

## County to pick wonders

By Sharon Corcoran

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Get ready to nominate your favorite sites around Sherman County and vote for the county's 8 Wonders.

The Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau voted to spend \$500 to sponsor the promotion at its meeting Tuesday, splitting the \$1,000 cost with Sherman County Economic Development.

The Goodland Star-News and The Hays Daily News will do the program, which will be advertised in the Goodland paper, and on the Hays paper's web site.

Nominations will be taken for two weeks, said Star-News Editor Tom Betz, and then the Top 16 will be picked. Pictures and information on the 16 sites will be on-line and in the Goodland paper, he said, and votes to narrow it down to eight will be taken another two weeks. People can vote on-line or bring it into the news office, he said.

Once voting closes, Betz said, the ballots will be counted and a brochure made up that will be distributed from the paper office, the visitors bureau, economic development and the state Travel Information Center west of town. The wonders will also be featured in the newspapers, he said.

The selection will start once the \$1,000 sponsorship is paid, he said, which will probably be late August or early September, and will continue into October.

The Economic Development Council at first said they would approve paying half if the visitors bureau would pay the other half, Betz said, but then decided they would pay the full amount if the bureau didn't want to do it.

Donna Price, visitors bureau director, explained the program to board members and passed around a brochure that was printed for WaKeeney's 8 Wonders of Trego County.

"We would have our names on the brochure as sponsors," she said, adding they would also get 1,000 brochures to distribute. Price said she would ask if she could get 5,000.

The newspaper will sell advertising for the back of the brochure, she said, and handle the web site and marketing, including advertising in the paper.

This will foster pride in the county, she said, and help people see the importance of the things that are nominated as wonders.

"I think people aren't aware of what there is here," said Helen Dobbs, office manager for economic development. "I grew up in Wallace County and didn't go to Mount Sunflower until I was an adult. I didn't go to Pike's Peak until I left that area."

## corrections

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.

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# Is there a monster in your closet?

By Sharon Corcoran

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Some kids shake in terror thinking there are monsters in their closet, but what would happen if they found out there really was a monster, only it was more afraid of kids than kids are of monsters?

Find out at the all-kids theater production of "Monster in the Closet" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, or 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24, at the Goodland High School auditorium. Admission is by donation.

Nineteen kids between third and eighth grade who make up the cast of this year's Little City Theater Productions play have been rehearsing with directors Tina Goodwin and Jessica Cole since mid-June.

The show features Raquel Tom-sic as Emily, who has a big problem, Goodwin said. Not only was she sent to bed just as she reached the highest level of her new video game, but there's a monster in her closet.

It's not just her imagination — her friend Stephanie (Brace-lin Redlin) saw it, too. After the teasing from her brother and his friends, Emily and Stephanie recruit some of their own friends to help capture the monster.

What they don't know is that Murray (Holton Witman), the closet monster, doesn't mean any harm — he only wants to play Emily's new video game. He's too scared of kids to even think about trying to frighten the kids.

Murray's boss, the Dream Queen (Milan Brannick), has heard he is goofing off on the job, and now Murray is on probation. Murray's supervisor, fellow monster Wanda (Trace Waugh), is not happy with him either.

What will happen when Emily has all her friends over for a sleep-over to try to capture Murray?



Toady (Grace Cole), middle, took notes as the Dream Queen (Milan Brannick) told Murray (Holton Witman), a closet monster, he was being reassigned and the sleeping girls were going to forget they even saw him as the members of the Little City Theater

Even with Emily's friend Brain's (Chantel Coates) careful analysis and planning, the girls wind up trapping the Dream Queen and her secretary, Toady (Grace Cole), instead of Murray.

With other entertaining characters like Sandy the Sandman and his dream weavers, Goodwin said, the solution to Emily's monster problem brings humor, a bit of ingenuity and a little magic to this

charming and delightful family show. Others in the cast are Zach Miller (Tom), Brooke Lockhart (Mom), Cienna Brannick (Megan), Ryleigh Paxton (Tara), Savannah

Productions cast practiced "Monster in the Closet" Monday. They will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24, at the Goodland High School auditorium.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Bassett (Kelly), Lauren Espinoza (Mary), Alex Goodwin (Chris), Braxton Redlin (Shelby), Nolan Deeds (Nathan), Kennedy Shelley (Sandman), Tara Pope (Robin) and Baylee Heinrich (Jamie).

## Commission approves tile, carpet for county Bastille

By Tom Betz

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Sherman County commissioners Tuesday approved a bid to put new tile and carpet in the Sherman County Bastille.

Sheriff Kevin Butts said he did not think the carpet or tile had been replaced since the addition was built in 1972.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure made the motion to go with the low bid from Wane's Carpet for \$7,389.

Butts asked if he could split the work and have one do the tile and one do the carpet.

Rasure said it did not appear that was an option in the bids, and that it would not be fair to those who bid to split the work at this point.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas seconded the motion to approve the low bid, and it passed unanimously.

Butts said he did not think about having the companies bid on the projects in a way they could have been split.

The other bids were from Elliott's for \$8,592 and Miller's Home Furnishing \$8,192.

Butts said the entry way would be ceramic tile, and of a color to resist the heat of the sun.

Thomas said he had looked at the carpet and agreed it was in bad shape.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked where the money would come from and County Clerk Janet Rumpel said it would come out of the courthouse budget.

"Have you picked a color," Thomas asked.

"Yes," Butts said, "I picked one, it is a bit darker than what we have."

Butts asked if the commissioners wanted to see the sample.

Tiede said that was OK he did not

want to get into the color question again as they had gone through that for the new carpet for the offices in the courthouse.

With the carpet decision made Butts brought up putting a roof on the sall port because the concrete is getting bad and cracking.

The sall port is an enclosed area with a door that can be used to bring prisoners into the jail with more security to reduce the risk of escapes Butts said.

He said he had called three contractors and that one had come and given him a bid, but he has not heard from the other two.

Tiede told Butts to get at least one more bid and then come back to the commissioners.

Butts said he thought the area was originally supposed to have a roof, but when it was built it was left open. It is used as an exercise area

for prisoners.

Butts said he was asking the contractors to put skylights in to give natural light and would not add more lights. He said the area would not be heated.

Rasure asked if the roof of the jail was still leaking.

Butts said it has not since Randy Topliff came to fix the roof.

He said there is a plumbing problem in the front cells where the floor drains and toilets are not lined up

where they are supposed to be. He said they are plugging up and have to call a plumber. He said fixing that would require the floor to be taken out and the drains adjusted to the proper location.

A last item Butts said he had a six month employee evaluation, and asked the commissioners to review it. The commissioners unanimously agreed to raise Brent McQuitty from \$10 an hour to \$10.50 and hour for a 5 percent raise.

## matters of record

### District Traffic

The following fines have been paid in the Sherman County District Court:

June 25: Aaron D. Graham, 25, Fort Collins, Colo., \$144 for speeding, 88/70.

Taffelyn T. McFadden, 46, Acampo, Calif., \$228 for speeding, 98/70.

June 26: Anthony L. Adams, 49, South Daytona, Fla., \$166 for

violating motor carrier safety rules and regulations, not paying United Carrier fees.

Parker, Colo., \$154 for speeding, 90/76.

David Barnes, 29, Goodland, \$126 for improper parking.

Catherine M. Almquist, 40,

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