



Students in Daniel Ordonez's class in the engineering department at the Northwest Kansas Technical College used a formula to figure the height of the Ponderosa Pine at 1506 Texas (left) as 120.5 feet. Lawrence Tedford of Goodland, who planted the tree in 1953, said it is the tallest in Goodland. Driving into Goodland on old highway 24 from the west, the tree can be seen towering over all surrounding trees (above) on the city skyline.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

## Pine may be Goodland's tallest tree

By Sharon Corcoran  
slcorcoran@nwkansas.com

A Goodland man knew he planted what has become possibly the tallest tree in town, but he was surprised at learning how tall it has grown.

Lawrence Tedford, 80, says the Ponderosa pine he planted in 1953 at his first home in Goodland is the tallest in town, but when he got students in the engineering technology department at the Northwest Kansas Technical College to figure out how tall it is, he was surprised.

Students measured the tree's shadow, Tedford said, and drew a figure of a triangle with the tree as one side, the shadow as another and the line from the top of the shadow

to the top of the tree as the third side. The triangle has a right angle where the bottom of the tree meets the shadow and a 37-degree angle at the top of the shadow. The students used those measurements and a formula to figure that the tree is 120.5 feet tall, he said.

Tedford said he knew a lot of things could be figured from measuring the angles and sides of a triangle from what he had learned in algebra and had gone to the college to ask if the engineering department knew a formula to figure it out. He went out to the college three times to ask about it, and Daniel Ordonez, an instructor in the department, and his class came up with the solution. Tedford said he bought the tree at

the Five Points Nursery in Garden City when he was on his way to Goodland from Dodge City, then planted it in the yard of his first home in Goodland at 1502 Texas. He sold the home in August 1959 and moved to 507 Caldwell, where he lives now.

The tree was two feet tall when he bought it and grew an average of 2.12 feet per year for 56 years.

Tedford grew up six miles south and one west of Minneola, which is 26 miles south of Dodge City. He served 14 months in the Army in the Philippines when he was 18 and met his wife Evelyn when he came back. She was baby-sitting in Minneola. She went to college in Ottawa and then taught at the Garnett School south of Ottawa while he attended Fort Hays State University, majoring in agriculture.

They married after his graduation, and there were several openings in the state for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service. Mr. Tedford got the job in Goodland, so they moved here. He said the first person he met here was Shelby Coons, who was working for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office. They became lifelong friends until Coons died Oct. 18, 2004.

Tedford learned to fly when he was 21 and flew with Jim Baker, a Goodland dentist and flight instructor, next to him one week after he turned 80. Tedford has written a book about his life called "The Peaks and Valleys of Life," which is in the hands of Leathers Publishing Co. in Kansas City. Tedford said he hopes it will be published by December.

## City to apply for \$400,000 housing grant

By Tom Betz  
ntbetz@nwkansas.com

An application for a \$400,000 housing rehabilitation grant should be submitted this week on behalf of the city.

Amy Griffey of the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission of Hill City met with the city last Monday to get the application approved, including an administrative fee to the commission if the city gets the money.

She said the documents had been prepared with the help of Helen Dobbs and Tiffani McMinn of the Sherman County Economic Development Council, and were ready to be submitted by the deadline, which is Friday.

She asked the commission to approve the designation of the North Central Regional Planning Commission to be the inspection agent if the city gets the grant. She said the estimate for the inspection costs, which come out of the grant funds, would be \$35,530 or about 8.8 percent.

City Commissioner Josh Dechant asked if the grant pays for the inspections or if the city pays and then gets reimbursed from the state.

Griffey said it is in the grant, and that the contract can be done either way, but there would not be more inspections than the grant can pay for.

She said there is a walk-away option if, after the inspections, there

is more work to be done than the grant can pay for or if there is not enough money left to do the major repairs on a house.

The administrative grant for her agency would be \$26,000 or about 6.5 percent, she said.

She said the application does not show any matching money or in-kind services from the city, but that the state does not count any city match in deciding whether to award the grant.

She said the city does not have to follow federal Davis-Bacon hiring rules, which require union-scale wages, on housing rehabilitation projects.

"If we don't get the grant, we don't pay," City Manager Wayne

Hill said.

Griffey said that is correct. Dechant asked how many grant projects the commission has.

"We probably have 40 to 50 projects open at one time in our office," Griffey said, "and there are three of us who work on these. We make sure you are compliant with the process."

Griffey said the city should know next month whether the grant is approved.

Dobbs said people from the target area have been coming to the office and filling out preliminary applications, and if the grant is approved, those will be reviewed to see what needs to be done with each one.

## Racing association asks for help to keep track open

By Tom Betz  
ntbetz@nwkansas.com

Sherman County Racing Association representatives asked the city commission for help to keep the stock-car races going, and the city approved a \$1,000 contribution, saying the sport was worth supporting.

Alex West, president of the association, and William McKnight, who helps with the races, were at the commission meeting last Monday to ask the city for help.

"I am here to ask the city to help us keep this track going," West said after handing each commissioner a copy of the association's financial sheet. "We are down about \$2,800 now. We are doing a bit better after the races on Saturday, Aug. 18."

He said the Flatlander Fall Festival is coming in September, and the group hopes to have a better showing than last year.

"We lost about \$4,500 last year," West said. He said Sherman County has donated rent and \$1,000 to the group for the last two or three years.

Mayor Rick Billinger asked about electricity.

West said the association pays so much per race and then at the end of the season the county figures out the difference.

"We have other expenses we pay," he said. "We had trouble paying the bills last year."

City Manager Wayne Hill asked if the city provided any equipment.

"We do not furnish any equipment," said Rich Simon, public works director.

West said he provides most of the equipment, and the association pays for ambulance and fire department

coverage at each race.

"Me and Patsy Gresty have our money in to cover our checks, and hope we can get through the rest of the year," West said.

"I would be interested in giving something to the racing association," Billinger said. "We helped out with the Flatlanders committee, fireworks and others." Hill said the commission did have some discretionary money available.

City Commissioner Annette Fairbanks asked West if the attendance has been down.

"Yes, the grandstands and number of cars have been down," West said. "We expect more for the Flatlanders, and hope for better weather than we had last year. That cost us over \$2,000 in the grand-

stands alone."

Billinger said it appeared from the calendar some of the first races had some conflicts with other events. He noted the first night was the same time as the Goodland High School graduation. West said that was true, and there were conflicts with a couple of other tracks as well.

City Commissioner Josh Dechant said it appeared there was a good crowd for the last night of racing.

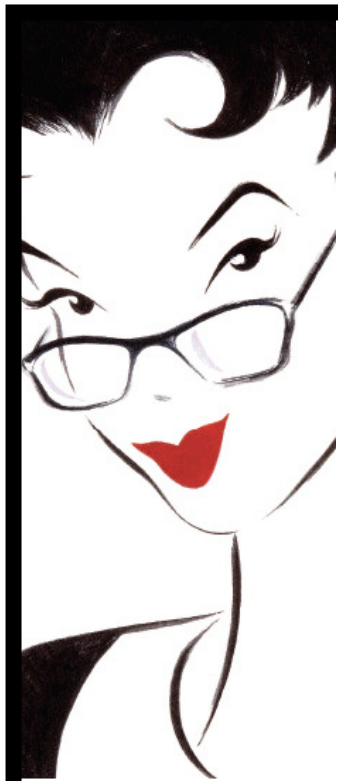
West said the crowd was better, but the association lost \$2,800 on the races with the 305 sprint cars.

City Commissioner John Garcia said he was not opposed to helping and that he felt the races brought a lot of people to town. A motion to donate \$1,000 passed 4-0 with Commissioner Dave Daniels absent.

### correction

An article in the Friday, Aug. 10, edition of *The Goodland Star-News*, titled "City Pledges Support for Flatlander Festival" incorrectly stated that Bill Stoick, a member of the Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau board and a member of the Flatlander Festival Committee, is the owner of Motel 6. He is the owner of Super 8. This was a reporting error.

□□□□□  
The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.



## Vision Source! of Goodland Designer Sunglasses and Frames Trunk Show

Please join us on  
Thursday, Aug. 30th from 5 to 8 pm

### Featured Designers

Prada Christian Dior Vogue Gucci DKNY  
Adrienne Vittadini D & G Lulu Guinness

### Refreshments Served

Free Gift with Every Purchase

Up to 30% off designer eyewear purchase this night only

Drawing for designer sunglasses and other prizes

First 50 people in the door receive gift bags

Vision Source! of Goodland

1002 Broadway

899-3654



### Live in the country!

5450 County Rd. 9...

located southwest of Goodland! This contemporary spacious home is loaded with features you want in a home! Six bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, family room with wood burning fireplace, open living/dining/kitchen area, 18' x 17' master bedroom with bath. No paint siding, central heat and air, covered patio. \$105,000. Please call Donna Moore today to set up an appointment to view this home. 899-2328 or cel 899-8089.



New lowered  
price

416 East 8th

Originally \$89,000

NOW \$75,000!.....

Quality construction and wonderful

maintenance make this home being offered by original owners a great find! The main floor offer large living room, eat-in kitchen, three big bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths and laundry area. The basement has family room, an additional kitchen area, three bedrooms and bath. Central heat and air, attached garage plus detached garage/shop. Please contact Donna Moore today to see this home 899-2328 or cell 899-8089.



Thinking of making a move...

Look at some of my other fine listings:

711	Clark...	4 bedrooms,	3 baths...	\$140,000
521	Harrison...	4 bedrooms,	2 baths...	\$139,900
915	Arcade...	4 bedrooms,	2 baths...	\$156,000
609	Washington ...	2 bedrooms,	1 bath...	\$38,000
715	E. 4th...	3 bedrooms,	2 baths...	\$80,000
807	Eastridge...	4 bedrooms,	2 baths...	\$85,000
223	West 12...	3 bedrooms,	2 baths...	\$79,900
807	Washington...	5 bedrooms,	2 baths...	\$75,000
811	Harrison...	3 bedrooms,	2 baths...	\$75,000
1522	Caldwell...	3 bedrooms,	2 baths ...	\$68,000
222	E. 5th...	3 bedrooms,	2 baths...	\$66,500
119	Walnut...	4 bedrooms,	2 baths...	\$65,000
610	West 10...	4 bedrooms,	2 baths...	\$59,900
1113	College...	5 bedrooms,	1 1/2 baths...	\$55,000

Still not seeing what you want, please give me a call and I'll help you find just the right home for you! Donna Moore 899-2328, cel 899-8089 or after hours 899-6159.

785-899-2328 800-974-2426  
1023 Main Street ~ Goodland, KS

E-mails:

Terry, Donna or Cynthia@goodlandhomestead.com



Terry Richardson | Donna Moore | Cynthia Butts

www.GoodlandHomestead.com