

Field painted for memorial tourney



The Memorial Field was painted in honor of Levi Hayden for the tournament last weekend. Hayden, an avid baseball fan, was killed in a car wreck on Feb. 21, 1997. Each year the Goodland American Legion Baseball program holds a tournament in his name. Proceeds go to a scholarship for senior Goodland baseball players. This year's recipients are Ryan Hillmer and Reed Bellamy. This was the tournament's 14th year.

Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

Senate candidate focuses on rural revitalization efforts

CANDIDATE, from Page 1

Kansas Technical College and Colby Community College, the district now has a four-year university, which means the district's legislator will have to look out for its interests.

Despite the differences, he said, rural Ellis County has many of the same problems that the other 40th District counties face, such as water shortages.

Education is one of three issues Miller is focusing on in the campaign. Education funding is about 50 percent of the state's general fund, he said, but only 25 percent of all the state's funds. Miller said he was talking to someone recently who told him Kansas was spending too much on education, that it should just go back to the "three Rs," reading, writing and arithmetic. Miller said that with the advances in technology, the three Rs just won't cut it anymore.

"This is not the world that I went to school in 40-plus years ago," he said.

Another area he's focusing on is rural revitalization: efforts like the Rural Opportunity Zone, which provides tax and student loan incentives to people who move to

low-population counties, Norton County has been taking advantage of that program, he said, as well as other efforts to bring people back to the community, such as brining in light industry jobs.

"I'm concerned with keeping western Kansas viable," he said.

Public health is the third area Miller is focusing on, and said it is interrelated to rural revitalization. Maintaining quality public hospitals is a good way to attract people to a county or town, he said.

"People want to know you have good health care," he said.

The issue is of particular importance because the average age of people in the district isn't getting

any lower, he said, and care for the elderly is a top priority.

"I believe that seniors shouldn't be forced into retirement homes," he said.

In all three issues, Miller said he believes in involving the experts who are actually involved in the subject, such as hospital administrators and school superintendents.

The Goodland Star-News will be running candidate profiles in the weeks leading up to the Tuesday, Aug. 7, Primary Election. The stories will be collected in a special section that will be included with the Friday, July 27, edition of the newspaper.

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City commission considers rate increase

INCREASE, from Page 1

be allowed on a residential-zoned property. The property at 811 E. U.S. 24 is the west side of Motel 7, which is not in use. James said there may be some people interested in buying it.

The commissioners approved the resolutions declaring these structures unfit and giving the owners 90 days to make improvements or tear them down. Farris voted no on the Motel 7 resolution, saying it ought to be the owner or lien-holder's responsibility to do something with the property. Gerber said the onus is on the owner first, but if they don't take action within 90 days, the city will likely tear the building down and place a lien on the property.

- Heard a request for a contribution to the Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center. The center is called in for child abuse cases. It covers 29 western Kansas counties, providing family counseling and forensic interviewing as well as helping children testify in abuse cases. Garcia said the commissioners would look at continuing their \$300 contribution during budgeting time.
- Heard a proposal from Chris Christiansen of Johnson Controls for a city water study. The study

would look at the entire water system, including meter and pipe testing, to see what kind of project the city would need. Christiansen said the idea would be to come up with a project that would pay for itself in savings and increased revenue.

The company has already done a preliminary study, which included interviews with city staff. They estimate about 73 million gallons of water lost each year, including some from wrong meter types or billing errors.

"You're giving away about 19 gallons a day," said Tim Mense, who performed the preliminary study.

In addition to that, about 55 gallons per day per connection are not getting to their destinations, he said. About 70 percent of the city's water meters have not been replaced recently and are not on a fully automated system. Christiansen said if the city replaced the rest, the more accurate meters would pay for themselves.

That cost would be about \$850,000, and the city can choose to go beyond that, such as a leak detection system. Christiansen said that when Johnson Controls comes back to propose a project, the city has the option to pick and choose any of the proposals.

Christiansen said the company

takes on the full study at risk. The cost of the study, \$118,000, is written off if the company can't come up with a water project within the guidelines they agree to with the city. If the project is acceptable to the city, the cost of the study will be rolled into the project.

Gerber said he brought in the

company because it seemed a better approach than the large water line replacement project the city had been considering. The commission did not make a commitment on doing the full study, but directed Gerber to keep talking with the company.

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Crossword Puzzle

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- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Total
 4. Parts per million
 7. A Dalton (Physics)
 10. Acid causing gout
 12. Grad
 14. Yes (Arabic)
 15. Pallas' scat
 17. Tonight's host
 18. Isinglass
 19. Frogs, toads, tree toads
 20. Solemnly renounce
 22. Billiards stick
 23. Twin City university
 25. Cause to be beloved
 28. Illuminated by stars
 31. Scratch
 32. Skullcap
 33. Iron Chancellor Von Bismarck
 34. Two things coming together
 38. One who imitates another
 40. Mistake
 41. A shade of a color
 42. Evening parties
 45. The first canonical hour
 48. Examines animals
 49. Fed
 51. One who left a dangerous place
 54. Fragrant iris rootstock
 56. Nothing more than specified
 58. Indigo
 59. ____ off: dismisses (Br. slang)
 60. Own (Scottish)
 61. Deep, slimy soil
 62. W. African language
- CLUES DOWN**
63. Office of Urban Development
 64. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
 65. Grassland, meadow
 1. The genus Rhus
 2. The 7th planet
 3. 17th century courtance
 4. Hill site of Rome's 1st settlement
 5. One of the common people
 6. Saccharum bengalense
 7. Licorice-flavored liqueur
 8. A waterproof raincoat
 9. Actress Thurman
 11. An inferior dog
 13. A disdainful grimace
 16. Actress Bacall
 18. Moderate to inferior in quality
 21. Atomic #86
 24. Queen's Gambit defense
 26. Behave in a certain manner
 27. The 17th Greek letter
 29. Not achieving a purpose
 30. Rubber wheels (Br. var.)
 34. Centrally placed
 35. Showed submission or fear
 36. One of the Greats
 37. "Honeymooners" neighbor Ed
 38. Money-dispensing machine
 39. Actress Zadora
 43. Outpouring of gossip
 44. Smother
 46. Sodium
 47. Fraudulent scheme
 50. Short literary composition
 52. Freshwater mussels
 53. Ireland

The crossword puzzle brought to you by:

The Goodland Star-News

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