

Crowd braves snow to see conservation winners

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News
Huge snowflakes falling by midday on Monday, piling up to about four inches before the sun went down, left Sherman County Conservation District officials wondering how many would attend their annual meeting.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall started to fill a little after 6 p.m., though, and by the time dinner was ready, about 125 had gathered to celebrate 63 years of farm conservation.

Between the dinner and the awards presentations, the Barbershop Connection entertained. The quartet included spokesman Jeff Mason, a Goodland lawyer, Kelly Beek of Cheyenne Wells, Dean Graber of Bankwest and Mel Pfau, a retired banker.

In honor of Valentine's Day, the quartet sang love songs, then some fun songs for the kids in the audience.

Dinner was prepared by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, and bankrolled by the Conservation District, Bankwest, First National Bank, Western State Bank, People's State Bank and Farm Credit Services of Western Kansas.

District Chairman Lonnie Whiteaker thanked everyone for braving the snow.

Sandy Rodgers, district manager, presented the Friend of Conservation award to Danny Farmer, con-

servation district technician. Tyler Neufeld was honored for winning first place in the state limerick contest.

Richard and Connie Allaman, who farm northeast of town, won the Windbreak Award and Max and Brenda Linin, who farm south of town, the Bankers Award.

Rodgers and Farmer presented the awards for the county poster, limerick, essay and computer stack contests, including:

Posters winners in third and fourth grade, Ryleigh Paxton, Gerell Miller, Braxton Redlin, Tristan Cooper and Raquel Tomsic.

Fifth and sixth grade, Shaley Miller, Nathaniel Smith, Hope Cochran, Tanner Jones and Brook Heinrich.

Limerick winners, third and fourth, Dani Mangus, Steph De-LaRosa, Riley Wilson, Gerald Anderson and Katie Seeger.

Fifth and sixth grade, Cory Sampson, Brook Lockhart, Shaley Miller, Idalia Martinez and Sadie Avila.

Essay winners, Amy Floyd, Trace Waugh, Ashlee Roeder and Victoria Hayes.

Computer stack winners, Talen Smith, Brianna White and Ellie House. Honorable mention went to Cooper Slough and Amber Perdew.

During the business meeting, district board member Lynn Ihrig was re-elected for a three-year term.



The Barbershop Connection, with members (from left) Dean Graber, Mel Pfau, Kelly Beek and Jeff Mason, entertained the crowd at the Sherman County Conservation District's annual banquet Monday. Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Principals exchange high school, Central

By Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News
The Goodland School Board approved a job swap by two principals Monday, with Sharon Gregory taking over at Goodland High School next fall and Harvey Swager filling her job at Central Elementary School.

Superintendent Shelly Angelos and the school board made the recommendations after the evaluations for the administrators in a closed session for an hour and a half. Discussions on non-elected personnel are not done in open meeting.

"I'm excited about being at the high school and getting students ready for 21st Century jobs and post-secondary education," said Gregory, who also has been the district's curriculum development coordinator. "I started teaching in high school as an English teacher."

Gregory said she has been teaching since August 1970. She

was assistant principal at Grant Junior High before becoming principal at Central.

Gregory has done curriculum development and statistical assessment for the district, Angelos said.

"She has worn many hats," Angelos said.

"It is definitely going to take me out of my comfort zone," said Swager, high school principal since August 1995. "The image I have is kids coming up to my knees instead of my shoulders. Central has a very good staff."

While no reason was given for the change, Angelos did say the move for Swager was not due to health concerns.

In other administrative assignments, Angelos will remain as superintendent, Don Smith as high school activities director, Steve Raymer as junior high principal, Jim Mull as North Elementary principal and Verna Milnes West Elementary principal.

School to buy three vehicles

By Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News

The Goodland School Board voted Monday to buy three new two-wheel-drive Ford Expeditions to replace some similar vehicles with high mileage.

Bob Harkins, district transportation director, reported that the low bid came from Dan Brenner Ford for \$24,495 each, or a total of \$73,485 delivered. Herl Chevrolet bid \$93,735 and Finley Motors \$91,556 on similar vehicles.

"We are good shape to start vehicle rotation again," Harkins said, noting that the district had delayed replacing some older vehicles to save money.

The three new white Expeditions should be here in about eight weeks, he said.

Superintendent Shelly Angelos

told board members there will be a third meeting between the district and the Northwest Kansas Technical College about allowing high school juniors and seniors to take classes at the college.

Officials will talk with parents at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Tech College, she said.

She said one of the board members had asked to see a comparison of utility costs between last year and this year.

She said the bills are running about what had been expected. Electrical costs in general were higher, Angelos said, and electricity and heat were both up at North Elementary School.

Harkins said that fuel costs are running about the same as last year for district vehicles.

Angelos said the proposed calen-

dar for 2007-2008 is similar to this year's. One minor change is that students will go to school on Martin Luther King Day.

The board passed a resolution not to renew the contract of Jeff McCall, a high school math teacher, for next year. This is McCall's first year at the high school and he is not tenured.

In other business, the board:

- Gave permission for a group of teachers to attend a technology conference in Omaha.
- Authorized basketball coach Jon McLean to have practice on Sunday, Feb. 25, to get ready for the substate tournament.
- Approved payment of bills for \$97,637.
- Accepted the resignation from Valorie Grammon, an aide at North Elementary, and Steve Jimenez,

head baseball coach at Goodland High School.

• Hired Sondra Smith and Nichaela Sanchez as aides at North Elementary.

• Hired LaDonna Snyder as an aide at the high school.

• Hired Cleve Trachsel as assistant junior high track coach; Devlin Mull, elementary physical education teacher, as head high school baseball coach; Ben Coats, Traci Price-Waugh and Connie Liven-good as assistant junior high track coaches; Ryan Scheopner and David Avila as assistant high school baseball coaches; Joy Braun and Cody Pettibone as assistant high school softball coaches; and Richard Schwasinger and Dennis Stone as assistant high school track coaches.

City, county, federal offices to close on Monday

City, county and federal offices will be closed Monday for Presidents' Day. There will be no mail delivery, and the post office will be closed.

All banks will be closed. The county transfer station will be closed, and there'll be no trash pickup. State offices, including the Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services, will be open.

The Goodland Regional Medical Center and clinic will be open. *The Goodland Star-News* office will be open, and a paper will be published for delivery at the news racks on Monday and by mail on Tuesday.

Goodland students will have the day off, but the teachers will have training sessions.

The Goodland City Commission will meet at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, one

day later than usual, in the commission room on the second floor of the City Administration Building, 204 W. 11th.

correction

The "other business" section of the Sherman County Commission, story in the Friday, Feb. 9, edition of *The Goodland Star-News* incorrectly reported that county employees' deferred compensation is through AIG. The correct company is ING. Brent Wood is the local agent for AIG. This was a reporting error.

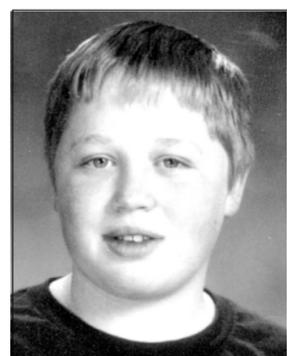
The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this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

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student of the week



Name: Jonathan McClung
Parents: Gary & Laura McClung
Grade: Junior
Age: 16

We've nominated this student because: Jonathan has consistently been an outstanding student in class and in the DECA Club. Jonathan is the current Kansas State DECA Reporter and has produced 2 outstanding newsletters for DECA members across the State of Kansas. Jonathan is preparing to compete in the "Learn & Earn" competition, at the Kansas State DECA Career Development Conference, in March.

Jonathan will also run for Kansas State DECA Western Region VP this year.

Student Comment: The favorite aspect of school like, for me, is club activities. My favorite subjects are marketing and math. What I will remember most about GHS, when I graduate is the great times I had at DECA conferences and as the Kansas State DECA Reporter.

Activities involved in at school: DECA, Science Olympiad, Scholar's Bowl and Golf.
My choice of movies, books, and games: I enjoy country music, comedies, western books and card games.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: attend Northwest Kansas Technical College studying engineering. I then will attend K-State to complete my Bachelor's Degree.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: Working in Architectural Engineering, married, and looking forward to children.

Favorite Quote: "Not all that wander are lost."
- J.R.R. Tolkien

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