

Bonnie State Lake open for summer

By Vickie Schleppe

Bonny Lake State Park
Welcome summer!

It has been a busy start of the summer season at Bonny Lake State Park. Campgrounds were full for the Memorial Day weekend with lots of boats and fishermen on the lake.

There have been a lot of questions about the park for this season. Currently, the plan is to operate the lake like last year with trailer-launched boating available until Labor Day.

Wagon Wheel and part of Foster Grove campground will again be available for camping. The Off-Highway Vehicle area in North Cove with its several miles of trails is open. Upper management is currently discussing turning the park into a state wildlife area after the summer, due to the anticipated lowering of the lake in the fall.

Activities this summer will include the Fourth Annual Dutch Oven and Chile Cook-off on Saturday, June 18. Entries are still open. Anyone who enjoys cooking with Dutchovens is welcome to enter and have fun with fellow Dutch oven enthusiasts. There are no entry fees (other than a park pass) and first, second, and third prizes will be awarded. For more information call the Park office at (970) 354-7306.

Businesses and people who are helping to sponsor the awards for this event are: Flatlanders RV Club, Joe's Garage, Outback Fuel and Feed, Colorado Federal Agency, Farmers New Holland, Ken Viken Insurance, Wray State Bank, Colo. Beef Council, Yuma Co. Cattlemen and Cattlewomen, and Burlington Home Center. We thank these people for their support.

CURRENT CONDITIONS: The Visitor Center is now open seven days a week, generally 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and later on weekends. Self-service permits are available at all entrances and the ranger on duty can be contacted for annual passes and boating/OHV registrations. Passports can be stamped by accessing a box underneath the satellite dish west of the Visitor Center.

WATER LEVEL AND BOAT RAMP: Lake elevation is 3655 or

14,500 acre/ft and slowly rising. About a foot and a half higher than last year at this time. Anticipating levels to stay up until Labor Day. At the boat ramp the current depth is 4 to 5 feet and all boats are able to launch. A part-time ANS inspection station started operating in late May.

FISHING: Fishing for all species is good. Water temp is around 62 degrees during the day. A good number of decent-size white bass have been taken off the face of the dam with crankbaits (bass lures), shrimp and jigs. A good number of walleyes are being taken on nightcrawlers and crankbaits. A few catfish have been caught on typical baits. Division of Wildlife has approved the emergency fishing regulations.

There is no daily bag, possession or size limits on any game fish. Any taking over the bag or possession limit requires a form to be filled out when leaving the lake. Forms are available at the Visitor Center, Foster Grove and the northeast corner of the dam on self-serve signs.

BOATING: Lake is open for the summer to boating. Due to staffing reductions, boats can not be launched or operated at night on weekday nights (Sunday through Thursday). Current plan is to operate the park and the lake the same as last year with trailer launched boating available until Labor Day.

Off-road vehicle area has reopened. Off-road vehicles are not allowed to ride anywhere else other than the North Cove designated area. Registrations available from ranger or Visitor Center when open.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS: Fires allowed only in Wagon Wheel and Foster Grove campgrounds inside designated fire rings. No fires anywhere else. Propane grills and stoves are okay.

CAMPING: Wagon Wheel campground is open and all sites have electric. The cost is \$20 per night. Wagon Wheel flush shower building and dump station open. Recommend reservations for weekends. Foster Grove campground is first come/first served with both electric (\$20) and non-electric (\$16) sites available and the shower building has opened.



MOPS plant flower plot

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) have been working on the flower plot on the southeast corner of Gulick Park with some special additions. First Nate Emig and Jon Yost placed walk stones along the top of the mound to give kids a place to run. They were helped by Carter Yost and Jackson Emig when this part was completed on Saturday, May 21. On Sunday Lindsay Emig, Kris Yost, Allison Blake and Wendy Ryan gathered to plant the several hundred flowers around the two sides. The flower plot includes special handprint molds made by the MOPS children.

Photos by Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News



Hospital gets better ratings from patients

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who were admitted to a hospital.

Gaydusek said the patients are asked when the staff person can call to make it easier on them.

Hooker said last year the percent who felt their care was OK or poor was 10 percent and has dropped to six percent for the first quarter.

She said another report of those returning to the emergency room in 72 hours was less than an average of one, and was a total of five patients in the quarter. She said the improvement shows the nurses are doing a good job educating the patients about what they need and the physician assistants and nurse practitioners are dealing with the patient's trauma or illness.

She said the decrease in return visits may be part of the follow-up calls process where the nurse opens the line of communication and the patient can get more questions answered rather than coming back to the emergency room.

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She said on patient safety measures, one patient had an infection in 100 days. She said five percent is the national average, and the hospital's was three percent for the quarter. She said January was zero and March was zero, but one patient was in February to give the hospital three percent for the quarter.

An important area where the staff has taken action is dealing with patient falls, she said. The staff, with the help of Brenda Hays and Mary Ann Elliott, helped train the nurses and implement the Falling Star program. The program educates all employees and professional staff to help keep patients from falling. The program was implemented in March and Hooker said there were no falls in April.

She said the Falling Star program is something the nurses implement when the patient first arrives. They

are evaluated for potential for falling and each person who works with the person helps keep the patient from falling.

Hooker said the hospital is at 100 percent on the pneumonia measures. The main one is that the first treatment for a patient with pneumonia is to start within six hours no matter whether they are seen first in the clinic or the emergency room.

"This did not come easy," she said, "but nursing has been working hard to get all these measures done for each patient. It is a team effort."

McCants said it was great to see the improved numbers. These kind of numbers do show we care, she said.

"Anytime you see improvement,

it is a good team effort," she said.

Under the risk management report, Elliott said there were 13 falls in the first quarter, and was pleased with the way the staff is taking to the Falling Star program to help prevent falls.

"With the Falling Star training the patients are assessed when admitted and that helps risk management," she said. "You manage your next risk."

The hospital board approved sending a letter to the Sherman County Commissioners about transferring the ambulance service to the county at the end of the contract on Aug. 31. The letter was to say the hospital would work for a smooth transition.

Officials frustrated over county project delays

COUNTY, from Page 1

in Topeka so commissioners have more information to work with before tackling the question. Currently the landfill is not accepting big tarps or bags.

Vandiver said the hunt for new sources of gravel would be taken up in the fall, and he presented the board with a letter he had received complimenting the county on the condition of its roads. The commissioners indicated fan letters were always welcome.

A letter from Kimberly Allaman gave two week's notice to the commissioners. A notice will be published for an opening in Weed Control and other work.

County Sheriff Kevin Butts visited with the commissioners regarding a new impound lot approximately 100 sq. ft. in size. A motion was unanimously passed by the commissioners to dedicate the lot by the county shop east of K-27, recently vacated by Rocky Mountain Chip-seal equipment, to use as an impound lot. Butts said he already had some used fencing to enclose it.

A proposal letter was received from Eric Albright for a transfer station database computer program. Because the station scale was too old to handle a tie-in to the computer, some data would still have to be keyed in by hand. Adding in the proposed program with a new printer would cost a total of \$2,600 and the system would still be obsolete, Enfield pointed out. Commissioner Linin volunteered to investigate further options to upgrading the transfer station data system.

In other business, the commissioners again went into brief executive session to discuss personnel matters; requested the road and bridge department deliver fuel tickets for 2010 to the commissioners' office Tuesday afternoon; unanimously approved a motion for Enfield to sign a child care licensing program with a \$2,000 grant attached on behalf of the Sherman County Health Department; and approved a fairgrounds lease agreement with Ken Klemm for June 14, once it had been determined there was no scheduling conflict with the Sherman County Wheat Tour which

will be using the 4H Building on that same evening.

Winding up the meeting, commissioners reviewed changes in the tax rolls and noted there was no current news from District Attorney Bonnie Selby regarding a potential lawsuit from Rocky Mountain Chip-seal.

After review by Enfield and Linin, bills amounting to \$125,630 were approved to be paid.

Commissioners Enfield and Linin also moved the time of the next County Commissioners' meeting to 8 a.m., on Tuesday. Evening meetings had not proved popular with Sherman County citizens, the commissioners noted, as their evening meetings had been totally unattended.

Tuesday's meeting adjourned shortly before 10 a.m.

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SON ROCK KIDS CAMP

WHERE KIDS BUILD THEIR LIVES ON THE ROCK: JESUS!

Harvest Evangelical Free Church in Goodland will be having vacation bible school (for kids 3 yrs. through 5th grade) from June 20 through the 24th, from 9-11:30 a.m. MT. Join us for a week of fun at "Son Rock Kids Camp" VBS at 521 E. Hwy. 24 in Goodland. For information call the church at (785) 890-6423 or Brandi Jones at (785) 821-3546.

UNRESERVED LAND AUCTION

820 Acres Irrigated, Dryland & CRP
Wallace County, Kansas
Wednesday, June 8, 2011
10:00 AM, MST
Elk's Club—Goodland, KS

Land Location: 16.7 Miles South of Kanorado on Road SH3.

This land will be offered in 4 individual tracts & combinations of tracts.

Legal Descriptions

Tract 1: NW/4 of Sec. 20-11-42

Tract 2: SW/4 of Sec. 20-11-42

Tract 3: E/2 of Sec. 20-11-42

Tract 4: SE/4 of Sec. 17-11-42

Seller:
Ann Marie Rafacz Trust

Listing Agent & Auctioneer
Tom Harrison - 785-443-0136

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