

Fall cleanup serves community and students

By Ramona C. Sanders
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A sunny day matched bright dispositions Wednesday as students from Goodland High School raked leaves and hauled yard debris during the second annual Goodland Fall Cleanup.

"It feels really nice to do things for people who can't do it for themselves," said senior Lauren Abernathy, as she raked leaves in the yard of a home on Broadway Street owned by 78-year-old Betty Clark.

"And it's nice not to be holed up in the classroom for eight hours — it's such a nice day outside," Abernathy said.

The event was part of a school-sponsored community service project in which every student at the high school is required to participate. Groups of 9-12 students were formed into about 14 groups. Each group cleaned five or six yards. The project was designed

to serve elderly and disabled homeowners.

Principal Sharon Gregory said the city agreed to haul the lawn bags that day and the county agreed to waive its landfill fee.

Clark was delighted to get help with her back and front yards. The senior citizen uses an oxygen tank to help her breath and isn't able to do her own yard work. She said it warmed her heart to see the youth doing something positive.

"They always talk about kids being naughty," she said, "but they're really not."

Gregory, who visited each of the work sites, said the project not only gives the students a break from "academic rigor," but helps them develop character-building and teamwork skills.

"We talk a lot about self-esteem," Gregory said. "But the best way to build self-esteem is to give service to others."

Students on the football team

saw it as a way to give back to a community that has provided so much support to the school's athletic program.

"The community supports sports and everything," said football and track coach Jonathan Dansel, "I think this is a good chance to give back to the community."

Football team member Thomas Terry said he has a different perspective on the project this year.

"Last year, I thought all we do is doing lawns for everybody," he said, "then we got our college applications and I thought, 'I can put this under volunteer work.'"

Even the freshmen who aren't college minded yet thought of a selfish reason to do the community service project.

"It's a lot of fun, you get to hang out with your friends," said freshman Ryan Fisher.

"Yeah, and you don't have to do math (in class) either," added classmate Cory Millam.



Goodland High School student Thomas Terry stood atop a truck to pack down leaves Wednesday as youth pastor Ben Coates and student Adrienne West helped during the Goodland Fall Cleanup. Football coach Jonathan Dansel (right) was faculty leader. Photo by Ramona C. Sanders/The Goodland Star-News

Red Ribbon Week fights drugs

By Sharon Corcoran

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The Goodland Elks Lodge is painting the town red this week for a good cause.

Zona Price, Elks secretary and accounting manager, distributed 730 red ribbons along with "Elks" stickers, pencils and bookmarks at Goodland elementary schools and 170 red bracelets at Grant Junior High Monday.

The ribbons, with drug-free slogans, are for Red Ribbon Week, celebrated nationally Oct. 23-31 each year. Price delivered red ribbons and stickers along with Elks bookmarks to Central Elementary and the ribbons and stickers with pencils with the slogan, "Say No to Drugs" to students in kindergarten, Head Start and first, second, fifth and sixth grades.

Michaela Garrett and Page Seeger, eighth graders at Grant Junior High and members of the school's Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), helped Price deliver ribbons, stickers and pencils to classes at North Elementary and told the students what the SADD group does and why it is important.

Brenda Linin, counselor and teacher at the junior high, is the sponsor for the student group and helped with the event as well.

The red ribbons are a state project, Price said, and the Elks have



Michaela Garrett, an eighth grader at Grant Junior High and member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, handed red ribbons to students in Linda McKee's class at North Elementary Monday.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

done that at least five years. They have given other items along with them, she said; this year, some students are getting pencils and others bookmarks.

The Elks have been giving the bracelets out at the junior high for three years, she said. Each bracelet has a number inside. Linin said, and a winner is drawn each day at the junior high to give students an incentive to wear them each day. The winners receive a water bottle, red calculator, red Frisbee or Hacky Sack, she said, each with a drug-free slogan.

Wendy Wellmann, community prevention consultant with the Regional Prevention Center, asked if the student group could be involved with the event, Price said. Usually teachers just hand out the ribbons to their classes, she said, but this year, the student club members are going around to the classes to hand them out.

The Elks are also delivering over 7,000 drug awareness pamphlets to area schools, Price said; middle and junior high schools are targeted this year.

Hogs escape after crash

By Ramona C. Sanders
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A semitrailer truck carrying 140 hogs was struck by a passing trailer pulling farming equipment on K-27 north of Goodland on Thursday, Oct. 18 injuring four hogs so badly that they had to be put down.

The truck, owned by Seaboard Farms, was southbound in Cheyenne County near Wheeler around 1 p.m. (Mountain Time) when it was stuck by a 52-row offset disk being pulled by a truck going north, the Kansas Highway Patrol reported.

The collision gouged a hole 4 feet by 4 feet in the side of the semitrailer. Four hogs were hurt and seven fled from the truck, said Trooper Eric Hodges.

Rex Murray and his son, Ryan Murray, who own a nearby wheat and cattle farm, and Rob Archibald, a family friend, helped recover five of the escaped hogs. The other two hogs were also captured.

"We caught them with our bare hands," said Rex Murray.

The driver of the hog truck, Rick Daniel, said he had 140 hogs on the load. The remaining hogs would be transferred to another truck, he said.

Three of the four dead hogs were removed by Nebraska By-Products, a Lexington company that recovers dead animals and takes them to a rendering plant. Ron DeMary said the damaged hogs would be used for pet food and oils.

Student killed in accident

By Ramona C. Sanders
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A Kanorado man was killed early Monday morning after he was ejected from his vehicle in a single-car accident that occurred on old U.S. 24 and County Road 13.

Rex Bagley, Jr., was pronounced dead at the scene by the deputy coroner, said Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts.

Butts said Bagley, 27, was traveling west on old U.S. 24 in a 1994 Ford Explorer when his vehicle went off the south side of the road and then crossed the road into a north ditch. The car rolled over 1-1/2 times before coming to a rest on its passenger side.

There were no passengers and no other cars involved in the accident, Butts said.

Investigators are still trying to determine if Bagley was wearing a seatbelt. Butts said it was possible for Bagley to be ejected even if he was wearing a seatbelt.

A toxicology report to determine if Bagley was under the influence of drugs or alcohol may take two to four weeks, Butts said.

Bagley was a student at Northwest Kansas Technical College where his mother, Sandy Bagley, works as the cafeteria manager. He was single and did not have any children.

Bagley worked for Wilkens Truck

and Trailer Inc. in Goodland.

"He was good help and a good guy," said owner Chuck Wilkens.

Bagley entered the college's heating and cooling program this fall, said Director of Student Development Paul Chaffin.

"I think he had found himself here and was ready to prepare himself for a career," Chaffin said.

President Ken Clouse remembered Bagley as a serious student who was focused and involved in student activities, including the college's student government organization.

"He was a leader," said the student government president James Bradley. "He was a large part of the student government and he will be missed."

Other members of the organization remember Bagley as being pleasant, friendly, and always smiling with a sarcastic sense of humor.

"He was one of those people who, if you were down, he could bring you up," said student Clinton Hansen, who often had lunch with Bagley.

On Tuesday, the student government organization voted to donate \$100 to his memorial fund, and on Thursday the college's entire student body turned its annual blood drive into a memorial for Bagley by signing a poster to present to the family.

corrections

An article on page 1 of Tuesday's edition of *The Goodland Star-News* said ReNewable Energy Resources was part of Goodland Energy Center. ReNewable Energy Resources is not affiliated with the Goodland Energy Center, according to energy center chief financial officer Doug Sederstrom. This is a reporting error based on incorrect information provided.

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The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding 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.

CLOSED October 29 - November 8			
Oct. 26 -28 THE GAME PLAN PG: Some sensuality and Language www.goodlandnet.com/movies	Friday, Saturday and Sunday 7:00 Movie Bucks Make Great Gifts! Sherman 1203 Main - Phone 899-6103	FREE MOVIE Saturday and Sunday 1:30 Monster House (PG) Sponsored by Sherman County Sheriff's Department	

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