

Trick-or-treat season begins

It is that time of year when parents and kids search for the right costume for the Halloween trick-or-treat season that begins this weekend and ends on Oct. 31.

The seventh annual Moonlight Madness celebration and costume contest to bring spooks and goblins to downtown Goodland will be Tuesday from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Several downtown stores will be open late to welcome the trick-or-treaters for a night of spirited shopping, lots of candy and costume contests.

The basement of El Dorado Western Wear, 1101 Main, will be the site of the annual costume contest.

The spooks will begin to gather at El Dorado about 4:30 p.m., and the first round of judging begins at 5 p.m.

There will be three age groups, with cash prizes for first, second and third in each. The 4-and-under

group will be judged at 5 p.m., 5 to 8 at 5:30 p.m., and 9 to 12 at 6 p.m. Parents are encouraged to have their trick-or-treaters at El Dorado before each age group judging begins.

The Goodland Kiwanis Club has donated the costume contest prize money, and Walmart has provided candy for all those who participate in the costume contest. Several judges have volunteered to help select the winning costumes.

The Word of Life Church group plans to have special games and other fun in the old bank building at 1102 Main Ave., across the street from El Dorado Western Wear.

Businesses participating in the event or handing out candy include Jacque's Hallmark, 1124 Main, Jeff's Junktiques, 1010 Main, The Almond Tree, 1024 Main, Smitte's Video's, 1018 Main (will be open to 9 p.m.) and *The Goodland Star-News*, 1205 Main.

Mock election set for at-large voting

By Tom Betz
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Sherman County citizens will have a chance to vote on the issue of at-large voting of county commissioners in a mock election planned for Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 4, at the Goodland Activity Center.

Attorney Ron Vignery, member of the Shine On Sherman County Government Alliance Committee was at the Sherman County Economic Development Council annual meeting on Tuesday to talk about the plans for mock election and another public forum planned for Dec. 2.

Vignery said the committee held a public forum on the issue at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair in August at the request of the county commissioners.

He said the mock election is being planned for the same day as the General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 4. He said under state law the mock election cannot be held at the Veterans of Foreign Wars where the election poll will be open that day.

"We have to be a certain distance away from the election polls," Vignery said, "and we had Steve Criswell measure the distance from the door of the activity center to the door of the VFW to make sure we were outside the requirements."

"We hope people will vote in the General Election and then take a minute to come to the activity center to vote in the mock election."

Vignery said the Sherman County commissioners asked the committee to hold at least three public forums on the at-large commissioner issue after a bill to allow voters an opportunity to vote on the issue failed to pass the legislature in Topeka.

Vignery said Trevor Linton of First National Bank is the committee chairman, and that he was at the

development council meeting to ask for help to pay for the mock election and the planned forum on Dec. 2.

He said the mock election will be held from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. to mirror the hours of the general election at the Veterans of Foreign Wars on the other end of the block.

Vignery said the session on Dec. 2 will involve people from Greeley County who will talk about the unification process that county has gone through over several years. He said part of the planning for that is to maybe have a free chili supper to encourage people to come to the session.

"We don't have any money," he said. "We would ask the council for \$500 for the mock election and the chili feed."

"We feel the economic connection is that we are interested in the concepts, but what we want to do is find out how the people in Sherman County feel about this."

He said the ballot for the mock election will simply ask if the citizens of Sherman county should have the opportunity to vote on county commissioners at-large.

He said the second question being asked of the committee is about unification of city and county services, and that is part of why they are planning the event in December.

"From what we have heard from Greeley County in the unification process they have been able to work out ways to better utilize their equipment to save money even though there has not been any jobs cut," he said.

The development council approved a motion to give the committee \$500 for the mock election and chili supper contingent on whether the county commissioners are willing to help pay for these public issue programs.



Kids enjoy Pumpkin Mania

Tiffany Skinner (above, left) and Shaley Julin decorated pumpkins at the Big Brothers Big Sisters Pumpkin Mania at the Goodland Public Library Wednesday. Jessi Duell (right) licked chocolate icing off her fingers while decorating a cookie during the event.
Photos by Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Star-News

Nominations sought for council positions

By Tom Betz
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Nominations are being accepted until Monday, Nov. 17 for three open positions on the Sherman County Economic Development Council it was announced at the council meeting on Tuesday.

Council Chairman Chuck Wilkens of Wilkens Truck and Tractor said he is not going to run for another term, and council member Mike Cochran of Cochran Farm Supply said he is not going to run for another term.

Those two members 3-year terms are up at the end of the year, and the council seat held by Western State Bank is up for reappointment this year. Steve West representative from Western State Bank said he will be replaced by someone else from the bank as he has served on the council since it began.

At the meeting council member Don Newell of S&T Communications said he is resigning his position at the end of the year. Newell was reelected two years ago so one of the three positions will be to fill the remaining a one year term.

Under the bylaws of the council each seat is for a three-year term and each person can serve two consecutive terms before they have to leave

the council. There are 11 members of the council with seven being open seats and the other four are selected by the four bank members including First National Bank, Bankwest of Kansas, Western State Bank and People's State Bank.

Nominations for the positions can be turned in at the development office at 104 E. 10th or call the office at (785) 890-3743. Those nominated will be

invited to the council meeting at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 18, at the Goodland Elks. Each of those nominated will have a chance to speak to the council before they take a vote.

Once the vote has been taken the names of those chosen will be forwarded to the county commissioners for their approval. The new council members terms will begin in January.

correction

The caption under the Cowboys football photo on page 11 of Tuesday's paper misidentified the Goodland player blocking as freshman Mac Purvis (No. 58). It was senior Keegan Smith (No. 56). This was a reporting error.

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