

weather report

51°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:47 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:38 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:48 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 58 degrees
- Humidity 23 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds variable 4 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.23 inches and falling
- Record High 92° (1928)
- Record Low 29° (1997)

Last 24 Hours*

High 68°
Low 41°
Precipitation .01

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, low lower 40s, winds south 10-20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: partly sunny with 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high upper 60s, low mid 40s, winds south 20-40 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: partly sunny with 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high 70-75, low mid 30s. Sunday: chance of showers. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Vet opens up



Maurice Cullen, a World War II veteran, looked at a map which shows the route his division, the 4th Infantry, took through Europe in 1944 and '45. Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

County meeting

At Tuesday's meeting, Sherman County commissioners:

- Discussed a letter from the state about water contamination at the old landfill. Story below.
- Reviewed dog policy with Sheriff Doug Whitson and dog-catcher Scott Gilmer. Story to come.
- Heard the Northwest Kansas Family Shelter request \$1,000 for next year. Story to come.

Chemical may get into well

Goodland may stop pumping out water

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Daily News

Four monitoring wells west of the old Sherman County landfill continue to show increased contamination from tetrachloroethylene, and the state is worried it will get into a city water well to the west.

City Manager Ron Pickman said today he has seen a copy of a letter from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and thinks the city should try not to pump from the well over the next several months. No contamination has showed up in the city well so far, however.

"I have not been officially notified, but we are monitoring it closely," Pickman said. "We test water once a month and have had no bad reports so far, but you don't know what the underground stuff is going to do."

"By reducing the amount we pump, we hope it slows down the movement. The dry weather doesn't help any."

The letter from the state outlining the problem was mailed to the county last week and commissioners discussed the letter at Tuesday's meeting.

In the letter, Michael McNulty, an environmental geologist in the landfill section, asked the county to present a plan for protecting the water well by June 17.

Curt Way, county public works director, said here are 10 monitoring wells, and one north of the city's public water well shows no contamination.

Monitoring well 8 had a level of 4.4 micrograms per liter in Nov. 2000, but showed above the maximum permitted level of 5 micrograms per liter in the December 2001 report with an increase to 6.3. This well is considered the "sentry well" for the city well.

The state worries that the plume of contamination is being drawn toward the city well. Way said the county's consultants believe the normal underground water flow in this area is to the east-southeast, away from the city well.

Monitoring well 6, north and east of the sentry well, which shows the highest contamination, actually dropped from 40.2 in Nov. 2000 to 36.2 in Dec. 2001. Well 6 is east and north of well 8. Monitoring well 5, straight south of 6, showed a decrease from 6.9 ug/l in Nov. 2000 to 5.6 ug/l in Dec. 2001. Monitoring well 4, east of 6, showed a decrease from 13.7 in Nov. 2000 to 11.2 in Dec. 2001.

Way said McNulty is worried that the city water well may be pulling water west from the contaminated area, which is why the wells to the north and east show decreases while the closest monitoring well is showing an increase.

The county commissioners decided to notify the city of the situation and have Way contact the county's consultant, Mark McMullen of American Environmental Consulting of Littleton, Colo., to determine alternatives.

In the past, the state has asked the county to drill an additional monitoring well to the north of the landfill to determine the direction or boundary of the contamination. However, negotiations with the landowner failed, and the county told the state it would take an order from them to have the monitoring well drilled.

local markets



Noon

- Wheat — \$2.52 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.42
- Loan deficiency payment — 3¢
- Corn — \$1.82 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.82
- Loan deficiency payment — 17¢
- Milo — \$1.51 bushel
- Soybeans — \$4.08 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.12
- Loan deficiency payment — 80¢
- Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$9.20 cwt.
- NuSun — \$9.35 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 57¢
- Confection current — \$16/\$8cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$27

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire



Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Tanks moved toward Gaza

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Tanks moved toward Gaza today, after Israel's Cabinet approved retaliation for Palestinian suicide bombings. Meanwhile, Palestinians arrested 16 Hamas members in a first sign that Yasser Arafat was taking action against terror groups.

In Bethlehem, talks on resolving a five-week standoff at the Church of the Nativity broke down today, after a partial deal had already appeared imminent. The deal floundered over a Palestinian demand to allow a European monitor into the shrine to safeguard 13 suspected militants who were to remain there until they are deported. So far, negotiators have failed to find a country to take them.

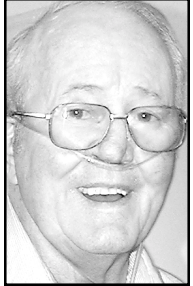
Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon convened his security Cabinet at an air force base early today, immediately after his return from the United States.

Sixty years after WWII, soldier shares story

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

As time moves on, fewer people remember what it was like during World War II. Maurice Cullen, 79, hasn't forgotten. He just hasn't always wanted to talk about it.

Cullen had just turned 22 when he landed on Omaha Beach about a month after D-Day. He was a replacement, one of thousands sent to take the place of those who had been killed or wounded in combat.



Cullen

He joined the 4th Infantry Division and fought his way through France. His outfit was there for the Battle of the Bulge, the last big German push.

Cullen won a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart, but he came home in one piece. He hasn't said much about it since.

"I didn't feel right talking about it," Cullen said. "I didn't want to sound

Event features vet parade

World War II is the theme of this year's Settlement Days, and downtown businesses are honoring the era with window displays and a parade of veterans on Friday.

The Goodland Daily News has interviewed World War II veterans and Sherman County natives who remember what it was like here during the war. The paper will be the running stories this week.

Today, readers will meet Maurice Cullen, a 79-year-old veteran who rarely talks about his war experiences and never publicly. Tomorrow, learn what it was like to live in Sherman County during the war.

All this will lead up to the parade

down Main Avenue at 4 p.m. Friday and the Sherman County Historical Society's second annual History Conference, starting at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday at the Masonic Temple, 519 Center Ave., where people who lived through the war will be telling their stories.

World War II veterans are encouraged to show up at 3:15 p.m. Friday at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall on 9th and Main, so they can be in the parade and ceremony.

Everyone else who wants to participate can come to the south end of Main at 3:30 p.m.

Call the Historical Society at 899-6773 for information.

like I was bragging. Very seldom have I ever talked about it. I was fortunate. A lot of people were worse off than me."

Cullen said he has loosened up a little in the past few years.

"I might not have too many years

left," he said. "I'll be 80 in June. If I don't tell my story now, I might not ever get to."

Cullen grew up in Rapid City, S.D. He and his wife Pamela moved to Goodland in 1978. He has 12 grandkids, two great-grandkids and

another on the way.

He is a member of the Goodland Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, of which he was post commander from 1983 to 1985.

Cullen has a collection of war memorabilia, including parts of his old uniform, his mess kit, helmet and army-issued shower sandals.

"Everyone once in a while, they would bring a shower within two or three miles of the front lines," he said. "That was always the greatest feeling."

He's kept a box which holds every letter he got from his mother and girlfriend when he was overseas.

"We didn't get mail very often," he said, "but when we did, it came all together, a bunch at a time. I don't know why I saved them all. At the time, it sure was nice to get them."

Not all of his collection is U.S. Army issue. He has a small box, filled with German money and insignia, and a German P-38 pistol.

"Right after we landed in France, we marched for a little bit, and I looked

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Annual promenade to be held Saturday

Goodland High School seniors will share a fancy dinner Saturday, show off their finest at the annual promenade at 7 p.m. at Max Jones Fieldhouse, then dance the night away at the Elks Lodge.

Looking their best, students will show up at 5 p.m. at the Safari Steak and Seafood House in the Goodland Elks Hall to start prom activities.

Shannon Simpson, prom sponsor,

said parents are invited to check out decorations between 4:30 and 5 p.m.

She said the junior class, which plans prom each year, did all the decorating and picked this year's theme, "Here's to the Night," the title of a song by the popular alternative rock band "Eve 6."

Simpson said couples will have their pictures taken and eat dinner between 5 and 7 p.m., and then head over to Max

Jones Fieldhouse for the promenade.

"That's the chance for everyone to show off their dresses and tuxedos to the public," she said.

Friends, family and anyone else are invited to watch as the prom goers glide across the fieldhouse floor. Simpson said between 120 and 150 students and adults usually attend.

Then it's back to Safari for a dance

that will last until midnight. Simpson said a deejay from Derby will spin tunes.

When the dance is over, she said, the kids are on their own. Simpson said there's been talk of organizing after-prom activities, but nothing has materialized.

"We opted for an after-graduation party," she said.

Stovall reveals plans to marry Larry Steckline

WICHITA (AP)—Attorney General Carla Stovall, who recently pulled out of the Republican race for the governor's office, Wednesday announced plans to marry.

Stovall, 45, said she'll marry Larry Steckline, 60, over Labor Day weekend. The Wichita Eagle reported today. The Aug. 31 wedding will be at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Grand Lake, Okla.

Stovall, president of the National Association of Attorneys General, introduced Steckline to the staff in Attor-

ney General John Ashcroft's office in Washington and divulged their plans, the paper reported.

"Everyone is very happy for us. It's been magnificent," Stovall told The Eagle.

And part of that, she said, was her decision to drop out of the governor's race.

"I like to think I would have had the courage to get out of the race," Stovall said. "It wasn't right for me, even before Larry. It just



Carla Stovall

became more obvious once we started dating."

She said she is relieved to be out of the race.

"It feels like a year and a half ago that I made the decision not to run," she said.

And Steckline couldn't be happier about Stovall's decision. He and Paul Statton, a friend in Grand Lake, wrote a song to prove it.

"Larry and Paul are going to sing it at the reception," Stovall said. "It's

called 'Carla, Don't Run for Governor,' and when they sang it to me, I cried."

It ends with, "Carla, will you marry me?"

Stovall and Steckline have been seeing each other since they met last December on a blind date.

"We had never actually met until that night," Stovall said Wednesday. "Larry interviewed me years ago, but we weren't in the same place."

She said she and Steckline joke about that interview now because it wasn't all that pleasant.