

weather report

46°

10 a.m.
Monday

Today

- Sunset, 4:24 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 6:48 a.m.
- Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 40 degrees
- Humidity 22 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds west 8 mph
- Barometer 30.04 inches and rising
- Record High today 73° (1970)
- Record Low today -3° (1985)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday	59°
Low Wednesday	12°
Precipitation	none
This month	trace
Year to date	9.02
Below normal	10.14 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny with a high near 65, winds out of the west at 5 to 15 mph and a low around 30. Saturday: Sunny with a high near 68, winds breezy out of the northwest at 10 to 30 mph and a low around 31.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Sunny with a high near 65 and a low around 38. Monday: Sunny with a high near 60, winds breezy and a low around 28. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.



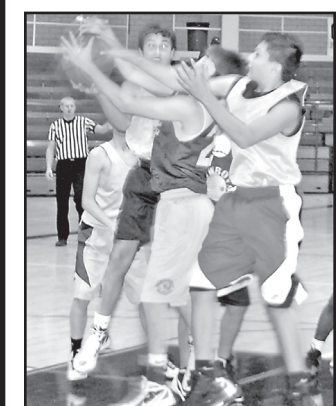
local markets

10 a.m.

- Wheat — \$8.59 bushel
- Posted county price — \$8.29
- Corn — \$7.59 bushel
- Posted county price — \$7.42
- Milo — \$7.19 bushel
- Soybeans — \$13.55 bushel
- Posted county price — \$13.74
- Millet — \$14 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$25.55 cwt.
- Confection — no bid
- Pinto beans — \$28
- (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



Teams ready for first games

The Goodland High School basketball teams held a sports drink scrimmage on Tuesday at the Max Jones fieldhouse. The regular season gets under way tonight.

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Two arrested after drug investigation

Following a six-month investigation, the Sherman County Sheriff's Office and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation have arrested two local residents on drug charges.

Sheriff Kevin Butts said his office and KBI arrested Braden Lucas, 21, and Erica Sutherland, 23, both of Goodland on Monday night. Butts said the arrests were made at 1530 Caldwell Ave. without incident.

Lucas is being held on charges of sale and distribution of hallucinogenic drugs and no drug tax stamp with a \$250,000 bond.

Sutherland is being held on charges of sale and distribution of hallucinogenic drugs, and arranging the sale and purchase of drugs with a communications device with a \$150,000 bond.

Food drive to be held on Saturday

The annual food drive for Genesis Food Bank will be on Saturday starting at 9 a.m. A change this year is the orange bags that Genesis is providing for people to put their food donations in and placed by their front door. The Sherman County 4-H clubs will be picking up the bags.

It was decided to get bags that were easier to see after not being able to see white bags last year with the snow. Any non-perishable food can be donated and a gently used toy can also be included to be used for Toys for Tots.

The Christmas food baskets will be assembled on Thursday, Dec. 13, at the Goodland Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Typically 200 baskets are prepared by volunteers from the community, said Dawn Jolly, Genesis food bank coordinator.

2012 could be driest year

By Kevin Bottrell

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2012 is within striking distance of becoming the driest year on record for Goodland.

So far this year, the National Weather Service has recorded 9.02 inches of precipitation. If the area gets less than 17 hundredths of an inch, it will become the driest year in more than 100 years of record-keeping.

Dave Floyd, warning coordination meteorologist with the weather service, said that December brings less than 17 hundredths one out of every three years.

The two other driest years on record at 1976 and 1956. The Goodland weather station recorded 9.22 inches in 1976 and 9.19 inches in 1956. There have been

plenty of other dry years as well, 2002 being the most recent with 9.89 inches of precipitation.

This November, Goodland has received only trace amounts of rain. There have only been three other years when the area has seen less than one tenth of an inch of rain: 1932, 1939 and 1959.

The yearly total is a dramatic drop from the past several years. In 2011, the area got 19.3 inches of precipitation. In 2010 it was 19.46 and in 2009 it was 22.66. Floyd said part of the reason for the dry year was a big, stagnant area of high pressure that sat over the plains states all summer.

That high pressure resulted in a mass of warm, dry air, in which it was difficult for thunderstorms to form. When thunderstorms did form, they were often small

and localized, Floyd said. Winds at high altitude were not strong enough to blow the thunderstorms around. Floyd said the area hadn't been doing too bad the first three to four months of the year, before the high-pressure mass set in.

The result is that northwest Kansas remains in an exceptional drought — the highest drought classification on the U.S. Drought Monitor. Most of the plains states including Nebraska, South Dakota, Colorado, Wyoming, Oklahoma and Texas are under similar conditions.

That lack of thunderstorms, however, did result in fewer tornadoes. In an average year, the Goodland weather station issues 43 tornado warnings for the tri-state area. This year, it issued 11, with only five actual tornadoes reported.

The reason for the season



Want to recycle, support a cause and buy a Christmas tree already decorated for the holiday? The Goodland Churches Thrift Store, 1002 Main, is having a silent auction on 10 trees, decorated and ready to go. Store employees Susana Rodriguez (from left), Debi Niblett and Tammy Durham were adding the finishing touches to one. The trees have been decorated by different organizations including the junior high Family, Career and Community Leaders

of America, Feed My Starving Children, The Church LaLuz Del Mundo, Carnegie Arts Center, Ennis Handy House, Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter, Genesis, Goodland Public Library and the store itself. The auction will end on Saturday, Dec. 8, and the winners can take them home Tuesday, Dec. 11. The thrift store will deliver and set up the trees for \$15.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

County home to many newspapers in the past

Due to the popularity of the *Goodland Star-News*' special history section in August, we will be running monthly history articles highlighting a variety of topics throughout the rest of the year.

By Kevin Bottrell

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From *The New Tecumseh* in 1885 to *The Goodland Star-News* in 2012, newspapers have played a big part in the history of Sherman County.

Each of the county's early towns had at least one newspaper. *The New Tecumseh* — the county's first paper, which drew its name from the middle name of William Tecumseh Sherman, civil war general and county namesake — was founded in November, 1885, in the town of Gandy. The next year it moved to Leonard, a town that was renamed Itasca later in 1886. While in Leonard, the twice-monthly paper had to miss six issues because printing materials, being hauled on the Kansas Pacific Railroad, were delayed by snow.

A year after its founding, *The New Tecumseh* moved again, this time to Eustis. In 1887, the paper was renamed *The Sherman County Democrat*, which lasted until 1889. The other paper in Eustis, *The Sherman County Dark Horse*, moved to Goodland in 1888 and lasted until 1894.

Sherman Center News also moved to Goodland, where it became *The Goodland News*, which lasted until 1896. Goodland was also the site of *The Goodland Banner*, which lasted from April, 1898, to May, 1899, when it became the second paper to be called *The Goodland News*. In 1907, it was consolidated with *The Goodland Republican*.

Voltaire had the *The Adviser*, founded in 1885 and sold to *The Republican* in Sherman Center in 1886, and the *Sherman County News*, which was suspended in 1888.

The Sherman County Republican was one of the longest-running



The Sherman County Republic was printed out of this building (left), on the southeast corner of the 10th and Main intersection. The Republic, sometimes called the Republican, was one of the longest-running newspapers in the County. The site of its office is now the telephone building, owned by Sherman County. The county has had many print shops over the years, such as this one (below), which was in use printing a daily paper in 1910. Sherman County Historical Society

newspapers in the county. It was founded in Itasca in 1886. It moved to Sherman Center later that year and to Goodland in 1887. In 1889 it was renamed *The Goodland Republican*. It absorbed the Sherman County Farmer and changed its name again to *The Goodland Republic*. It absorbed *The Goodland News* in 1907 and carried both names for several years until 1916, when it also absorbed the *Sherman County Record*.

In 1926, it was consolidated with *The Western Kansas News* and *Kanoradian*. *The Goodland News-Republic* printed its last issue on Dec. 29, 1948. It was absorbed into *The Goodland Daily*.

The front pages of these early papers often had things like real estate ads, stories about the resources and land available in the county, or stories extolling the virtues of each particular town. The July 22, 1886, edition of the *Sherman Center News* contained a long article on why that town should become the county seat. It also contained a poem celebrating the demise of Leonard, a rival town.

They often had stories about the frequent changes in ownership. A February 25, 1899, edition of the *Goodland Banner* had a story about new owner Chas Weber. It also advertised a one-year subscription for one dollar.

The papers had small entries such as livestock purchases and real estate sales as well as larger news stories. The Oct. 18, 1928,



edition of *The Kanorado Star* had a news story about prairie fires. Due to dry conditions, a large had started south of Kanorado and burned all the way to Ruletton.

Even after the demise of many of those small towns, the county continued to have multiple newspapers.

In 1932, the *Goodland Daily News* began its run. In its first issue, the paper had stories about its first subscriber, Jerry Barnes, on the death of Civil War veteran Richard Hemming of Brewster and on a narrow win by the Goodland High School football team over Burlington. In 1933 the 18-year-old *Brewster Herald* consolidated with the *Sherman County Herald*.

Also during the 30s was the single broadsheet *Ad-Visor*, an advertising flyer printed by D.W. Blackburn. The *Ad-Visor* had ads for general goods, rooms for rent and more.

In 1968, *The Prairie Drummer* boasted of reaching 3,500 homes in Sherman, Wallace and Cheyenne counties.

In 1986, *The Goodland Daily News* and *The Sherman County Herald* were sold to the Nebraska-

based Seaton Cooperation, which also owned the *Colby Free Press*. The papers were acquired by the *McCook Daily Gazette* in 1989.

In 1997, current owner Steve Haynes purchased the *Goodland Daily News*. In October of 2000, it was combined with the *Sherman County Star* to create today's paper, the *Goodland Star-News*, marking the end of more than a century of multiple competing newspapers.

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