Goodland's hospital approved for critical access status

GOODLAND — The Goodland the clinic to the hospital to March into the hospital.

At its meeting Monday, the hosdate on the transfer of assets from for Medicare billing.

Regional Medical Center has been 1. The effective date of the hos- changes on the staff. Administrator approved as a critical access hospi- pital's critical access status is April Jay Jolly told the board the hospital tal and received approval to merge 1. The clinic's name has been has a new central registration superthe Rural Health Ventures clinic changed to Goodland Family visor and will need to hire a new Health Center.

Both the clinic and hospital are pital board approved changing the waiting for new provider numbers been removed from the clinic

The hospital also is making forming the new position. Clinic Debbie Hickman, director of pa- cal supervisor. Scott Focke, the inclinic manager.

The central registration area has manager's job description, he said,

Manager Vicki Transue will be getting married and will leave June 1, he added.

The hospital is still looking for a pharmacist, Jolly said, but has had help from Cesar Miller owner of the Goodland Medical Arts Pharmacy. Miller has been consulting, said Elliott has been filling in as surgi-

tient care, and is the pharmacist in terim clinic manager, who is guidcharge. The nursing managers have ing its transition, said the hospital been helping in pharmacy as well, Hickman said.

The hospital has hired a registered nurse and will soon add another, Hickman said, and Mary Ann

meetings with two general surgeons who might be interested in working at the hospital.

needs to decide who will do C-sec-

tions if surgeon Dr. Duncan Davis

leaves. He and the board scheduled

Focke also said the clinic has a new receptionist, Kayla Raile. In other business:

 Jolly said the ambulance which was in a collision with cattle on Interstate 70 in November has been repaired but that they may need a new place to store the Kanorado ambulance when it goes back over

Before being moved to Goodland to fill in for the damaged ambulance, he said, it had been stored in the firehouse in Kanorado, but the town is getting a new fire truck.

Oberlin begins shopping for agency to supply electricity

By KIMBERLY BRANDT

Oberlin Herald OBERLIN — The Kansas Municipal Energy Agency is working on a new electrical contract for Oberlin, since the one the city has had for the last 20 years expires at the end of September.

City Administrator Gary Shike said the current contract is with Sunflower Electric Power Corp., a cooperative which serves rural electric and municipal utilities. The city is a member of the energy agency and then the agency contracts with Sunflower.

Shike said the energy agency has sent out a request for proposals for electricity to several entities, although Sunflower is the logical provider for the city.

There are a few other agencies that provide power in western Kansas and southwest Nebraska, so the city could get power from them.

Sunflower owns the transmission line here, Shike said, so the city would still be paying the cooperative even if the power comes from another agency. Transmission cost is a significant part of the bill the

city pays to Sunflower, he said. North of town, a city-owned line brings electricity from the Sunflower line to the city's substation.

state income taxes for 2003 through the state's website, www.access-

The Kansas Department of Rev-

enue's WebFile service is available

to any taxpayer who filed a Kansas

tax return last year. WebFile does

not require any complicated down-

loads, the department says, and of-

fers a built-in automatic calculator to help reduce filing errors.

who pay by electronic check. Tax-

days, while refunds from paper re-

turns take about two weeks. A re-

fund status service is available at

www.kdor.org/refundstatus/de-

Taxpayers owe money and pay

by electronic check will not see the

money withdrawn from their ac-

counts until April 15. Payment can

done with the case.

Judge Terry Bullock.

FIX IT!"

Court outlining their main points on

appeal of December's preliminary

order by Shawnee District Court

from the Dodge City and Salina dis-

tricts, found flaws both in the state's

method of raising revenue for

schools and in the way the state ap-

portions the approximately \$2.6

billion in aid among districts. He

gave the state until July 1 to, as he

wrote in one document, "JUST GO

The Supreme Court on Friday

be made by credit card, but a trans- says.

Kansas.org.

Kansas taxpayers can

and easy way to take care of their be processed immediately.

now file returns online

Kansas taxpayers have a quick action fee will be charged and it will

The online filing system is free to does not require downloaded soft-

those who qualify for a refund or ware. All taxpayers need to get

payers who overpaid their 2003 net connection and either the as-

taxes and file online will receive signed PINs from their mailed tax

their refunds within five to seven booklets or last year's refund/bal-

Sunflower, but the city gets a small early 1980s. part of its power from federal hydroelectric plants in Colorado get nervous about the only source of through the Western Area Power power being the city plant. Administration, said Shike.

Hays, but generates most of its agency to build transmission lines power at a large coal-fired plant in Holcomb.

Oberlin's power plant can generate enough power to run the town, but there aren't enough radiators to cool the plant at peak use.

Shike said as part of its contract with Sunflower, the city has to have generating capacity. The city runs the plant during the summer when needed.

Bob Polys, electric director of the agency with the municipal electric agency, said they are getting the city's request for proposals out to renew or replace the current contract. He said he isn't sure when the process will be completed.

Polys said the city probably will get a five- to 10-year contract. He said having the power plant absolutely helps with negotiations.

The agency has 64 member cities, he said, all in Kansas. As a nonprofit organization, the agency basically helps the city staff handle power issues, he said.

Shike said Oberlin generated its Most of the power comes from own power up to the late 1970s or

As of March 30, more than

23,000 Kansas have already taken

advantage of WebFile. Overall

more than 460,000 Kansas have

filed their 2003 returns electroni-

cally. The departments says error

rate for paper filing is nearly 9 per-

cent compared to approximately 1.5

WebFile is available 24 hours a

day, seven days a week. The system

started is a computer with an Inter-

ance due amounts. WebFile pro-

vides confirmation numbers and

printable copies of filed returns,

eliminating the need to mail docu-

People who filed their taxes

through WebFile can later file an

amendment to their return through

WebFile as well, the department

percent for electronic filing.

The energy agency's first project Sunflower has its headquarters in here was to act as a financing to connect the city to the Sunflower

line. At that time, they also did

transmission lines in St. Francis and

Sharon Springs. Shike said the city

paid that line off almost 10 years in cities in Eastern Kansas and that The town fathers then started to

The energy agency also has a gas supply department, although Oberlin doesn't participate in it. Midwest Energy is the gas supplier

Shike said the city gets power from the Southwestern Power Administration, but there is no way to committee, which meets once a get it to Oberlin. That power is used

helps offset what Oberlin pays for the power here.

Councilman Ray Ward serves as a member on the governing body of the energy agency and Shike is the resident member. City Foreman Dan Castle is the alternate.

Shike is also on the executive

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



CHURCH OF CHRIST, 510 E. 4th, Jay Kelley, minister, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday Eve. Worship 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Schedule of church services

ASCENSION-ON-THE-PRAIRIE EPISCOPAL, Rev. Don Martin, College Drive & Wheatridge Rd., 462-3041, Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Christian Education and Choir Practice for Youth, 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, September

through May COLLEGE DRIVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD. Rev. Leonard Burgess, 245 W. College Dr. - 462-8234, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., 1st Worship Service - 8:15 a.m. 2nd service - 10:30 a.m.

BEREAN CHURCH, Rev. Francis Harwerth, 1000 S. Franklin - 460-3076; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m., Sunday Evening Youth 6:00 p.m., Tim Morris, associate pastor; e-mail: morris4him@st-tel.net. Awana Clubs, Wednesday, 7 p.m., Middle School, Wednesday, 7 p.m. @ the Colby Armory

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Rev. Jim Puckett, Grant & Webster Street, 462-2867, Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Evening Worship 6:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible

COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH, (SBC), 1185 Wheatridge Rd. at College Drive, 462-7144, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship services, 10:45 a.m.

MINGO BIBLE CHURCH, 420 Main Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Pastor Chris Shubert. Sunday School: 9:30AM - all ages. Sunday Services: 10:45AM. Sunday Nights: 1st Sunday of the month: potluck following morning service no evening service; 2nd Sunday: services at 6:30 PM; 3rd Sunday: informal fellowship - bring a snack to share!; 4th and 5th Sunday: services at 6:30 p.m.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, 462-2179, Father Dana Clark, Pastor, Saturday Eve. Mass 5:30 p.m., Sunday Masses 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., Confessions will be heard Saturday 4:30-5:05 p.m. and from 7:30-7:45 p.m. and 9:25-9:40 p.m. on Sunday.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. Carol Rahn, 515 W. 4th, 462-6342, Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. September through May; Worship 9:30 a.m. June through

WESLEYAN CHURCH, 320 W. Pine - 462-8391, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:40 a.m., Sunday Evening Cell groups at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Youth Ministries, Kids Clubhouse 7 p.m.

TEENS FOR CHRIST CONNECTION, Everett Robert, 462-7404, Both middle school and high school program.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS. 1145 S. Franklin - 462-6605. President Dave Geldmacher, 846-7740; Elmer Schielke, 1st counsellor, 462-9022 and Calvin Haverfield, 2nd counsellor, 672-4165. Sacrament meeting 9 a.m., Sunday School and Primary 10:20 a.m., Priesthood, Relief Society, YM/ YW, 11:10 a.m.; Family History Center open to public, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, or by appointment. Call 462-3571.

COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 462-6521, Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m., Fellowship coffee 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., KXXX broadcasts 11:00 worship. http://www.gbgm-umc.org/

REDEEMING LOVE CHURCH, 345 N. Franklin, Bishop W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Sunday service, 5 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 510 E. 4th, Jay Kelley, minister, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday Eve. Worship 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, (Disciples of Christ), 385 W. 3rd - 460-2718, Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. followed by Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m. E-mail: fcccolby@st-tel.net

LANDMARK UNITED PENTECOSTAL 3rd - 462-3667, Service times: Sunday, 10 a.m., 6:30 p.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, David S. Hall,

Pastor, East 5th & Country club, 462-3497, Worship, Saturday, 5:30 p.m.; Sunday School and Bible Class 9:15 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m. ; Lutheran Hour on KXXX at 10 a.m.; KGCR at 2 p.m. website http://www.trinitycolbyks.org

OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH Brewster, Sunday Worship 9 a.m., Sunday School 10

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH, Pastor, Charlie Buch, 694-2242, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Evening service, 6:00 p.m.

LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH, Pastor Jerry Vincent, 586-2376, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Morning worship 10:30 a.m.

WINONA METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. Michael Eurit, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:30 a.m. (CDT)

BREWSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PO Box 250, Brewster. Pastor Dorine Chambers, 785-462-6044, Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.,

Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF, REXFORD, Rev. Mike Meserve, Outreach; Lane Purcell, Men's Ministry, 687-2565

REXFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH, Rexford -687-3305, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH, Mike Pinkelman, Pastor, Brewster - 694-2720, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Sunday Night Bible Studay 7:30 p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

This feature is sponsored by these business firms and individuals as a contribution to the religious life of the community.



YOUR SIGN / Our Reputation 1185 Zelfer Ave. • Colby, KS To become a sponsor, call Crystal Rucker at 462-3963.

We appreciate the businesses and individuals who have been faithful contributors to this space.

STRAMEL LAW Firm, P.A. 345 N. Lake Ave, 460-3222

1195 S. Range **RST** 462-2000 NATIONAL BANK FDIG

Quality Inn

Jay Hawk and staff 1950 S. Range 462-3933

COLBY PHOTO

Wednesday is double print day. Mark & Aradath Beringer 420 N. Franklin, 462-8169

COLBY LUMBER **Bud Van Horn and Staff**

1760 W. 4th 462-2181

finance law unconstitutional. Supreme Court spokesman Ron Keefover said earlier this week that

asked that a transcript of last fall's eight-day trial in the case be filed by May 5. The state's attorneys will have to submit written arguments by June 5. Justices were obligated to take the appeal under a law enacted this year requiring the Supreme Court to review any lower court decision that holds the school

if all deadlines are met and no ex-

 $TOPEKA \hspace{0.2cm} (AP) - A \hspace{0.2cm} district \hspace{0.2cm} tensions \hspace{0.2cm} are \hspace{0.2cm} sought \hspace{0.2cm} by \hspace{0.2cm} attorneys \hspace{0.2cm} for \hspace{0.2cm} attorneys \hspace{0.2cm} for \hspace{0.2cm} attorney \hspace{0.2cm} for \hspace{0.2cm} attorney$ judge's order declaring the state's the state or school districts, the case school finance formula unconstitucould be set for argument before the tional is moving closer to a review justices the week of Sept. 2. by the Kansas Supreme Court, but Meanwhile, Bullock remains on the judge does not consider himself

in school finance lawsuit

Court deadline nears

his own schedule. He wrote March 23 that his goal Attorneys for the state last week of making his preliminary order fifiled documents with the Supreme nal as of July stands, unless the Supreme Court tells him that the case

is out of his hands. The next deadline set by Bullock was Thursday, when written argu-Bullock, ruling in a 1999 case ments from the defendants are due on what remedy Bullock should impose in his final order.

"The courts have set that deadline so we're abiding by that schedule," said Whitney Watson, spokesman for Attorney General Phill Kline.

Alan Rupe, the plaintiffs' lead attorney, filed documents with the district court March 1 outlining a proposed remedy, including giving legislators until December to make changes in the school finance law.

Rupe also suggested appointment of special masters to oversee legislative progress on a new finance formula. Plaintiffs have suggested that the state must increase funding by as much as \$1 billion an amount recommended in a 2001 report by a private consulting

The Senate has rejected efforts to increase spending.