

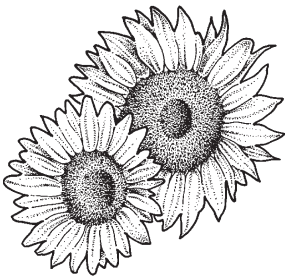
# The Community Page



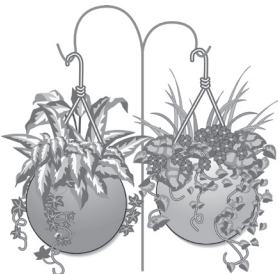
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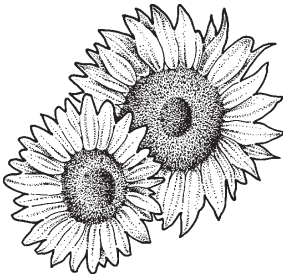
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## Goodland Elks Lodge provides dictionaries for third graders

The Goodland Elks Lodge continued the annual tradition of handing out dictionaries to third graders at Central Elementary.

Zona Price, lodge secretary, accompanied Exalted Ruler Robin Deeds to Central Elementary on Thursday, Dec. 8, to hand out dictionaries in the library with the help of Amity Ihrig, librarian.

Price said this is the ninth year the Elks have handed out Webster Student Dictionaries and this year they gave out 64 at Central this year. She said this year the lodge has expanded out to other schools in the area including 10 to Weskan, 19 to Sharon Springs, 14 to Cheylin and 3 to Brewster.

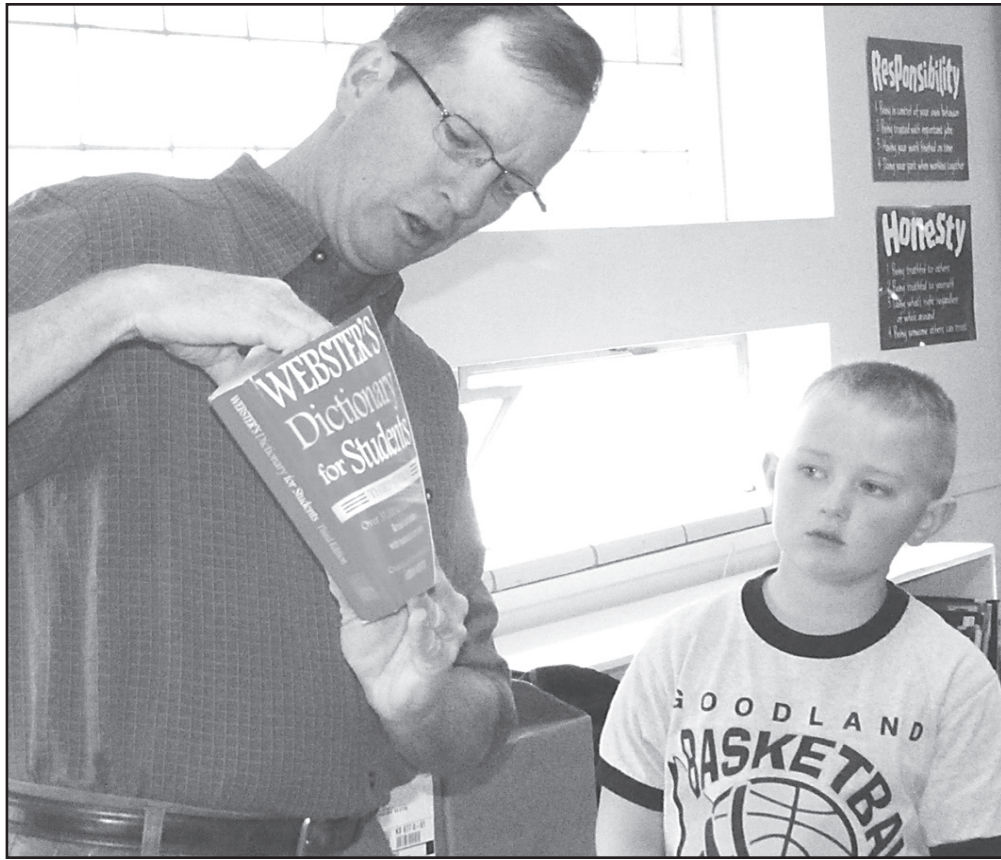
She said that brings the total for this school year to 134, and a total of 714 handed out over the nine years.

The dictionary project was initiated in South Carolina by Mary French in 1996 with the objective to give every third grader in South Carolina a dictionary. Today the dictionary project has branched out and many organizations such as the Goodland Elks have brought the project to their own communities.

Deeds said the over all goal is to help students become good writers, active readers and creative thinkers by having their own personal dictionary.

"This is one more effort to improve literacy throughout the country," Price said.

She said with each student having their own dictionary they will benefit from "the power of words" and become more self-reliant and have more self-esteem.



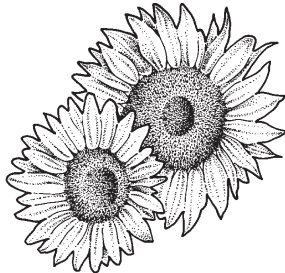
Students from Joy Booyington's third grade class were given dictionaries by Exalted Ruler Robin Deeds at the Central Elementary library on Dec. 8.

This was the ninth year the Goodland Elks have given third graders personal dictionaries.

Photos by Tom Betz  
The Goodland Star-News



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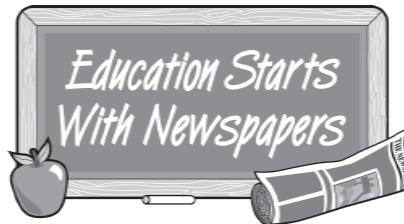


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