



Pastor Carol Moore-Ramey stood in front of the United Methodist Church's front sign. After seven years, she is moving to another church this month and is wearing a hot pink boa the congregation gave her as a joke going-away present.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

## Pastor moving on after seven years

RAMEY, from Page 1

"I think they covered every embarrassing moment I've had in Goodland," she said, laughing. Moore-Ramey said the cabinet that runs the United Methodist Church in Kansas asked her to take a new appointment and after some prayer, thought and discussion with Cecil, she accepted.

"We decided it's the right thing to do," she said. "We trust God is leading the council."

Moore-Ramey said she will be moving a little closer to her parents in Linn, a tiny town in Washington County

where she grew up. That will be nice, she said, because her father's health is deteriorating.

Janet Hernandez, associate pastor at the Garden City church, will take over here in July. Moore-Ramey said she has always respected Hernandez and was happy to hear that she will be her replacement.

"She'll fit in well in Goodland," she said.

Before coming here, she said, she was one of three pastors who served in the Tri-County Cooperative Ministry Parish near Junction City. She said the three served six churches and she was responsible for the Woodbine and

Lyona churches.

Moore-Ramey said she's not sure if she will be appointed to another church in the future. One part of being a United Methodist pastor, she said, is being willing to take new appointments, although the church doesn't force anyone to move.

She said pastors are required to retire sometime in their early 70s, but the 53-year-old said she's not old enough to start thinking about that.

No matter how many times she moves, she said, it's always hard.

"You make friends," she said, "and when you move, you have to leave them."

## County looks over requests

*Commissioners agree to consider projects during budget review*

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The Sherman County commissioners heard annual updates and budget requests Tuesday from three groups that deal with youth, the disabled and alcohol and drug abuse.

First to appear were members of the **Sherman County Extension Council**, with Marsha Schilling, chairman of the county extension board, handling most of the presentation.

She was accompanied by Reba White, area extension director, and Dana Belshe, county extension agent.

Schilling said the council had a good year, and ask the commissioners to consider increasing the budget for next year by \$2,500, mostly for insurance costs.

The extension council received \$107,444 for this year and is seeking \$109,944 for next year. The commissioners said they would take the request under advisement as they begin the budget process.

Jim Blume, director of the **Development Services of Northwest Kansas**, was the second to appear.

"I have been coming here for 28 years," Blume said. "I can't say how frustrated I have been by the legislative session. We serve 500 people in our 18 counties, and the State of Kansas is pulling the rug out from under developmental services."

"We are proud of the fact that 130 of our people are working. Not all are in full time jobs, but we have an 80 per-

cent success rate.

"While the state legislature put the money back in the budget for our services, they did not give us any money for new people."

He said the problem is that without money for new people, each case becomes a crisis, and that there are 111 people on the waiting list, four in Sherman County.

Sherman County has budgeted \$42,000 for this year for the developmental services, but Blume said the budget from last year left a shortfall of \$4,226, and asked the commissioners to consider increasing the county budget by at least \$1,000-\$2,000.

The total cost of services provided last year was \$399,795, and of that \$355,536 came from federal and state programs. The county provided \$40,034.

"Please don't cut us," Blume said. "If you cut the money, I may chain myself to the courthouse doors."

The commissioners said they would include the request in their budget review for next year.

Nina Carpenter, executive director of the **Thomas County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council**, appeared to discuss activity in Sherman County and plans for the upcoming year.

Carpenter said the number of people receiving service has dropped, but the requests for evaluations had increased. She said the counselor who handled Sherman County has left, and the services are being staffed out of Colby.

She said the person comes to Goodland on Thursdays, and that there are an average of people 14 in the group sessions.

Money for this is provided through a state program, and Sherman County splits the money between the Thomas County group and the Goodland Regional Medical Center.

In other business, commissioners: • Approved a 45-cent-an-hour raise for Ashley Engel, who works part time in the Register of Deeds office.

• Approved a request from Ann Middleton and Judy McKee to rent the 4-H building at the fairgrounds for the next year to hold dances for Project Graduation for the 2004 class.

• Agreed to allow the clerk and treasurer's offices to try out new copiers and then present bids to the commissioners.

• Met Phil Samuelson, new director at Good Samaritan Center. Samuelson has been in Goodland for about a month since Joe Fuentez moved to Hays.

Samuelson told the commissioners he would be meeting with the center board next week, and that he was working on plans to redesign and move the nurses station at the center. "We want to tone down the nursing home image," he said.

The next commission meeting will be 8 a.m., Friday, June 28, in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, 813 Broadway.

## Kids learn fishing tips from experts

FISHING, from Page 1

Now let's try to reel it in."

The fish was too smart, though, and got away. Divignon patted the boy on the back, then went back to talking about his favorite topic.

Divignon said he was happy to see so many younger kids, 6 or 7.

"We want to get them involved early," Divignon said. "If we get them interested in angling now. It'll be

something they carry with them for the rest of their lives."

Aside from attracting younger kids, Divignon says he would like to see more girls take up fishing.

"This has always been a male-dominated activity," he said, "and I'm glad to see there are several girls out here."

Divignon has good things to say about Deanna Livengood, a senior at Goodland High School. She has helped teach the class for years, he said, after

starting out as one of the students.

"She has really come a long way," Divignon said. "I think being involved with this clinic has really helped her and let her grow."

Livengood said her grandfather brought her out when she was 6, and she struck around because she had fun.

"I help with the class because I want to give these kids the same experience I had when I was young," she said, heading off to help a girl with her bait.

HARVEST, from Page 1

wheat looks good in spots and the dry-land crop is holding up in some areas. Overall, he said, yields will be small.

"All you have to do is drive out in the country," he said, "and you can tell it's not a normal crop."

Until farmers start cutting, Cook added, it's really anybody's guess what the crop will yield.

"I hate to speculate," he said. "I can just tell you it's not going to be a normal crop."

Merwin Jensen at Frontier Equity Exchange in Goodland said no wheat

or samples have come in yet, but he's also expecting less grain than normal.

"It's going to be short," he said.

Hoelting said there are signs of some hail, wind, freeze and disease damage, but the biggest problem this year was drought.

Dry weather the past few years has

depleted the moisture, he said, and now it will take a lot of rain to recharge it.

Couple that with perpetually low prices, he said, and even the most optimistic farmers are showing stress.

"This too shall pass," he said. "It will rain; just how much and when and where is the question."

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