

# Cookies, candies yum



Jaxi Mitchek helped her aunt Karen Loudon pick out candy and cookies for her box that she bought at the Goodland Arts Council's annual open house and bake sale on Sunday afternoon. A good crowd showed up to buy goodies, look at art for sale by local artists, eat cookies, drink cider and coffee and listen to Christmas

carols played by the Goodland Recorder Ensemble. The cookies and candies were made by the Arts Council Board. By the end of the day almost all of goodies had found a home.

Photo by Pat Schiefen  
The Goodland Star-News

# College vets to collect Toys for Tots

The Northwest Tech Veteran's Association is hoping people will help with their Toys for Tots drive with drop-off boxes located on campus and around Goodland.

The Technical Veterans Association has five locations for Toys for Tots drop-off. There are two located on the Northwest Tech campus. One box is in the Administration Building and the other is in the Student Union.

Other drop-off boxes are located at the 24/7 Gas Station south of I-70, Millers Home Center and the City of Goodland Office.

Everyone is encouraged to bring their donations, and collection will end at Noon on Friday, Dec. 16.

The mission of the Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

The Technical Veterans Association started the year in full swing this year by electing officers, spearheading charities, and hosting receptions for Patriot's Day and

Veteran's Day.

The student members of Northwest Tech's Veterans Association meet every Tuesday for lunch to discuss future events and fundraisers the organization can participate in.

Officers are President - Roy Palmer in Respiratory Therapy of Atwood, Vice President - Dennis McIntyre in Automotive Technology of Goodland, Treasurer - Brett Palmer in Respiratory Therapy of Atwood, Secretary - Jermain "Jay" Murray in Collision Repair of Goodland and Master at Arms - John Buckner in Welding of Goodland.

The association is affiliated with the National Association of Student Veterans of America, one of 515 student organizations in the country to belong to this organization. Their mission is to provide military veterans with the resources, support, and advocacy needed to succeed in higher education and following graduation.

For more information about Northwest Technical Veteran's Association's Toys for Tots Drive contact roy.palmer@nwktc.edu.

## 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.

**Keep your Christmas on Us tickets for the big drawing on Tuesday, Dec. 20**

# 2010 statistics available from state

The Kansas 2010 Annual Summary of Vital Statistics is now available. This report contains information on births, deaths, marriages, divorces, abortions and stillbirths. It is a valuable tool for public health program evaluation and community health assessment. The Annual Summary has been published in October or November for the past 10 years by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

The most notable change for 2010 was the decrease in the number of infant deaths.

"Though 253 deaths among infants remains unacceptable, it is encouraging that 2010 marks the third consecutive year of lower infant deaths in Kansas," said Robert Moser, state health officer. Fewer infant deaths were reported in 2010 than in any year since vital records were first collected in 1911; though, the infant death rate in the state, at 6.3 per 1,000 live births, is just now approaching the average rate in the U.S. Kansas continues to

see considerable disparity in infant deaths.

Yearly fluctuations in the rankings can be expected, and the 10 leading causes of death were the same in 2010 as they were in 2009. Heart disease, cancer, chronic lower respiratory diseases, cerebrovascular disease (stroke), unintentional injuries, Alzheimer's disease, pneumonia and influenza, diabetes, kidney disease and suicide remain the top killers in Kansas.

One hundred years ago, in 1911, the top killers were heart disease, tuberculosis, kidney disease, violent deaths other than suicide, pneumonia, congenital debility and malformations, diarrhea and enteritis, cerebral hemorrhage and cancer. Overall, chronic diseases account for a substantially higher proportion of deaths today than they did at the beginning of the last century.

Other highlights from 2010 include:

- The average age at death among Kansans in 2010 was 74.1 years.

- The number of deaths to Kansas residents increased 1.8 percent in 2010, rising from 23,997 in 2009 to 24,428, reflecting an overall decline in the state's age-adjusted death rate over the past 20 years. The average is 8.9 percent higher than the estimated U.S. death rate of 7.9 percent per 1,000.

- Kansas resident births (40,439) decreased by 2.3 percent from the 41,338 births in 2009. The number of marriage dissolution (divorces and annulments) in Kansas increased in 2010 to 10,579 from 10,333 in 2009.

- Population density of Kansas was 34.9 in habitants per square mile a 14.4 percent increase. Thirty-six of Kansas' 105 counties had popula-

tion densities of less than six person per square mile. The most densely populated county was Johnson with 1,149 persons per square mile.

Overall, 97,987 vital events either occurred to Kansans (birth, death, stillbirth, abortion) or occurred in Kansas (marriage and marriage dissolution).

The full vital statistics summary report is available at [www.kdheks.gov/hci/annsumm.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/hci/annsumm.html). The tables and charts contained in this report represent only a glimpse of the insight that can be gained from the data reported annually. Persons needing additional data can call (785) 296-8627 or go to [kic.kdhe.state.ks.us/kic/](http://kic.kdhe.state.ks.us/kic/).

## Sherman County Senior Citizens

Mr. Biermann and the USD 352 Board of Education cordially invite you to attend our Holiday Dinner on December 14, 2011 at GHS Gym.

11 a.m.: Entertainment by GHS and GJHS students  
12 noon: Dinner at Goodland High School

The members of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCCLA), National Honor Society (NHS), and G-Club, will service as the hosts and hostesses.

Please RSVP before December 9th by calling 890-5656. If you need transportation, please call. We will also deliver meals to those who are not able to leave their homes.

Enter through the south doors on 13th Street and remember: Valet parking will be available.



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The Goodland Star-News  
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- 08 JD 9770 STS Combine, 1206 Eng Hrs/895 Sep Hrs
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