



Students from the Northwest Kansas Technical College carpentry department took down and packed away the Christmas Nativity

Scene put up by the hospital on Thursday. Good weather helped them along.  
Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News



# Carpentry students take down, pack scene

Students in the Northwest Kansas Technical College Carpentry program took advantage of the nice weather Wednesday and took down and packed away the community Nativity scenes from around the Goodland Regional Medical Center.

The Nativity scene was put up in December for the first time in three years having been restored through the efforts of Connie Hatcher and Jeanette Foust and a number of

volunteers. Hatcher and Foust had been recruited by Maxine Rauscher more than 20 years ago to create the scenes.

The Goodland Rotary Club had worked to get the scenes put up and taken down for about 19 years, but felt the pieces were in sad shape three years ago and began raising money through the Sherman County Community Foundation to restore the scenes.

Volunteers over the past three

years reworked the scenes and with the help of the college carpentry and welding programs repaired and redesigned the scenes and supporting legs.

A pair of trailers have been designed by the carpentry and welding programs to hold the scenes to protect them during the 11 months they are not on display.

The informal group working with the Nativity scene has been receiving donations to the program over

the years and is making a contribution of \$600 to the college carpentry program for their efforts in helping with the trailers and erecting and taking down the scenes. A donation of \$300 will be going to the welding program for their help.

Bryant Nemecheck, college carpentry instructor, said it is quite a project and feels the trailers make storing and moving the Nativity scenes much easier. He said it takes a good day to put them up

and about the same amount to take them down.

Wednesday when the students were taking the scenes down there was one camel piece that is broken and was held out to get it fixed.

Kevin Rasure, who leads an informal committee working with the project, said the experience this year will give them some things to work on to improve the scenes for next year.

Part of the changes will be to get

the electrical timers working to turn on and off the lights for the scenes, and a few of the scenes need additional bracing and longer anchors to withstand the winds.

He said the foundation has received money to keep the project up for the future, and people who wish may make donations to the Sherman County Community Foundation for the Nativity scene.

# Congressman accepts applications for interns

Congressman Jerry Moran is accepting applications for paid congressional internships in his Washington, D.C., and Kansas offices for the summer term.

Interns working in Moran's offices will gain a better understanding of the legislative process, develop writing and communication skills and become better acquainted with Kansas leaders and organizations, according to a release from his

office.

"It has always been important to me to give young adults in Kansas the same opportunities I was offered when I began public service," Moran said.

As a college student, Moran served as an intern for former Representative Keith Sebelius in the district Moran currently represents, "The Big First." That experience inspired him to run for the House

of Representatives for the seat previously held by current Kansas Senator Pat Roberts and former Senator and 1996 Republican Party presidential nominee, Bob Dole.

Intern responsibilities include assisting Moran and his staff with legislative and administrative projects.

Spring intern Allie Denning of Ellsworth is pleased with the work she has been assigned during the

first weeks of her internship.

"Congressman Moran genuinely cares about providing Kansans the level of attention their concerns deserve, and makes interns feel like they are a valued part of the office," Denning said.

The Washington, D.C., summer internship session is divided into two parts, with two interns beginning in May and finishing at the end of June, and two new interns begin-

ning in July and ending in August. The Kansas summer internship spans the entire term.

Applications are due by Friday, March 5, and should include a completed application form, résumé, college transcript, three letters of reference and a cover letter explaining the applicant's interest in public service and goals of serving as an intern.

Application forms can be ob-

tained under the "Services" section of Moran's Web site [www.jerrymoran-house.gov](http://www.jerrymoran-house.gov). Applicants are encouraged to fax their material to (202) 225-5124 or mail them to Moran's Hutchinson office, Attn: Intern Coordinator, P.O. Box 1128, Hutchinson, KS 67504.

Please call (202) 225-2715 to obtain more information.

## Offices to be closed Monday for holiday

Monday is Martin Luther King Day and all federal and state offices, banks and the U.S. Post Office will be closed.

The Sherman County courthouse and other county offices will also be closed on Monday.

Goodland schools will not have classes, but it is a teacher professional day. The Northwest Kansas Technical College will be closed.

City offices will be open, and the city commission will meet at 5 p.m. The commissioners will gather at the Kansas National

Guard Armory to open the meeting with a tour of the building and then adjourn and return to the City Administration Building at 204 W. 11th, to resume the meeting for their regular agenda.

The commissioners are touring the armory because the state Adjutant General decided in December to close 18 armories across the state and the Goodland National Guard Unit will be moved to Colby and the building will be given to the city at the end of February.

## Cutoff dates set for farm programs

Cutoff dates for several Conservation Programs are coming up quickly and farmers are encouraged to contact the Sherman County Natural Resources Conservation Service for application information.

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Wildlife Habitat Incentives program cutoff date is today. Applications received after today will be considered in the future, but not for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Grassland Reserve Program cutoff date is Friday, Jan. 22.

The Wetlands Reserve program cutoff date is Monday, Feb. 15.

The Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program cutoff date is Friday, Feb. 19.

All conservation programs are voluntary and may be applied for throughout the year, however, funding cutoff dates are set as listed above for evaluation and ranking of the applicants.

The Sherman County Conservation Office is located at 210 W. 10th. Phone (785) 899-3070.

More information about the conservation programs is available on the Kansas Web site at [www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov).

## Listings From Homeland Realty!

**Price Reduced to \$55,000...312 W. 10th...**Check out this neat Bungalow which features two main floor bedrooms, large living-dining room, convenient kitchen and big bathroom. There is a full partially finished basement with new windows in the family room. The exterior is no maintenance vinyl siding. The big inviting front porch and detached 2 car garage complete the package. Call Rose Koggie at 785-899-3060, 785-899-7464 or toll free 866-899-3060.



**Price reduced to \$120,000...226 Sherman...**This Ranch Style home has had major remodeling and upgrades in 2008 which include windows, shingles, basement completely remodeled and re-wired. There are 3 main floor bedrooms and three in the finished basement. The Seller has installed escape windows as well to allow this home to qualify for most types of financing. There are two detached garages, a huge fenced backyard. You must see this spacious, family home to see all that it has to offer. Call Rose Koggie at 866-899-3060, 785-899-3060 or 785-899-7464 for your appointment.



**NEW LISTING...6445 Ruleton Avenue...**Ranch home with 20 acres (13 acres in CRP program). On the main floor there is a large living room with fireplace, dining room, kitchen which has been remodeled w/appliances, two bedrooms, bath and laundry. The basement has a family room, 2 bedrooms, den, bath and storage area. Central air and heat, vinyl siding, Heritage shingles, attached garage, sprinkler system, plus covered patio. 45' x 108' Quonset, barn w/corrals, several other out buildings. This property would be great for a horse or a 4H project. Located next to black top.



**Call Rose to see 317 Clark St.. It offers 2 bedrooms with full basement and detached 2 car garage. Just reduced to only \$16,268.00!**

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## corrections

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**Last Baby 2009**

**Last Baby of the Year Delivers \$3,650 Tax Break**

It may be the first baby of the year who grabs the media headlines but according to H&R Block, it's the last baby of the year who yields the tax savings. We are honoring Collin Jay Reyes as the Last Baby of the Year born at the Goodland Regional Medical Center on November 18th, 2009. His parent are Michael and Kimberly Reyes. He will receive a diaper bag full of baby supplies and toys. Babies born before the stroke of midnight New Year's Eve could save their parents thousands on their 2009 returns.

"Mere minutes can mean major tax savings this New Year's Eve," said Delilah Leiker, Franchise Owner. "Babies born on Dec. 31 provide parents with a \$3,650 tax exemption for all of 2009. To get that same tax break, parents of babies born after midnight on Jan. 1, will have to wait until they file their 2010 taxes - in 2011."

In addition to the exemption, new parents may qualify for two credits that could reduce their tax liability even more: Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Credit. Babies born in 2010 at the Goodland Regional Medical Center will receive a bib stating they are a "New Tax Deduction".

**Classifieds work! 899-2338**