

activities

Tours of the 1907 Victorian House at 202 W. 13th are from 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Monday. Closed on Tuesday.

The High Plains Museum, 1717 Cherry Ave., is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday through Saturday and from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. Closed Tuesdays.

The Carnegie Arts Center is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday and 1 to 6 p.m. on Monday at 120 W. 12th. The center is always in need of hosts and hostesses on Sundays. New monthly exhibits and you are invited to visit the gift shop.

The Goodland Public Library is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For information call (785) 899-5461 or stop by the library.

The local High Plains Constitutional Society will meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Rock House, 6th and Caldwell, Goodland.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Sherman County is seeking mentors and children to mentor. Call 890-3665.

The Good Sam Family Support Council meets at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of every month at the Goodland Elks Lodge. Meetings are open to all interested people. For information call 890-3117 or 890-5936.

Diabetes Support Group meets at 4 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month in the large board room at Goodland Regional Medical Center. Patients, family and friends meet each month for a speaker and educational program. Call Sarah Linton at 890-6044.

Breast Cancer Support Group meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Monday of the month. Any woman with cancer is welcome. Call Cheryl at 890-5528 for more information.

Cancer Support Group meets at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the Goodland Regional Medical in the large board room. Group open to any cancer patient, survivor, caregiver and family members. Call Tina Goodwin at (785) 890-6036.

The Goodland Activities Center has the following activities. Monday: 5:30 a.m. aerobics with Tena Tompkins and 5 p.m. taekwondo. Tuesday: 5:30 a.m., workout with Grady Bonsall. Wednesday: 5:30 a.m. aerobics with Tena Tompkins, 9:45 a.m. finding fitness class, 4 p.m. taekwondo classes and 5:30 p.m. aerobics with Lisa Malsom. Thursday: 5:30 a.m., workout with Grady Bonsall and 9:45 a.m. finding fitness class. Friday: 5:30 a.m. aerobics with Tena Tompkins and starting at 5 p.m. taekwondo classes. For information call 890-7242.

Weight Watchers meets at 5:30 p.m. for weigh in and 6 p.m. for the meeting every Tuesday at the Right Combination Dance Studio, 902 W. Hwy. 24. For information call (785) 890-3285 or visit rightcombinationdance.com.

Goodland Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. Monday,

the calendar

calendar

Calvary Gospel Church, 402 College, will have a Candlelight service from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Saturday.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 12th and Center, will have its Christmass at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Prairie Land Food sign up will be until Monday, Jan. 16. Distribution is 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Knights of Columbus, 7th and Caldwell. For information call 821-1827, 821-1275, 821-0120 or 728-7196 or order online at www.prairieland-

food.com. The Prairie Pak will have one pound lean ground beef, 7 ounces of beef summer sausage, one pound chicken breast fillets, one pound breaded flounder, 24 ounces of Cajun shrimp alfredo. The specials are breaded boneless chicken wings, pepperoni hot pockets, stuffed pork chops and sirloin steaks.

Tuesday Flicks are at 1:30 p.m. at the Goodland Public Library, 812 Broadway. Call the library for the title of the movie at 899-5461.

school calendar

closed meeting, Wednesday, the book meeting, and Saturday, an open meeting, at 1013 Center. For Alcoholics Anonymous, call Pat T. at 890-3915 or Laura at 821-4277.

Goodland AI-Anon Serenity Seekers group meets at 8 p.m. on Mondays at 1013 Center. Contact Cheryl at (785) 890-3023, Shelly at (785) 890-3915 or Twila at (785) 332-2078 for more information.

Goodland AI-Anon AFG meets at 6 p.m. on Fridays at First Christian Church, 711 Arcade. For information call Alice or Marilyn at 890-5914 or 821-2862.

The Incognito Group. If alcohol has made your life unmanageable and you find yourself powerless. Our group meets at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in Goodland. Talking about it is the first step. Call for our meeting place (303) 905-3817, (785) 728-7022 and (785) 728-2120. Leave a message and number and we will get back to you.

The "Freedom Today" group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Fridays and 8 p.m. on Sundays at 1013 Center. Call 890-8369.

Bird City Alcoholics Anonymous group meets at 6:30 p.m. (Mountain Time) on Fridays at the Senior Center on 4th Street. Narcotics Anonymous meets at 6:30 (Mountain Time) on Tuesdays at the Senior Center. Call (785) 734-2734 for more information.

Stratton "AA by the Book" Alcoholics Anonymous group meets at 7 p.m. Thursdays for a beginners open meeting. Filies and young people welcome. Call (719) 348-5398 for men and (719) 346-8553 for women. On U.S. Highway 24 go to Statton and it is the second house on the left, 513 Lola Street.

Fibromyalgia and Chronic Myofascial Pain Support Group meets from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of every month in the Emergency Medical Services building, 257 15th St., in Burlington. Call Debbie at 719-346-4612.

area events

Prairie Museum of Art and History, 1905 S. Franklin, Colby is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Time Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

thrift store

Anyone wanting to donate to the Goodland Churches Thrift Shop, 1002 Main, should call 890-2007. The store is open 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

health department

The Sherman County Health Department at 1622 Broadway is open from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Blood pressures; infants', children's and adults' immunizations; health assessments for Kan Be Healthy, daycare and school entry; fasting blood sugar and hemoglobin; and family planning available by appointment. Sharps containers are available free. WIC program available. Call 890-4888 or go to www.sherman.kansas.com.

If you have questions, concerns or complaints about child care, call the health department.

Water Testing — The Northwest Local Environmental Protection Group does well evaluations, including testing for bacteria and nitrates. To schedule an evaluation or discuss environmental concerns, call the Health Department at 890-4888.

hospital volunteers

Gift shop hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.; a.m. and p.m. volunteers are in the gift shop. Today: No volunteer. Monday: No volunteer. Tuesday: No volunteer.

early head start

Early Head Start is a state funded program for income eligible families with prenatal mothers and children up to age three. Families participate in a variety of educational activities and receive free medical and dental care.

Services include special needs of children with disabilities. If you have a family member with a special problem, such as drug or alcohol abuse, job loss or other family crisis, your family can qualify. Call 785-672-3125, ext. 187.

preschool

Sherman County Head Start is a free preschool for eligible 3 and 4 year olds. The federally funded program is targeted to families who meet certain economic guidelines and provides hearing, vision, dental

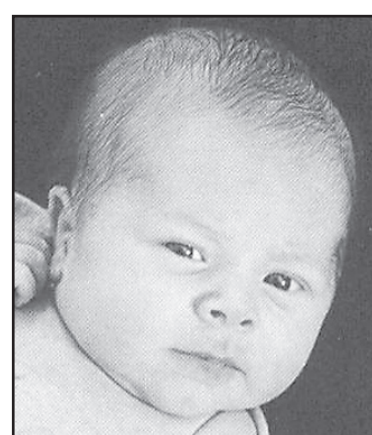
and menu

No school until Tuesday, Jan. 3.

senior menu

Today: closed. Monday: closed. Tuesday: Chicken and noodles, peas, mandarin oranges, bread and cook's choice complement. Wednesday: Chili, gelatin with carrots and pineapple, crackers and cinnamon roll. Thursday: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn, bread and apricots. Friday: Barbecue chicken, spinach salad, baked beans, bread and pears.

Hays couple has new son



Pierce Gabel

Pierce Jaxon Gabel was born on Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2011. He weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 21 inches long.

His parents are Ben and Tatum Gabel of Hays and his grandparents are Rod and Sharmis Blake of Goodland, Steve Schultz of Minden, Neb. and Ronny and Marcia Gabel of Ness City. Great-grandparents include Ruben and Valjean Schultz and Gay Walz, all of St. Francis.

Pierce will be welcomed home by sister Jayslyn.

Prescribed burn workshop offered

Kansas State Research and Extension is teaming up with the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency and the Pawnee County Conservation District to hold a Prescribed Burn Workshop on Tuesday, Jan. 10.

The workshop, designed for anyone interested in conducting a safe prescribed burn, will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Mountain Time) at the J.A. Haas Exhibit Building, 400 E. 18th St., Larned.

Presentations will include reasons for burning; notification, regula-

tions and permits; weather; liability; using a burn contractor and burning assistance; equipment, hazards and fire breaks; and planning and conducting a prescribed burn.

A \$10 fee includes workshop materials and lunch and can be paid at the door. Organizers ask that participants register by Wednesday, Jan. 4, by contacting the Kansas State Research and Extension Pawnee County office at (620) 285-6901 or emailing rwallace@ksu.edu to ensure that enough materials and meals are available.

matters of record

Goodland Police

The following incidents have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

Nov. 9 — 12:12 a.m., 308 Center Ave., arrested Chat Michael Normandin for disorderly conduct, criminal trespass and interference with law enforcement officer. Victims were Valeriano Suficiente Luera III, Kayla Luera and Bradley J. Parker. Case referred to city attorney.

4:06 p.m., 515 E. Fifth, Apt. 112, arrested Justin S. Beckner for criminal trespass and disorderly conduct against Rhonda R. Beckner and Jerry Lynn Kirkpatrick. Case referred to city attorney.

Nov. 10 — 7:38 a.m., 507 E. 13th, Apt. 1, arrested Manuel P. Hernandez for violation of protection order. Case referred to city attorney.

12:33 p.m., 825 W. Business U.S. 24, Apt. C4, Ericka Lynn Sutherland reported domestic battery and disorderly conduct. Case referred to city attorney.

8:20 p.m., 217 W. 12th, Apt. 3, Michael Joseph McLaughlin taken into protective custody. Case referred to city attorney.

9:46 p.m., 2160 Commerce Rd., arrested Matthew Slusher on warrant. Case referred to city attorney.

Nov. 11 — 11:46 p.m., 910 Kansas Ave., Billie J. Knitig reported aggravated assault. Case referred to city attorney.

Nov. 12 — 9:06 p.m., 2160 Commerce Rd., arrested Thomas J. Cox for pedestrian under influence and disorderly conduct. Case referred to city attorney.

Nov. 13 — 12:12 p.m., 1015 Walnut Ave., runaway reported. Case referred to county attorney.

12:27 p.m., 1322 Arcade Ave., Lonnie Whiteker reported criminal damage to property.

12:57 p.m., 1323 Harrison Ave., Roger Blume reported criminal damage.

12:59 p.m., 1315 College Ave., Stacey Yarbrough reported criminal damage to property.

1:04 p.m., 1405 College Ave., Dylan James Kersley reported criminal damage to property.

8:04 p.m., 321 Broadway Ave., Sucana Bussone reported criminal

damage to property.

Nov. 14 — 9:28 a.m., Northwest Technical College reported criminal damage.

3:13 p.m., 1209 Harrison Ave., Northwest Technical College reported criminal damage.

Nov. 15 — 1:22 p.m., 1104 E. 13th, Apt. 7D, Marcos Lopez reported burglary and theft.

Nov. 19 — 7:24 a.m., 531 W. 17th, Alex's Radiator and Auto Repair reported theft and criminal damage.

2:27 p.m., 2160 Commerce Rd., arrested Michael Ledesma on warrant from another jurisdiction. Case referred to county attorney.

2:27 p.m., 2160 Commerce Rd., arrested Michael Ledesma for possession of hallucinogenic drug. Case referred to county attorney.

Nov. 23 — 9:09 p.m., 209 E. Fifth, arrested Jon Aubrey Villaobos for aggravated assault and disorderly conduct against three juveniles and Christopher Milam. Case referred to county attorney.

Nov. 25 — 9:09 p.m., 1209 Arcade Ave., Cleve Trachsel reported criminal damage.

9:35 p.m., 1209 Arcade Ave., Matthew J. Murray reported criminal damage.

11:09 p.m., 1117 Kansas Ave., Donald L. Binder taken into protective custody. Case referred to county attorney.

Nov. 26 — 9:34 a.m., 224 E. Fourth, Ashley Dawn McDonald reported theft.

9:16 p.m., 1400 Main Ave., arrested Jeffrey Alan Clements for driving under influence. Case referred to city attorney.

Use caution when giving, receiving gift cards

By Derek Schmidt

Kansas Attorney General With Christmas just a few days away, many of us will be searching for that perfect last-minute gift. For some of those hard-to-buy-for people on our lists, gift cards can seem like the perfect solution.

But know some tips and rules about gift cards to protect yourself and the gift recipient. Here are a few things you should know:

- Under Kansas law, gift cards cannot expire for at least five years. If the gift card does not have an expiration date on it, then it is good until you redeem it, no matter how long that is.

- Merchants can begin charging inactivity fees against the card's balance 12 months after the card is issued. These fees are required to be printed on the card or the packaging it comes in.

- Pre-paid bank cards - the ones

that are issued by a bank or credit card company, not by a specific store - can, and usually do, charge additional fees for purchasing the card, and on the balance.

- Be aware that even with legal protections in place, the value of a gift card may be lost if the store goes out of business before the card is used.

When buying a gift card, try to be sure it is from a store the person will use. Make sure to buy gift cards from a reputable source - such as from the store itself. There are a number of online auction sites and gift card dealers, which offer cards at a discounted price, but you should always use caution when buying cards this way. There have been reports of many cards sold on these sites being counterfeit or otherwise not working when they are received.

Be sure to include the original

receipts with the card. This will help the recipient replace the card if it is lost or stolen.

If you are the recipient of a card, you should use the card as soon as you can to avoid expiration dates, inactivity fees or the possibility the card gets lost. Many retailers will allow you to register your cards online, which will protect your balance and help you replace the card if it is lost or stolen.

If you happen to receive a card for a place you do not shop, it is unlikely that the retailer will let you exchange your card for cash. However, there are websites that allow you to sell or exchange your gift cards. Again, use caution when dealing with these online sites to be sure you don't become a victim of fraud. You can also donate your unwanted gift cards to a local charity, especially cards for grocery, clothing or department stores.

For more consumer tips or to file a complaint, visit our website at www.ksag.org or give us a call at 1-800-432-2310.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season!

The Goodland Star-News
Ad Deadlines
 For Tuesday papers Friday Noon
 For Friday papers Wednesday Noon
 For Country Advocate Friday Noon
 You may call the ad in to (785) 899-2338 or stop by the Star-News at 1205 Main.

Dear Customers:
 Your favorite local McDonald's is undergoing a renovation. Until the renovation is complete, only our drive-thru will be open for regular hours. We appreciate your business and want to thank you for being great customers!

2325 Enterprise Road, Goodland

The Goodland Star-News
 SUBSCRIBER
Linda Rogers
 You receive two free passes to see:
**ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS:
 CHIP-WRECKED (G)**
 Clip and bring to the show.
 Non Transferable

 1203 Main Avenue • (785) 899-6103

PEOPLE WHO READ NEWSPAPERS ARE
BETTER LEADERS AND BOSSES
 It all starts with Newspapers

Celebrate the birth of Christ with us this weekend!

 • Christmas Eve: December 24 at 4:30 p.m.
 • Christmas Day: December 25 at 10 a.m.
Harvest Evangelical Free Church
 (Across the highway from the Van Gough painting)

Happy 30th Wedding Anniversary,

 Mike and Ginger Chadwick!
Classifieds work! 899-2338