

weather
report

37°

noon

Thursday

Today

• Sunset, 7:14 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 6:22 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:15 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 39 degrees
- Humidity 64 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds southeast at 15 mph
- Barometer 30.26 inches

and steady
• Record High today 87° (1978)
• Record Low today 12° (1997)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 49°
Low Thursday 30°
Precipitation —
This month —
Year to date 3.21
Above normal .98 of an inch

The Topside Forecast

Today: Chance of rain or snow.
Mostly cloudy, high near 40, low near 22.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: A 30 percent chance of snow, mostly cloudy, high near 34, low around 20. Sunday: Sunny, high near 55, low around 31. Monday: Partly cloudy, high near 63, low around 38. Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, partly cloudy, high near 61, low around 33. Wednesday: Mostly sunny, high near 63.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.08 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.23
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$3.41 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.22
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$3.16 bushel
Soybeans — \$6.65 bushel
Posted county price — \$6.78
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$7 hundredweight
Sunflowers
NuSun crop — \$16.15
Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)
(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



4-H tables
on display

Holly Wilkening's tropical menu and table setting garnered grand champion among 11 and 12-year-olds in the 4-H Creative Tables project on display at the Carnegie Arts Center through Thursday. See story, photos on Page 9.

Easter egg hunt may move inside

A cold front sliding south plunged the temperatures into the lower 40s on Thursday, and planners for the annual Easter Egg hunt on Saturday were saying it might have to move indoors.

Connie Grieve, a member of the Goodland Lions Club who helped organize the event, said Thursday the cold weather could force them to move the hunt from Gulick Park to the Goodland Activity Center at Eighth and Main.

She said people should listen to KLOE Radio Saturday morning for an update.

Grieve said the hunt is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., but games, face painting and color page drawing will begin about 10 a.m.

She said the Easter Bunny and possibly the Madd Hatter will hop in a bit before the hunt begins to say hello and let parents take pictures of their kids with them.

Saturday, there will be three age groups run separately for egg hunting, for kids 2 and under, 3 to 5 and 6 to 8.

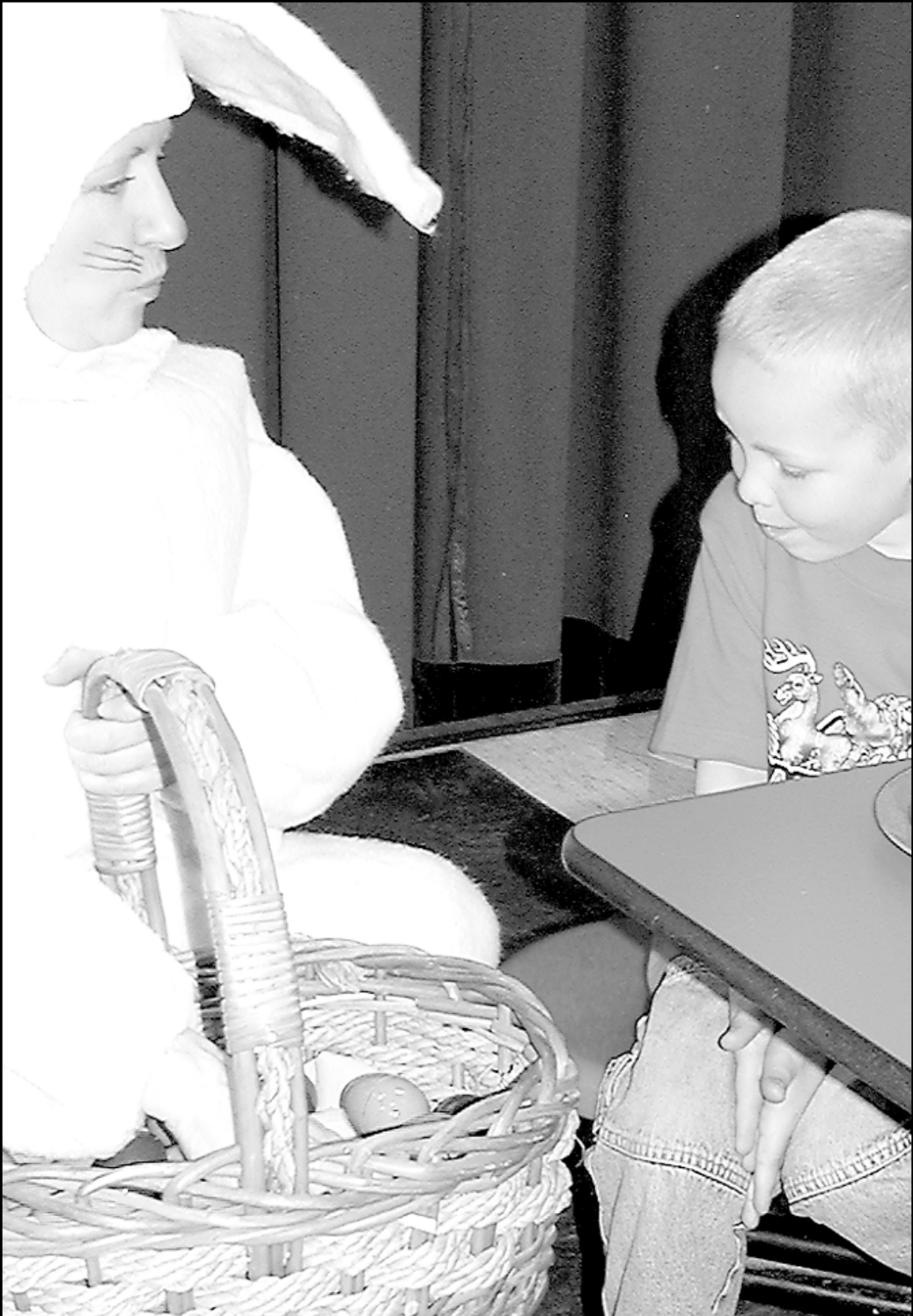
Grieve said if the hunt is indoors, the floor will be covered with eggs for each age group and the special golden eggs will be given away through a free drawing.

Schylar Goodwin of Goodwin Law said there will be nine golden eggs spread throughout the three hunts. Each one will have a number inside that matches a certificate from one of the golden egg sponsors.

A super golden egg sponsored by Wal-Mart will be given away in one of the three age groups, said Laura Pope, Wal-Mart manager.

The golden eggs are being sponsored by Wal-Mart, Jacque's Hallmark, Presto, Goodwin Law and a private donor in the name of the Hope Thomas Alexander Foundation.

The hunt is being sponsored by Goodwin, Bankwest of Kansas, the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce, *The Goodland Star-News*, Wal-Mart and the Lions.



The Easter Bunny (Connie Grieve) made an early Easter visit to the Head Start class Wednesday morning, giving each child a couple of special eggs, and encouraging them to come with their parents to the annual Easter Egg hunt at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Gulick Park.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Good Friday service today

Churches plan

Easter, sunrise events

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Good Friday, recalling the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, will be observed by the Goodland Ministerial Alliance with a community service at 12:10 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 12th and Sherman.

Many area churches also plan services to cap Holy Week, and special services Sunday.

The Methodist Church also plans a Stations of the Cross service at 5:30 p.m. that day. An Easter sunrise service will begin at 6:15 a.m. Sunday at the Goodland Cemetery, with regular worship back at the church at 10:30.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, 307 W. 13th, will have a Good Friday service at 1:30 p.m. Easter Vigil will be at 9 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday services begin at 10:30 a.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 13th and Center, will hold Good Friday services at 5 p.m. Easter Sunday services will be at 8 a.m. for morning prayer and 10 a.m. with Holy Eucharist.

The First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 711 Arcade, will have a Good Friday service at 7 p.m. Easter sunrise services will be at 6:15 a.m., Sunday school at 9:15 a.m. and worship at 10:30 a.m.

Calvary Gospel Church, 4th and College, will have services at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

First Baptist Church will have a special kids church at 9:30 a.m. and morning worship at 10:30 a.m. The church meets at Bateman's Funeral Home, 211 E. 11th.

Word of Life Foursquare Church, 10th and Clark, will have its Easter Sunday service at 10:30 a.m.

The Church of the Nazarene, 305 Caldwell, will have Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., regular

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Veteran's clinic site visit Monday

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Goodland Regional Medical Center officials are optimistic about being chosen as the site for a Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outreach clinic, and they are looking forward to Monday's site visit from department officials.

Goodland's proposal reached the Denver office March 22, Administrator Jay Jolly told the hospital board at a meeting Tuesday. He said federal officials told him it would take 30 days to evaluate the proposals from Goodland and two Colorado towns and 90 days to choose the site.

Things are moving quickly, however, and officials will evaluate Goodland Monday morning and go to Burlington and then Yuma, Colo., before returning to Denver on Tuesday.

Three critical factors in the decision, Jolly said, will be price, whether the facility offers what the agency needs, and location. Location is about more than just geography, he said; the agency wants a hospital that is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Goodland is the only one of the three that is headed in that direction, he said.

Representatives from S&T Communications will be here during the site tour, Jolly said, to talk about services they can provide, and Ken Baum, a veteran will come along.

"I'm calling everybody I know and asking if they want to be there," Jolly said. "I don't know if they'll be intimidated if the whole town shows up."

Jolly said he told an official of the Denver office that the clinic is important to Goodland. He said that has not been lost on the Denver office.

"They are hearing that loud and clear," Jolly said.

Administrative Assistant Ericka Wieck said a person she spoke to in the Denver office told her Goodland's proposal was the best he had seen in years.

The hospital's proposal offers 1,950 square feet, some of it shared, Jolly said; the agency had asked for 1,780 minimum. The hospital is offering the space rent-free for at least the first three years, he added.

The department is asking for a three-year lease, he said, followed by seven one-year options. This clinic is important to the community, he said, and the hospital wants a win-win for everybody.

Jolly asked the board's opinion on whether or not to ask the department to pay for operating costs after that. He said Congressman Jerry Moran and U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts are checking to see if the hospital can continue to receive Medicare reimbursement for the cost of running the space with the veterans clinic there.

If that is approved, he said, there would be no need to charge Veterans Affairs anything. It costs the hospital about \$22.50 per square foot to operate, he said, or about \$45,000 per year for the space they want. About \$7.50 per square foot is for utilities, he added.

"My feeling," Jolly said, "is it's worth it to have it here to give it rent-free for the duration, unless we charge them for utility costs."

The hospital needs to be able to tell the department what will happen to rent in three years, he said, adding that he doesn't know how the reimbursement request will turn out.

"We should charge something at least for utilities," said board member Steve Riebel. "There may come a time when we are pinched."

Riebel asked what the space could be rented for on the open market. The space is top-notch quality, said

Chief Financial Officer Jim Precht, adding he couldn't say for sure what the value would be. You can't compare it to a storefront downtown, he said; it's a different environment. He recommended asking St. Anthony Hospital in Denver if they know the going rate for space in a medical facility.

If the hospital is already giving good space free, Riebel said, it doesn't need to add paying the government's utilities.

"I would like to see us recoup the fixed costs," he said.

The hospital can always decrease the lease cost, said board chair Lynn Hoelting, but it is not as easy to increase. He recommended telling the department they would charge for utilities after the three years and reserve the right to decrease the lease cost.

The board agreed to propose including utilities and operating costs after the three years with the option to not charge them.

The space offered is Dr. Davis' old suite, Jolly said, along with some room across the hall. Space in the waiting room will be shared, he said, but the veterans may be divided into their own space later.

Voters elect city, school board members

Voters chose three members for the city commission Tuesday, four members for the Goodland School Board and a mayor and two council members for Kanorado, with a total of 704 ballots cast.

There were 123 absentee ballots sent out and 95 returned for a grand total of 799.

There are three provisional ballots, said Deputy County Clerk Mary Ann Snethen, two in Goodland and one in Kanorado.

The county commissioners will canvass the ballots 8 a.m. this morning at the Sherman County Courthouse. The two provisional ballots in

the city could decide which city commissioners serve four or two years.

Annette Fairbanks got 366 votes for 48.7 percent of the votes to be the top vote getter for the city commission and a four-year term. Dave Daniels with 336 votes or 44.6 percent got the second four-year term. Mayor Rick Billinger got one less vote than Daniels with 335 votes or 44.5 percent and will serve a two-year term unless the order changes. There were 17 write-in votes.

Billinger, asked about the election, said he really had no comment. He has served 16 years on the city board.

For the Goodland School Board, Jane Philbrick had the most votes with 514 or 64.3 percent, followed by Andrew House with 507 or 63.5 percent, Chuck Wilkens with 376 or 47.1 percent and John Hendrich with 294 or 36.8 percent. These four will serve on the board. There were 280 write-in votes, including 272 or 35 percent for Travis Blake, pastor of the Goodland Bible Church.

"I'm glad I was elected and I am anxious to contribute to the district," Hendrich said.

Retired farmer Dennis Korbelik will serve as the mayor of Kanorado. He got 37 votes or 78.7 percent.

Sandra Bagley got 10 votes or 21.3 percent. There were no write-ins.

There were four candidates for two positions on Kanorado City Council. Gerald Webber was the top vote getter with 24 or 51.1 percent, followed by Cody Pettibone with 19 or 40.4 percent for the two positions. Deb Fahey got 17 votes or 36.2 percent, Larry Wilkerson got 10 votes or 21.3 percent and there were 17 write-in votes.

Colleen Duell got 577 votes or 72.2 percent for the Sunflower Extension Board. There were 15 write-in votes.

Colby votes NO on college

By John Van Nostrand

Colby Free Press

Thomas County voters Tuesday turned down a Colby Community College proposal to build a 2,400-seat gymnasium, auxiliary gymnasium, wrestling room, locker rooms and exercise rooms priced at about \$15 million.

Voters had two questions to answer on financing the plan, and both drew resounding "no" votes. One was for approval of \$4.49 million in general obligation bonds. That lost 1,740-821. The second was for \$10.5 million in "certificates of participation." It lost 1,741-723.

If approved, property taxes would have been raised for the next 20 years.

College officials said both questions had to pass for the project to continue.

Wrestling coach Steve Lampe said the college will continue without the gymnasium and wellness center.

"It doesn't surprise me it lost," he said. "I am disappointed. This is not a good deal for me. I've been in a Rathole situation for most of my career here."

Trojan basketball, volleyball and wrestling teams play at the Colby Community Building, about two miles from campus. If approved, the new center on campus and would have been used as a tool recruit athletes, officials said.

The condition of the community building and some campus

See COLBY, Page 11