

weather report

34°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 6:06 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:36 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:07 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 47 degrees
- Humidity 85 percent
- Sky cloudy with mix of rain and snow
- Winds north 28 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.70 inches and rising

• Record High 89° (1963)

• Record Low 8° (1931)

Last 24 Hours*

High 75°

Low 40°

Precipitation none

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: cloudy and windy, high near 40, low upper teens, winds north 30-40 m.p.h. Saturday: mostly cloudy, high lower 50s, low upper 20s.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: partly cloudy, high lower 60s. Monday: partly cloudy, high lower 60s, low lower 30s. Tuesday and Wednesday: partly cloudy, high lower 60s, low mid 30s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.10 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.05

New Crop — \$2.77 bushel

Corn — \$2.34 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.13

Milo — \$2.11 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.31 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.15

Millet — \$7 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$9.65 cwt.

Oil new crop — \$10.25 cwt.

NuSun — \$10.25 cwt.

NuSun new crop — \$10.95

Confection — \$17/\$7 cwt.

Confection new crop — \$17/\$10

Pinto beans — withdrawn

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

inside today

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



New store gets ready

Workers are making good progress on remodeling the convenience store at Eighth Street and Caldwell Avenue. The station will soon be getting a new name, as Mike and Mark Olderbak, owners of Kabredlo's of Lincoln, Neb., bought the buildings in November. See Page 3.

Tuesday election for cities, school

Voters will be asked to select three members of the city commission and four members of the Goodland School Board during the general election on Tuesday to be held at the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall on Main.

There will be a straw vote on changing from Mountain to Central time held at the same time over in the lobby of the Sherman County courthouse.

The polls for the general election and the straw vote will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Advance voting is available now for both, at the county clerk's office for the election and at *The Goodland Star-News* for the time vote.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said those wishing to vote early in the city and school election can go to the clerk's office until noon Monday.

Those wanting to vote early on the time issue can go to *The Star-News* office at 1205 Main during regular business hours through Monday.

In the general election, the voters will be selecting three of five candidates for the Goodland city commission, four of eight candidates for the school board, and the mayor and council members for Kanorado.

There are five candidates vying for the three seats on the Goodland City Commission, including incumbents Tom Rohr, a real estate agent; Curtis Hurd, a retired businessman; and Rick Billinger, of Nationwide Homes.

John Garcia, owner of Garcia's Furniture and Appliance, and David Daniels, a rental property owner, are

the challengers. Both are members of the new county Economic Development Council's board.

When the votes are counted, the two receiving the top votes will be elected to four-year terms and the third will have a two-year term.

There are eight candidates for the four seats on the school board, with four incumbents and four challengers in the race.

The incumbents are Jane Philbrick, a farm wife and part-time employee at Mann's Jewelry, Ben Duell, a Ruleton farmer, Kathy Russell, county probation officer; and Eric Gray, a city water department employee. The challengers are Fritz Duke a service technician for S&T Telephone; Marty Melia, owner of KLOE, KWGB and KKCI radio; Dr. Gary Smith, veterinarian at Prairie-land Animal Clinic; and Danny Whalen, owner of Dairy Queen.

The four receiving the most votes will be elected to four-year terms.

In Kanorado, incumbent Mayor Hazel Estes, an insurance agent, is being opposed by Gerald Webber, a part-time postal contract driver.

Only one person, Chad Hanevik, filed for Kanorado City Council, although two positions are open.

On election day, a separate straw poll on the time zone question, "Should Sherman County become part of Central time?" will be held in at the Sherman County courthouse. The vote is for any resident of Sherman County over 18.

Rain helps wheat; more needed soon

By Darrel Pattillo

The Goodland Star-News

Last month's prayers are starting to be answered, with over an inch of rain measured in Sherman County last week, but that doesn't mean the drought is over.

Subsoil moisture is still short in western Kansas, says the Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service.

Dana Belshe, Sherman County agricultural extension agent, said the wheat got a good drink last week, but needs more.

"The inch we got," he said, "will allow the wheat to continue to grow, but it's going to have to be followed right away to really do any good."

Vic Stegemiller, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Goodland, said the area could expect normal rainfall for April. He also said for March, the area was two-tenths of an inch ahead of normal.

Statewide, topsoil moisture has improved considerably, with four percent of the state very short on topsoil moisture, 18 percent short,

68 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture, statewide, is still a problem, with 31 percent rated very short, 33 percent short, 35 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus.

With last week's rain, topsoil moisture in northwest Kansas was slightly ahead of the state, with 3 percent very short, 21 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and zero surplus.

On the other hand, subsoil moisture in northwest Kansas was rated at 50 percent very short, 46 percent short, 4 percent adequate, and zero surplus. Only west-central Kansas was shorter on subsoil moisture.

Crop conditions continue to improve, with wheat rated at 5 percent very poor, 16 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. This is a substantial improvement over last year at this time, when 17 percent of the crop was very poor, 27 percent was poor, 33 percent was fair, 21 percent was rated good, and just 2 percent was excellent.

Finishing Eagle Scout project



Jacob Erickson and some helpers took advantage of the nice weather this week to pour a sidewalk around the armed services memorial at the cemetery as part of Erickson's Eagle Scout project. Erickson was assisted by his father, Phil, a city employee, along with Jonathan McClung, Danny Hachmeister, Blake Saint, Matt Rohr and Tim Gittinger. Photos by Sheila Smith / The Goodland Star-News

Reason for siren blasts unknown

When citizens of Goodland hear the tornado sirens sound these days, they're not sure if it is for real or another false alarm.

Mary Messamore, director of the county emergency management program and dispatch center, said Wednesday the sirens keep going off at strange times in the night and in the morning on Thursday.

"We are not sure what is happening," Messamore said. "We are looking for the cause and working with a repairman out of Nebraska to isolate and identify the problem."

Her best suggestion to people

who hear the sirens is to look outside, and if it looks stormy, to turn on the radio. In a real emergency, the local stations will be broadcasting.

She said part of the problem appears to be something to do with a radio signal that sets the sirens off. When the sirens begin to sound, the system to turn them off, which is a remote radio signal, does not work and they have to go to each siren and manually turn them off.

"We are sorry this is happening," Messamore said, "and want everyone to know we are working to get the problem fixed as quickly as possible."

She said the sirens have gone off at all times of the night. The latest was about 8 a.m. Thursday.

She said the dispatchers have been asked if the sirens could sound an all clear, but Messamore said there is no all clear sound in this system.

"If you hear the sirens," she said, "check outside and then turn on your radio if it looks like there might be a storm. If the sirens continue for a long time, it is possible there may be an emergency which the radio will be announcing."

Library building to mark 90th anniversary Monday

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Goodland's Carnegie Library Building will mark its 90th birthday with an open house from 1-5 p.m. Monday at the Carnegie Arts Center.

The Goodland Ambassadors will be at the center for a rededication ceremony at 2 p.m., said Director Tina Goodwin, and the Sherman County Historical Society will present a plaque. There will be brochures detailing the history of the building, Goodwin said, which began as a library and has been an arts center since 1983. And there will be birthday cake all around.

The building at 120 West 12th was dedicated and opened to the public March 31, 1913, she said, and served as a library for about 60 years before it became a senior center and later the arts center.

A committee was formed in 1978, Goodwin said, to study the feasibility of having an arts center in Goodland. The Goodland Arts Council was organized Oct. 16, 1978, and operated out of the library on Broad-



The Goodland Carnegie Library was built in 1913, and today it houses the Goodland Arts Center.

way for a few years, hosting events and displaying art there.

After the arts center moved into the Carnegie building, Goodwin said, the arts council pushed for repairs. The building has been on the national and state historical registers

for several years.

According to the history of the building in the brochure, a meeting was called on Aug. 1, 1902, at the courthouse for all persons interested in forming a library association. The idea of a library again surfaced in

July of 1908. Soon the City Federation of Women's Organizations was formed with its primary tasking being the formation of a public library.

Mrs. A.E. Hodgkinson donated three rooms above the Hodgkinson Mercantile, 1002-1004 Main, to

house the first organized library. In August 1908, the organization approached Mayor P.J. McBride about contacting Andrew Carnegie for grant money to build a library. Carnegie, founder of what is now U.S. Steel Corp., was building libraries in communities across the nation. This request led to the formation of the Goodland Public Library Association.

The newly organized library board heard from Mr. Carnegie early in 1909. He proposed granting \$10,000 for a public library building if the city would commit 10 percent of that amount each year to maintain a free public library. Petitions for a special election were presented to the city on Jan. 29, 1909, to determine whether the city should levy a tax to pay for the library maintenance.

Many spoke in favor of the new library and added tax to support it, however, there was some opposition. One man in attendance called the Carnegie money "tainted" and