



Tim Lee (above), a maintenance worker at the Goodland Regional Medical Center, took a look at the generator on the hospital's new decontamination unit when it came in Monday, April 24. Emergency

medical technicians Stephanie Yarbrough (left) and Nikki Gavin checked out the inside of the unit.

Photos by Erica Harlan/The Goodland Star-News

Hospital getting new beds and computers

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Goodland Regional Medical Center is expecting a lot of packages, about \$80,000 worth.

The hospital committed to that much in purchase orders the third week of April and should be receiving a host of new equipment, everything from an auto pilot for its airplane to new beds for patients.

The hospital's capital budget shows purchase orders issued for \$112,700 worth of new equipment, some of which has already arrived.

The hospital committed to about \$80,000 in purchase orders last week, Chief Financial Officer Jim Precht told the board at its regular meeting Monday, April 24. The hospital needs to get the plane out, he said, and is working on replacing the beds.

The hospital received a mobile decontamination trailer Monday, April 24, that cost \$14,000 and was paid for by a Regional Bioterrorism Grant from the Department of Homeland Security.

Purchase orders have been issued

for \$40,000 for the auto pilot and \$1,500 for replacement sun visors for the plane, \$18,000 for six beds from Hill-Rom, a medical supplies company, for the nursing and obstetrics department and \$15,000 for a materials management system for the purchasing department.

The hospital has ordered 12 desktop computers for \$7,200 and three 24-port network switches for \$3,500 for the information systems department.

Two Hill-Rom bassinets have been ordered at \$3,800 and a hear-

ing screening unit for \$3,700 for the nursery department. The surgery department is expecting a pediatric colonoscope for \$6,000.

The mobile decontamination unit is pretty nice, said Administrator Jay Jolly; it has an 8,000-watt generator which may get more use than anything else, but it's good to have the unit for when it might be needed.

The hospital found out about it, he said, because Tribune had a chemical spill on the highway and tried to set up a decontamination tent.

"It was a windy day," he said, "so guess what the tent was doing."

In other business:

- The hospital received a letter from a family that was traveling through on I-70 when their daughter had a seizure. The family praised the staff for the care and compassion they received.

- Director of Patient Care Services Debbie Hickman told board Pharmacist Sharon Wendell is working on a system to measure her work and compare her load to that of pharmacists at other hospitals.

- Hickman said the hospital will need to vaccinate employees for the mumps, since there have been so many more cases than usual in Kansas this year. Someone with the mumps can pass it on to others for three days before they even show symptoms, she said, and once someone is diagnosed with mumps, they will have to miss work for at least nine days after that. It could cause staffing issues, she said.

- The board scheduled its next meeting for 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 24.

Clinic gets help to work on procedures, efficiency

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

While visiting the clinic, maybe you have seen a new face, or three.

Carrie Baker, administrator for the family medicine residency program for St. Anthony Hospitals in Denver, is helping evaluate how things are done at the Goodland Family Health Center and helping staff to work on the clinic's efficiency and to standardize its procedures.

She has been visiting once a month since December and this

month brought along two office managers, one of whom is a registered nurse.

They have been meeting with the clinic's doctors, nurse practitioners and other staff and evaluating daily operations at the clinic, including whether everything that should be is documented and whether there should be more appointments left open to provide patients same-day service.

Baker updated the Goodland Regional Medical Center's board about what she has done at the clinic

at the board's regular meeting Monday night.

One issue they are trying to work on is the clinic's balance between scheduled appointments for check-ups and appointments left open for people who wake up and decide they need to see a doctor today.

There are not enough slots for everyone who calls and wants to come in that day, Baker said; the clinic needs a balance of appointments.

Of course, she said, they don't want people to have to wait two

months for a physical — there needs to be balance between routine care and patients who need to be seen today.

She said they are comparing how many slots are available at the beginning of each day to how many call and need to be seen right away and see if there is a need to make more slots available each day or on certain days of the week.

But they don't want to make patients wait too long for routine appointments, she said; the average wait now for something routine is

two weeks.

Another thing they are working on at the clinic, Baker said, is to make sure their documentation keeps track of what really happened that day. If it isn't documented, she said, it didn't happen.

"We have had tremendous support from St. Anthony's on a lot of things," said Administrator Jay Jolly. "This is perhaps the most visible."

Baker said she held a staff meeting Monday, and three of the doctors and nurse practitioners were

there. That shows tremendous interest, she said — the staff and doctors have been receptive to outside advice.

"It's really rewarding for us," she said. "We have been well received."

As changes are made, Baker said, they will follow up to see whether or not it proves to be an improvement.

"You and your staff have really dug into this project," said Jim Precht, chief financial officer. "We appreciate that."

Speaker at graduation Garden City mayor, coordinator

"No more pencils, no more books, no more teachers' dirty looks;" no more wrenches, hammers, computers, makeup or saws, either, at least not for the Northwest Kansas Technical College class of 2006.

Spring graduation will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday, May 26, in the Max Jones Fieldhouse. There will be 168 graduates from the 15 programs and 32 graduates receiving Associate of Applied Science degrees.

This will be the college's 42nd graduating class. The ceremony will be open to families, friends and the community.

The 14 departmental Student of the Year candidates will be recognized, and the winner will be announced. Also recognized will be the 17 students inducted into the National Technical Honor Society on April 5. A reception will follow.

The commencement speaker will be Juana "Janie" Perkins, supplemental programs coordinator for

the Garden City Public Schools, Garden City mayor and a member of the Kansas Board of Regents.

She is beginning her sixth year as coordinator, said college President Ken Clouse, and is in her second term as an elected city commissioner. She was appointed by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius to serve on the Regents.

Before taking her current job, she

taught fourth grade and elementary art and reading. Perkins holds a certificate in elementary education for kindergarten through ninth grade, English as a second language endorsement for kindergarten through 12th grade and a Master of Science in Education degree.

She is involved with local and state organizations and has dedicated much of her time to showing others how they can overcome any obstacle, accomplish any goal and fulfill their dreams. Although it

takes a lot of hard work, dedication and perseverance, she said, the outcome is always rewarding.

Perkins and her family moved to Garden City in the early 1970s from Mexico. With a limited education, non-English-speaking background and unfamiliarity with her new surroundings, she said, she had many challenges to overcome. Perkins gives gratitude and credit to her family, teachers and community members for her positive successes

in life.

She is the oldest of nine siblings — eight of them survive — all Garden City High School graduates. For over 20 years, Perkins' father has worked at a beef processing plant and her mother at a medical clinic.

She has been married to Dr. Harold Perkins, a family physician, for 23 years. They have five children.

**Classifieds
work!
899-2338**



Perkins

corrections

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FURNITURE: Nice dining room table, 6 chairs, matching china hutch; 2 tan swivel rockers; Matching mauve swivel rockers; 6 recliners; Karaoke machine; 2 very nice Sofas; Matching sofa & love seat; Wood rocker; Broyhill BR set, dresser, chest, night stand, headboard; King size double adjustable bed; Gold rocker; Flowered sofa; End and Coffee tables; Sofa Table; Black & Silver Queen BR set, chest, dresser, night stands; Queen bed W/brass head & foot boards; Blonde 50's 3 piece double bed set; 2 Double beds; Several 3 & 5 drawer chests; Small 5 drawer chest; Baldwin Organ; Yamaha P5R-18 Keyboard; Xylophone; Like new GE refrigerator; Sears Coldspot 17 cu ft upright freezer; Maytag washer; Hotpoint dryer; Maytag portable dishwasher; Sanyo portable TV; RCA console TV; Kenwood component stereo; VCR Players; Signature sewing machine W/cabinet; Brass bakers rack, bench, corner shelf; Brass & Wicker plant stands; Small desk; 2 Oak bookcases. **SPECIAL ITEMS:** Several new microphones; Microphone stands; 78 records including collection of Beethoven Bicentennial. **ANTIQUES:** Ruby Red stem glasses; Several older dishes; Some Haggard pottery; Set of silverware from china; Lots of glassware; Pink & Blue flower dish set; French Fleur china set; Milk Glass; Oil paintings; WW II Army uniform; WW II Air Force pillow; Highboy dresser W/wardrobe; night stands, chest W/mirror, Matching claw footed end tables; Round claw footed table; Round 2 tiered claw foot table; Smoking stands; 2 Coffee tables; Small Marble top stand; Hall tree; Desk lamps; RCA Victor record player; Several area rugs; Wicker shelves. **MISC.:** New lamps still in box; Child's rocker; Singer portable sewing machine; Lots of Knickknacks; Vitamaster Airmaster exerciser; Steam Vac carpet cleaner; Kitchenware; Yard ornaments; Murray lawn mower; Electric lawn mower; 2-gas weed eaters; Leaf blower; Animal grooming clippers; The Grace Co. quilting rack; Cookbooks

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