

The Goodland Star-News

MIDWEEK
Tuesday, Dec. 23
2003

75¢

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Twenty eight Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

42°

at noon



Today

•Sunset, 4:28 p.m.

Tomorrow

•Sunrise, 7:04 a.m.

•Sunset, 4:29 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 39 degrees
- Humidity unavailable
- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds north northwest 22
- Barometer 30.13 inches and rising
- Record High 83° (1964)
- Record Low -9° (1998)

Last 24 Hours*

High 52°
Low 24°
Precipitation None

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: mostly sunny, high around 49, low near 19, winds northwest 7-9 m.p.h. Wednesday: mostly sunny, high near 53, low around 23, winds southwest 5-9 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Christmas: mostly sunny, high around 53, low around 26. Friday: partly cloudy, high around 53, low near 25. Saturday: partly cloudy, high near 45, low around 18. Sunday: partly cloudy, high around 37. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.63 bushel
New crop — \$3.37 bushel
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$2.36 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.28
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$2.20 bushel
Soybeans — \$7 bushel
Posted county price — \$7.01
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$5.50 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$11.10 cwt.
NuSun — \$11.35 cwt.
Confection — \$16/\$9 cwt.
Pinto beans — Withdrawn
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigo 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



345 seniors enjoy dinner

A student (above) served Clyde Lambertz his dinner at the high school holiday dinner for senior citizens held Wednesday. Story and Photos on Page 16.

Tidings of Holiday Cheer

Most stores closed for Christmas

Make plans to do some grocery shopping, and get anything else you need for the holidays, now, because most everything in Goodland will be closed by afternoon Christmas Eve and all day Christmas Day.

Convenience stores, restaurants, discount stores, fast food places and the town's only grocery will be closed. Fuel will be available, along with a few chips and snacks. Pizza will be available at Presto Phillips 66 and Mexican food from Reynaldo's, but that is about it for hot food.

The Goodland Star-News office, 1205 Main Ave., will be closed Christmas Day but will be open Friday. Because of the holiday, there will be no Friday edition of the paper.

Cowboy Loop, 1631 Main Ave., will close at 3 p.m. Wednesday and be open regular hours Friday. Kabredlo's Cenex, 320 E. 8th St., will close 6 p.m. Wednesday and reopen Friday.

Gambino's Pizza, 402 E. 17th St., will be closed Wednesday and Christmas. Pizza Hut, 1803 Cherry Ave., will close at 4 p.m. Wednesday and be closed all day Christmas. Picnic in the Park, 1016 Main Ave., will close at 3 p.m. Wednesday and be closed Christmas.

Crazy R's Bar and Grill, 1618 Main Ave., will close at 1 p.m. Wednesday and be closed Christmas. China Gardens, 1108 Main Ave., will be closed Christmas, Friday and Saturday.

Wal-Mart, 2160 Commerce Rd., will close at 6 p.m. Wednesday and be closed all day Christmas. McDonalds, Taco Johns, Subway, Dairy Queen and Wendy's will be closed for Christmas.

The outpatient clinic at the Goodland Regional Medical Center will be closed Christmas, but will be

open Friday. Rural Health Ventures will be closed Christmas and Friday, however.

City offices will be closed Wednesday and Christmas, and will be open regular hours Friday. County offices will close at noon Wednesday and be closed until Monday.

The Sherman County transfer station, 2079 Road 67, will close at noon Wednesday, reopen for regular hours Saturday.

The public library, 812 Broadway Ave., will be closed Wednesday and Christmas. It will open regular hours, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Friday.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Center will close early Wednesday afternoon and be closed Christmas and Friday. The post office will be closed Christmas day but will be open regular hours on Wednesday and Friday.

The Goodland Activities Center, 808 Main Ave., will close at noon Wednesday, be closed Christmas and be open regular hours Friday. The center will celebrate its 20th anniversary Saturday with an open house, with refreshments, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Sherman Theatre, 1203 Main Ave., will be closed Wednesday but will be open Christmas Day showing "Lord of the Rings, Return of the King" at 7 p.m.

Sight and Sound Video will close at 6 p.m. Wednesday, but will be open Christmas Day from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. KC's Video will close at 9 p.m. Wednesday and be closed Christmas.

Liquor stores will be closed on Christmas under state law. Kear's Liquor will close at 5 p.m. Wednesday, and Garrett's will close at 11 p.m. The stores will be open regular hours on Friday.



The cold weather last week brought a coating of frost to the Christmas decorations, and the moisture was welcome, but there is little or no chance of snow for Christmas.

Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Star-News

Christmas on Us winners drawn

The weather was sunny and the temperature in the high 60s Saturday as hundreds of people gathered on 11th Street with their tickets and lists of number to see who would be the winners of the sixth annual Christmas On Us contest.

The crowd gathered around the stage set up in front of the Madd Hatter. It took less than half an hour to find the five winners in the contest, sponsored by Goodland merchants and *The Goodland Star-News*.

Cameron Pittman of Goodland won the grand prize of \$1,500 and Stephanie Yarbrough, 412 W. 4th, won the \$500 first prize.

Winners of the last three \$50 prizes were Betty Orth of St. Francis and Garnet Haifleigh, 1125 Sherman, and Roy Wassemiller, 804 Washington.

Pittman got his winning ticket at Aten Department Store and Yarbrough got hers at Frontier Equity Exchange. Orth's winning ticket came from Aten's, Haifleigh's came from Hitchcock Inc. and Wassemiller's from Goodland Medical Arts Pharmacy.

The drawing took place at 1:30 p.m. in front of the Madd Hatter, ending the month-long contest, which gave 12 Goodland shoppers a total of \$2,500 extra holiday dollars. All prizes were awarded in scrip, which can be spent at participating Goodland businesses.

Seven "instant winners" received \$50 each in weeks leading up to the drawing by finding their numbers in ads in the special Christmas on Us section of the paper. The final three \$50 prizes were drawn on Saturday before the main drawings.

Tom Betz, editor of *The Goodland Star-News*, stood on a stage in front of the crowd, calling out winning ticket numbers. Eleventh Street was blocked off at Main and Center for the drawing, which lasted about



Pittman



Yarbrough



Orth



Wassemiller



Haifleigh

20 minutes.

Doug Jackson and Anne Hamilton of the paper's advertising department recruited children out of the audience to mix the tickets and pick the winning numbers out of a huge plastic bin.

Marcus Cross and Kyle Moore mixed the tickets before the drawing. Ryleigh Paxton drew the numbers for the three \$50 winners. Madison and Madilyn Hooten mixed the tickets again, and drew the ticket for the \$500 winner. Tyler and Austin Neufeld mixed the tickets and helped lead the singing of a couple of Christmas caroles, then drew the ticket for the grand prize.

Pat Schiefen, ad makeup artist and proofreader, wrote the numbers on poster board, displaying the signs to the crowd, and Sheila Smith, office manager, wrote the winners names and information down.

Three numbers were drawn for



Marcus Cross and Kyle Moore stirred the tickets before the Christmas on Us drawings Saturday afternoon.

Photo by Greg Stover / The Goodland Star-News

the \$50 instant prizes, and there were two winners in the first two minutes. However, it took two more tries to give away the third prize.

The \$500 prize was given next, and it didn't take long for Yarbrough to realize she was a winner.

Pittman was the second person called for the grand prize. This was Pittman's second prize this year, as he was the first \$50 winner.

The contest, sponsored by Goodland merchants and *The Star-News*, started in mid-November, with participating businesses handing out one ticket for each \$10 spent on products or services. Shoppers could collect up to 250 tickets per transaction. The last day to get a ticket for the big drawing was Friday.

Over the four weeks, there were ticket numbers in the participating merchants' ads, and the lucky winners who came to the newspaper office received \$50 in scrip.

Other instant winners were Steve and Colleen Duell, Alberta Harding, Kendall Cooper, Marie Johnson and Kelly Rippe.

Participating businesses, including American Communications, Hitchcock Inc., Mann's Jewelry, Medical Arts Pharmacy, Knott Just Books, Scooter's and Sight and Sound, Bankwest, Jacque's Hallmark, Frontier Equity Exchange, Aten Department Store, Miller's Electronics, Elliott's, People's State Bank, Eagle Cable Television, El Dorado, Garcia's Home Furnishings and Appliance, Seamhead, Sunflower Computers Services and Cyberland Gaming Center, Madd Hatters and Keepsake Kreation, McClung's Appliance and Furniture and *The Star-News*.

County economy shows strength

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The economy here seems to be improving based on strong economic indicators, the Sherman County Economic Development Council heard last Tuesday evening at its monthly meeting.

Carolyn Applegate, development director, cited recent sales tax figures which showed a 12.5 percent increase for Sherman County, and a

list of 37 businesses which have opened, changed location, expanded or have new owners over the past year.

She compared this with the eight businesses which have closed, adding that two of those have reopened under new owners. Four of the six that remain closed were people who were retiring or closing for health reasons.

New businesses are being re-

cruited for a strip mall to be built next year on the north side of the Wal-Mart parking lot, Applegate said. She said Hanks restaurant and the service station at the east Goodland exit on I-70 are expected to open in January, and a new quick lube business is to begin construction on the southeast corner of the Wal-Mart parking lot.

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