

weather
report



36°
noon
Thursday

Today

- Sunset, 5:51 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 6:01 a.m.
- Sunset, 5:52 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 34 degrees
- Humidity 73 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds northwest 25-35 mph
- Barometer 29.74 inches and steady
- Record High today 79° (1933)
- Record Low today -6° (1932)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday	40°
Low Wednesday	30°
Precipitation	trace
This month	1.58
Year to date	2.36
Above normal	1.13 inches

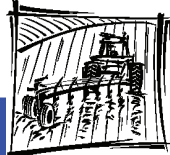
The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 47, winds out of the north at 25 to 45 mph and a low around 24. Saturday: Mostly sunny with a high near 53, winds out of the north at 5 to 10 mph and a low around 27.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Partly sunny with a high near 48 and a low around 26. Monday: Partly sunny with a high near 49 and a low around 28. Tuesday: Sunny with a high near 53 and a low around 28. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

local
markets



Noon

- Wheat — \$3.84 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.10
- Corn — \$3.08 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.41
- Milo — \$2.84 bushel
- Soybeans — \$8.32 bushel
- Posted county price — \$8.73
- Millet — \$5 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$15.20 cwt.
- Confection — \$28/\$15 cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$32 (new crop)
- (Markets by Scouler Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside
today

More local
news, views
from your
Goodland
Star-News



Field hunt
held for kids

A group of kids stand with their guns talking before the next event started during the youth hunt sponsored by High Plains Rooster Chapter of Pheasants Forever. See photos, story on Page 10.



Citizens speak out about schools

By Pat Schiefen

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The Goodland High School auditorium was the scene Monday night of a town hall meeting between the Goodland School Board and more than 100 members of the community, with a mix of teachers, retired citizens and parents.

Common threads running through audience comments was in general they would not support a bond issue to build a new school unless the board could agree and come up with a good plan. There was quite a bit of support for putting the junior high into the high school, but concerns were raised about the social consequences for the younger girls being exposed to the older high school boys.

The evening started with a power-point presentation by Superintendent Shelly Angelos. In the information she presented was that full



Ken Klemm

time equivalent student numbers in the Goodland school in 1998-99 was 1,155.5 and stood at 899 for the current school year. It has been projected the district will continue to lose about 13 a year so the projection for 2012-13 is 803.7.

Another slide showed the costs

of each building including utilities, custodial, administration but did not include teacher salaries.

The last slide showed a history of base state aid per pupil. The district had increasing aid from a high of \$4,400 per student in 2008-9 to a projected drop to \$3,726 for next year, said Superintendent Angelos. The change was caused by the drastic decrease in revenue at the state level. The cut from the state for 2009-10 was \$579,528 for the district and for next year the cut is thought to be \$464,016 out of the district's budget.

Carol Tupper wondered if the district couldn't sell North Elementary School to a developer to develop and thereby increase the tax base.

Royal Reid said the best time to sell is when someone is interested and the sooner the sale is made the better.

Ken Klemm thought he really did

not have enough background information to make a suggestion.

Ben Duell said when there is a buyer the sale should be considered. He said we have to face the facts of declining enrollment and the tough economy. There is a trend for fewer farmers and bigger farms. We need to admit the district is a three-building district and face it.

Gaylene Shank said she would like to commend Superintendent Angelos for all her hard work.

Each of the school board members then spoke. Board President Jane Philbrick said with a three building district the only sure bet was the high school and the rest were flexible.

Board member John Hendrich said we need to shut down the junior high as soon as possible. The sooner the junior high is closed the better off the district will be.

Board member Andrew House

said the two-school concept is the most streamlined and he would like to see a new building built on the north school property.

Board member Mike Cochran said the north school property had the most potential for remodeling or building. With north closed the work could be done without bothering students. He said he would like to see the district have one school in the district be in excellent shape.

Board member Amy Sederstrom asked the audience if they wanted to support a bond for building a school which would raise their taxes. She agreed the district needed to close the junior high.

Philbrick said she agreed with Sederstrom. She reminded the audience closing buildings would save money and not give the district more money.

See SCHOOL, Page 5a

Census forms arrive at Sherman County homes

By Tom Betz

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Many people in Sherman County have received the official 2010 U.S. Census form in the past week and are asked to fill them out and mail the form back in the self stamped envelope by Count Day on April 1.

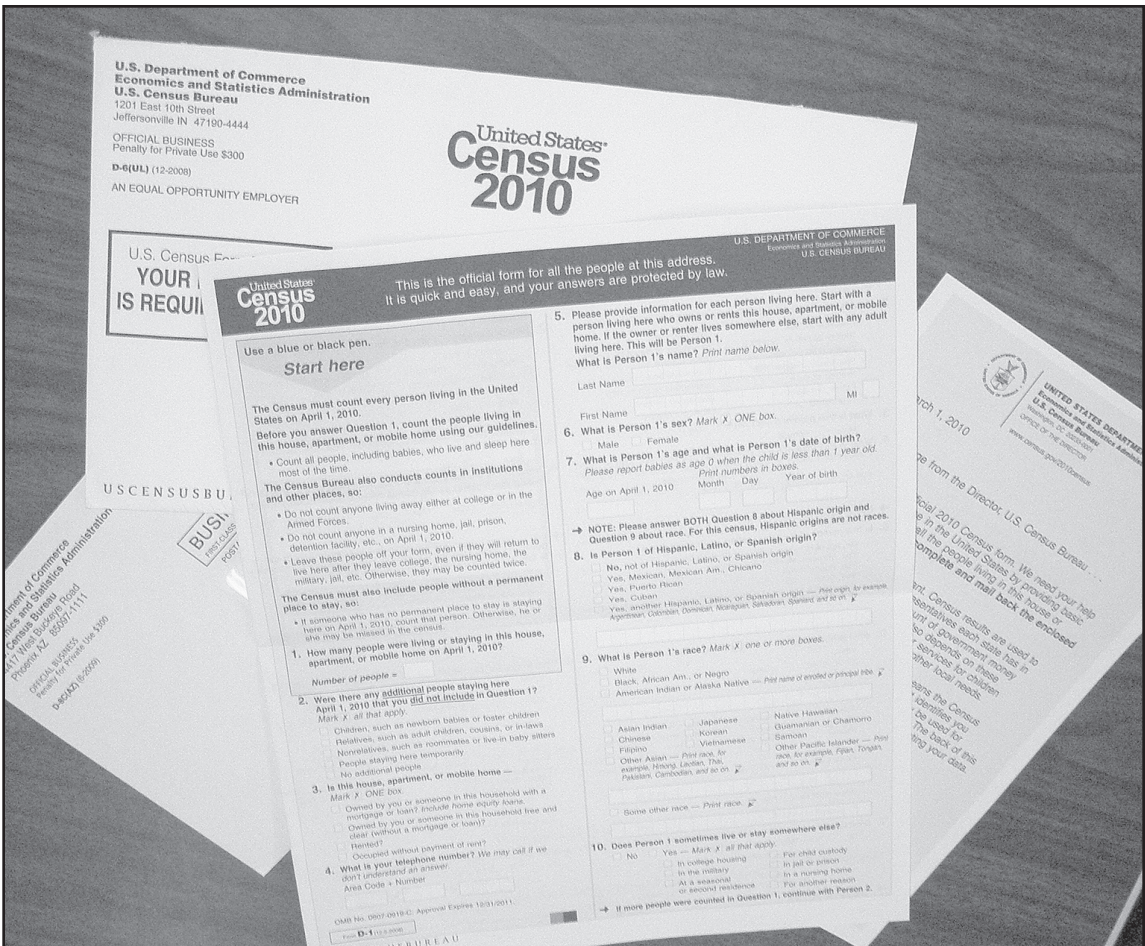
Richard Gerdes, assistant regional manager in the Kansas Census office, said the 2010 Census Forms would be mailed beginning on Monday, but many people have received a form on their doorstep or in their door this week.

Gerdes said no matter how people receive the 2010 Census Form, people are asked to fill out the simple 10-question form and mail it back by April 1.

Every 10 years — as required by the U.S. Constitution (Article 1, Section 2) — every American household receives a form to be filled out and returned to help count everyone in the city, county, state and nation.

With the forms being delivered a "Be Counted" and questionnaire assistance site will be open at the Goodland Public Library, 812 Broadway Ave.

Karen Gillihan, librarian, said the library agreed to provide the census a place to have a census worker meet with people who have questions about filling out the census forms. She said the census is supposed to have someone available while the library is open.



Census forms are arriving around Sherman County including the simple 10-question form, a statement from the U.S. Census Bureau director and a self-addressed and stamped envelope to mail back the completed form.

Sherman County was about average across the state in the 2000 census returning 65 percent of the

census forms.

The goal for Goodland and Sherman County is to raise the return

percentage this census closer to the 85 to 90 percent range. For Sherman County 85 percent would be about

2,710 census forms returned from the homes across the county.

Goodland City Manager Doug Gerber said he knows the census numbers are important for the city in looking to the future. He said having as high a census count as possible will help the city when applying for state and federal money.

The constitutional reason for counting everyone every 10 years is to determine the boundaries and number of Congressional representatives for each state. Kansas has four Congressmen, and it is important to get a good count to be sure the state keeps that number of representatives.

The state, counties, cities, school districts, hospitals, fire districts, libraries and other special districts are tied to the census results as the numbers are used in determining who gets more than \$400 billion in federal grants tied to the information gathered in the census.

The census representative for western Kansas, Lech A. Wisniewski, said some people are concerned about giving the information to the government, but he said it is information held in confidence and filling out the form is required under the provision in the constitution.

He said census workers will knock on the doors of houses where forms have not been returned several times in an attempt to collect the information. He said the effort will continue through the spring until July.

Run for The Wall plans overnight stop in Goodland

By Tom Betz

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For 21 years the annual Run for The Wall has driven past Goodland on I-70, but this year for the XXII Run for The Wall the group will spend Saturday night, May 22, in Goodland and parade out on Sunday morning, May 23.

Plans are being organized for the motorcycle group's arrival on Saturday evening

with a supper at the old national guard armory. Joe and Jo Ann Wahrman, who have been part of the Run for The Wall for the past five years are gathering volunteers to put on the dinner on Saturday, May 22.

Jo Ann Wahrman said Thursday plans are starting to come together for the supper with an agreement with Steve Evert to cook the meat. She said more volunteers are needed, and people willing to help pay for the dinner

would be appreciated. She said people interested in helping can call her at (785) 890-3277 and leave a message.

Wahrman said the plan is to have some light entertainment at the armory on Saturday, and that singer Andrea Townsend has said she would be in town and would be willing to sing for the riders.

The group of about 400 motorcycles will arrive in Goodland about 6 p.m., and will be

camping and staying in hotels throughout the town.

Sunday morning the Goodland Rotary will have an early morning breakfast for the riders at the armory beginning about 6 a.m. Dick Liess, Goodland Rotary member, is heading up the breakfast effort and can be called at (785) 890-6357 if someone wants to help.

See RIDERS, Page 5a

Ambulance given to tech college

Northwest Technical College respiratory therapy and emergency medical services students will have an opportunity to train on an 1999 Ford ambulance being donated by Goodland Regional Medical Center and Sherman County.

The ambulance was delivered Thursday morning by Bruce Gleason, director of emergency medical services at Goodland Regional Medical Center.

"The Respiratory Therapy department and the EMT Classes will have an opportunity for students to learn in a true emergency environment," said Leona Evans, faculty member of the college respiratory therapy program.

The respiratory therapy program is designed to provide students with the necessary skills and related technical information to work as a respiratory therapist in the medical field, Evans said. A respiratory therapy professional engages in the evaluation, treatment, management and care of patients with heart and lung problems, she said.

"The benefit of the ambulance for training will enhance the level of skills for emergency medical situations and intensive care needs of patients in respiratory and coronary distress," she said.

Emergency Medical Services training offered by Northwest Tech typically includes training in the ambulance during the program, she said. However, with the donation of the ambulance, the students will have first-hand experience earlier within their training, she said.

"I am pleased to see this collaboration with the local hospital, county and college," said Dr. Mills, president of Northwest Technical College. "This is what it is all about — organizations and agencies within the community coming together to benefit one another."

"We are grateful to Goodland Regional Medical Center and Sherman County for helping us enhance our educational opportunities for our students."

The 1999 Ford ambulance is be-

ing donated to the college because the hospital and county purchased a replacement. The donated ambulance had some engine problems that made it unreliable for emergency use, and it was decided by the hospital board and county commissioners it would be good to donate it to the college for their use in a less strenuous training environment.

Gleason told the county commissioners the 1999 Ford was in Hays in January with a patient transfer when it developed a problem and was blowing blue smoke. He said it was taken to Dan Brenner Ford to be repaired.

"I felt it would be risky to use this ambulance," Gleason told the county commissioners in January.

In February the hospital board and county commissioners agreed it would be risky to use the ambulance in regular service and agreed to purchase a replacement. Donating the Ford ambulance to the college was suggested because it did not have any trade-in value.



Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. on Sunday. Be sure to turn your clocks ahead an hour before you go to bed on Saturday evening so you won't be late for church on Sunday. It is a good time to check the batteries in your home smoke alarm at the same time.