

The Community Page

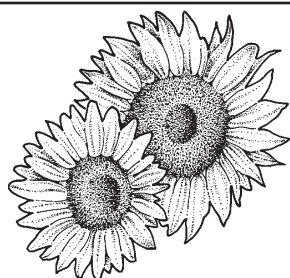


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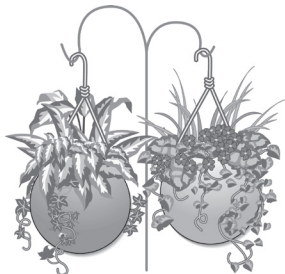
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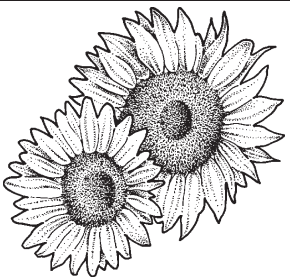
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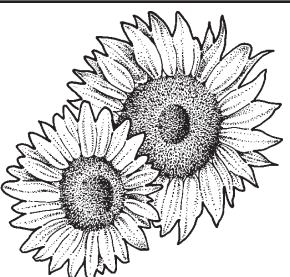
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Teachers recognized



Twenty Goodland School District teachers received \$50 gift cards from Walmart as part of a teacher appreciation program. Pictured on the front row are Tim Carroll, Walmart Assistant Manager; Sandy Timm, first grade; Joy Boyington, third grade; Aileen Raymer, Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center; Marilyn Sowers, fourth grade; Tanya Szanto, junior high math; Kim Artzer, fourth grade; Kathy Werner, Goodland High School family and consumer science; Connie Berquest, junior high language arts; and Karen Loudon, fourth grade. In the back row are Karen Stone, kindergarten; Katie Fulwider, first grade; Julie Dautel, second grade; Brian Coon, Goodland High School biology; Myron Tedford, fifth grade; Dave Hardy, junior high social science; Melissa Reed, Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center; Melissa Baird, sixth grade; Terry Daise, junior high Science; Jim Myers, Goodland High School industrial technology; and Ryan Hembre, Walmart manager.

Former broadcaster receives service award

The Board of Directors of the Kansas Association of Broadcasters has announced that Marty Melia of Goodland will receive the Distinguished Service Award and will be inducted into the Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame. The ceremonies will take place at the association's convention on Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 22 and 23, in Wichita.

Melia has 38 years of broadcasting service, including 12 years on the board of directors for the association, and a term as president of the association. He has been ultra-active in community affairs and as a volunteer. He began his career while still in high school and worked his way up to general manager of KLOE, KKCI AND KWGB. Eventually, he and his wife Kathy bought the stations, selling them in 2009. He

is now the commercial sales representative for Eagle Communications of Hays.

He and his wife Kathy are the parents of four adult children; Sarah (Trevor) Linton, and Marcy Melia both of Goodland; Andrew (Gen) of Atwood; and Daniel (Kolby) of Burlington. There are also four grandchildren, Cole, Lauren, Aiden and Benton.

Joining him in this year's ceremony will be the longtime voice of nationwide sports, Gary Bender, a native of Ulysses. Other inductees over the years has included Len Dawson of the Kansas City Chiefs; Bill Kurtis, the renowned Kansas born broadcaster now at WBBM in Chicago; Ed Mason, longtime KXXX Manager in Colby; Tad Felts of KKAN in Phillipsburg, and Melia's father, Kay Melia, former manager of the Goodland stations.



Marty Melia

Gas company recognizes Goodland employees

Black Hills Corp. Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer David R. Emery presented one of the Chairman's Awards he bestows each year to the Black Hills Energy Burlington, Limon and Goodland employees for their commitment to safety and customer service.

Those receiving the awards from Goodland are Chad Hanevik, Troy Mannis and Harold Gillihan. The Burlington employees are Chris Bauman, Kathy Ellis, Harry Kinner, Steve Kaza, Dale Dwyer and Mike Sweet and those from Limon were Tony Bandy, Jesse Elrick and Mike Kelley. Recognized posthumously was Don North, formerly a supervisor for the company in Burlington.

The Burlington, Limon and Goodland employees have a reputation for safety. On Sept. 25, they had worked 1,196 days without an injury or vehicle accident. Their

accomplishment is even more impressive considering their Colorado and Kansas service territory is more than 250 square miles and primarily rural.

They also demonstrate that safety and customer service go together. Colorado Public Utilities Commission and Kansas Corporation Commission records reflect their dedication to service, showing more than three and a half years without a customer complaint to the Colorado or Kansas commissions.

"Chalk up their impressive record to a commitment to customers and community, both as employees and citizens," said Susan Bailey, Black Hills Energy Colorado Gas general manager. "From serving as volunteer firefighters, sitting on school boards and city councils, our Burlington, Limon and Goodland employees serve their friends and neighbors around the clock.

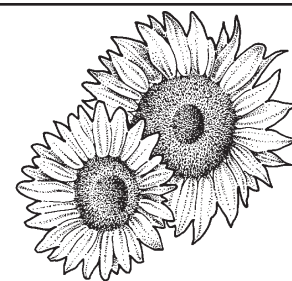
"They're not just Black Hills Energy employees Monday through Friday. They're Black Hills Energy employees 24/7, 365 days a year. This level of commitment doesn't happen by accident. It happens with teamwork, focus and a genuine commitment," Bailey said.

Black Hills Corp. is based in Rapid City, S.D., and has corporate offices in Denver and Papillion, Neb.

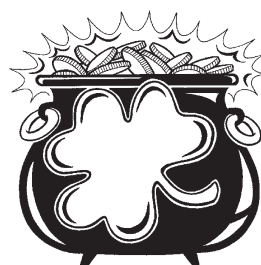
The company serves 765,000 natural gas and electric utility customers in Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming. The company's non-regulated businesses generate wholesale electricity and produce natural gas, oil and coal. Black Hills' 2,000 employees partner to produce results that are improving life with energy.



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