

Hospital board hears updates on pharmacy

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Regional Medical Center board heard an update on proposed in-house pharmacy benefits for employees at its monthly meeting Monday.

The plan would allow employees to pick up medications at the hospital's pharmacy, providing a convenience for them, said Human Resources Director Dale Schields, and would save the employees money.

Administrators also hoped the hospital would save money with the plan, he said, and could generate additional income for the hospital pharmacy.

The hospital has offered pharmacy insurance coverage to employees who have medical insurance, with the employee paying 50 percent of the cost of medication and the plan paying the other 50 percent.

The pharmacy is a major cost of the plan, Schields said, costing the hospital \$35,473 in 2002.

The administration hoped an in-house pharmacy plan would save the hospital and the employees money, Schields said, but that may only be half of the story. He said the plan will save employees money.

"It may cost us more this way," he said. "We wanted to do this to save money."

The employees would love it, Schields said, because they would be paying less for prescriptions. The hospital considered a plan that would charge a \$10 co-pay for a generic item and \$25 for a brand name item, he said, with the co-pays to be adjusted to whatever level the hospital might desire.

But with such low co-pays, he said, the plan may cost the hospital more than the current plan. The hospital will need to do more research, Schields said, because the current

proposal leaves a question unanswered.

"Can we structure it so we reduce the cost of the plan," Schields asked, "and reduce employee expenses enough to be attractive?"

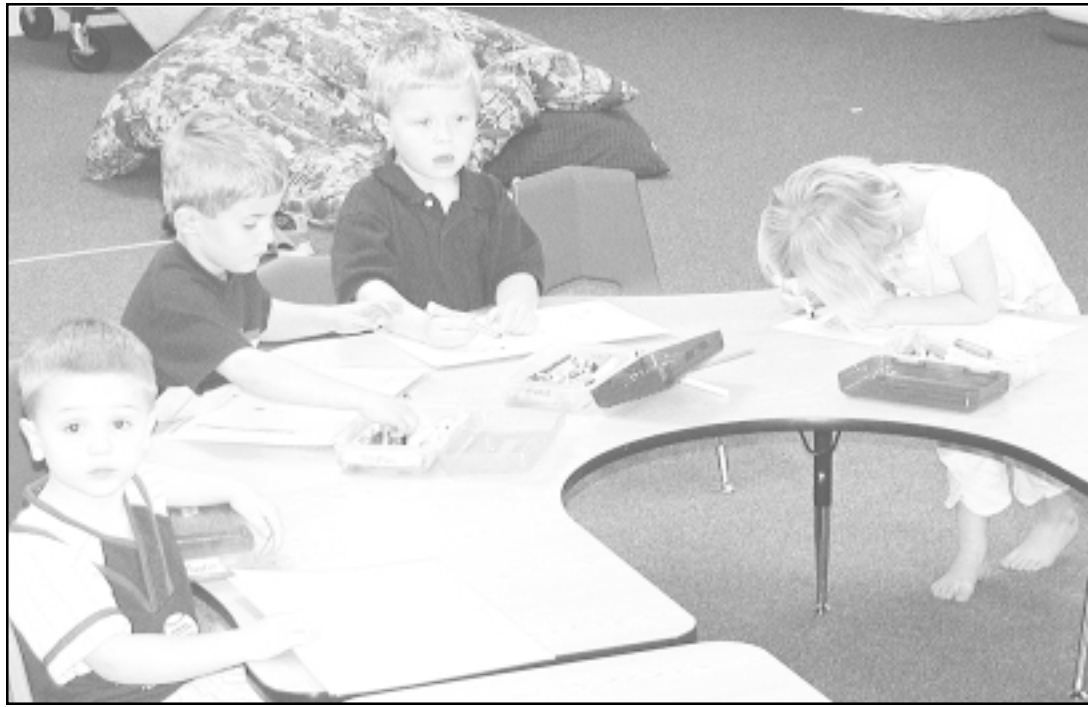
Because of the costs and other issues, Schields said, the hospital will need to do considerable planning in order to offer the service.

Other issues for the hospital include documentation to track pharmacy transactions by employees and deciding who will bill the outside claims processor.

Schields said Pharmacist Pat McCullough has some reservations about the plan as well, namely that it may cost the pharmacy discounts from existing suppliers, will likely require additional software to handle the transactions and additional staff in the pharmacy.

Having on hand all the drugs that might be requested by employees is a concern.

Coloring the world



Children at the Western Childcare Center at St. Paul's Episcopal Church colored posters this week to be placed in windows on Main next week for the Week of the Young Child. Austin Neufeld, 3; Tristan Cooper, 5; Evan Peter, 3; and Mackenzie Minner, 3, were busy Wednesday afternoon. The City Commission will sign a proclamation Monday for the National Association for the Education of Young Children and Smart Start of Northwest Kansas. Part of the activities will be cards sent home to parents encouraging them to read to their children.

Photo by Bill Wagoner / The Goodland Star-News

Busts, fountains and more



Janet Warren, Lloyd Holbrook and Linda Koons (below) talked and enjoyed refreshments at the 90th anniversary celebration of the Carnegie Library building Monday. A bust of Goodland High School graduate Lacey Brenner (left) and a fountain (above) are among the sculptures by Norbert Ohmacht of Burlington on display at the Carnegie Arts Center until next Friday.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Star-News



Interpreter presents 'Dirty Thirties'

Nolan Sump, a living history interpreter, will portray a Kansas farmer in the "Dirty Thirties" Dust Bowl era at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the Goodland Public Library.

The free performance is sponsored by the High Plains Museum and the Sherman County Historical Society.

Refreshments will be served. Sump, an agricultural history in-

terpreter, will portray Hank Emerson, who came to Morton County in 1929 to strike it rich in wheat.

The audience can share Emerson's troubles as he tried to eke out a living facing the "black blizzards" with grim determination.

Emerson was one of millions who experienced hardship in the 1930s.

Sump said he has enjoyed doing the research to accurately portray him and other characters.

"I like what I do," he said, "and after the work and research I put into creating accurate characters, I know I'm going to give a solid performance."

Sump lives in Salina and works for the Smoky Hill Education Service Center.

Vote low in Brewster, Colby area

By Michelle L. Hawkins
Colby Free Press

Thomas County Clerk Tracey Perkins said that 24 percent of the registered voters marked ballots in Tuesday's election, 1,254 ballots cast out of the 5,286 on the rolls.

For the Brewster School Board, there were five openings. Two of the positions had no declared candidates, while candidates for the other three ran unopposed. Don Allen in position 2 had 130 votes, while Stephen Bear in position 3 had 147, and Bonnie Holm for the at-large position 7 had 141 votes.

In the race for three vacancies on the Colby Community College Board, incumbent Don Kready was reelected with 630 votes. Incumbent Ken Poland didn't make the cut receiving 411. Newcomers Larry McDonald and Larry Arehart won seats with 612 and 605 votes respectively. The other two candidates, Lon Frahm and Mark Schwarz, posted 450 and 412 votes.

In the races for Colby City Council, incumbents Ken Bieber and Todd Barrows ran uncontested in Wards I and IV. Beiber and Barrows both picked up 138 votes. In Ward II, newcomers Beverly Eicher and Tom Rundel clashed, with Eicher winning the seat 120-56. The other contested race, in Ward III, was between newcomers Jim Brown and Monti Montgomery. Brown won 155-57.

Brewster City Council had two openings and both candidates, Ron Ribordy and Gene Schoenberger,

ran unopposed. Ribordy tallied 70 votes, while Schoenberger had 73.

There were five openings for the Gem City Council, but only two candidates. Danny Carmen received 9 votes and Carl Miller 15.

In Rexford, the five open slots on the City Council will be filled by the five candidates who ran unopposed. Mark Basgall, Michael Johnson, Gidget Mosier, Vernon Vance and David Williams. Basgall and Vance both finished with 26 votes, Johnson had 24 votes, Mosier 23 votes and Williams 27.

Menlo had five openings on the council, but there were no candidates.

In the races, all were uncontested. Mike Baughn will remain mayor of Brewster with 86 votes, Warren Hixson will remain mayor of Colby with 665, Brent Ginther won in Menlo with 14 votes and William Dible won in Rexford with 18. Gem had no declared candidate for mayor.

Rexford, Colby and Brewster all had slots open on their school boards. In Rexford, there was one contested race. In position 1, David Gould picked up 17 votes while

Mark Miller received 52. The uncontested races were Jay Todd for position 2 64 votes, LeRoy Spresser for position 3 with 54 votes and Paul Bruggeman in the at-large position 57.

There were four openings on the Colby School Board and four candidates ran unopposed. Dewey Augustine captured most votes with 799, incumbent Stan Molstad received 667, Joel Powell 599 and Kevan Taylor 577.

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AT THE MOVIES

The
Goodland Star-News

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Jerry Winter

You receive two free passes to see

Jungle Book 2
G

Sherman
1203 MAIN - Phone 899-6103
Present Ticket at Box Office
Tickets are Non-Transferable

Another
FUN
BANE AUCTION
Conrad Graybill Estate
Saturday, April 5th • 9 a.m. MST
VFW Hall, 824 Main, Goodland, Kansas

NOTE: Lots of items in storage so this is a partial list only. The hall will be full again so we are starting early. Plan on spending the day at another fun auction where everyone has "Satisfaction at the sound of the gavel." Lunch served by the VFW Auxiliary.

PERFORMANCE
TESTED BULL SALE
Monday, April 14th
1:30 p.m.

Sponsored by:
Colby Community College

SELLING APPROXIMATELY THE TOP THREE-FOURTHS OF EACH BREED OF BULL ON TEST.

Bulls on test include:
• Angus • Charolais
• Red Angus • Composite

Location:
Colby Community College Farm, Colby, KS - 4 mi. east on Hwy. 24 and 1 mile north

For more information, contact: Dr. Harlan Thyfault, Director of Beef Production, Colby Community College, 785-462-3984, Ext. 256



FURNITURE
Thomas organ, Queen size hide-a-bed sofa and matching love seat, nice blond dining room table with 8 chairs, kitchen table with 4 chairs, sofa, several recliners and rockers, coffee and end tables, chest and dresser, bedroom set with double bed and chest, full size 4-poster bed frame, night stands, sewing machine, 4 wood parlor chairs, desk, console TV, console stereo, portable stereo, VCR's, book shelves, GE upright freezer, washer and dryer, microwave, card table with chairs, desk chair.

MISCELLANEOUS
Pool table with table tennis top, computer and software, complete line of kitchen items, pots and pans, dishes, silver-

ware, glassware, boxes of brass figurines, craft supplies, sheets and blankets, books, exercise bike, floor lamps, brass lamps, wall mirrors, 3 Halogen lamps, knick knock shelf, 2 storm doors, wooden storage cabinet, boxes of hand tools, smoker/BBQ grill, outdoor table and bench, glider rocker, woman's bicycle, riding lawn mower, wheelbarrow 5th wheel hitch, 5 gallon interior paint, workmate workbench, small table saw.

ANTIQUES
2 waterfall bedroom sets, 1 and 3 gallon Redwing crocks, crock butter churn, oak rocker with leather seat, secretary desk, wall stand, double wash tubs, straight razors, wheelchair, light covers, wardrobe, mangle, light fixtures, knives, Philco TV, ice tongs.

Partial List Only. Lots more items as we unbox everything.

For more information contact Bane Auction and Homestead Realty, 1023 Main, Goodland Kan. Maynard Bane 785-899-2078 or 899-4385 or Terry Richardson 785-899-2328, 899-3093, or 800-974-2426.