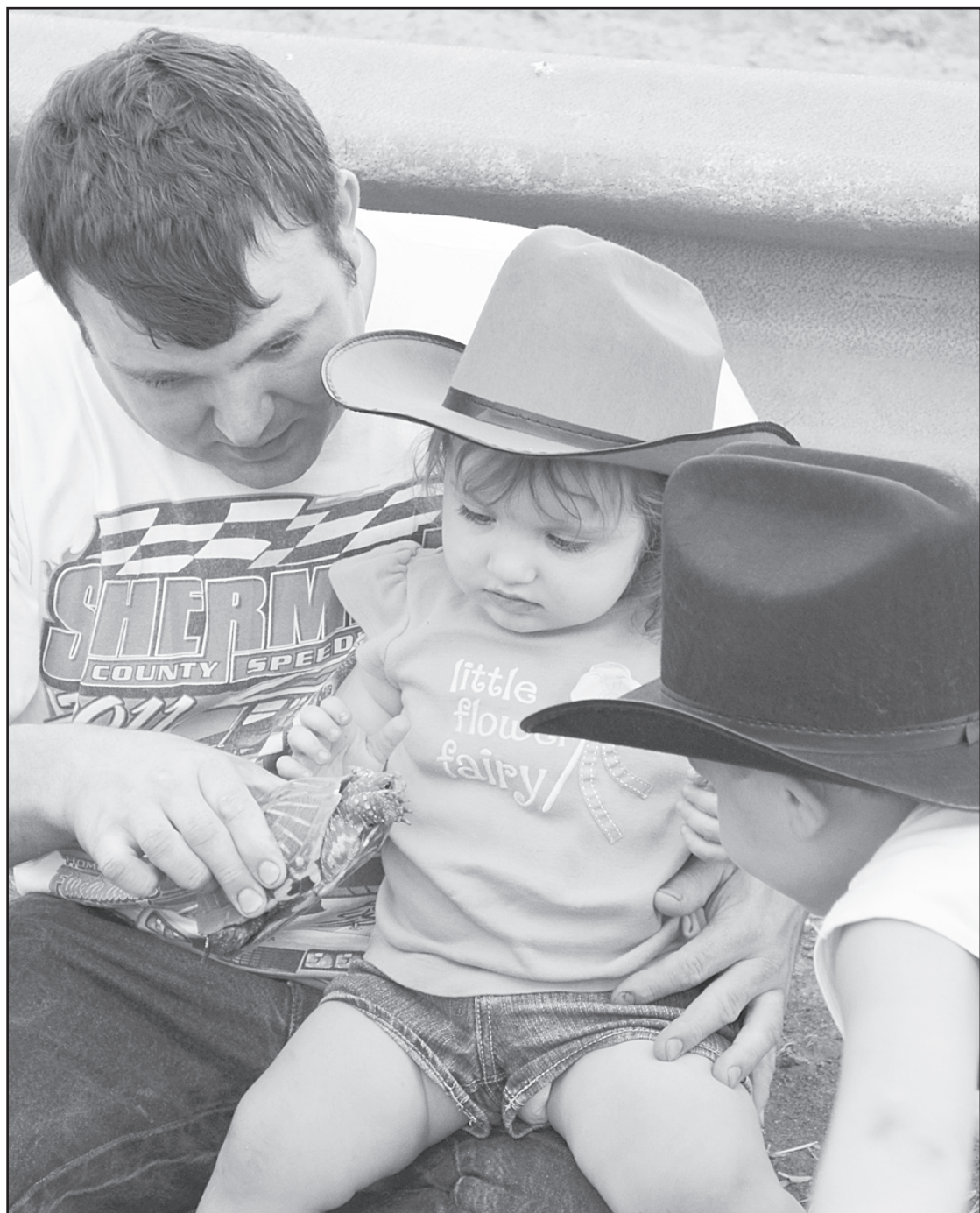


Howdy Rowdy Rodeo



Events just for kids took place at the Howdy Rowdy Rodeo on Monday night. Activities included shoe races, turtle races, stick horse races, take the ribbon off the goat's tail and others. Jared Smades (above) showed their turtle for the race to his daughter Kollins and son Jeron. Kollins wasn't too sure about the turtle. One of the participants (upper right) in the take the ribbon off the goat's tail had to chase the goat to get the ribbon. In the stick horse race hockey sticks became substitute steeds (bottom right).

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Churches to hold Praise in the Park

People are invited to Praise in the Park to enjoy the fellowship of other Christians, hear special music and be physically fed from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on Sunday at Gulick Park, 8th and Caldwell. The purpose of the gathering is to pray for rain as well as to collect money for the fire victims in Colorado.

The special music will be provided by the Stevens Family. They are from Warren, Ohio. Their music could be best be described as Christ-centered and

family-oriented. The purpose of their ministry is to offer encouragement and hope through the message of God's Word in song.

Participating congregations include the First Christian Church, Goodland United Methodist Church, Calvary Gospel Church, First Baptist Church and Harvest Free Church.

A free meal will follow. The alternate location in case of bad weather is the Goodland United Methodist Church, 12th and Sherman.

Technology used in classrooms

The use of technology in the classroom is growing beyond computers to improve student learning, according to a Kansas State University education technology expert.

"Today it is very common that elementary school classrooms are equipped with SMART boards, which are interactive white boards, as well as a projector and at least one classroom computer with a high-speed Internet connection," said Lotta Larson, an assistant professor of curriculum and instruction who studies how technology can aid learning.

"More traditional technologies, such as audio recorders and players, are also useful and common at the elementary level," she said. "Preferably, all students have access to computers several times a week, whether that is through the use of laptops, tablets or stationary desktop computers in a computer lab."

The use of e-books in the classroom is an increasing trend, particularly at the elementary level, Larson said. She attributes the increase to the significant decrease in the price of digital readers like the Amazon Kindle, making the devices an affordable alternative to iPads and laptops.

"The availability and affordability of e-books for children and young adults have increased rapidly, so teachers and students

have endless options for both fiction and nonfiction texts," she said. "E-books are generally less expensive than print copies of the same book, and they don't wear out as quickly as a print copy. Another advantage is the instant access. Generally, an e-book can be downloaded in a matter of minutes."

Perhaps the greatest advantage of e-books, Larson said, is the ability to differentiate the reading experience. The devices allow the reader to customize the reading experience by adjusting the font size and page layout, or through the use of tools and features like a built-in dictionary, highlighter, digital notes or text-to-speech capabilities.

"This means all students -- even those who struggle or have specific learning needs -- can benefit from digital reading," Larson said. "As teachers are quickly realizing the possibilities of supporting students' reading comprehension and motivation, this technology is definitely becoming more popular in all grade levels."

More schools are also engaging in iPad or laptop initiatives where students have access to such technologies throughout the school day, not just during a designated -- and often limited -- computer lab time, Larson said.

"This approach mimics the way most adults use technology through-

out the day -- whenever it is needed, and for authentic purposes," she said.

But Larson cautions it's not enough to just place laptops, tablets or digital reading devices in the hands of children. She said teach-

ers need to teach and model new literacy skills that are essential for effective use of such technologies. It's also important for parents and teachers to communicate technology expectations, guidelines and rules.

corrections

In the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair 2012 section of *The Goodland Star-News* the story of "Siblings raise rabbits, dogs for 4-H" on pages 6 and 7 on Friday, July 27, 2012, it should say that Brittany Heiter helps all the 4-Hers to pick out their photos for the fair. This is due to reporter error.

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

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Inclement Weather Location
United Methodist Church 12th & Sherman

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www.stevensfamilymusic.com

Community Fire Victim Relief Fund
Community Prayer For Rain

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