

**weather report**

**55°**

noon Monday



**Today**

• Sunset, 5:58 p.m.

**Wednesday**

• Sunrise, 5:49 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:59 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil temperature 46 degrees
- Humidity 48 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds north east at 18 mph
- Barometer 30.17 inches and rising
- Record High today 90° (1907)
- Record Low today -17° (1965)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High Sunday	82°
Low Monday	42°
Precipitation	—
This month	.28
Year to date	1.26
Below normal	.29 of an inch

**The Topside Forecast**

Today: Areas of fog before 8 a.m. Mostly cloudy, high near 61, low around 43.

**Extended Forecast**

Wednesday: A 30 percent chance of showers after 3 p.m. High near 71, low around 40. Thursday: Partly cloudy, high near 57, low around 35. Friday: Partly cloudy, high near 63, low around 38. Saturday: Partly cloudy, high near 64, low around 36. Sunday: High near 67.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$4.40 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$4.47
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
  - Corn — \$3.82 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$3.62
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
  - Milo — \$3.57 bushel
  - Soybeans — \$6.58 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$6.53
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
  - Millet — \$7 hundredweight
  - Sunflowers
  - NuSun crop — \$16.30
  - Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)
- (Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

**inside today**

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



**Two Cowboys win 4A titles**

Casey Henderson demonstrated at the Cowboys weight room how he bench pressed 305 pounds to tie a state Class 4A record and win the state power lifting title at 174 pounds. See photo, story on Page 10a.

## Hospital's veterans clinic proposal will be in Denver before deadline

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The decision about where American veterans can go for medical help is closer to being made by the Regional Veterans Affairs office in Denver, and the proposal from the Goodland Regional Medical Center is to be in Denver by Wednesday.

Goodland, Burlington and Yuma, Colo. received word in December their towns were the short list for a new outreach clinic to serve the nine-county area on the eastern edge

of Colorado and counties on the western edge of Kansas.

Brenda McCants, hospital volunteer services director, told Goodland Rotary members Friday that the information for the veterans' clinic proposal had been gathered, and the proposal would be sent to Denver before the Friday deadline.

She said there is a new wrinkle in the decision process because Dr. Lawrence Biro, who has been the director of the Veterans Affairs Denver region, transferred to Florida.

She said there is an interim who will be involved in reviewing the proposals.

McCants said she would encourage people who are veterans, relatives of veterans and friends of veterans to call the Denver regional office and indicate their support for having the clinic in Goodland. The phone number is (866) 301-9626.

"We cannot quit with the goal in sight," she said. "We need to be sure we have turned over every stone in an effort to make this happen."

Congressman Jerry Moran has been talking to the Veterans Affairs since the clinic was announced, and he and Kansas Senators Sam Brownback and Pat Roberts sent a letter to the Veterans Affairs in Denver in February supporting Goodland as the ideal place for the new clinic.

Colorado Senator Wayne Allard sent a letter to the Veterans Affairs Denver office on March 7, supporting having the new clinic in either Burlington or Yuma.

## Auction big hit for tech college

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

The biggest fundraiser for scholarships for the Northwest Kansas Technical College was Saturday at the Goodland Elks Lodge.

People who came ate either prime rib or chicken, listened to music by "The Old-Timers" and bid at the silent and live auction. Sonja Vandiver cooked for over 200.

A reverse giveaway meant everyone took home something from packages of pinto beans, bottled water or gift certificates.

Items in the silent auction included everything from clothing, food, memberships, dishes, tools, gift baskets, subscriptions, savings bonds, pet food and items for the home. Prices range from \$4 to \$290 for a wagon wheel swing made by the welding department of the technical college.

Auctioneer Terry Richardson conducted the live auction. Included were jewelry, furniture, desserts for a month, seed corn, tires, guided hunt and theater tickets in Denver. The tickets for the show "Wicked" in Denver with lodging and a meal had the highest bid of \$850.

"It went really well," said President Ken Clouse. "We were really pleased with the attendance. We thought it was a great success."

Clouse said he had not seen a total dollar amount from the auctions.



Josh Dechant, vice president of Bankwest, tried out one of the recliners sold in the live auction at the Northwest Kansas Technical College Endowment Fund fundraiser for scholarships on Saturday night at the Goodland Elks Lodge. The recliner was donated by Elliott's Furniture. The fundraiser is the school's major source for scholarships.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

## Leadership program graduates 10th class

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Ten years ago Leadership Sherman County began taking people through an eight-month program, and Wednesday the 10th class celebrated the completion of the program.

The leadership program was created to bring a group of 10 individuals together for a series of programs about agriculture, schools, city government, county government, the media, a trip to Topeka to learn about state government and a day of learning to be a team through a ropes challenge course and a true colors personality course.

People who have completed the course over the past 10 years have become more involved in the community both in public service and personal involvement in civic organizations.

About 40 people attended the 10th celebration held at Howard Johnson's Hotel.

Co-chairs Kristyn Yost and Becky Schulte welcomed everyone and talked a bit about the programs the



Linton

Waldren

class had participated in over the eight months.

Dana Belshe, Sunflower District Extension agent and one of the original leadership organizers, presented a slide show of photos taken during the class events including the trip to Topeka in February.

Class member Trevor Linton, financial consultant at First National Bank, was selected as the spokesperson for the class.

"I appreciated getting to know the people," Linton said. "It was like we became a group and the ropes course and true colors pulled us together."

"We want to thank those who helped put this together. It is a program that needs to continue. We

want to thank those who let us do this.

"There are a lot of good things that are going on in our county, and we got to know the inside story.

"We got to be friends, and despite being in competitive jobs we showed we can get along and work together.

"We would encourage more people to be involved in the program."

Linton said one of the scary parts of the trip to Topeka was the trip up the stairs to the top of the capitol dome. He said he is glad he did it once, but doubts he would do it again.

Speaker for the evening was Deryl Waldren, area 4-H youth development coordinator for the northwest area from Colby.

Waldren said he grew up in Tribune, and remembered coming to Goodland many times while growing up.

He said his goal today is to help the youth and parents of the area develop good leadership qualities.

Waldren quoted a saying from Glenn Bussett, the first State 4-H

Leader to also be a former 4-H'er, who was inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame in 2005.

Bussett said there are three kinds of people: "People who make things happen; people who watch what happens; and people who wonder what happened."

"Character counts," Waldren said repeating the catch phrase from the Josephson Institute of Ethics. He said the Josephson Institute is a non-profit organization striving to improve the ethical quality of society.

He asked those in the audience to think of four people who they considered to be role models in their lives. Then he asked those in the room to list four qualities that made those people important.

"There are six pillars of character as defined by Michael Josephson, founder of the Josephson Institute, and they include trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship."

Waldren said many of the qualities listed by the audience were included in the six pillars of character. He said there is evidence that the

## Citywide cleanup planned for April

Get out your rakes, shovels, gloves and chain saws. Plans are shaping up for the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce's third annual citywide cleanup Saturday, April 14.

Ken Clouse, chairman of the Chamber's beautification committee and president of the Northwest Kansas Technical College, met with the committee members on Wednesday, March 7 to review the schedule.

The committee agreed to set the cleanup for April 14, and the alternate date in case of bad weather on Saturday, April 21.

Chamber Director Andi Nelson said she would talk to churches and civic groups to line up volunteers. Christie Rasure of Rasure Lumber, co-chair of the beautification effort, will ask the city and county to help. The city will be asked to proclaim April as Cleanup Month, and provide equipment and crews to help with the project, Clouse said. The county will be asked to waive dumping fees for that day, and to provide equipment and people as well.

Chuck Redlin, owner of In the Can, which hauls trash in the county, said the dates would work for him, Clouse said.

Clouse said elderly people who can't haul trash and junk out to the curb should call the Sherman County Economic Development office to arrange for some help.

Cleanup volunteers will meet at the Technical College student union at 8:30 a.m. on April 14, when Clouse will organize the routes and teams.

The committee decided to meet at noon on Wednesday, April 4, at Gambino's to go over the details.

## School district gas, electric bills spike in January cold

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Superintendent Shelly Angelos told the Goodland School Board the district's gas and electric bills really spiked with the cold weather and snow in January.

"The gas bill was outrageous," she said at a board meeting last Monday, adding that the bills were \$9,700 above the year before.

She said she hoped the bills would go down with spring weather.

Grant Junior High Principal Steve Raymer said students have finished the state assess-

ment tests and the school will have parent-teacher conferences next week.

West Elementary School Principal Verna Milnes said teachers there are working on report cards. The staff has been working on changes to be suggested for the first grade card to reflect changes in curriculum, she said. The site council served 280 hot dogs at a reading night on Tuesday, Feb. 27, and made \$1,100 to buy books for their reading program.

Milnes said the staff is finishing training for the DIBELS data system, Dynamic Indi-

cators of Basic Early Literacy Skills, which will replace the current reading test. Milnes said each test takes about one minute to take.

Central Elementary Principal Sharon Gregory said the third-grade music program was scheduled for Tuesday at the high school auditorium. The fourth-grade music program will be at 7 p.m. tonight at the auditorium.

The final session of the after-school program was Thursday, she said. They had a supper at 5 p.m., had entertainment and completed a survey to help with a grant application for next year.

The site council paid for and provided a snack for the students at Central during the state assessment tests, she said.

High School Principal Harvey Swager said students are done with state assessment. The High Expectation Committee recommended that anyone who got an exemplary on the assessments will get eight seminar passes. Other students can get six, four or two passes.

Swager said a committee of 16 high school students has been working on things for teens