

# Painting, planters spruce up Goodland

By Pat Schiefen

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At the corner of Eighth and Caldwell in Gulick Park in Goodland is a Picasso-style painting of a rooster done by Brian Freeman, a former resident of Goodland, on Saturday, June 5, 2010.

The approximately four by seven foot painting is mounted on an easel in Gulick Park. The artist started off with a matte black surface to which Freeman added lines of white, red and orange paint to create the Picasso-style rooster.

Freeman did the painting while people watched and listened to live music provided by the band "Nobody Important."

The project was funded by a grant obtained by the Shine on Sherman County Beautification Committee. The committee got approval for the project from the Goodland City Commission.

The inspiration for the Art in the Park is taken from the large reproduction of the Van Gogh painting of sunflowers at the intersection of Cherry Avenue and U.S. 24.

The beautification committee thought more outside art in the parks would draw visitors to come into town and see what the town has to offer.

A proposed Art in the Park project is waiting for approval from the committee that approves projects to be funded by the money from the Max Alderman estate. The proposed project would be a four by seven foot painting done by the participants of upper elementary and high school students that will participate in a workshop on spray paint art at the Carnegie Arts Center. A guest artist would lead the workshop.

The proposed painting would be erected in



Steever Park near Steever Water Park, 1622 Arcade, Goodland.

The beautification committee raised money to place planters on the four corners of two intersections of Main Avenue with 11th and 12th. The planters were round four-foot bowl-shaped sandstone colored cement planters. It took a semi to bring in the four planters.

The committee asked the Master Gardeners for their advice for plants for the planters. The gardeners recommended an ornamental grass surrounded by a blanket of spreading hot pink petunias. The petunias kept blooming all summer and draped down the sides of the planters.

A local banker, Dale Goodwin of Bankwest, liked the planters so well he purchased four more planters for the corners on the block in front of the bank at 10th and Main..

The committee members watered and maintained the planters. After frost in the fall the petunias were removed and the grass trimmed. Some merchants added holiday lights to the planters for the holidays.

The Master Gardeners are local gardeners trained in horticulture by Kansas State Research and Extension. They had a program where they took nominations for yard of the month, business of the month and block of the month.

A local yard was picked and received a prize by participating merchants. Some of the Master Gardeners have had a hand in planting and maintaining flower beds at Gulick, in front of the High Plains Museum and the planters at the entrance of Cherry Avenue.

# Tech college shows off remodelling project

By Tom Betz

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A large group of Northwest Tech faculty and staff gathered with the Goodland Ambassadors in early August to celebrate the completion of the Betz-Saint project at 1219 Center Ave, and the house recently was sold to the incoming college soccer coach and his wife.

The two-bedroom house was completely remodeled in about 11 months, and Dr. Ed Mills, Northwest Tech president, said he was pleased to cut the ribbon on the project and thanked the many people who have worked to get it done.

It took some time after the house was completed to get it sold, but in April Dr. Mills said the house had been sold and the sale was approved by the college board. He said the money will be used to be the base for the next housing project. The house was sold to the incoming soccer coach Rex Branum and his wife Reina, who is working for the college in the financial aid program. Coach Branum is moving to Goodland from Susanville, Calif., where he has been a wrestling coach for Lassen Community College.

The well insulated house has two bedrooms, two bathrooms, small study, open living, dining and kitchen area, small patio, garage with automatic door opener, landscaped lawn and off street graveled parking

in the back.

The house has maintenance free siding, efficient heating and air conditioning system, on demand water heater and efficient lighting including ceiling fans. The kitchen comes with a large refrigerator, stainless steel sinks, electric stove and microwave.

The next college carpentry project expected to be built starting in August on the corner of 13th and Broadway Ave. on lots donated by Ralph Duell and the Vignery family. Dr. Mills said the difference is the house will be built from the foundation up as the old house on one of the lots has been demolished.

The ribbon cutting in August was done by Dr. Mills with the help of Dennis Saint who donated the old house and lot at 1219 Center Ave., and Tom Betz, editor of The Goodland Star-News who gave Dr. Mills the idea to remodel an existing house.

Many people took tours of the house after the ribbon cutting, and said they were surprised at how beautiful the home was. One couple who came from Sharon Springs said they had lived in the home 20 years ago and were impressed with the remodeling.

Students from six of the college programs helped in the remodeling project including the engineering technology who helped draft the plans and had to redraft them as the project evolved. The brunt of the work fell to the carpentry students who learned about house building from the ground up.

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