

Fourth release of ferrets made in Logan County

By Tom Betz

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For the fourth time in a year the population of the endangered Black-Footed Ferret increased south of Russell Springs on Friday afternoon bringing the total released to 48.

Larry Haverfield, landowner and defender of wildlife including prairie dogs said the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service brought 13 more ferrets out to his ranch to be released.

"We put some near the house," Haverfield said, "and took the others a couple miles north to another spot."

"It was a terrible day with the winds and we had a much smaller group to help and watch the release. The ferrets came right out of the cages and went into the prairie dog holes. They did not put on as much of a show as they have on better days."

He said this brings the total released up to 48 on his property, and there were about 20 released on the Nature Conservancy.

This is the fourth release of the endangered ferrets in Logan County as part of a reintroduction project being coordinated through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Kansas Audubon Society.

Ron Klataske, Executive Director of Audubon of Kansas, said the Haverfield's and the other two landowners have invested thousands of dollars defending their right to conserve native wildlife on their land.

The century-old state statutes that allow county commissions to mandate eradication and enter private lands with poison campaigns to kill native wildlife violates every acceptable concept of property rights and modern conservation standards.

Over the past two years Haverfield and his fellow landowners have been in a battle with their neighbors and the Logan County Commissioners over the preservation of the prairie dogs that are the key to the reintroduction of the endangered ferrets.

Haverfield said Henry Maddox of the Fish and Wildlife office in Denver was one of the people who came out to watch the release.

He told Haverfield he was impressed, and thanked him for being willing to help reintroduce the ferrets.

Haverfield said some of the ferrets this time came from the Phoenix Zoo where they had been raised. He said it is possible this will be the last release at least for this year, and depending on how successful the ferrets are in reproducing and spreading they may not get anymore next year.

He said the wildlife people and Audubon Society will come out in the spring to see if they can spot and tag some of the young ferrets.

The Black-Footed Ferrets were thought extinct about 25 years ago, but a small enclave was found in Wyoming and under the Endangered Species Act the Fish and Wildlife Service has been raising ferrets and finding places to reintroduce them.



A newly released black footed ferret heads for a prairie dog hole to make its home.

Over the past 25 years the national goal has been to improve the status of the species from endangered to threatened is to establish 10 free-ranging populations of ferrets, spread over the widest possible

area within their former range. To meet this goal, it is hoped that 1,500 breeding adult ferrets will be established in the wild by the year 2010. Black-footed ferrets are found almost exclusively in prairie dog

colonies. Prairie dogs are their principal prey, and ferrets live and rear their young in prairie dog burrows. Black-footed ferrets have one litter each year, with an average of about three kits per litter.

Enrollment audit went well for district

By Pat Schiefen

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Superintendent Shelly Angelos told the Goodland School Board that the audit done by the state for its enrollment figures used for funding at its regular meeting on Monday, Nov. 10. The full time equivalency for the district came in at 906.4.

The estimated figure turned in to the state was 909.6, a difference of 3.2. The difference came from less special education in kindergarten, a loss of a junior and a lower figure from the Goodland Learning Center.

"It was a good audit," said Superintendent Angelos.

Activities Director Don Smith said the numbers of students par-

ticipating in wrestling is 33, boys basketball 31 and girls basketball 17.

"The numbers were a little better in all three," he said. "We won't know the final numbers until practice starts."

"We are heading into our busiest month of year, December," he said.

Grant Junior High Principal Steve Raymer said the school's candy sale was almost over and had been the best for several years. Boys basketball has been going for three weeks and scholar's bowl for five weeks.

He said they have been trying to figure out how to pass out the exemplary certificates on the Kansas State Assessment Tests.

West Elementary Principal Verna Milnes said that they have had classes going to Wheatridge and Good Samaritan once a month. Dixie Teeter has been giving the staff, some training on working with autistic children which the school has two of.

Teacher Nona Mason has been giving training on Smart Boards and Milnes said they have ordered two more and possibly will order two more.

"West will have its Thanksgiving Feast at 1 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 24," said Milnes.

Goodland High School Principal Sharon Gregory said they are getting ready to do the fall math assessments. She said that the

Power School grades had been more standardized so people understood them better.

North Elementary School Principal Jim Mull said they have been working on the fifth grade music program and were sending some kids to the gifted seminars in Oakley.

Central Elementary School Principal Harvey Swager said they had contacted everyone during the parent teacher conferences. On Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 1 and 2 will be the third grade's multiplication week with activities on that subject.

Board member Andrew House said that at the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center meet-

ing it was suggested that legislators need to be contacted so that funding is not tied to population numbers.

The board paid \$155,497 in bills including \$8,000 for the state enrollment audit, \$18,702 for City of Goodland utilities and \$36,000 in Northwest Kansas Technical College tuition for nine students.

Hired Connie Livengood as the assistant boys basketball coach and Andrea Eggert as a para at North Elementary.

Accepted the resignation of Tina Tesmer as custodian at West Elementary School.

Meeting ended at 8:30 p.m. with all school board members present.

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matters of record

Real Estate

The following real estate transactions have been reported by the Sherman County register of deeds: Mary M. Elliott conveys and warrants to Levi C. Schlosser and Valerie S. Schlosser a tract in the N/2 of Sec. 29, T8S, R40W. Timothy J. Dinkel and Bobbie

Jo Dinkel to Andrew Kienitz Lot 11 and the S/2 of Lot 12, Block 28, Third Addition to Goodland.

Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts to LaSalle Bank National Association, trustee for Structured Asset Securities Corporation Trust 2005-WF1, Lots 7, 8 and the N 6 1/4' of Lot 9, Block 13, Third Addition

to Goodland, foreclosed property of Rosalie Jane Cody, also known as Rosalie J. Augerot.

Thomas W. Gould and Sherry Gould of Pennington County, S.D., to Tri-State Properties LLP of Broomfield, Colo., Lots 16 and 17, Block 20, Second Addition to Goodland.

Jeff Soper to Tri-State Properties LLP Lots 20 and 21, Block 35, First Addition to Goodland.

James Adams of Summit County, Colo., to Tri-State Properties LLP Lots 13 and 14, Block 5, First Addition to Goodland.

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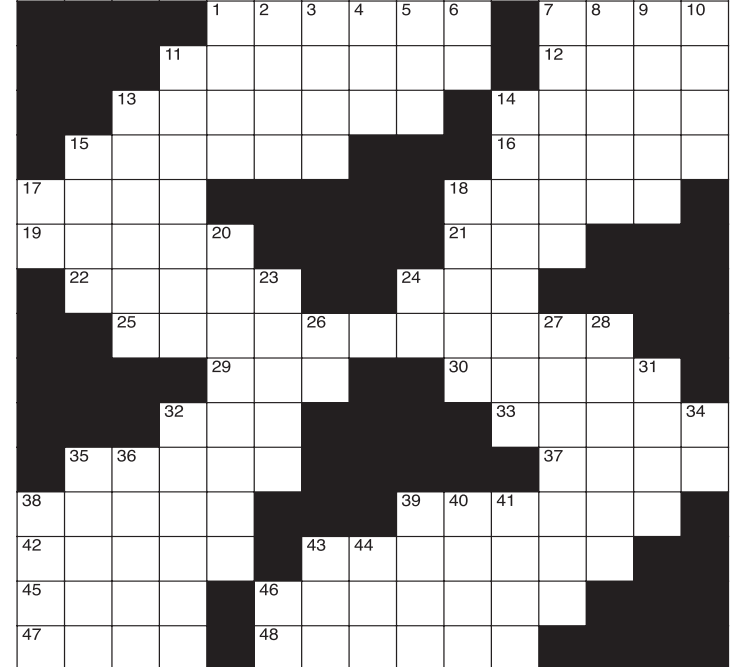
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Crossword Puzzle



- CLUES ACROSS**
- Swampy
 - Figure with 5 points
 - Fully developed
 - ____r - virtual reality
 - Curled under coiffure
 - Beaver State capital
 - Poisonous gas
 - Regions
 - Ark groupings
 - Warning device
 - Gave out, allotted
 - Invest with knighthood
 - French kings' name
 - Young child
 - Musical honor
 - Tropical constrictor
 - Same as 16 across
 - Vietnamese offensive
 - WWI Flanders battlefield
 - Ice or roller equipment
 - Remarkably
 - Jupiter's 4th moon
 - Heptad
 - Georgetown athletes
 - Forced opponent to the ground
 - Higher than
 - Seaport for Athens
 - Actor Foxx
 - Pays out money
- CLUES DOWN**
- The 3 Wise Men
 - Egyptian sun god
 - Bumpkin
 - No seats available
 - ____, you!
 - 36 inches (abbr.)
 - Divine Egyptian beetle
 - 10th President
 - Opposite the center of a ship
 - Radioactivity units
 - Male massager
 - Logic programming
 - Tending to promote well-being
 - Truant
 - Touchdown
 - 1896 Abyssinian battle
 - Blood sugar disease
 - Struck hard
 - Atomic #73
 - Mom
 - Reputations
 - Patched a sock
 - Religious subdivision
 - Knights' outer tunic
 - Thus
 - A hard push
 - Fitted to a lock
 - Norse god of thunder
 - Move an electron beam over
 - Supplemented with difficulty
 - Indicates addition
 - An object's sharp end
 - They ____
 - Postscript

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