


weather report

39°
noon
Thursday



Today
• Sunset, 7:04 p.m.

Saturday
• Sunrise, 6:40 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:05 p.m.

Midday Conditions
• Soil temperature 42 degrees
• Humidity 69 percent
• Sky sunny
• Winds southeast 18-24 mph
• Barometer 30.01 inches and falling
• Record High today 85° (1907)
• Record Low today -6° (1965)

Last 24 Hours*
High Wednesday 58°
Low Wednesday 22°
Precipitation none
This month 0.42
Year to date 1.23
Below normal 0.52 inches

The Topside Forecast
Today: Mostly sunny with a 30 percent chance of rain after midnight, a high near 61, winds calm switching to the southeast at 10 to 15 mph and a low around 34. Saturday: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain or snow, a high near 53, winds out of the north at 5 to 15 mph and a low around 25.

Extended Forecast
Sunday: Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain or snow, a high near 35 and a low around 25. Monday: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain or snow, a high near 35 and a low around 25.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

City candidates answer questions

Editor's note: With the upcoming election on Tuesday, April 5, we asked the candidates for city commission a few questions to give voters an idea about who and why the people are seeking to be elected.

The responses are as sent by the candidates and presented in alphabetical order.



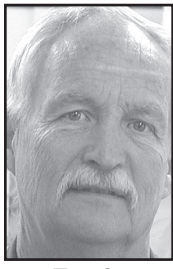
Daniels



Deeds



Fairbanks



Farris



Finley



Zimmerman

Dave Daniels

1. Why are you running for the City Commission?

Goodland is where my heart is. I want to keep "City" taxes and utility rates level, as we've been doing. The last five years, I've been a part of a Commission that's reduced the mill levy each of these years and in the present economic climate, I know of no other governing body that's done that. I want to continue this trend. We've kept the City's budget low and reduced our staff, who's done a great job getting more accomplished with less. I want Goodland's citizens and businesses to grow and prosper, leading Northwest Kansas. Goodland's future depends on common sense decisions made now. My decisions as a Commissioner have been on how it affects us long into the future, not just how it affects us today. A Community never stays constant, it's either growing or dying. Goodland has to grow, there's no other option.

2. What do you see as the greatest challenge facing the City or the greatest opportunity?

Sunday: Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain or snow, a high near 35 and a low around 25. Monday: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain or snow, a high near 35 and a low around 25.

The fiscal condition of our State and Nation is going to be a challenge to the City of Goodland. We have to depend less on what the State or Feds return to us in funds as they take more from us. As a City, we have to adjust our cost to sustain and build on what we have, at the same time being able to grow and attract new people and business. If a business has trouble making ends meet, it has to tighten its belt or cut cost; a City isn't any different. We have to grow from within, while weaning ourselves off the State and Federal Government. Our greatest opportunity is that as a community, more money is spent here than is earned as income here. That's a great aspect to build on.

3. What would you like to see the City accomplish in the next 5 to 10 years?

To grow at a rate that surpasses other communities our size. This can be done by a larger tax base with businesses, and people moving to Goodland. The more businesses and people that make Goodland

their home, the larger the tax base in our area. This increases the amount of funds to build our Community, without raising City taxes or rates. I'd like to see the City continue rebuilding its infrastructure (sewer, roads, electrical, water, etc.) in the same fiscally responsible way it's been doing, with minimal cost to the citizens. In recent years, Commissioners have directed work to be done by City Staff instead of being contracted out, like replacing valley gutters, curbing, equipment maintenance, etc. That saves costs and keeps money local, saving citizens money.

4. Background on me.

I was raised in Goodland, attending K-12. I attended an aviation maintenance trade school in Tulsa, Okla. Worked for a year at Cessna in Wichita and went to Minneapolis, Mn., working for Northwest Airlines as an Aircraft Mechanic for almost 20 years.

I returned to Goodland in 1999, investing in real estate and rental property, and my wife and I now

manage rentals as our income.

I've been a City Commissioner since 2003, County Representative to Southeast and East Central Recycling Committee, City Representative to the Solid Waste Committee, member of Shine-on-Sherman County Resource Development Committee, Area 1 Chairman for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), member of the Northwest Kansas Bike show group during Flatlander Festival, was on the Sherman County Community Foundation Board for several years and participated in Leadership Sherman County for four years.

Jeff Deeds

1. Why are you running for the city commission?

I have been involved in many ways and in many projects in Goodland. I feel I bring a well-rounded approach to the challenges that face our community. With my experiences on local, regional and state boards, I know I will be able to bring a fresh perspective to the

commission.

2. What do you see as the greatest challenge facing the city or the greatest opportunity?

One of the priorities Goodland has been working on for a long time is the clean up and renovation of properties. I would like to see the pride we all have in Goodland carry on into, not only the physical look, but in the attitude we have about Goodland. By cultivating that sense of pride, it then becomes easier for us all to identify and encourage investments in our community.

3. What would you like to see the city accomplish in the next five to 10 years?

I hope in 10 years we can look back and say we faced the challenges we had and we worked as a community to improve the outcome. There are big opportunities in agriculture, and we are in a unique place to take advantage of them. Agriculture will always be one of the major drivers of the Goodland economy, and there will be chances for growth that revolve around adding value to the products we grow in the area. Goodland should be looked to by the agriculture industry as a place to make those investments.

4. Give us some background on you as where you were born, grew up, graduated from high school, went to college, professional work,

See CITY, Page 6A

School Bond committee offers burgers, coffee

By Pat Schiefen

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The School Bond Committee had a hamburger and hot dog feed on Monday night at the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The meeting was for anyone who wanted to learn more about the upcoming \$14.9 million school bond question on the Tuesday, April 5, election.

More than 125 people showed up to hear the presentations. The event was not sponsored by the school and was funded by donations to the School Bond Committee. A smaller crowd was at the coffee earlier in the afternoon.

At the burger feed, Ron Vignery was on hand to talk about the history of the bonds that built different schools.

"Facts and figures are important," Vignery said.

The first school bond for the Lincoln School was in 1889 and cost \$10,000. That bond passed 277 for and 132 against, he said.

A \$20,000 school bond in 1908 built the old Central School for \$20,000. It passed with 278 votes for and 32 against.

In 1917 the first high school was built on Cherry Street for \$40,000. There were no vote totals for that bond.

Grant School was built in 1926 for \$125,000. That bond carried by eight votes with 257 voting for and 249 voting against. Vignery noted that Grant had as much controversy then connected to it as now.

Speaker Jennifer House and Jessica Cole both talked about how the current building renovation plans had built into them money to tear down Grant. Cole said there have been people not wanting to destroy the historical building.

She told the audience that she was sure the school board would sell or give Grant to anyone who had plans for it. Cole remarked that part of the problem there was that the building needs a new roof and also a different heating system. Also it would take about \$100,000 a year to run Grant.

Cole invited anyone to go eat lunch at Grant with her and her daughter, Grace, to find out what it is really like in that building.

Vignery said in 1936, the current high school was built with a PWA Grant for \$114,545. It cost \$140,000 and the bond passed 1032 for and 560 against.

In 1946 the bond for the stadium passed 792 for and 388 against. This was after World War II when soldiers returned home. There was no cost available.

SCHOOLS		
1889 LINCOLN SCHOOL	\$10,000	277 for 132 against
1908 OLD CENTRAL	\$20,000	278 for 32 against
1917 1 st HIGH SCHOOL on Cherry Street	\$40,000	No Vote Totals
1926 GRANT SCHOOL	\$125,000	257 for 249 against
1936 HIGH SCHOOL PWA GRANT \$114,545	\$140,000	1032 for 560 against
1946 STADIUM	Cost ??	792 for 388 against
1948 CENTRAL SCHOOL	\$252,000	258 for 65 against
1963 MAX JONES FIELDHOUSE REMODELED HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL BUILDING (\$399,000 of this was for Max Jones Fieldhouse)	\$810,000	No Vote Totals
1967 NORTH & WEST SCHOOLS	\$885,000	1,204 For 812 against
This was the 5 th election on the matter (\$1,007,625 actual cost)		

Charts being presented as part of the school bond issue (above) show the history of school bond elections since the school district was first organized through the most recent in 1967. The school

DISTRICT	MILL LEVY	STATE AID
USD 464 Scott City	63.06	34%
USD 294 Oberlin	52.23	0%
USD 200 Tribune	*52.11	0%
USD 105 Atwood	50.56	13%
USD 208 WaKeeney	49.87	1%
USD 315 Colby	46.52	17%
USD 211 Norton	42.34	48%
USD 363 Holcomb	41.24	0%
USD 241 Sharon Springs	41.23	0%
USD 352 Goodland	40.98	15%
USD 274 Oakley	40.51	3%
USD 215 Lakin	36.47	0%
USD 214 Ulysses	36.20	0%
USD 201 Hugoton	36.18	0%
USD 297 St. Francis	35.02	0%

district property tax levy (above right) for surrounding counties and the level of state aid show Goodland is not the highest in the area. Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

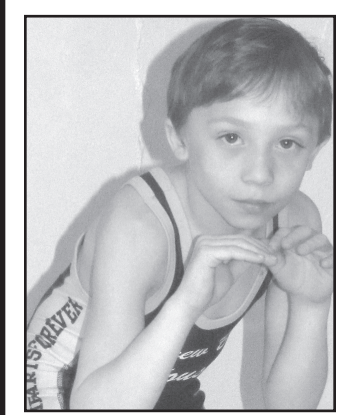
local markets

Noon
Wheat — \$7.19 bushel
Posted county price — \$7.21
Corn — \$6.18 bushel
Posted county price — \$6.44
Milo — \$6.05 bushel
Soybeans — \$12.14 bushel
Posted county price — \$12.79
Millet — \$5 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$30.55 cwt.
Confection — no bid
Pinto beans — \$18 (new crop)
(Markets by Scouler Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today



More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



Wrestlers state tourney

Goodland wrestler D.J. Knox, is one of 12 who qualified for the Kansas Kids State tournament in Topeka on Saturday and Sunday. See photo, story on Page 11A, see photos and support page on 4B.

Spray planes land old U.S. 24



Two spray planes landed on old U.S. 24 west of Wilkens Truck and Trailer about 9 a.m. on Thursday and taxied to Frontier Ag to be part of a customer open house. The Sherman County Sheriff's office blocked the road to allow the two planes to land. The first one landed smoothly, but the second one bounced a bit

and slid a bit sideways with one wheel going off the road before the pilot was able to correct and bring the plane under control. The two planes took off in the afternoon with the sheriff's office again closing the road.

Photo by Brad Schieds/Wilkens Truck and Trailer