

# Race forms for commission seat

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

A week ago, no one had filed to take Chuck Frankenfeld's seat on the Sherman County Commission. Now it's a race, as an elevator owner and a farmer have both said they want the job.

Frankenfeld, who has represented District No. 1 for five years, will not be able to run again because he is moving out of the district. It covers a good part of Sherman County east of Broadway Avenue in Goodland to the Thomas County line.

A week before the filing deadline, which was noon Monday, no one had put in a bid to replace Frankenfeld, and County Clerk Janet Rumpel said she was starting to wonder whether they'd have to go out and find a candidate.

"But we don't have to worry about that," she said Monday.

Royal Reid, who owns an elevator in Kanorado but lives within the district in Goodland, filed on Wednesday, and Chuck Thomas, a farmer who lives southeast of Edson, turned in his papers

on Monday morning.

Both are Republicans, which means the winner of the Aug. 6 primary will likely take Frankenfeld's position next year — unless a write-in candidate goes for the job.

That's happened before. Commissioner Mitch Tiede, a Democrat who represents District No. 2, ran a successful write-in campaign during the 2000 general election, ousting Democrat incumbent Kenneth Davis.

This year's general election is scheduled for Nov. 5.

Thomas said he filed because when Frankenfeld, a retired railroad official, leaves, there will be two business owners on the commission, and no one to represent farmers.

Someone needs to speak for Sherman County farmers at the courthouse, the 52-year-old said, because, after all, the county's economy is based on agriculture and many constituents are farmers.

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## Redistricting lawsuit may delay election

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said this is the first election year she can remember when she wasn't sure when the primary would take place.

The problem is, no one knows for sure what the boundaries will be for the state's four congressional districts, so filing for those seats is being held open.

Rumpel said the primary vote is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 6, but she's received letters from Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh's office saying a lawsuit filed by Attorney General Carla Stovall could push that date back.

Stovall filed the suit in U.S. District Court in Topeka on behalf of Junction City officials upset over a congressional redistricting plan that puts the city and neighboring Fort Riley in different U.S. House districts. Legisla-

tors approved the boundaries last month, and Gov. Bill Graves signed the map into law about a week ago.

The suit proposes a new plan to keep Junction City in the 2nd District with Fort Riley, asks the court to stop Thornburgh's office from using the current map to conduct elections and asks that the Aug. 6 primary be moved back if necessary.

Rumpel said the letter said that the June 24 filing deadline for U.S. House candidates and state representatives could be moved to sometime in July. She said that will likely change the voter registration deadline, push back when advanced voting can take place, delay sending out primary military ballots and cause a big mess.

"We're just sitting on pins and needles over here," she said. "I'm

sure they'd have to change everything."

Jesse Borgion, a spokesman for Thornburgh's office, said a panel of judges is expected to take up the lawsuit by the first of July. Until then, he said, the office is proceeding as if the primary election will take place on Aug. 6.

Borgion said he's not sure what they will do if the election date is changed.

"We will look to the court for direction on those things," he said. "It's all up to the court."

The county is going ahead as if the election will take place on time, Rumpel said, adding that she doesn't know when or how they'll change the election dates.

"I don't know how they are going to do it," she said. "I'm not sure they know either."

## Interim leader may stay Ex-president bows out as candidate

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghanistan's former president bowed out of the race for head of state shortly before the opening of a grand council to choose a new government today, removing the last major challenger to interim leader Hamid Karzai.

The council, or loya jirga, convened this afternoon in a huge, carpeted, air conditioned tent, where the 1,550 delegates are to choose a new government to lead the nation from the devastation of war.

"Today, the 11th of June 2002, in Kabul, the capital, the heart of Afghanistan, we have a message — a message of national unity, a message of peace, a message of reconstruction," Chairman Ismail Qasim Yar said in welcoming remarks. "We are hoping this loya jirga, with unity and shared hearts, can solve the problems that have faced our land for 23 years."

Hours before the council convened, Burhanuddin Rabbani, president of post-communist Afghan governments, said he was withdrawing his candidacy for head of state and supporting Karzai. His step came a day after Afghanistan's former king endorsed Karzai.

"I am proposing Chairman Karzai as the sole candidate before the loya jirga," Rabbani told reporters.

On Monday, former Afghan king Mohammad Zaher Shah renounced any role in the new government and backed Karzai, dashing hopes of some delegates that he would stand for head of state.

The ethnic Tajik clique that dominates the current administration opposed any role for the king, and their objections to his possible candidacy forced a one-day delay in the start of the loya jirga.

Rabbani is an ethnic Tajik. It appeared that deals had been cut for him and Zaher Shah, an ethnic Pashtun, to step aside, possibly in exchange for posts for their allies in the new government.

"We came into Kabul as warriors, as conquerors. We had full control of the city," Rabbani said, referring to the takeover of Kabul by his northern alliance fighters in November. "But we made concessions then for the best interest of the country. And now we do this again."

He said he expected to play a role in helping the new head of state choose a Cabinet.

Selection of a head of state was among the first orders of business for the 1,550 delegates — representing all aspects of Afghan society. The government they will choose must write a constitution and oversee preparations for nationwide elections. Security was tight, with international peacekeepers inside and outside the massive tent.



Not one tube broke as computers, monitors and keyboards tumbled out of a Sherman County dump truck (top picture) Saturday morning in Burlington. More than 3 1/2 tons of computer gear collected Thursday were to be placed on pallets to be shipped to a recycling company in

Phoenix. Sherman County businesses and citizens (above) brought their old monitors and computers to the Road and Bridge shops Thursday, filling two trailers which were then placed in the dump truck for transport.

Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News

## Collection brings in over 37,000 pounds

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Cars were lined up as people brought their old computers and dumped them into the two trailers at the Sherman County Road and Bridge shops on West Eighth St.

When the collection was done Thursday afternoon, county employees loaded the monitors, computers, printers and a variety of other electronic equipment into a dump truck to deliver them to the next collection point in Burlington on Saturday morning.

There were about 100 computer monitors in the collection, the part which contains hazardous material.

The tubes have mercury inside which is a hazardous substance.

Tracy Tilman, Burlington public works manager, was a bit surprised when the big dump truck loaded to the top arrived Saturday morning.

Curt Way, Sherman County pubic works manager, weighed the truck.

He said the total weight of the collected computers was 7,220 pounds, just over three and one-half tons.

Tilman said his people would go through the pile at the Burlington city shop and place the different parts on pallets to be transported to the recycling company in Phoenix.

"Wow, with your help we will probably be one of the highest collection points," Tilman said. "We figured we would do well in Burlington if we got 50 monitors and computers."

Southeast and Eastern Central Recycling of

Colorado, of which Sherman County is a member, had computer collection sites set up in Burlington, Lamar, LaJunta, Limon and Kiowa. Preliminary figures for Burlington showed a total collection of 200 monitors and 210 computers.

The computers will be hauled by Waste Management to a company in Phoenix which specializes in handling the hazardous material in the monitors and recycles computer parts to build systems that can be given to people who may be disabled or in need of a computer for school.

Ray Lariviere, administrator of the Colorado recycling group, said the total collection was 37,500 pounds, excluding Burlington.

This was a one-time collection, but depending on

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### weather report

80°

at noon



#### Today

• Sunset, 8:13 p.m.

#### Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:13 p.m.

#### Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 77 degrees

• Humidity 36 percent

• Sky sunny

• Winds northeast 15 m.p.h.

• Barometer 29.91 inches

and rising

• Record High 100° (1953)

• Record Low 40° (1954)

#### Last 24 Hours\*

High 86°

Low 65°

Precipitation none

#### Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly cloudy with 50 percent chance of rain, low 55-60, winds northeast 10-20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: mostly cloudy with 20 percent chance rain, high mid 70s, low near 60, winds east 10-15 m.p.h.

#### Extended Forecast

Thursday: partly sunny, high mid 70s, low lower 50s. Friday: partly cloudy, high upper 70s. Saturday: partly cloudy with chance of rain.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

### local markets

#### Noon

Wheat — \$2.69 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.62

New Crop — \$2.69

Corn — \$1.84 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.84

Loan deficiency payment — 15¢

Milo — \$1.54 bushel

Soybeans — \$4.37 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.45

Loan deficiency payment — 47¢

Millet — \$3.75 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$10.25 cwt.

NuSun — \$10.40 cwt.

Posted county price — \$10.28

Confection current — inquire

Pinto beans — \$27

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco

Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century

Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

### afternoon wire

Late news

from the

Associated

Press

1 p.m.

### Five killed in shooting

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Police are trying to determine whether illegal drug dealing connected a string of shootings that left five people dead and two others injured.

Four of the victims found dead in Kansas City, Kan., early Monday were women, one of them seven months pregnant.

There were no arrests, but officers had sought two Kansas City, Kan., men for questioning. Late Monday night they were talking with one of them after he turned himself in at a police station. A warrant for aggravated battery had been issued for the man.

A vehicle believed to have been involved in the shootings had also been found in the eastern part of the city.

None of the victims' identities were released. The FBI was aiding the investigation.