

Board votes for bigger track project

TRACK, from Page 1

moved to spend the \$375,370 on the track and Diane Stiles seconded the motion. It passed six to zero with Amy Sederstrom being gone from the meeting.

House asked if the track would be posted to say that no bicycles, skate boards and roller blades allowed. Biermann said it would be posted.

Northwest Technical College Dr. Guy Mills and Athletic Director Rex Branson were allowed to set in on the executive sessions on the track. When the vote was finished Dr. Mills asked the board to consider letting the college use the track for a track program to start in the 2013-14 year. Slough said there was a consensus of the board to let them do that. Both said details need to be worked out.

Dr. Mills thanked the board for its support of the fledgling sports programs at Northwest Tech. A sports and cross country program would help bring enrollment up to 600 at the college when added.

Biermann said the window project at the high school would not be finished before the start of school because of delay of getting the windows. He said they were prepared to shuffle the students to finish the project.

For the first week at the start of school Biermann said they would run on a heat schedule. Enrollment for the district would be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 9, at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

West Elementary and Central Elementary's open houses would be at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 16. At 5 p.m. would be Grant Junior High and at 6:30 p.m. would be Goodland

High School.

The first day of school will be Monday, Aug. 20. For the first week school will end at 1 p.m.

In other business the board:

- Continued their support of the Western Plains Arts Association for \$200.
- Voted to allow money in the Bushels for Bleachers program to be funneled through the Sherman County Community Foundation.
- Accepted the resignation of Dana Inloes as the piano accompanist for the music department.
- Hired Melissa Baird as a sixth grade teacher at Grant Junior High; Steven Guenther as an eight hour custodian at Goodland High School; and Kim Wessel as the eighth grade girls assistant volleyball coach and the eighth grade girls assistant basketball coach.

Incumbent looking for first full House term

INCUMBENT, from Page 1

on this number instead of their original goal of \$150 million. They were unable to get that number through during negotiations on the tax and appropriations bills with the Kansas Senate.

Billinger also sponsored several bills designed to put Kansans to work, including House Bill 2756. Under this bill, he said, anyone living in Kansas for a year or more on unemployment would get a three-year break from paying income taxes if they moved to parts of rural Kansas, including Thomas

County, and got a job.

"First, we have a job in Colby that somebody's been trying to get someone to apply for," Billinger said. "Number two, we get someone off unemployment. It's a win-win deal."

Billinger said that he thought the tax liability created by the bill would be made up by not having to pay for someone's unemployment benefits in about a month.

House Bill 2756 died in committee last year Billinger said, but "I would like to get that piece of legislation through this year."

Crowd gives applause, cheers for the relaunch of the giant Van Gogh painting

VAN GOGH, from Page 1

midday heat. He said it was nearly 100 degrees each day, but the painting felt more like 120 degrees. He said he tried working until about 1 p.m. on one day, and felt exhausted when he took a break.

A Kansas State University shelter, provided by City Commissioner Annette Fairbanks, provided Cross with a place to mix his paints and get a break from the sun's heat. The Kansas winds took their toll on the shelter several times.

Originally the plan had been for Cross to work on the painting while it was on the easel using a lift being donated by Miller Construction. Cross tried to get up to the painting using the lift, but found the wind to be a real problem. Bryant Nemechek of Nemechek Welding was hired to cut the painting down.

It took several hours on July 11 for Nemechek to cut the painting loose and a Woofter Construction crane

laid it on the ground.

The first step was for Cross to wash the painting off and inspect places where the image had been damaged over the 11 years. He said he was glad to see it had held up well, but found at least three places that had to be repaired with fiberglass. Cross cleaned out the many screw holes which had become visible by having the resin pop off. He cleaned the screw holes and recovered them. Next he sanded the covered screw holes and the other places that needed to be smoothed. He sanded the outside frame where the steel had shown evidence of rust and damage to the surface.

He began the repainting once the three areas had been repaired and the screw holes recovered. It took several days for Cross to repaint the background, details of the vase, sunflowers and base area. As the

repainting progressed Cross would use a lift to get above the project to see how it was going.

While working on the painting Cross was impressed with the number of people who stopped and talked to him about the project. He said it was interesting to find that most of the visitors already knew about the giant painting from the Internet, billboards or a brochure.

"A lot of hard work went into this project," he said, "and I hope Goodland continues to benefit."

Cross flew back to Canada on Wednesday, and said he had enjoyed being in Goodland again. He said other than the hot days he felt the people had been great to work with and the city officials had been able to help solve any minor problems.

The original project was begun about 1999 when Cross had approached the National Sunflower

Association about locating a giant easel in the United States with a Van Gogh sunflower painting. He said the association suggested Goodland along I-70 would be a good location. When approached a small group of Goodland citizens put the non-profit Sunflowers USA group together to raise the money. The land where the painting is located was donated by the city. The total cost of the project was about \$140,000, and the group had received an attraction grant from the state of Kansas with the money coming from the Kansas Lottery and not taxpayer money.

Once the painting had been erected Sunflower USA added a viewing and parking area to the south along Business U.S. 24. Plans for more

additions were never completed.

An effort spearheaded by the Shine On Sherman County Resource Development Committee - led by Annette Fairbanks - began about two years ago to refurbish the painting. The first step was to reorganize the Sunflower USA group and ask them to donate the painting and viewing property to the city. Once that process had been completed and Cross had been contacted about coming to Goodland to look at the painting the planning began for the refurbishing project.

While working on getting the painting refurbished the Resource Development Committee worked with the Beautification Committee and Sunflower Extension District to develop a landscape plan for what has been called Van Gogh Park.

City Manager Doug Gerber said the city worked to get Cross a working visa to allow him to come to Goodland to do the repair, repaint and relaunch project this summer. He said Economic Development Director Michael Solomon worked on the visa effort.

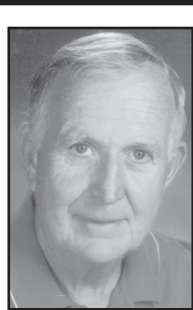
public notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public testing of the vote tabulation equipment to be used in the General Election will be held in the Commissioner's Room of the Sherman County Courthouse at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2012, in accordance with K.S.A. 25-4610.

Janet R. Rumpel
Sherman County Election Officer

Published in The Goodland Star-News, Tuesday, July 31, 2012.



Re-elect Ward Cassidy for 120th State Representative

1st Session accomplishments:
Moved to the most powerful House committee — Appropriations in 2nd Year
— Appropriations in 2nd Year
(the farthest west rep. up until Ward's Appointment was from North of Manhattan).

- Only member of his class of 37 new freshmen to have an individual bill passed (helped accountants with hiring practices).
- Led the investigation of the Fire Marshal Department that resulted in revoking illegal citation saving area schools thousands of dollars.
- Making an amendment to the Governor's Tech Ed bill that allowed NW Kansas Technical College to expand.
- In position to be the Education Budget Chair in only his 2nd term.

Ad paid for by Cassidy for Representative, Mike Day Treasurer

The Goodland Star-News
CELEBRATES
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS
WINNING NUMBERS
86%
of adults read a newspaper at least once a week

Sports Physicals

FREE on:
August 8 & 9
Sign-in from 3-4 p.m.
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106 Willow Road

No Appointments Necessary
*Bring **completed** form with you (including parent signature)

Forms available at Family Health Center, GHS weight room, GHS & Junior High Offices beginning June 1

RE-ELECT RICK BILLINGER-HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- **Fiscal Responsibility:** Reduced wasteful spending and improved government efficiencies. Worked hard turning a 550 million deficit into a 100 million surplus WITHOUT raising taxes.
- **Lowering Work Comp rates:** Made adjustments to close work comp loopholes, which will result in lower rate for businesses. First time adjustments were made since 1992.
- **Filling Western Kansas jobs and lowering unemployment:** Wrote and got passed out of House bill to fill unfilled jobs in Western Kansas and lower unemployment rate in Kansas.
- **Unemployment rates:** Worked on legislation to lower rates charged to businesses, which also resulted in savings to state of 10-12 million per year.

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- **You can count on Rick to be your voice in Topeka!**

Paid for by Billinger for Kansas. Doug Sederstrom PA CPA, Treasurer

SUMMER UNDER THE SUN

THE WAY WE WORKED

Work is a huge part of who we are. It forms part of our identity, it keeps us busy and it provides for our families. In preparation for the upcoming Smithsonian exhibit "The Way We Worked" at the High Plains Museum, we would like to share a series of local work stories.

Work takes different shapes, and for youth in Goodland it typically comes in the form of school work. However, during the summer youth can get a different work experience. One such place of employment is Steever Water Park. Built in 2001 to offer an upgraded water experience, Steever Water Park employs local youth as concession stand workers and lifeguards from late May through August.

The manager of the pool, Barb Bedore assisted by Halli Stone, supervises a staff of 30 (seven concession workers and 23 lifeguards), over the summer. A popular summer job, Barb and Halle interviewed 44 applicants, selecting teenagers that were dependable, responsible, and safety conscious individuals.

This is Barb's second year managing the pool, but she has experience working with teenagers due to her coaching responsibilities with the Goodland School District. Barb's advice for managing teenagers is to get them to realize that there is room for fun at work but that work is the chief motive and that safety is paramount.

Wrangling teenagers is practiced work for Barb and it is eased by the presence of veteran lifeguards. Ashley Archer has been a lifeguard for three seasons.

"It's not a stand there job; you have to pay attention," she said.

Lifeguard responsibilities include keeping the water park clean, keeping watch over the frolicking swimmers, and help teach swimming lessons. Of course, the most memorable part of summer swimming is the whistle. A well-recognized signal for the fun to begin and shenanigans to end, the whistle is at the same time a feared and loved sound.

"Blow the whistle; don't be afraid," Ashley said.

A lot of work goes into keeping the pool a fun place to play and relax in the Summer. It is the site of memorable fun, and for many kids, their first job.



Lifeguard Makayla Kennedy surveys the pool at Steever Water Park.
Photo by Ashley Archer

Reflect on your first job: was it as sunny as lifeguard work? Tell us about your first job at the High Plains Museum blog (highplainsmuseum.org) or our Facebook page.

Look for more articles in this series about the way Goodland folks work. Tell us your own work story and mark Dec. 15 on your calendar to see how Americans have worked over the decades at "The Way We Worked" Smithsonian exhibit. "The Way We Worked" Kansas tour is sponsored by the Kansas Humanities Council in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street program. Support for "The Way We Worked" Kansas tour has been provided by the Ross and Marianna Beach Foundation, the Western Kansas Community Foundation, and Jostens. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress. To find out more information visit the High Plains Museum and find us online (highplainsmuseum.org).

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