

# Goats browse where cattle need rain, room

By Sharon Corcoran  
*The Goodland Star-News*  
A different type of livestock production will be the subject of a conference that will introduce goats to Sherman County.

Not that there are no goats around, but herds of boer goats for slaughter are about as common as goat meat in the grocery.

A steering committee that hopes to change that will provide information and a taste of goat at the conference to start the ball rolling. The event will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Sherman County fairgrounds. A cabrito (goat) lunch will be served.

Marlene Peters, a goat producer from Phillipsburg, is on the committee that arranged the conference. She said the committee's goal is to introduce goats as an alternative livestock for this area.

Ethnic groups would like to be able to buy goat meat in stores, she said, and goats could be a good moneymaker during the drought in Kansas. The conference will teach people how to make a profit raising goats, Peters said, and the committee is looking at ways to market goats to make the meat more available in stores.

"If we can bring it from the pasture to the skillet," she said, "that will be more money to the producer."

Goats don't need a large acreage, she said, and don't eat nearly as much as cattle. That could make goats ideal during a drought.

Texans will tell you, she said, that goats will come through when the cattle market is down. Goats browse like deer, she said, so four to six goats can be raised on the land used for just one cow.

We overlook the little things, Peters said, that can help us through a drought. Those on the committee feel that people are overlooking the possibility of something new.

"We need to think outside the box," she said, "as far as new things to help the community survive."

There are already consumers interested in goat meat, Peters said, and producers only have imports from Australia and New Zealand as competition.

"The door is there," Peters said. "We just need to knock on it."

An article in the May 2002 *New England Journal of Large Animal Health* said Hispanic, Caribbean and Asian populations prefer goat meat and that Greek communities prefer goats for holiday celebrations. Many African cultures consume goat as well.

Minnesota has an increased demand for goat, the article said, in response to a growing Somali community. Detroit has a large Muslim population who serve goat for religious holidays.

The article said African, Caribbean and Central American immigrants along the East Coast create a demand for goat there as well.

And there is no reason goat can't be a desirable meat in Kansas, Peters added. It is a lean, red meat, that doesn't have a strong flavor and lacks the fat marbling of beef.

Attitudes toward goat seem to be a mental perception, Peters said. Producers have found that marketing goat meat under the Spanish word for goat, cabrito, or in the French word makes it more popular than just calling it goat meat.

But goat meat is a health food, Peters said, nearly as lean as chicken. The *New England Journal* article has a chart comparing the nutrients and fat of a serving of goat to beef, pork, lamb and chicken:

- Goat has 122 calories, 2.58 grams of fat, .79 grams of saturated fat, 23 grams of protein and 3.2 grams of iron in an 85 gram serving, the article said.
- Beef has 245 calories, 16 grams of fat, 6.8 grams of saturated fat, 23 grams of protein and 2.9 grams of iron.
- Pork has 310 calories, 24 grams of fat, 8.7 grams of saturated fat, 21 grams of protein and 2.7 grams of iron.
- Lamb has 235 grams of fat, 16 grams of fat, 7.3 grams of saturated fat, 22 grams of protein and 1.4 grams of iron.
- Chicken has 120 calories, 3.5 grams of fat, 1.1 grams of saturated fat, 21 grams of protein and 1.5 grams of iron.

A risk management grant is paying for the Goodland conference, Peters said, and one Saturday, April 12, in Columbus, Neb. A feasibility study is being done in Nebraska to look at the possibilities for getting goat meat into stores.

A farm survey is being done, she said, but there will be no need to build processing plants for goats, as sheep processing plants can be contracted during their down time.

The steering committee is looking for goat meat to not just be a niche market here and there, Peters said, but is taking it one step at a time, starting with education.

The committee chose Goodland for the conference, she said, because they thought it would draw people from Colorado, Wyoming and western Nebraska.

# Strike!



## Students gather here

Eighty students from across Kansas came to Goodland over the weekend for the American Field Service State Round-up. Forty were foreign students living with host families. Thirty families here opened homes for the exchange, and 30 Goodland students participated. They had a potluck Friday and workshops Saturday. That afternoon, the groups split up to go bowling (top) to a movie or to Old Town in Burlington. There was a talent show Saturday night, where a student from China sang (right) and a young man from France played guitar. Photos by Liz West The Goodland Star-News



# County switched to Central Time in 1965

TIME, from Page 1

3 p.m. for the rest of the term. He said when school resumed in the fall on Central Standard Time, the schools will undoubtedly change the hours to conform with other schools in the Central Standard time zone.

The change to Central Standard

Time became effective at 1 a.m. Sunday, April 25. Citizens turned their clocks ahead one hour to be on Central Standard Time. The advance put Goodlandites on the same time as Colby to the east and as Burlington to the west, which was on Daylight time. Kansas did not observe daylight time that year.

The county commissioners, in

adopting the resolution to change to Central Standard Time, indicated the change would be permanent unless it is placed on the ballot at the next general election.

Five counties along the Kansas-Colorado border were on Mountain Standard Time then: Sherman, Wallace, Greeley, Hamilton and Kearny. Three other counties along the border, Cheyenne, Stanton and Morton, were and are on Central Standard Time.

Wallace County and Greeley County followed the example of Sherman County in switching to Central Standard Time in 1965. Hamilton and Kearny, further south, did not make the change.

In Nebraska, three southwestern counties which had been on Mountain Standard Time, Dundy, Perkins and Chase, all voted to switch to Central Standard Time.

That October when Colorado changed back to Mountain Standard Time only Hamilton and the west portion of Kearny County changed.

Sherman, Wallace and Greeley counties did not change their clocks, sticking with the Central zone.

Sherman County was then on Central Standard Time, but it did not end there because at the same time, the federal government was discussing a bill to put the entire country on daylight saving time. That law went into effect on April 30, 1967.

In Sherman County, there were lots of switches in the weeks before the law went into effect because there was a question of how the new law was to be interpreted.

NEXT: Kansas high court leaves Sherman County on Central Time.

# Former resident featured in Alaskan newspaper

NOWAK, from Page 1

at the Cordova Hospital, which had a small staff and relatively few patients. John was transferred to Northway in 1956, she said, where he was in charge of the weather station.

Nowak said she handled an emergency in Northway after two brothers were playing cowboy and one accidentally shot the other. She said she had to care for the boy until a plane could come in with a doctor. The boy lived.

After a few months in Northway, she said, John was transferred to

Annette Island, which at the time was the Ketchikan's airport. It was the first stop out of Seattle, she said, and all the planes used to land there.

The island is a reservation, Nowak said, owned by the Tsimshian Indians. One end was populated by the Coast Guard, the Weather Bureau and the Federal Aviation Administration, she said, and the other end was the village of Metlakatla. You couldn't go to Annette Island and decide you wanted to live there, she said; you had to be sent there by the government.

Nowak said she and John stayed

on the island until 1959, when Alaska became a state.

"Everyone celebrated around big bonfires," she said, "and we were proud to be able to say that we voted in the first state election."

She said her daughter was ready to start junior high that fall, and there was no junior high or high school on the island. The Nowaks moved to Anchorage.

Winnie Nowak said she tried to retire from nursing several times but kept being pulled back. When John became an invalid in 1991, she said she finally did retire to take care

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