

# Teen drinking subject of meeting

By Sharon Corcoran

*slcorcoran@nwkansan.com*  
"Drinking Under age Isn't cool" (DUI) is the theme for a "town-hall" meeting planned Wednesday to highlight the dangers of teen drinking in Goodland.

The session will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Goodland Elks Lodge. Those who attend will be fed and have a chance to win prizes that include a "Guitar Hero" game, an I-Pod Shuffle and gift certificates, and to watch a video that takes the audience through a magnetic resonance imaging view of the damage done to a teenage brain by binge drinking.

Everyone can try out the "fatal vision" goggles, giving them the

opportunity to test their skills while "under the influence."

Teens will be asked to do a couple of tasks, such as dribbling a ball, and see how well they do, said Wendy Wellmann, a community prevention consultant at the Regional Prevention Center.

"We want to make sure what we show them is something with a purpose," she said. "They can see how they do these things when their brain is impaired, which will show them why drinking is dangerous."

The meeting is for everyone, Wellmann said, adding that the group planned activities to encourage everyone to participate.

The Sherman County Community Partnership for Prevention

and Education planned the event with help from the Grant Junior High chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions and the Elks. The center got \$700 from a Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority grant to plan the meeting, Wellmann said. The students chose the theme, and members will be on hand to help with the meeting.

The group held a similar meeting last year which included a panel of Goodland people who talked about the effects of underage drinking. They also discussed laws on drinking and on adults allowing parties where alcohol is served to minors.

The panel included Jake Kling, a Goodland High School student; Sherman County Attorney Bonnie

Selby; Tracy Hillmer, branch manager of High Plains Mental Health offices in Goodland and Colby; Goodland police Officer Frankie Hayes; Trooper Joe Greene from the Kansas Highway Patrol; Sherman County Sheriff's Deputy Burton Pianalto; and Rob Cotter from Alcoholics Anonymous.

They scheduled the meeting before prom and graduation to remind everyone of the dangers of teen drinking and the importance of making safer choices at a time when a lot of youths want to celebrate.

"We'd like to change the mentality that you have to drink to have a good time," Wellmann said.

# Cameras provide new way to see I-70

Travelers across Kansas have a new way to see what the road conditions are where they're going with the addition of web camera views at eight locations, including one near Edson on I-70.

The cameras show conditions every 15 minutes on the Kansas Department of Transportation's road condition site, 511.ksdot.org.

The page also can be reached through the Travel and Traffic Info link on the department's home page at www.ksdot.org.

"The camera views will give motorists an important piece of information for their travel plans before they get in their car or truck," said Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller. "The more information travelers have, especially in inclement weather, the better decisions they can make about when to leave and the route they choose."

The cameras are at eight of the department's 42 road weather information sites, selected because they are spread widely enough to show conditions across the state.

These include four on I-70, at Edson (nine miles east of Goodland), Junction City, Salina and at Walker (nine miles east of Hays). Other cameras are on U.S. 75 at Topeka; K-39 at Chanute; K-96 at Webb Road in Wichita; and U.S. 50 at Garden City.



A new traffic camera showed snowy conditions on I-70 looking east of Edson about 10 a.m. Thursday. The camera is one of eight put up by the Kansas Department of Transportation let people see what is happening on roads across the state. The photos are updated every 15 minutes at the Web site 511.ksdot.org.

To view the images, click on the camera link at the top of the "Road Conditions" page. Those using Internet Explorer can also access the images by clicking on camera icons on the road-condition map,

the department says. The eight cameras are the first phase of a program to post road images on the Web site. Twenty-five more will be installed along I-70 from the Missouri to Colorado

before the end of the year. "We know travelers like to see road views on the Internet, and I'm pleased we now have an additional tool to share information with the public," said Miller.



"Dried Sunflowers," a watercolor by Goodland artist Elwyn Vatcher, is one of the pieces that will be shown at the special public reception from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Goodland Elks Lodge. The reception will highlight Smoky Hills Public Television's Signature Auction planned for April 18-20 at the Mall in Hays. The auction will be broadcast live from 7 to 10 p.m. next Friday and 5 to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday on Smoky Hills Public Television.

# Art for auction to be displayed

A watercolor by Elwyn Vatcher, who works at Goodland's McClure Plumbing, is among items to be featured in a special public reception from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Goodland Elks Lodge.

They will highlight Smoky Hills Public Television's Signature Auction planned for April 18-20 at the Mall in Hays.

The reception Saturday coincides with the Carnegie Art Center's annual dinner theatre presentation, "Lights, Action, Kansas," with shows on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

The selected auction items will be on display at the Elks through Monday night, including Vatcher's watercolor entitled "Dried Sunflowers."

The Signature Auction will be

broadcast live from 7 to 10 p.m. next Friday and 5 to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday on Smoky Hills Public Television.

One of the nearly 300 auction items will be a basketball autographed by the National Champion University of Kansas Jayhawks. The auction will have about 230 items in the on-air portion, and about 60 in the station's first online auction, said co-ordinator Tricia Flax. All proceeds go to the non-profit station.

"The Signature Auction features fine art, antiques, furniture, jewelry, travel packages, and other unique and interesting items," Flax said.

Details, including a photo gallery on most of the auction items, are available on the station's web site, www.shptv.org.

# correction

An accident report on Page 11 of the April 4 edition of *The Goodland Star-News* incorrectly stated that a 2007 Dodge driven by Whitney J. Charmichael was pulling through a parking stall at 4:42 p.m. on March 24 at 2160 Commerce Rd. when it was hit on the driver's side by a 1989 Ford driven by Ned Wolbach.

In fact, Goodland Police said, Wolbach's car was parked when it was hit on the driver's side by a shopping cart. The cart had been struck by a car driven by Whitney

J. Miller. The police report listed Miller's name as Charmichael, her maiden name. The incorrect description on the accident was a reporting error.

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*The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call (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.*

# County to test cardboard baling, recycling

Sherman County commissioners agreed Tuesday to rent a "walking-floor" semitrailer to begin a test of baling and recycling cardboard at the county transfer station to keep it out of the landfill.

Public Works Manager Curt Way said he had talked to Wilkens Truck & Trailer and they have one for rent at \$2,000 a month plus a \$1,000 damage deposit.

The trailer will be used to collect the cardboard until there is enough to run through the baler.

The trailer will be filled from the top by shoving the cardboard into it. When the trailer is full, it will be pulled out and brought up to the front of the building and with the walking floor the

cardboard will be moved from the trailer to the conveyor belt of the baler.

The commissioners met with the Sherman County Solid Waste Committee on April 3 about working with Chuck Redlin of In the Can, the county's collection contractor, to begin cardboard recycling.

At that meeting, everyone agreed to give the recycling at least a one-month trial to see how much cardboard would be collected.

Redlin said he could have dumpsters to collect cardboard placed in the business district in the next few weeks.

Tuesday, the commissioners agreed to go ahead with the test starting in the first part of May.

Way said he had talked to a company that might be interested in buying bales of cardboard, as they have trucks going through here.

"If we are going to do this, I would like to see the committee members and commissioners out

at the transfer station when it is baled," Commissioner Chuck Thomas said.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said that sounded like a good idea, and that after a month Redlin should have his figures together about what it is costing.

# student of the week



**Name:** Heidi Yonkey  
**Parents:** Gary & Miriam Yonkey  
**Grade:** 12  
**Age:** 18

**We've nominated this student because:** she is the type of student who is a joy to have in class. She has a desire to learn and values her opportunity to receive an education. She is self-motivated and hard working. Heidi is also enjoyable to be around and a good role model for her fellow students.

**Student Comment:** My favorite subject right now is Yearbook. I will always remember my senior year of golf, Snowball my senior year, and

the unforgettable times with my friends and teachers.

**Activities involved in at school:** Golf, GAA, basketball statistician, NHS, FCCLA, Science Olympiad, 4-H, Luther League, and piano

**My choice of movies, books, and games:** My favorite movies are High School Musical and Coach Carter. My favorite genres of music are country and pop. I like any games but my favorite sports are golf and basketball.

**After I leave Goodland High School I intend to ...:** go to college and major in something concerning the medical field.

**And 10 years from now, I think I'll be ...:** married, enjoying my career, and maybe starting a family. But who really knows??

**Favorite Quote:** "Whatever you do you need courage. Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you that you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising, that tempt you to believe your critics are right." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

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