

Plows continue to clear streets; more snow today

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

City crews continue to plow and haul snow from the weekend storm, getting some help from Mother Nature with a couple of days with temperatures reaching into the 40s.

The break between storms was barely long enough to get most people out and the schools reopened before another storm approached from the northwest with the potential for more snow and high winds.

The National Weather Service is predicting a 70 percent chance of snow for today and 20 percent chance tonight. This storm could drop up to two inches of snow compared to the 17.7 from the year-end storm. The service is predicting winds gusts up to 35 mph in the afternoon, which might cause some roads to drift closed again and reduce visibility.

Drivers were getting stuck on some Goodland side streets on Wednesday, but most of the main streets were clearing up and city crews were spending long hours trying to get all the streets more drivable.

City Manager Wayne Hill said he felt the city street crew deserved a pat on the back for its effort to open the streets and remove snow as quickly as possible.

"I drove back from Guymon on Tuesday," Hill said, "and from the towns I drove through, the streets in Goodland are the best I saw."

Hill said he drove to Oklahoma on Friday for a doctor's appointment, and rode out the storm with this wife at their home there. Hill said he kept in contact by phone with the city staff.

"The city crews really know what to do," Hill said, "and they get it and get it done."

He said the city power plant was ready to run if the supply from Sunflower Electric went down, but no outages were reported in town.

"I was surprised there were no power problems," Hill said. "We were ready for this storm and the one the week before, but we did not have to generate."

Hill said he did some quick calculations on the snow removal and figuring one block of Main Avenue and the 17 inches of snow it takes



The young and the young-at-heart gathered at the "slopes" of Pioneer Park with snow discs and inner tubes Tuesday to enjoy the fruits of the weekend snow storm that dumped 17.7 inches of snow on Goodland on top of the storm from the week before, giving the sleders about a 20-inch snow base.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

315 truckloads per block to remove the snow. There are 1,574 cubic yards in each Main Avenue block and the city trucks carry about 5 cubic yards per trip.

He said the city was having trouble finding places to haul all the snow, since the first storm filled most of the usual locations. He said several people volunteered open lots and they are filling them with snow.

Rich Simon, public works director, said Wednesday he is tired of snow.

"I think some of this will be here until spring," Simon said.

He said the street crew began plowing about 4 a.m. on Friday, and worked long hours over the weekend to try to keep the main streets open.

"My days are getting mixed up," Simon said. "I know we worked

through Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and a couple of our people worked extra long hours plowing the snow.

"We have been working 12-hour days since Monday to try to get the streets cleared. My guys have worked very hard. I know some of them are tired, but they were out there working to move the snow."

Simon said the city has three blades to shove the snow, three loaders and six trucks to haul it.

"I have two trucks in the shop now and am down to four trucks," he said Wednesday.

He said he has had a few calls from people who have said they think they could show him a better way to haul snow, but Simon said his people will keep plowing and hauling anyway. He will be glad to get some warmer temperatures, and

hopes that the weather service is right that there will not be another big storm this weekend.

"One thing we had trouble with during the snow storm was keeping windshield wiper blades on the equipment because of the heavy ice and snow," Simon said. "I do want to thank Judy McKee and the people from Wheat Ridge Estates who brought us food, and Mary Volk (city clerk) Cindy Yarger and my wife Cody for making cookies, brownies and snacks to keep us going."

"I want to thank my guys. They gave up their New Years and have worked very long and hard hours. We still had to keep water wells going, sewer lift stations and the sewer treatment plant operating through the storm."

Simon said his crew included

blade operators Tony Daise, Dale Davis and Dave Goodwin; Neal Thornburg, who ran a blade and loader; loader operators Justin Lohr, Travis Gillihan and Junior Vasquez; truck drivers Harvey Larm, Ronnie Reed, Ron Dautel, Robert Reed and Marshall Squires; and Joey Snethen, who drove truck and used a tractor to help clean intersections and pull out stuck cars and trucks.

Simon said Mike Abbey and Rod Blake from the power plant helped by driving trucks, as did Dennis Fyfe from the electric line crew. Simon said Phil Erickson of the street department has been sick and couldn't drive, but he called to check on everyone.

Police Chief Ray Smee said he was on vacation during the storm,

but he was in contact with his officers by phone and radio.

"We didn't call any extra people in because of the storm," Smee said, "but we did borrow a four-wheel-drive truck from the street department and one from the power plant. We do that in every storm."

"I might think about getting a four-wheel drive vehicle for the department, but it would probably cost more than it is used."

Smee said the police officers did not give out any tickets, but did tow vehicles that were a traffic hazard. He said when the city started clearing the streets and wanted a car moved, the officers and central dispatch tried to contact the owners, but if there was no response, the vehicle was towed.

Goodland, Oakley Co-ops plan merger

MERGER, from Page 1

Frontier has 75 to 80 employees, Linin said, with CO-AG having around the same. Farmers will get the same services from the same places they do now, the announcement said.

Both cooperatives have grown

through mergers. Frontier has acquired several smaller farmer-owned co-ops, and CO-AG added Mingo Grain Cooperative in 1998.

Frontier has elevators in Bird City, Brewster, Goodland and Rulleton, and fertilizer operations in Bird City, McDonald and Atwood. CO-AG has elevators in Breton,

Grinnell, Menlo, Mingo, Page City, Seguin, Winona and Oakley.

The combined board of directors will be expanded to 10 members, five from Frontier and five from CO-AG, with two associate members from each board. Today, the boards have nine members each, said Brent Linin.

public notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERMAN COUNTY KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of L.E. Owens a/k/a Leon E. Owens, Deceased

Case No. 07PR01

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on January 3, 2007, a Petition for Probate of Will and Issuance of Letters Testamentary under the Kansas Simplified Estates Act was filed in this Court by Sandra K. Elliott, an heir and nominated personal representative of the decedent, L.E. Owens

All creditors of the decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within four months from the date of first publication of this notice as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Sandra K. Elliott
Petitioner

Zuspann & Zuspann, P.A.
1015 Center
P.O. Box 968
Goodland, Kansas 67735-0968
Phone: (785) 899-6555
Attorneys for Petitioner

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Snowdrift derails Kyle plow, engines

TRAIN, from Page 1

from Colorado on Saturday, had snow piled over their tops.

The engineer said the lead engine that nearly tipped over had some bent railing in the front and a leak in the fuel tank.

The engines were pulled back to a crossing east of Kanorado where a crew from the Kanorado Co-op pumped out as much diesel from the damaged tank as possible and shifted the fuel to the other engines.

Morris, Shields and all five engines headed back to Goodland about 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday. The line west to Limon remained closed while crews fixed the track.

SPORTS TELEVISION SCHEDULE

Saturday

10 a.m. CBS Women's Basketball Kentucky at Ohio State
ESPN College Basketball Virginia Tech Hokies vs Duke Blue Devils from Cameron Indoor Stadium

ESPN2 College Football 2007 International Bowl Western Michigan Broncos vs Cincinnati Bearcats from Toronto

11 a.m. NBC High-School Football All-Star Game U.S. Army All-American Bowl
12 p.m. CBS Women's Basketball Michigan State at Maryland

ESPN College Basketball Ohio State Buckeyes vs Illinois Fighting Illini from Assembly Hall

FXSP College Basketball UCLA Bruins at Oregon Ducks from McArthur Court

2 p.m. CBS Women's Basketball Tennessee at Connecticut

FXSP Women's College Basketball Baylor Lady Bears at Kansas Lady Jayhawks from The Allen Fieldhouse

2:30 p.m. NBC NFL Playoff Wild Card game

4 p.m. FXSP College Basketball USC Trojans at Oregon State Beavers from Gill Coliseum

6 p.m. NBC NFL Playoff Wild Card game

6:30 p.m. WGN NBA Basketball Detroit Pistons at Chicago Bulls from The United Center

7 p.m. ESPN College Basketball Connecticut Huskies vs Louisiana State Fighting Tigers from The Maravich Assembly Center

FXSP College Hockey Wisconsin Badgers at Denver Pioneers from Magness Arena

11 a.m. CBS NFL Playoff Wild Card game

ESPN PBA Bowling H&R Block Classic from Reno, NV
12:30 p.m. FXSP Women's College Basketball Washington Lady Huskies at Arizona State Lady Sun Devils from The University Activity Center

2:30 p.m. CBS College Basketball Teams TBA

3 p.m. FXSP College Basketball Stanford Cardinal at Virginia Cavaliers from University Hall

6 p.m. ESPN College Football 2007 GMAC Bowl Ohio Bobcats vs Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles from Mobile, AL

Crossword Puzzle

"Step by Step ..."

- ACROSS**
- Job seeker's success
 - Religious splinter groups
 - ___-Mart (retail chain)
 - Fling with force
 - Skylit areas
 - "Am ___ believe ...?"
 - Like many goods imported from the Far East
 - Prefix with natal
 - Caterer's fuel
 - Like apple pie?
 - In place
 - PBS benefactor
 - "Horrors!"
 - One toiling away
 - Artist Magritte
 - Haifa's land: Abbr.
 - Drainage pit
 - Strong-jawed gadgets
 - Dolphins' place
 - Course start
 - Carry on
 - Like most Turks
 - Like some cider
 - Prior to, to Prior
 - Cape Fear's state: Abbr.
 - It's moved by a cam
 - St. Louis landmark
 - Author LeShan
 - As well
 - Is necessary for
 - Walk-in, e.g.
 - Boxer Laila
 - One coming off the bench
 - Rolodex no.
 - "The Waste Land" poet
 - Steak ___
 - Takeoff hr., maybe
 - Takes a load off
 - Have a feeling

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American Profile Hometown Content

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- Sales tag words
- Heroic deed
- Lose strength
- Exceedingly
- Rob, who played "Meathead"
- Amniotic ___
- One of the directing Coens
- Part of "C.S.I."
- Musical ineptitude
- Coal-rich German region
- English cathedral town
- First-stringers
- Off one's rocker
- Post-it messages
- Column style
- Succotash tidbit
- Find new tenants for
- Hockey great Potvin
- Fancy tie
- Letters near "0" on a phone
- Ollie's partner
- Dark times, to poets
- Arborist's concern
- Elevs.
- Speak badly of
- 3-D objects
- Rock's ___ & the Blowfish
- Tail off

DOWN

- Resistance units

The crossword puzzle brought to you by:

The Goodland Star-News
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