

Block almost finished



Brick layers working on the block between 12th and 13th on Main Avenue finished on Thursday. Bricks, water and sewer lines were replaced on the two blocks between 11th and 13th. The street had to be done before Flatlander Fall Festival the last weekend of September. Businesses on the street were anxious for the street to be done. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Cheyenne County primary decided by coin toss

By Karen Krien

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When the votes were tallied at the primary election on Tuesday, Aug. 7, there was a tie between incumbent Andy Beikman and Dr. Brett Poling, who were running on the Republican ticket for Commissioner, District 3. To break the toss, a coin was tossed and Dr. Poling, who owns a chiropractor business in Goodland won the toss.

still showed there was still a tie. Terry Miller, election officer, said he was not allowed to count the ballots in a tie so he had Cinda Dankenbring, election supervising judge, and Deb Lindsten, deputy clerk, count the votes. Lindsten read the names and Dankenbring and Dale Patton, commissioner chairman, tallying. The count was made several times and, in the end, the total was still the same. There were 359 ballots but one was blank, making 358 ballots.

Beikman and Poling still each had 179 votes. The coin toss was set for 3 p.m. on Monday. Patton had gotten a gold coin from the bank, both sides were photographed to prove there was a heads and tails. Both Beikman and Poling were present for the toss. Poling was given the choice of heads or tails, choosing heads. Patton did the flip and it was heads, making Poling the winner. Beikman said he will run as a write-in in the general election.

“There is some unfinished important business and I would like to see it completed,” he said. Miller reported that, following the primary election, there were people who thought they may have received the wrong ballot and would have voted for the commissioner candidates, if they had only had the chance. “Kansas has a voters rights and responsibilities and within those, it states the voter is ultimately responsible for voting the correct ballot,”

Miller said. If you feel you were given the wrong ballot, please make sure to talk to the election workers. They can correct the situation before you vote your ballot.” One voter, he said, thought that if a person was not sure he/she had the right ballot, they should be allowed to vote again. “Elections don’t work that way,” Miller said. Once you place your ballot in the ballot box, you are saying you have voted a correct ballot.”

Identification was required for a person to vote. This federal law was to be strictly enforced at the election. One voter left to get their ID, Miller said, and never returned. The voter could still have voted a provisional ballot and brought their ID to the clerk’s office before the canvass and the ballot would have counted.

Researchers to use pigs to develop cancer therapies

A group of Kansas State University researchers has made valuable findings in the search for cancer’s cure. While researching ways to improve animal health, the scientists -- Raymond “Bob” Rowland, a virologist and professor of diagnostic medicine and pathobiology, and Deryl Troyer, professor of anatomy and physiology -- have made two important discoveries that can also improve human health. Not only have they found pigs with severe combined immunodeficiency but they are also the first to discover the connection with human cancer, particularly melanomas and pancreatic cancers. The researchers call it a scientific achievement with huge potential to

improve surgeries and drug development involved with cancer. “This could be a game-changer,” Troyer said. It began with Rowland’s research with controlling and eliminating porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome. The work led to a fortuitous discovery: a naturally occurring line of immunodeficient pigs. “Pigs are closely related to humans anatomically and physiologically,” Rowland said. “This can have huge potential for human cancer research.” After the discovery of severe combined immunodeficiency pigs, Rowland turned to Troyer, who performs cancer research. Their collaborative work not only enables researchers to better study these pigs, but they can also apply their research to the study of human cancer and anti-cancer drugs. “This is a great example of col-

laborative and interdisciplinary research,” Troyer said. “With two perspectives, there is often a synergy that evolves because of different ways of thinking.” The researchers have already studied human melanomas and human pancreatic cancers, which are devastating types of cancer and a big target in cancer research, Troyer said. They want to apply the same methods to other types of solid cancers and blood neoplasms like leukemia. While similar research has been performed with SCID mice, it has not adapted well to human cancer research. Rowland said there is about a 90 percent failure rate in translation of results from mice to humans. Research involving severe combined immunodeficient pigs may be more beneficial to human cancer research because pigs are closer anatomically to humans. The research opens a variety of

doors for both animal and human health research. It may now be easier for scientists to improve strategies for bone marrow transplants. They also have a better way to detect cancer drug side effects and test surgical interventions, Troyer said. “The potential is a little daunting because it is as if there is no horizon limiting possible ways to utilize this model,” Troyer said. “It is an opportunity for Kansas State University to be a leader in the field and to become a center for large animal biomedical research.” For Rowland, the discovery also opens new doors for infectious disease research. “There are a lot of pig diseases for which we still don’t know how they function and how they cause disease,” Rowland said. “Now we are able to ask the question, ‘What role does the immune system play in clearing the virus or in causing disease?’”

The research also improves the study of zoonotic diseases, which are diseases -- like swine influenza -- that can be transmitted between animals and humans. By developing vaccines for diseases in severe combined immunodeficient pigs, scientists can gain insight into human vaccine development. The university’s Biosecurity Research Institute provides the ideal location for developing these vaccines, Rowland said. The scientists have performed research on a small scale and now want to build it up to a larger scale. They see possibilities for new research with the Kansas State University Johnson Cancer Research Center as well as cancer research partnerships and collaborations with the University of Kansas Cancer Center, especially with its recent National Cancer Institute designation. “Agriculture benefits the people

of the state in so many ways,” Rowland said. “While it includes jobs and exports, there is a human element that we sometimes forget. This is a good example of how we can take animal health research and all of a sudden it has the potential to help cure human cancer.” The research recently appeared in the journal *BioResearch Open Access*. Rowland and Troyer have another upcoming publication in the *Journal of Veterinary Pathology*. The College of Veterinary Medicine has provided financial support for the research. Other university collaborators include the Comparative Medicine Group, Stefan Bossmann, professor of chemistry, and Duane Davis, professor of animal sciences and industry. Researchers at Iowa State University were also involved.

corrections

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Reader Recipes

Twix Bars recipe

Ingredients for caramel filling:
• 1 cup Graham Crackers, crushed
• 3/4 cup brown sugar
• 1/3 cup white sugar
• 1/3 cup milk
• 1/2 cup margarine

Ingredients for frosting:
• 2/3 cup peanut butter
• 1 cup milk chocolate chips

Directions: Begin by putting a layer of Club Crackers in a 13X9 pan. I can fit 24 crackers. In a saucepan on the stove, combine the caramel filling ingredients. Bring to a boil, continue to stir and boil approximately 5 minutes. (I usually go a little less.) The mixture will be caramel-like and pull away from the sides of the pan. Pour over the crackers, being very careful, the mixture is extremely hot. Immediately top with another layer of Club Crackers, pressing down slightly. Place in fridge to chill for at least 30 minutes. FROSTING: Combine peanut butter and chocolate chips in small bowl. Microwave for 2 minutes, stir will and frost crackers. Place in fridge until frosting is firm. Cut into bars. I usually cut each cracker in half, it makes the batch go farther and they are very rich.

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