

# It's Ticket Time!

Start collecting for Christmas on Us — See pages 6 and 7.

## The Goodland Star-News

MIDWEEK

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2007

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Goodland, Kansas 67735

### weather report

78°

noon  
Monday

#### Today

• Sunset, 4:29 p.m.

#### Wednesday

• Sunrise, 6:37 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:28 p.m.

#### Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 57 degrees
- Humidity 11 percent
- Sky clear
- Winds southeast 10 mph
- Barometer 29.92 inches and falling
- Record High today 75° (1955)
- Record Low today 15° (1929)

#### Last 24 Hours\*

- High Sunday 74°
- Low Sunday 36°
- Precipitation none
- This month none
- Year to date 13.89
- Below normal 5.19 inches

#### The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of snow after 11 p.m., a high near 34, a low around 17 and winds out of the north 15-20 mph. Wednesday: Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of snow before 11 a.m., a high near 34, low around 17 and winds out of the north 15-20 mph.

#### Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high near 37 and a low around 17.

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

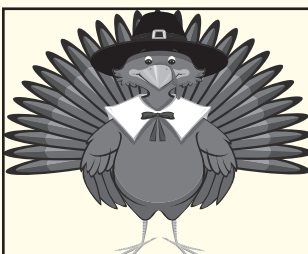
### local markets

#### Noon

- Wheat — \$7.04 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$7.04
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
  - Corn — \$3.39 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$3.45
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
  - Milo — \$3.21 bushel
  - Soybeans — \$9.14 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$9.67
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
  - Millet — \$7 hundredweight
  - Sunflowers
  - Oil current crop — \$17.90 cwt.
  - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
  - Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)
- (Markets by Scoular Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

### inside today

More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



### Turkey day tips for you

Thanksgiving is a time for holiday cooking and entertaining. We thought we would offer a few tips and recipes. See Page 10.

## Fire destroys shop, burns fields

By Sharon Corcoran

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Firefighters spent over three hours putting out the blaze in a large metal building and sorting through the rubble at Rex and Sandi Murray's farm Thursday.

The Murrays' garage burned to the ground. Driven by a stiff south wind, the fire jump into nearby pasture and field land, burning for over three miles. No one was hurt, the couple said, not even the dogs in the Murrays' kennel.

With dry conditions and wind, the risk of fire spreading is high, the county fire chief said, so people should be careful. If there is no rain soon, he said, the county may impose a burn ban.

The cause of the fire Thursday was undetermined, said Sherman County Fire Chief Alan David, but may have been electrical. It destroyed the garage and its contents, he said, but the family got all of the dogs out of a kennel next to the garage.

Flames lapped against the kennel, David said, but firemen kept it from catching on fire. It was actually Cheyenne County's fire, he said, but it was on the line and both counties' departments were called in because of the wind.

Cheyenne County stayed until everything was taken care of, he said. The call came in at 11:54 a.m., David said, and the last truck got back at 3 p.m. Cheyenne County was still sorting through things when the Sherman trucks left, he added.

Besides destroying the garage, he said, the fire burned corn stalks, stubble and pasture grass for 3 1/2 miles. Some of it belonged to surrounding landowners, David said; wheat stubble on Charlie Nipp's land was burned.

David said the county hasn't talked about a burn ban yet, he said,



A fire burned the shop and lodge for Rex Murray's hunting range and competition and dog-training business on the Sherman-Cheyenne

county line Thursday.

Photo by Jordie Mann/The Goodland Star-News

but if there is no rain in the next 10 days to two weeks, it probably will happen.

The county is letting people burn their trash, he said, but it needs to be contained, and they need to keep a close eye on any fire. Anything being burned needs to be kept in a pit and covered, he said, and people shouldn't drive through fields, since any spark can set off a fire.

The department was dispatched

to an unreported controlled burn earlier in the week, he said. It was getting somewhat out of control, and they put it out since it hadn't been reported.

Under a county ordinance, landowners can be fined for the cost of whatever equipment the department sends when a controlled burn isn't reported, David said. It just takes a few minutes to call dispatch to report a burn, he said.

## Man's dream burns up

By Karen Krien

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His dream had come true, but in minutes it was gone.

Rex Murray, who lives south of Wheeler, had gotten up early Thursday morning to put the finishing touches on his shop and

hunting lodge. It was about noon, he said, when he turned around and saw smoke. As hard as he tried, he could not extinguish the flames, which eventually took two businesses: 30 years of farm

See MURRAY'S, Page 11

## Santa brings Christmas to downtown

By Ramona C. Sanders

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The weather may have felt like springtime Saturday, but with Santa, elves and holiday floats zipping down Main Street, it was beginning to look a lot like Christmas as the Goodland Chamber held its annual Christmas parade.

Families with small children, teens, grandparents and people of all ages lined Main Street from 17th to Eighth streets to see floats from area businesses, schools and community organizations.

Many of them delighted in picking up treats and candy tossed from the floats.

"I'm pretty much here for the candy," said 11-year-old Alyssa Studer-Yager.

Alyssa and her mom, Lainie Studer, came all the way from Castle Rock, Colo., to join Alyssa's grandparents, Fred and Lenna Studer of Goodland, at the parade. They were one of many multi-generational families at the event.

But the fun just wasn't for the little kids. A group of teens let down the tailgate of their pickup to view the holiday event.

"I like to watch all the little kids and how they're like, 'Oh my God, it's Santa Claus,'" said one of the teens, Kayla Long. "Then they go out in the middle of the street like I used to do. I still do."

At the end of the parade, Santa visited with several youngsters at the Goodland Activity Center to hear their Christmas wishes. He said he was glad Goodland had its parade before the holidays started.

"I've got lots of places to visit," he said. "That's why we start early,"



Peyton Fenner, 7, and his sister Jazlyn, 4, told Santa about what they want for Christmas on Saturday at the Goodland Activities Center.

Santa visited with kids following the annual Christmas parade.

Photo by Ramona C. Sanders/The Goodland Star-News

Peyton Fenner, 7, and his sister Jazlyn, 4, enjoyed their chance to sit on Santa's lap. But little sister Brylie, 1, wasn't quite ready to

get to know Santa. Like so many other little ones, she was a little wary of the man in the red suit. And she wasn't afraid to let mom Amy

Fenner — and everyone else in the room — know.

Downtown visitors also had the opportunity to pick up their Christ-

mas trees, complete with decorations. Big Brothers Big Sisters had

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