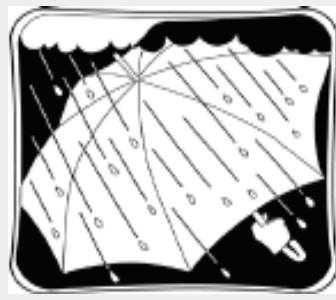


## Weather Corner



**Tonight...**Cooler...Breezy. Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the evening...Then partly cloudy after midnight. Lows in the upper 40s. North winds 15 to 25 mph with gusts to around 40 mph decreasing to 10 to 15 mph after midnight.

**Thursday...**Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s. West winds around 10 mph. Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 50s. West winds around 10 mph shifting to the northwest after midnight.

**Friday...**Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 80s. Northwest winds around 10 mph. Friday night...Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly clear. Lows in the mid 50s.

**Saturday...**Sunny. Highs around 90. Saturday night and Sunday...Partly cloudy. Lows around 60. Highs in the mid 80s.

**Sunday night...**Mostly clear in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s.

**Monday...**Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s.

Monday night and Tuesday... Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s. Highs in the mid 80s.

Tuesday's low, high: 57, 96. Monday's low, high: 51, 81.

# Efforts in the works to save Goodland store

By Tom Betz  
ntbetz@nwkansas.com

A Goodland banker started a letter-writing campaign aimed at keeping the J.C. Penney store here open, while city and county officials tried to figure out what they can do to save the downtown business.

Officials at Penney's announced last week that the store, with three full time employees, would close in September.

Steve West, vice-chairman of the Sherman County Economic Development Council and president of Western State Bank, said Friday he had talked to Lorri Madden, the store's manager in McCook, Neb., on Thursday.

He said he talked to City Commissioner John Garcia about developing a plan involving the city and county and the county-sponsored development council. West said it is a long shot, but he thinks the town deserves an effort to save the store.

Clyde Lambert, who managed the Penney's store here in the 1980s, said Friday he thinks contacting the top three executives in the company is the best way to reach the firm.

He suggested sending a delegation from the city and county to Plano, Texas, to make a case to keep the store open.

Madden, in an interview by phone from McCook on Friday, said it had been a tough week for her. She said she had only been told about the closing on Monday, the day before employees got the news.

"There are only certain things I have control on, and I have very little information than what you had," she said. "These are tough decisions."

Madden said despite the feeling of the employees that the store had been making a profit, it has not been meeting the company's goals for several years. She said company officials did not see any way that it could be turned around.

She said part of the Penney's overall goal is to have stores that are profitable, and that the corporate research people are saying that customers are driving to central malls. She said this does effect some of the smaller stores, but if the Goodland store had been making money, it would not be closed.

With the Goodland store closed, the closest would be either Mc-

**“These are tough decisions.”**  
Lorri Madden,  
McCook, Neb.

Cook or Hays, Madden said, or customers can order on the Internet.

"We are dominate in the Internet," she said, "and we have to be a good corporate operation to make a profit for our shareholders."

Madden said when the announcement was made, employees were told they could relocate to another store, but none of them asked her about that at the time.

"I told them I could find them a place in any Penney's store," she said. "It would mean they would have to move. I told them I would do anything I could to help them, and that would include talking to Wal-Mart or any other potential employer."

"I would let any employer know it was not a decision that had anything to do with them."

"The girls have been working very hard in the past year to increase the profitability and main-

tain the store. There are things we could not control, such as transportation costs. Many companies are cutting down and are not sending out trucks unless they are full. We do not want to pass the increased costs onto the customer.

"It is hard to face these decisions. Had the economy not been in the condition it is, that store would not be closing. With a better economy, the decisions would probably have been different."

Madden said she has felt like the women at the store were her family, since she relocated from Wichita, and said it was hard for her on Tuesday when they got the news.

She said Patsy Gresty, who has been with the store for more than 15 years, has good office management skills, and Madden said she would hire her, Elizabeth Riley or Diana Nichols if they were willing to move to her store in McCook.

When asked if the letter writing campaign or a delegation to Plano might save the store, Madden said she couldn't say. She did say she was glad to see the people were at least giving it a good effort.

Madden said the top corporate offices who make the decisions include Myron (Mike) Ullman III, chairman and chief executive officer; Kenneth Hicks, president,

chief merchandising officer and director; and Mike Taxter, director of J.C. Penney stores. The address is J.C. Penney Co, 6501 Legacy Drive, Plano TX 75024.

Of the three listed to send letters to, Taxter has been with Penney's since 1971 and has been a store manager and district manager before moving up in the corporate ranks to be the director of stores.

Dan Hayden of Bankwest, who started the letter-writing campaign with an e-mail push, said he felt it might make a difference if these people got hundreds or thousands of letters from people all over northwest Kansas saying they wanted to keep this store open and did not want to drive 140 miles or more to find one.

**COLBY ROD  
RUN MEETING**

**Thursday, June 12th  
6:30 p.m.**

Law Enforcement Training  
Center, 360 N. Franklin

*Anyone willing to volunteer,  
please come join us.*

## Lenora to celebrate this weekend

The town of Lenora has been getting geared up for the annual Lenora Jubilee, June 13 and 14 for the last year.

Not only has the town started work on a walking trail at Larrick Park, but a brand new stage is ready for the concerts planned for this year's Jubilee.

At least a dozen volunteers began clearing brush along the walking trail two weeks ago. A historical bridge will be placed

on the trail and plans call for millings on the trail. Heading up the walking trail committee are Diana Seaton, Dianne Swertferger and Myrna Mindrup with lots of assistance from Phil Rule. Norton City/County Economic Development Director Diane Becker said, "The trail will really compliment the stage project."

The weekend kicks off Friday night at 7 p.m. with country artist Jake Owen.

### For Sale

**For Sale** 1988 E-250 XLT club wagon wit camper package, 7.3 liter diesel with a fuel heater to be able to run on used vegetable oil. Runs excellent with no blow-by. No rust, very nice interior, 4 captains seats an a rear bench that turns into a bed, full power, tinted windows, rear air, 117,000 miles. Asking \$4,850.00 785-460-9794. -----6/9---6/13----

**For Sale** 1976 El Camino. 785-322-5650. -----5/29---6/12----

### Services

**Service** Dave's Refurbishing Tree Service, handyman, house and fence painting, tree removal, tree repairs. Call Dave Rudy, 443-0994, 485 Walker #7. -----6/6---6/19----

**Daycare** Kountry Kids Daycare has openings. Contact Kristina Deges for details. 462-7384. -----5/14---7-19----

**Tired of Leaks** every time it rains? Murray Roofing and Construction. 1-800-794-3204 or 443-1339. -----5/2---TFN----

**Free Estimate** Flat and sloped roofs, all kinds. Murray Roofing and Construction. 1-800-794-3204 or 443-1339. -----5/2---TFN----

**Free Estimate** Automatic, computerized, underground sprinkler system. 1-800-794-3204 or 443-1339. -----5/2---TFN----

**Free Estimate** Lawn power rake, aerate and edge program. JM Tree and Lawn Service. 1-800-794-3204 or 443-1339. -----5/2---TFN----

**Free Estimate** Lawn fertilizer and weed control program. JM Tree and Lawn Service. 1-800-794-3204 or 443-1339. -----5/2---TFN----

### Services

**Free Estimate** Tree spraying promotes healthy trees! JM Tree and Lawn Service. 1-800-794-3204 or 443-1339. -----5/2---TFN----

**Free Estimate** Landscaping, tree trimming and removal. JM Tree and Lawn Service. 1-800-794-3204 or 443-1339. -----5/2---TFN----

**Up to 80% savings** possible on many medications. Generics now available for Celebrex, Lipitor, Nexium, Plavix, Singulair, and all ED meds. Canada Drug Topeka, 1-866-804-6100. -----G 4/26---tfn----

### To Give Away

**Free stove** Needs new door spring. You haul. 443-6068. -----6/4---6/9----

### Lost

**Lost** 7-year-old female cat, around 2nd Street. Orange and white coloring, long hair. Reward offered. Call 785-639-4415. -----6/6---6/12----

### Pets/Supplies

**Puppies!** Basset puppies \$300, tri-color and red/white, ready 6-19 and 7-13; Siberian Husky puppies, \$350, blue eyes, black and grays, ready 6-19 and 6-27. Deposit 50% cash or money order. 785-425-6430, dkdfarms@ruraltel.net. -----6/9---6/13----

**To give away** Shar Pei mix free to good home. 1 year old, spayed female. Call 443-3884. -----6/5---6/11----

### Garage Sales

**Garage Sale** 230 South Chick, Wednesday and Thursday ONLY, 6-8 p.m. Everything is a quarter! Lots of craft supplies, and everything else! -----6/11---6/12----

### Garage Sales

**Multi family Garage Sale** 965 E. 9th. Friday 1-7, Saturday 8-12. Lots of nice boys and girls clothes, 3T-5T, nice clean inside an outside toys, home decor, furniture, books, cd's, movies, something for everyone! -----6/11---6/13----

**Garage Sale** 580 North Lincoln, Friday 2-8, Saturday 8-12. Table saw, roaster oven, comforter set, dishes, collectible dolls, boys clothes and much more. -----6/11---6/12----

**Garage Sale** 345 East Walnut, Friday 2-6, Saturday 9-11. Four families! Little Tykes and other toys, boys and girls clothes birth to 7 years, jogging stroller, maternity and women's clothes, household items and lots of other great finds! Also, four 2006 17" factory Chevy Tahoe tires and wheels, low miles. -----6/11---6/13----

**Garage Sale** 950 E. 6th, Thursday 6-9, Friday 6-9, Saturday 8-12. Jukebox, Chromecraft table and chairs, rear tine rototiller, firetruck toddler bed, cow collection, children's toys and clothing, plus size maternity clothes, Little Tykes, furniture. No early birds! -----6/11---6/12----

**Garage Sale Two families!** 335 S. Grant, Friday 9-6, Saturday 9-2. Tribal brand clothing size 8 and 10, women's clothes sizes 20, 22 and 24, household items from kitchen, rocker recliner loveseat, 90-year-old dining table, some tools, crystal, beer steins, and misc. items. If interested and can't make it call Chris, 785-694-3703. -----6/9---6/13----

**Rexford City Wide Garage Sale** June 14, 8-12. Estate sale and numerous locations. Lunch will be available. Bake sale, too! Call 785-687-3925 or 785-687-8012 with questions. -----6/5---6/13----



## Bikers visit Norton

By DICK BOYD  
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The city of Norton received a different kind of economic stimulus over the weekend when 835 bicyclists and supporters of all ages from around the nation visited during the 34th annual Biking Across Kansas.

The bicycle enthusiasts left the Kansas-Colorado border west of St. Francis on Saturday morning, stayed in Atwood on Saturday evening and cycled on U.S. Highway 36 on Sunday with Norton as their destination.

**MEXICAN  
BUFFET**

**CITY  
LIMITS**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 12TH**

**5:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

**462-6565**

**It's the 18th Annual Moonlight  
Madness at Moonlight Gardens**

**STARTING AT NOON - 8 P.M. THURSDAY, JUNE 12**

**AND 9:30 - 8 P.M. FRIDAY, JUNE 13TH!**

**50% off**

Annuals Perennials  
Vegetables Hanging Baskets  
Planters

**40% off**

Trees Shrubs Roses  
Grasses

**MOONLIGHT GARDENS**

3 Mi. N. on Hwy. 25, 1/2 mi. West of Colby  
**785-462-6355**

**YOU**

*Can Make A Difference*

**NOW SHOWING**

June 6th - June 12th

**WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS**

PG-13 1 Hour, 39 Minutes  
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00  
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00  
Monday - Thursday 7:00

**KUNG FU PANDA**

PG 1 Hour, 32 Minutes  
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00  
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00  
Monday - Thursday 7:00

**Colby Cinema**

1935 S. Range • 785-460-9600  
www.colbycinema.com

Winner of 2 FREE Movie Passes  
**KAREN O'NEIL**

Colby  
**FREE PRESS** and  
Colby/Thomas  
County Chamber of  
Commerce welcomes:

**TACO JOHN'S**  
A WHOLE LOT OF MEXICAN.

**To their new  
location:  
625 W. Willow  
460-8226**

**VOTE WYRICK**

**District Judge,  
Div. 2**

**I will be visiting Selden on  
Saturday, June 14th @ 9 a.m.**

"Come on out to the park and enjoy refreshments and  
conversation! I look forward to seeing you there!"

*Integrity, Equality & Respect!*

Paid political ad by Wyrick for Judge, Jerry Vincent, Treasurer.