

# Vote for your choice



The Carnegie Arts Center, 12th and Center, invites everyone to come and vote for their favorite photographs for the Annual Flatlander Photography Contest. The 79 photographs on display are grouped in the categories of animals, nature, people, still life and landscape.

People can come into the center as many times as they want and vote for their choice on a daily basis. The winners will be announced after the Flatlander Talent Show at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24.

For questions call 890-6442.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

# Auditor says Sherman County going pretty well

By Tom Betz

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The Sherman County commissioners heard a report Wednesday on the county financial condition from Richard VonFeldt who presented the annual audit and said the county was going pretty well.

He said the county did get a ding in the audit because there was no performance bond on the chip seal project as required by state law. State law requires performance bonds on any project over \$100,000, and the chip seal project was more than \$600,000.

Sherman County is part of a lawsuit in Colorado with Rocky Mountain Chip Seal over the project completed last September. Sherman County commissioners have retained attorneys in Colorado to fight the lawsuit from the Colorado firm who claim the county is in breach of contract.

The Attorney General's office has a KBI agent investigating the chip seal project, and the agent has interviewed many of those involved both in Sherman County and in Colorado.

On the audit VonFeldt said he felt

over all things are in good shape and the books are all in good shape, and he said he feels good about the audit report.

The audit shows the beginning balance for the total county was \$5,026,881 and income was \$9,021,612, expenditures \$8,933,204 leaving an ending balance of \$5,115,319 plus encumbered and accounts payable of \$87,256 is a total ending balance of \$5,202,575.

This is an increase of \$175,694 from the previous year he said. VonFeldt said the income and expendi-

tures of the county departments stay about the same.

He said the total financial picture shows the total cash for the county at \$11,494,177, but said other agency funds being held by the county are \$6,291,601, leaving the available cash balance of \$5,202,575.

The General Fund, however, showed a decrease of \$168,335 in the ending balance for last year. The beginning balance was \$535,469 with income of \$1,672,952 and expenditures of \$1,869,365, and with encumbered and accounts payable \$28,048, the ending balance was

\$367,134. The expenditures in the general fund were \$254,867 under the budget of \$2,124,232.

The county road and bridge fund is the largest with a budget of \$1,818,100 for last year and the expenditures were under budget by \$246,736, at \$1,571,364.

Commissioner Cynthia Strnad asked VonFeldt if there was anything the commissioners need to change in the accounting systems.

"I don't see anything," VonFeldt said. "I feel it is going pretty well."

He said after the commissioners approve the audit he would send it

to the state.

Commissioner Larry Enfield asked VonFeldt how Sherman County compared with other counties.

"I would say you are about the same as the other counties we have seen," VonFeldt said.

Strnad said she felt the county needs a tax sale and suggested starting by sending a letter to the county attorney about doing a tax sale.

A copy of the audit is available for public review in the county clerk's office.

## College group plans memorial service

Sunday is the 10th anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and the Northwest Tech Veterans Association will hold a memorial service at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday at the flagpole in front of the Derrick Lutters Armory.

The memorial will include comments from several guest speakers, as well as a moment of silence to conclude the ceremony.

This event is being put together by current Northwest Tech Respiratory Therapy student Roy Palmer, who is a veteran.

The Technical Veterans Association is a new student organization on the campus of Northwest Kansas Technical College. This organization is made up of student veterans, and students who support the service members in the military.

## Northwest planning gets housing grant

Northwest Kansas Planning and Development received \$100,000 for rental assistance, security and utility deposits in Sherman, Cheyenne, Rawlins, Decatur, Norton, Phillips, Smith, Thomas, Sheridan, Graham, Rooks, Osborne, Wallace, Logan, Gove, Trego, Ellis and Russell Counties.

Ten non-profits and public housing authorities statewide received approximately \$1.1 million in Tenant Based Rental Assistance to help Kansas families obtain safe, affordable housing of their choice. Funded through the federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program and administered by Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, Tenant Based Rental Assistance helps income-eligible households afford rental subsidies, utility deposits and security deposits.

"A home provides a sense of safety and security, enriching the

resident's quality of life and creating strong neighborhoods where Kansas families can grow and share," said Carolyn Rebek, program manager. "This program assists families including those who would otherwise be at risk of homelessness."

Providing up to two years of rental subsidy assistance, the funds help income-eligible households obtain affordable rental housing in their communities. Rental assistance is based on the eligible tenant's selection of a unit from all available rental units in the community that fall within rent guidelines and pass housing quality inspection standards. Households served may include those meeting agency preferences such as single parents, victims of domestic violence, senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Households generally pay no more than 30 percent of their income for rent. Security and

utility deposit assistance may also be available.

Awarded annually, rental assistance grants are based on a community's housing needs, the number of households estimated to be served and the organization's experience in administering rental assistance funding. Public housing authorities and non-profit organizations may apply for grants of up to \$300,000.

For information call Loyce Schamberger at (785) 421-2151.

The others that received money were Bert Nash \$100,000 for the City of Lawrence and Douglas County; Breakthrough Club \$97,176 for the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County Independence Housing Authority \$150,000 for the City of Independence; Manhattan Housing Authority \$90,000 for the City of

Manhattan and Pottawatomie County; Northeast Kansas Planning and Development \$75,000 for Atchison, Brown, Doniphan, Jackson, Jefferson, Nemaha and Marshall Counties; Prairie View Inc. \$70,000 for Harvey, Marion and McPherson Counties; Southeast Kansas Community Action Program \$275,000 for Allen, Bourbon, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Crawford, Elk, Labette, Linn, Montgomery, Neosho, Wilson and Woodson Counties; Southwest Guidance Center \$100,000 for Meade, Haskell, Seward and Stevens Counties; and Wyandot Center for Behavioral Health Care \$65,000 for Kansas City in Wyandotte County

## 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

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For more information/registration contact Tina Goodwin, 785-890-6036

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