., 15 1/2 ft. bed and hoist; 1960 Chevy truck, 4 spd. trans, V-8 motor, propane, 14 ft. bed and hoist; 1980 Chevy pickup, automatic, V-8 motor, 4x4; 1970 Chevy pickup, 4 spd. trans., 350 motor, with 130 gal. spray unit, 30 ft. boom, B&S motor & pump; 1984 Tempte grain trailer, 40 ft., tarp, low side; Jantz combine trailer, 20,000 lb., set up for sprayer

**Farm Equipment:** Sunflower Richardson 11 x 5 sweep plow with new style pickers; Richardson 7 x 5 sweep plow with pickers; Noble 30 ft. chisel plow; Flex King 36 ft. rod weeder; Krause 28 ft. disk; Noble 7 x 7 sweep plow; 7) Noble DK5 hoe drills, 5 x 12" with transports; Flex King 60 ft. rod weeder; Hesston #40 stackhand; JD 20 ft. tool carrier; JD stack mover for #30 stacks; 6) Noble DK5 hoe drills, 5 x 14; Dirt mover, 1-yard; Krause 21 ft. chisel plow; Crustbuster 40 ft. springtooth; Schaffer 20 ft. disk; J&J 32 ft. overhead machinery carrier; Hitchcock bedder bar, 8 row; 3) Crease Krause, 20 ft. hydraulic; JD 5 ft. mower, 3 pt.; Bourgault LFC 2000 go between cart w/ 2000 gal. poly tank & fresh water tank; 4) JD 16 x 10 hoe drills

**Livestock Equipment:** 1976 WW 6 x 20 goose neck stock trailer, full top; Powder River squeeze chute; Powder River calf cradle

**Other Farm Items:** 6,000 gal. diesel tank; 500 gal. diesel tank on stand; 2) 100 gal pickup diesel tanks with pumps; Speed King 40 ft. x 6" auger; Westfield 71 ft. x 10" auger with swing unloading; Westfield 28 ft. x 8" auger with 3 hp. electric motor; Lincoln 225 amp portable welder; JD riding lawn mower; 3000 gal. upright poly tank; Scrap iron; Telephone poles; 3 pt. cement mixer; Hydraulic drill fill auger; Sureweld 180 amp welder; 30 ton hydraulic press; JD floor model battery charger; Dura craft heavy duty band saw; Some shop items; Lots of parts and repairs

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