

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 5 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.

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.

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 3 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, 5 p.m. taekwondo and 5:30 p.m. group exercise with Lisa Malsom. Tuesday: 5:30 a.m., workout with Grady Bonsall. Wednesday: 5:30 a.m. aerobics with Tena Tompkins, 9:30 a.m. low impact class with Sarah King, 4 p.m. taekwondo classes and 5:30 p.m. aerobics with Lisa Malsom. Thursday: 5:30 a.m., workout with Grady Bonsall. Friday: 5:30 a.m. aerobics with Tena Tompkins, 9:30 a.m. low impact exercise group with Sarah King and starting at 5 p.m. taekwondo classes. For information call 890-7242. Certified personal training offered with Kyla Sheldon. Memberships options for everyone including day passes for \$5. Visit goodlandgac.com or stop by 808 Main.

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.

the calendar

calendar

Prairie Land Food sign up will be until Monday. Distribution is 1 to 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 21, at the Knights of Columbus, 7th and Caldwell, or at the Bernadine Johnson residence, located at 704 Walnut. For information call 821-1827, 821-1275, or 890-3793 or order online at www.prairieland-food.com. The Prairie Pak will have fajita chicken anytizers, ham steak, beef strips, chicken thighs, lean ground turkey plus fruits and vegetables. The specials are a summertime griller including sirloins, pork tenderloin, pork chops, ground beef, Italian sausage and

chicken breast fillets; a variety box with beef brisket in barbeque sauce, smoked bacon, mini apple pie, mini cherry pie, whole chicken, hash brown potatoes and premium blend vegetables; boneless and skinless chicken breast filets; and pork chop special.

Calling all cancer survivors and their spouses to a Survivor ice cream and cake event at 6 p.m. on Sunday at the Goodland Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 12th and Sherman, Goodland. To reserve your spot call (785) 899-2338.

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

Hwy. 24. For information call (785) 890-3285 or visit rightcombination-dance.com.

Goodland Alcoholics Anonymous, 1013 Center. If you drink alcohol, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help. Call 821-3826 pr 728-7491.

Goodland Al-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 Burling-

ton. 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. 6 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: a.m. Fern Heckman. Monday: a.m. Ramona Livengood and p.m. Gaylene Shank. Tuesday: a.m. Lana Ginn and p.m. Jessie Owens. Wednesday: a.m. Connie Soellner

899-5461.

senior menu

Today: Swiss steak, parslied potatoes, corn, bread and gelatin with fruit. Monday: Pork cutlet, au gratin potatoes, seasoned carrots, bread and pears. Tuesday: Spanish rice with hamburger, cheesy broccoli, apricots, bread and cookie. Wednesday: Tuna salad, German cucumbers, Mandarin oranges, bread and cake. Thursday: Oven baked chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, bread and watermelon. Friday: Pioneer girl goulash, spinach cheese salad, bread and cook's choice fruit.

and p.m. Juanita Barnett. Thursday: a.m. Debbie Lucas and p.m. Gaylene Shank. Friday: a.m. Avis Alcorn.

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.

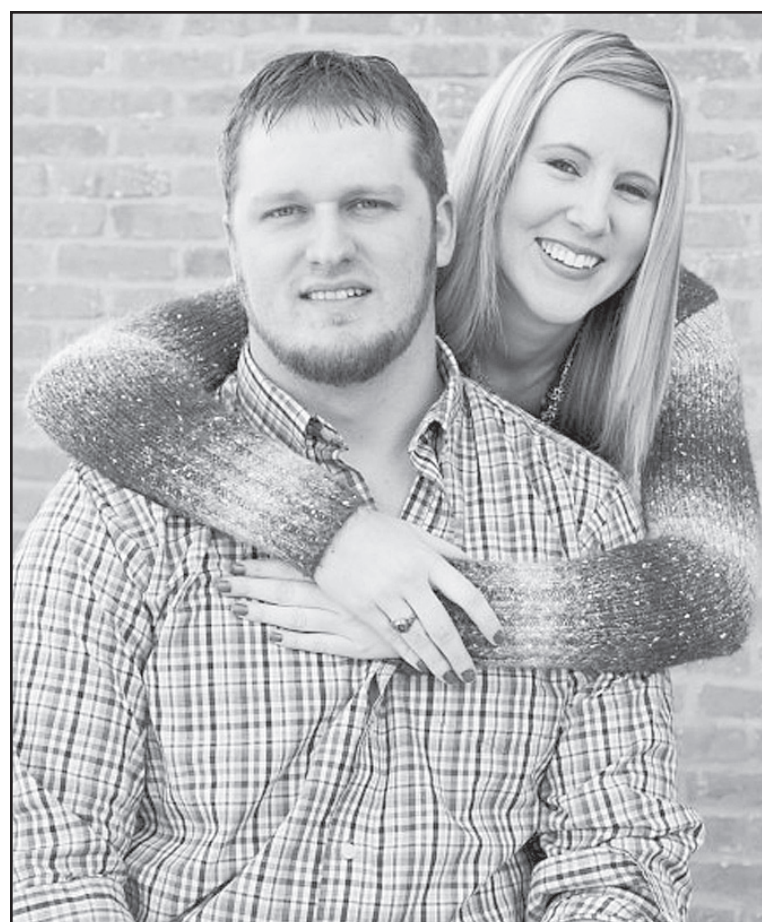
crimestoppers

If you have information about any crime, call the Goodland Area Crime Stoppers "Look Line" at 899-5665. Your call will be confidential and you will not be asked your name. If the information results in the arrest and/or conviction of those involved, you could be eligible for a reward of up to \$1,000. Goodland Area Crime Stoppers is a nonprofit organization formed by citizens against crime.

The police department can also be called at 890-4570.

animal shelter

Lost a pet? Call 890-4575 or go to www.petfinder.com and be sure to enter the Goodland zip code 67735. You can also call the Goodland Police Department at 890-4570 or Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter at 899-4398. Interested in adopting a pet? If the animal shelter or go to the website www.nwkasgoodland.webs.com.



Levi Wassemler and Brooke Chartier

Couple plans August wedding

Brooke Chartier, a loan support officer at First National Bank in Goodland, and Levi Wassemler, an automotive technician at Finley Motors in Goodland, plan to marry on Saturday, Aug. 25, 2012, at Old Town Museum in Burlington, Colo.

The couple have a daughter, Kaisley.

He is the son of Roy and Deb

Wassemler of Goodland and the grandson of Lucille and the late Elroy Fenner of Goodland and the late Ruben and Mary Ann Wassemler of Monument.

She is daughter of Jeff and Dixie Chartier of Burlington and the granddaughter of the late Bob and Laura Mae Chartier of Laird, Colo. and Wanda Williams of Eckley, Colo.

Head Start provides services

The Head Start Preschool is taking applications for its program. To get information call the Sherman County Head Start at 890-2552 or the main office at (785) 672-3125 ext. 161.

Head Start is a federal program for preschool children from low income families.

Children who participate in the program participate in a variety of

educational activities. They also receive free medical and dental screenings, healthy meals and snacks, and enjoy playing indoors and outdoors in a safe setting.

Most children in the program are between the ages of three and five years old. There are services offered to meet the needs of children with disabilities.

Inman family provides firework displays, products

By Ron Wilson

Director  
Huck Boyd National Institute  
for Rural Development  
at Kansas State University

Let's tune in to the TV show My Fair Wedding. This series specializes in producing fancy weddings for television, and this particular wedding includes an elaborate fireworks display. Believe it or not, the fireworks were provided and operated by a family from rural Kansas. It's today's Kansas Profile.

Last week we learned about Steve and Peggy Showalter from Inman, Kansas. They own and operate Showalter Fireworks for consumers and Rainbow Fireworks for display fireworks.

It all began with the Showalters shooting fireworks on the family farm near Inman. Now they have developed a business to market fireworks and produce fireworks shows around the region.

How does this business work? "We go to China and select the products," Steve said.

"We watch for quality and the reliability of the manufacturer. We look for what's new and what's priced so that customers will think it's a good buy."

The selected products leave from Shanghai or Hong Kong to Los Angeles by steamship. After passing through U.S. Customs they come by train to Dallas or Kansas City and are delivered to the Showalter's farm by truck. The Showalter's crew will store and organize the products in fireworks-approved storage containers.

The Showalters maintain several storage facilities, including one near Inman, one in Oklahoma, and one near the rural community of Dearing, population 413 people. Now, that's rural.

This is a family, entrepreneurial business. For example, they have expanded the business to include inflatables, those giant bouncy play places that kids enjoy. The company owns more than 40 of these inflatables.

"At a small town festival or a

county fair, our crew can do the inflatables during the day and do the fireworks at night," Steve said.

The Showalters also offer free training schools for those who want to shoot display fireworks, which require a permit from the State of Kansas and the U.S. government. "We teach safety issues as well as what we've learned from practical experience to get a quality shoot," Steve said. "It's easy to get an operator's license and U.S. government permit. People can get these licenses if they want to do a festival or even a family or company event themselves."

The school is offered free on demand. Steve did six schools during spring 2012 and will do another six this fall.

Remember I said this is a family business? All five of Steve and Peggy's children have their fireworks operator permits. Matthew, Michelle, Sean, Amber and Stephanie all help out during the busy times. In fact, this year a grandson will be doing a show.

Safety is a top priority for the Showalter shows. Modern technology is a big plus, especially when planning shows in new venues.

"For every event, we go on Googleearth and do an analysis to see if it is possible to do a show from a safety standpoint," Steve said. "We also do a site visit and physically inspect the venue." Then they design the fireworks to fit the setting.

"It's possible to shoot fireworks within a ballpark," Steve said. "The regulations require 70 feet of clearance for every inch of shell, and we always plan for extra space to allow for the wind."

The Showalters have a saying: Fireworks are not just for the Fourth of July any more. They will start shooting shows in April and go through New Year's Eve. In fact, the Showalters can design fireworks displays for all types of events to include concerts, employee appreciation events, trade shows, conventions, company picnics, grand openings, private gatherings, com-

memorative events, and of course, weddings. When the producers of My Fair Wedding wanted fireworks, Steve Showalter got the call.

For more information, go to www.fireworks-display.com.

This episode of the TV show My Fair Wedding has come to an end, but it featured a fireworks display designed and produced by Steve Showalter from Inman.

We salute Steve and Peggy Showalter and all their family involved with Showalter Fireworks and Rainbow Fireworks for making a

difference with their hard work and entrepreneurship.

Without such creativity and business development, the rural economy could go up in smoke.

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Jacque's Hallmark and J.C. Penney's  
1124 Main, Goodland  
Phone: 785-899-7255