

# Woman's life saved by men, county sheriff

RESCUE, from Page 1

on the freeway, he said, he drove back to the station at about 80 mph to get on the phone and tell dispatch which way they were going.

Frye now has two warrants on him from Colorado Springs, Butts said, one for second-degree kidnapping with a \$25,000 bond and one for criminal intent, murder in the first degree, with a \$250,000 bond. He is in the Sherman County Bastille awaiting extradition.

The attempted murder count was for whatever he did in Colorado Springs, Butts said.

"I understand he kidnapped her in front of her 15-year-old daughter," the sheriff said, "and he hit

her several times, pushing her into the pickup, and she hollered at her daughter to call 911."

Morales sent Butts a letter thanking the sheriff's department for their help with the kidnapping investigation and for its professionalism, hospitality and dedication.

"It probably cannot be emphasized enough," Morales wrote, "that your actions during the evening hours of Sept. 14, in Goodland undoubtedly saved the life of the victim..."

Butts said he found out Ripple had tried to alert people in Colorado Springs to her plight, and they just walked away. He found out later they had called 911, but Frye and Ripple were long gone before any-

one could get there.

He is 6 foot, 4 inches tall, Butts said, and people did not want to confront him.

"My hat's off to the guys at the Kanorado Co-op," he said. "It makes me proud to live in a community where people step up and get involved."

Boyce said the way deputies explained it to him, he understood Friday would have been Ripple's last day of life if she had not been rescued when she was. Once it got dark, he said, that would have been it.

"I'm glad things worked out well," Boyce said. "I'm glad she got to see her daughter again."

# Lumber yard to celebrate 60 years on same corner

RECEPTION, from Page 1

"We had to go down to the rail yard to unload the lumber," he said, "and I was the small guy elected to get into the top of the car. It was the same way with the cars of bags of cement."

"We got to unload the rail cars by hand and then again by hand at the lumberyard. We didn't think about the hours back then when we were young."

He said they bought a forklift to make the unloading easier in the late 1960s.

Rasure says the building materials business is changing faster today

than it did 29 years ago when he came back.

"We used to work mostly with contractors," he said, "but today women are an important part of the process. They want to see product selection and to be able to touch and measure things."

Kevin Rasure said an uncle started a lumber yard in Concordia and bought one in Oakley. He said Glenn Vignery worked for the yard in Goodland, and then went to operate the uncle's lumberyard in Oakley.

Christie Rasure remembers the hand-written work they used to have to do and especially the inventories of each lumberyard in the week be-

fore Christmas. She said they used to have to do some of the inventories on Sundays. She said it's different today and they can quickly check inventory every month.

She said they have six full-time employees in Goodland and six in Colby.

Rasure Lumber in Goodland is open 7:30 to 5:30 Monday through Friday and 7:30 to 4 on Saturday. The phone is (785) 890-7149. Rasure Lumber in Colby is open from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and from noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. The phone is (785) 462-3959.

# Citizens agree about equipment, question raising property taxes

By Tom Betz

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A small audience of Sherman County citizens joined county commissioners last Tuesday for a discussion on the road-and-bridge budget and the need to build up money to purchase work equipment.

The commissioners were looking at the budget with an eye to cutting back a projected property-tax increase.

Talking to Public Works Manager Curt Way, Commissioner Kevin Rasure said it appeared the department had built up more than \$300,000 in a special machinery fund "as a savings account."

"It is not a savings account," Way replied. "It does not happen unless you have a carryover. It is going to be spent."

What the department does, he said, is put any money left at the end of the year — the "carryover" — into the fund, which is used to make payments on lease-purchase contracts for heavy equipment. The county has a separate annual budget for equipment, he said, but a single motor grader can cost more than \$200,000 without trade-in or down payment.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said it appeared Way had done well with past purchases, and said in fact the budget this year was underspent because nothing has been bought out of the special machinery fund.

From the audience, Dick Emig, a farmer who lives south of Goodland, asked Way how many road graders the county has. Way said nine.

"We had more problems years ago and the equipment was in terrible shape," Emig said. "I know you have to have good equipment.... If we do not have the best equipment, we will have some serious problems like Wallace County faced with four feet of snow. Good roads and equipment add value to the land."

Emig said when the snow blows, the roads need to be opened in a day or two at the most.

"I can remember when we had bad equipment, and know people were stranded for days," Emig said. "I do think that every budget has been padded, and I know what a padded budget looks like. I have served on the school board and Co-op board and I have seen a padded budget...."

"What happens if we have to rent equipment?" Way asked. "That money could come out of the special machinery fund. The fund is in good shape now, but once it is gone it may not be there in the future. I have said we have put money in there using the carryover. If there is no carry-

over, we do not have money to put in the fund."

Way said that back in the '90s, the repair budget had to be increased to keep ahead of the costs, but with the newer equipment, the repair costs have gone down.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked Way to explain the rotation program for replacing equipment.

Way said the department has not been able to get into a rotation as well as he'd like. He said under the Caterpillar program, if a grader has five thousands hours after five years, the company will buy it back at \$118,000 guaranteed.

"It is more than graders. I have a lot of things that need to be replaced including trucks, a loader and trailers. We do not have the people we used to have. The budget has gone up and down over the past 10 years, but it has not gone up as much as it seems."

Dean Topliff a farmer who lives southwest of town, asked Way what the interest is on equipment lease payments and how much the county was getting in interest on the money in the special fund.

"I do not know about the county interest," Way said. "I know it is 5 percent for the payments."

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said the county treasurer deals with interest rates, but it usually is about the same as the cost of the payments.

Topliff said if the county is getting the same rate for interest that it pays out, that is OK, but he questioned putting money into a fund that is not going to be used.

"If I did not have carryover, that money would have been spent," Way said. "I could have put all the carryover money in that fund. It was my call as to how to split up the carryover, and I talked to the auditor about what I was doing."

"I do not need to buy all the new equipment. Some can be used because they do not get used that many hours."

"You can purchase a new grader cheaper than a used one with the government discount."

"I think you need to be more economical in how you use them," Topliff said.

Ken Palmgren, a wheat farmer from Edson, asked Way and the commissioners how they are going to maintain the new pavement on old U.S. 24.

"How are we going to keep that road in good condition?" Palmgren asked. "We will have to do something every year."

Way said the county will have to do a chip seal in a few years.

"I asked the same question," Way said. "What happens if there is a fire or something drops into the pavement or if the trucks get to damage the road."

"The approach was not the best but we had to use the money. Our engineer knew that. The cracks are going to start showing up."

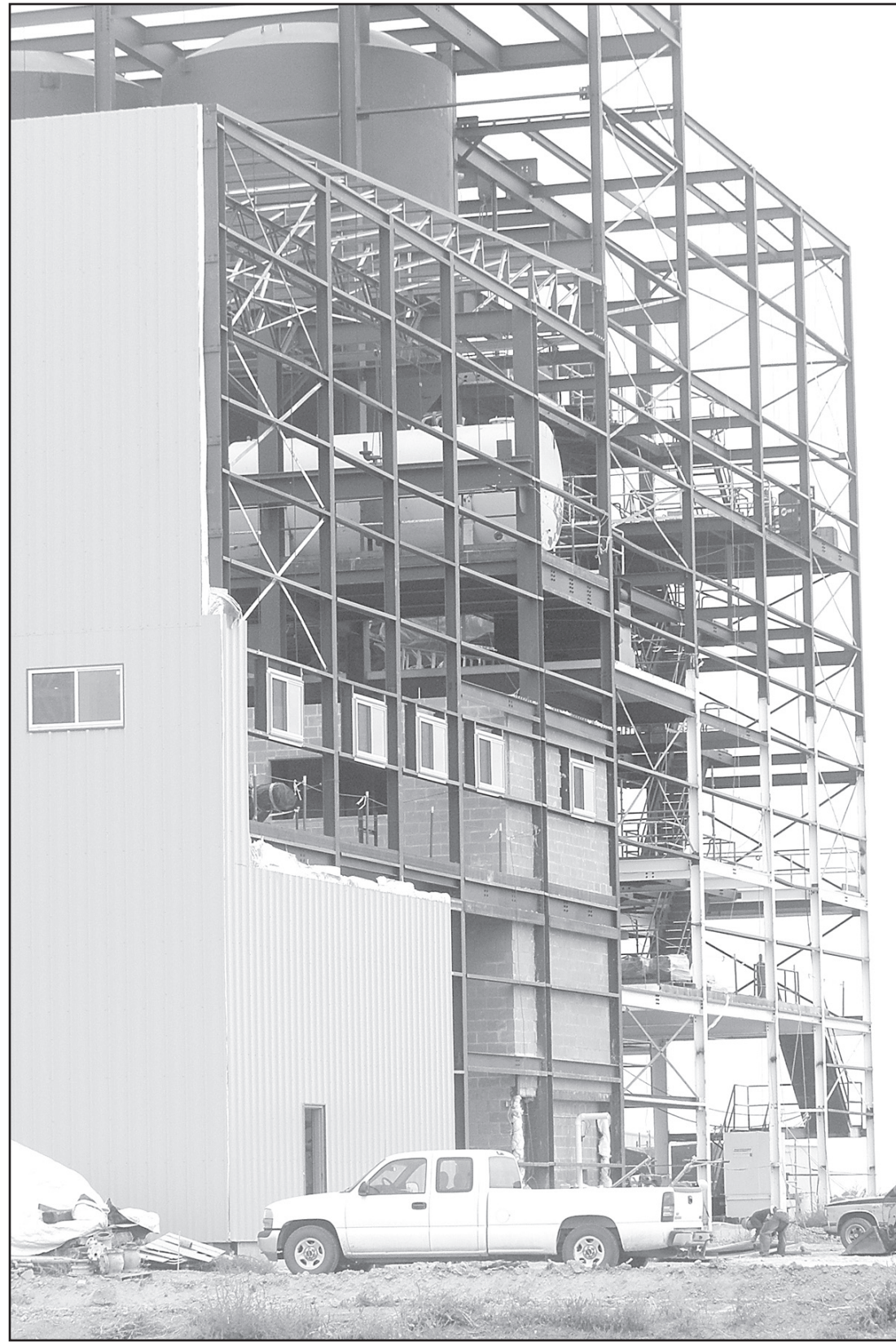
"I am not arguing about that," Palmgren said. "I am sitting here listening. If you get down to a point where you do not have a carryover, then what do you do?"

"I know we had a conversation about this on the phone," Way said. "I have said we could do more if we have more manpower and some more graders."

"Are we going to have to raise our taxes to maintain these roads?" Palmgren asked. "We are losing population; we may drop to a 3A school this year."

Thomas said it looks like the county should begin putting money aside in the next few years to get enough ahead to do the seal.

# Skin going up on power plant



Metal sheeting is being installed on the west, north and south sides of the coal-fired power plant at the Goodland Energy Center west of town near Caruso. Doug Sederstrom, chief financial officer for the project, said the walls and roof are being installed and preparation continues for installation of the turbine components. Work continues on the boiler and internal components of the plant. The power plant has additional buildings to be constructed he said, but the work continues to progress.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News



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## August Consultant Schedule

ALLERGIST**	Jeffrey Rumbyrt, M.D.	Oct. 15
CARDIOLOGIST	Barry Smith, M.D.	Oct. 10, 24
CARDIOLOGIST	Vijay Subbarao M.D.	Oct. 11
COUNSELING SERVICES	Thursdays by Appointment	
DERMATOLOGIST	Charles Ruggles, M.D.	Oct. 25
DIETICIAN	Sarah Linton, RD, LD	Mon. - Fri.
EARS, NOSE, THROAT	Alfred N. Carr, M.D.	Oct. 5, 19, 26
ENDOCRINOLOGIST	Gerald Poticha, M.D.	Oct. 11, 18, 19
GASTROENTEROLOGIST	Jeffrey D. Huston, M.D.	Oct. 15 & 16
GENERAL SURGEON	David D. Beck, M.D.	Oct. 11 & 15
GENERAL SURGEON	Jeffrey Cross, M.D.	Oct. 4 & 18
GYNECOLOGY	David Melniczek, M.D.	Nov. 29
GYNECOLOGY	Laura Rokosz, M.D.	Oct. 17 & 31
NEUROLOGIST	Steven J. Gulevich, M.D.	Oct. 3, 4 & 24
OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY	David Forschner, M.D.	Nov. 21
ONCOLOGY/HEMATOLOGY	Martin Rubinowitz, M.D.	Oct. 2
OPHTHALMOLOGIST	Brian Joondeph, M.D.	Oct. 17
OPHTHALMOLOGIST	David Pfoff, M.D.	Oct. 16, 23 & 30
OPHTHALMOLOGIST	Ronald Wise, M.D.	Oct. 5
ORTHOPEDIST	Tim Birney, M.D.	Oct. 8
ORTHOPEDIST	Armond Hatzidakis M.D.	Oct. 29
ORTHOPEDIST	James Holmes, M.D.	Oct. 15
ORTHOPEDIST	Edward Parks, M.D.	Oct. 22
ORTHOPEDIST	Raj Bazaz, M.D.	Oct. 8
ORTHOPEDIST	Kevin Nagamani, M.D.	Oct. 3
PSYCHIATRIST	John C. Faul, M.D.	Oct. 3, 5 & 17
PODIATRIST	Erik Ouderkirk, D.P.M.	Oct. 24
PULMONOLOGIST	Ken Weisiger, M.D.	Call for Dates
RADIOLOGISTS	Professional Radiology Services	WEEK DAYS
SPEECH THERAPY	Lisa Paxton CCC-SLP	Mon. - Thurs.
SUBSTANCE ABUSE DIR.	Fred Waters, CADC III	Mondays
UROLOGIST	Darrell D. Werth, M.D.	Oct. 9
UROLOGIST	Wallace Michael Curry M.D.	Nov. 6
UROLOGIST	Kevin McDonald M.D.	Oct. 16

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