

# Buffalo on display



The High Plains Museum, 1717 Cherry, recently received a donation that was added at the sod house. Dale Goodland of Bankwest of Goodland donated a full mounted buffalo that was in the office area of the old Buffalo Inn. The buffalo was purchased from Ken Klemm of the Buffalo Guys by Bob Hildreth, who at the time ran the motel. The mount is 5 1/2 feet tall, 2 feet 9 inches wide and 7 1/2 feet long. It is on a rolling stand. Director Linda Holton said they were pleased with the new acquisition and had to work at finding a place for the buffalo. The museum had Dependable Glass install a plexiglass screen in front to prevent people from touching the mount.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

# Water project moving toward completion

By Tom Betz

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The water lines are all installed, but not all in full use yet, city commissioners heard at their meeting on Monday, and the treatment plant is waiting on contractors to be finished.

City Manager Doug Gerber said he thought the water improvement project was doing well and said engineer Darin Neufeld from Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, was present if the commissioners had any questions.

Neufeld said the water tank crew was in town last week and will be coming back to check the tanks for leaks.

Rich Simon, public works director, said the main line is installed all across town on 10th Street. He said there are four tie-ins to do yet, and the city can't do those until they are ready to abandon the old lines. He said the last portion of the main has

to be cleaned and tested before the final sections can be tied in and the house water taps completed.

Neufeld said the treatment plant is going well but they are waiting on contractors. He said they hope to get power in next week, and that was not a city electrical problem.

As part of the consent agenda the commissioners approved a change order on the water line section of the project with Van Kirk Brothers of Sutton, Neb. The change order decreases the cost of the water line portion of the project by \$56,477 to \$2,428,089.

Gerber said the reduction in cost was because the water lines to the waste water ponds did not have to be put in out to the industrial park, and that saved about \$56,000.

The change order extended the days for the project from 365 to 425. Gerber said that extension was because the city wanted to get the work done on Caldwell Ave., and

they gave Van Kirk additional days to complete the total project to get their crew to move over and do the work on Caldwell.

In the consent agenda the commissioners agreed to reappoint Esther Beard to another term on the Goodland Housing Authority Board.

Gerber said an airport advisory board meeting was held last week and the board laid out the priorities for the next five years to be sent to the Federal Aviation Administration.

Included in the future plans are phase 4 of the replacement of asphalt with six-inch concrete for next year; extension of the north-south runway to 7,500 feet to accommodate larger jet aircraft for 2013; acquiring snow removal equipment for 2014; extending taxiway A 2016; and reconstructing the crosswinds runway for 2016. Each of these projects would be on a 95

percent federal money and 5 percent city match.

Gerber said he was to attend a statewide kick-off for the Take Charge Challenge program on Tuesday in Topeka. He said on Wednesday it was an interesting event. Goodland is in competition with Colby, Oakley, WaKeeney and Hoxie to save energy over the next nine months with the city that scores the best winning \$100,000 to be used toward electrical improvements in that city.

Goodland will kick off the Take Charge Challenge as part of the Take Charge of Your Health, Energy Health Fair on Saturday, Jan. 29 at the Northwest Tech College Student Union.

Gerber said the city has been invited to participate in the Sherman County Emergency Management mitigation plan. A public meeting on the plan was to be held on Wednesday evening.

He said the Federal Emergency Management Administration was requiring every county to develop an emergency plan, and the city was being invited to be part of the county planning process.

Dustin Bedore, acting superintendent of the electrical distribution crew, said Charlie Bandel had been looking at the lights at the exits and had fixed some before he retired on Friday. Bedore said some of the fixtures have burned out and wanted to know what the city wanted to do about these.

Gerber said the exits look better, but felt the city would go on a holding pattern until the new lights come out when the state does the rebuild on I-70 in the next few years.

Gerber said the city handed out 544 free animal tags on Monday.

Michael Solomon, city economic development director, was introduced and said he was glad to be in Goodland for his first day on

the job.

Commissioner Dave Daniels said he felt Bandel sort of snuck out of town, but wanted to thank him for his 38 years of service.

He welcomed Solomon, and asked Gerber to put televising the meetings on an upcoming agenda.

Gerber said he would do so. Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said she had met Solomon earlier and was glad to have him in Goodland.

Mayor Josh Dechant welcomed Solomon to the city staff. He asked if Solomon was married and Solomon said he was married and has two daughters who will be moving to Goodland as soon as the house sells in Lowell, Ark.

Dechant thanked the four city commission candidates to showing up to the meeting.

The next city meeting will be 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 7.

## 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.

# Roll up your sleeve with the Red Cross

Attention guys and gals! Strap on your blue suede shoes and put on your best poodle skirts. It's time to Rock and Roll Up Your Sleeve with the American Red Cross and Elvis Presley Enterprises.

January and February are tough months for blood collections, as cold weather, snow and ice are often

to blame for blood drive cancellations. However, hospital patients in your community are counting on volunteer blood donors.

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T-shirt. Donors are eligible to win one of the following prizes during the "Ultimate Elvis Sweepstakes:"

Your next opportunity to donate is from noon to 6 p.m. at the Goodland Community blood drive on Tues-

day, Jan. 25, at Methodist Church located on 12th and Sherman.

You may now schedule blood donation appointments online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

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