

St. Francis judge responds to charges

By Karen Krein
St. Francis Herald
Attorneys for Tamara Zimbelman, district magistrate judge of the 15th Judicial District, filed Judge Zimbelman's response to charges filed against her.

The judge, through her counsel, filed her answers on July 18. Ron Keefover, education-information officer with the Kansas Judicial Center, said the next step will be for the Commission on Judicial Qualifications to set a hearing date sometime later in August.

Edward G. Collister Jr., examiner for the commission, last month issued formal proceedings concern-

ing Judge Zimbelman's judicial conduct. She had 20 days to file an answer.

There were nine counts filed against Judge Zimbelman, all pertaining to her conduct which violated the provisions of the Canon 1 and 2 rules of the Supreme Court Code of Judicial Conduct.

In her reply, Judge Zimbelman admitted that on March 21 she was convicted of intimidation of a witness but denied the charge and said the conviction is on appeal.

In Count 2, she admitted making a phone call to Chris Merklin on Dec. 22, 2001, but denies she made any threats or used coercive lan-

guage.

The judge denied she requested Officer Travis Stein to meet her at the Jim Miller residence in Count 3 but does admit she went to the Miller residence with Officer Stein and asked the Millers questions.

In Count 4, Judge Zimbelman admitted having a phone conversation with Officer Stein on Dec., 21, 2001, about the progress of the investigation of her missing purse.

She denies saying she was sending someone over to the Miller's home to "scare the living dickens out of them" or any other similar threat.

She admitted in Count 5 that

when questioned by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, she denied making the statement about scaring the Millers and denies ever retracting this denial.

Count 6, the judge admitted to writing a letter to Agent Butler with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation which contained the quote, "On reflection of the polygraph test I took Friday, April 19, 2002, I want to reiterate to you that I do not remember saying what has been alleged. I feel like I was backed up in a corner by both you and Mr. Atteberry and badgered until I broke down. I still maintain I do not remember saying that although you advised

me the results say different."

In Count 7, she agreed she had written a letter to St. Francis police chief Jason Ryan and officer Mark Davidson but denied the letter was meant to be threatening or harassing — only that it was a request that the law enforcement contact her if a family member was involved in a police matter so she could recuse herself and advise officers as to which judge they were to contact. She also said she had written a letter of apology to the Chief Ryan and Officer Davidson.

Judge Zimbelman did admit to being at the home of a minor girl on the night of March 14 in Count 8 but

she denied coming to the residence after law enforcement as she was already there. She said she was there before they arrived.

She denied she had any conversation with the law officers which might have violated the rules of the Supreme Court.

She also denied asking the sheriff's wife to come into the house for questioning.

Concerning Count 9, Judge Zimbelman admitted to being present after her husband had been stopped for driving on a suspended license on April 27 because officers had asked that she come to the scene.

Truck stop sale moving slowly

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News
The old Apple Trail truck stop south of I-70 at the west Goodland exit (Exit 17) remains a top priority for the Sherman County Economic Development Council, and at a meeting Monday, Carolyn Applegate told the council that at least two companies are working with the bank in New York.

She said the bank is working through a real estate firm to reach an appraised value.

A member suggested that there may be additional companies interested in looking at the property, and Applegate said she would take the suggestions and make some follow-up contacts.

Others asked about the deteriorating condition of the truck stop, and what the city could do.

City Commissioner John Garcia, council vice chairman, said he had gone out to the property and was surprised at how bad it is looking. He said the bank should receive a letter from the city requesting the area be cleaned up and the weeds mowed.

The truck stop is in the city limits, Garcia said, and it is subject to the city weed and nuisance ordinances.

Applegate talked about the projects she has been working on in the past two months. She said she is helping with the regional Prosperity Summit with Larry McCants, who is the chairman for northwest Kansas. Mini-summits will be held in Colby Tuesday and in Hays next Friday to get ready for the full meeting. The regional summit itself will be held in Goodland on Wednesday, Aug. 27.

She said a number of projects are moving along, including the control city application, which would get Goodland on highway destination signs on I-70. The rail spur for the liquid fertilizer plant is progressing very slowly, she said, but the city

passed a rezoning ordinance to allow motel owners live on their property and she is working with a downtown revitalization committee.

She said Sen. Pat Roberts is scheduled to be at the Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 27.

Thirty-one people have taken out micro-loan applications, but not many have expressed interest for a variety of reasons. Some were unable to qualify because of the low to moderate income requirement and a few chose to get conventional loans. This project will come to an end at the end of the year, she said, and there is about \$90,000 remaining to be loaned out.

The pallet re-building business is being pursued by two Goodland men, and they are expected to load their first truck in September.

The Air Craft Seals and Gaskets Co. from California is considering Goodland and Wichita as sites for moving his company, she said.

A project to help fund community development projects debuted Friday at the Sunflower Celebration when a new Sunflower Water was unveiled. Applegate said the project is partnered with Scheopner's Water of Garden City, and the water will be available in some vending machines in the city. Twenty cents of the price for each bottle will go into a special community development fund.

Applegate said the water was delivered on Thursday in time for the Sunflower Celebration and the Regional Prosperity Summit. She said the economic development office will be using the water in promotional events, but they will not be distributing the water through her office.

The next council meeting will be 5:15 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 29, in the basement of the Western State Bank.

Roof on the go



Goody's Construction workers took down the roof of the old Alcoholics Anonymous building Tuesday afternoon and got it ready to drive out of town. The location southeast of Wal-Mart and north of Howard Johnsons's is to be the site of a Quick Lube oil changing business being built by a man from Sharon Springs.

Photo by Shannon Davidson/The Goodland Star-News

Roof leak damages high school

By Shannon Davidson
The Goodland Star-News
The high school roof suffered damage above the science room, Mary Porterfield's room, the area of the west hall, the American history room and Jackie Elliott's math room during a rain storm July 29, Superintendent Marvin Selby told the school board at their meeting last Monday.

As the water drained, it got down into the library and office areas on the first floor, damaging textbooks and stationary stored in the area.

Selby said he met with Interstate Builders out of Kearney, Neb., and the subcontractor, Murry's, last Tuesday to discuss solutions for the damage.

"They have been very good

about taking care of the damaged areas," Selby said. "All needed roof tiles have already been ordered, and everything should be taken care of by the end of the weekend."

In other school board news, the volleyball team asked to use the money raised from a summer camp to buy new uniforms. The money would not pay for the uniforms entirely, and money from the athletic budget would cover the difference.

The board approved the purchase of new uniforms with the understanding the team will be out of the new-uniform cycle for eight years.

The board came up with a committee to review guidelines for new uniform purchases and fund-raising events for all activities. Members of the committee will consist of board members Fritz Doke, Ron Schilling and Jane Philbrick, Athletic Director Steve Raymer and Selby.

The board gave Raymer permis-

sion to contract for a fifth assistant football coach. With 55 students out for football this year, the increase created a demand for another coach. Jason Hickson will be offered the contract. The volleyball team asked for a third coach. The board denied the volleyball request until some questions are answered. This information includes number of participants and a recommendation for the position.

Principals from all schools gave their reports to the board. Raymer reported on behalf of the high school that the first day of enrollment was busy and said staff members having positive outlooks for the upcoming school year.

West Principal Gerald Burkett reported the building was in excellent condition and thanked the janitorial staff for their hard work. He said moving the kindergarten to the building had generated positive comments. Burkett also thanked the

library technicians from all schools for coming on their own time to prepare and decorate West's library to be ready for the start of school. First day enrollment comprised 67 students with 14 new students.

Central's Principal Sharon Gregory reported 40 students for first-day enrollment with three new students. Training sessions for teachers were still underway and that they are also looking forward to the start of a new school year, she said.

North Elementary and Grant Junior High Principal Jim Mull said this year will have a strong focus on getting the students' math scores up. Mull will be reporting every day to North in the mornings to prepare them for the day's events and will work lunch at North. Staff from Grant will take on the morning responsibilities and Mull will be at the junior high in the afternoon over to maintain consistency at both schools.

Bird City cut from Internet service

As of Sept. 2, **nwkansas.com** will close its Internet service in Bird City.


"There are not enough dial-up customers to pay the phone bills,"

said Tom Betz, director of Internet services for the firm. "The deciding factor was when the Cheylin School District went with another service."

nwkansas.com was installed in

Bird City in 1997. It was the first service in Bird City.

"While we don't like leaving Bird City without our service, there just are not enough customers left to warrant keeping it going," said *Herald* Publisher Karen Krien


www.goodlandnet.com/movies

Sherman
1203 Main - Phone 899-6103

Tonight 7:00 p.m.

Bad Boys II

R

Starts Friday 7:00 & 9:00

Spy Kids 3-D (PG)

corrections

The boy in the photo of the catch-a-pig contest on Page 11 of the Aug. 12 edition of *The Goodland Star-News* should have been identified as Colton Cooper, 7, not Connor Gray, 9. This was a reporting error.

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The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunder-

standing in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

Thank You

The family of Betty Jean Saint would like to thank Dr. Mo Shafei and all the staff at the Goodland Regional Medical Center for the excellent care given to her these last couple of weeks. And to everyone who sent a card, a memorial gift, flowers, plants or food, thank you so much for your thoughtfulness.

A very special thank you to Pastor Loren Strait for a beautiful service and to Jeannie Pyles, Elsie Miller and Connie Cole for preparing and serving lunch after the service.

Dennis and Linda Saint and family
Rick Saint
Mitch Saint and family
Kathy and Chuck Zimmerman and family
Cindy and Jack Lee and family

The Community is invited to

The Sherman County Relay for Life

American Cancer Society

August 22

Sherman County Fairgrounds

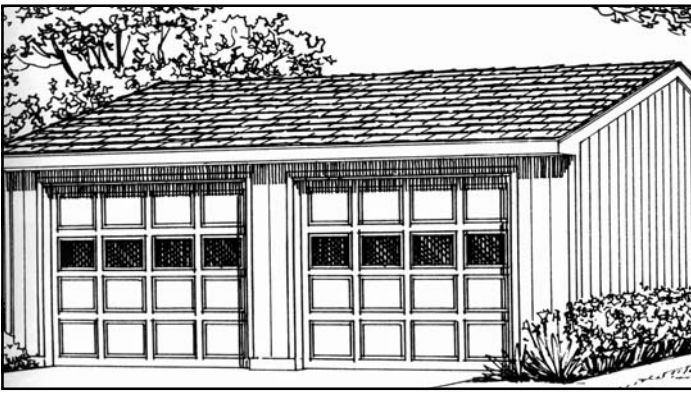
Opening ceremony and Survivor Lap 7 p.m.

Luminaria Service 9 p.m.

Entertainment throughout the evening.

Kiwanis Club will be serving 6 - 10:30 p.m.

Public is Invited.




Timber Structures

Easy assemble kits style and size availability:

Ranch Style: (7' stud height) w/4'x6' Door	
8'x8'	8'x10' 8'x12' 10'x10'
10'x12'	10'x14' 10'x16'
Barn Style: (7' stud height) w/double 8' doors	
10'x12'	10'x14' 10'x16' 12'x12'
12'x16'	12'x20' 12'x24'
Weekend Cabins: (8' stud height) w/3/0 6/8 cottage door 9 night	
12'x12'	12'x16' 12'x20' 12'x24'
Garages: (8' stud height) w/3/0 6/8 entry door 9 light	
20'x20'	24'x24' 24'x30'

Options available.



Home Improvement Center

1630 Sandy Rd
Goodland, Ks 67735
899-6241