

weather report

65°

noon

Monday

Today

Sunset, 7:02 p.m.

Saturday

Sunrise, 6:43 a.m.

Sunset, 7:03 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 39 degrees

• Humidity 9 percent

• Sky partly cloudy

• Winds calm

• Barometer 29.87 inches and falling

• Record High today 81° (1967)

• Record Low today -2° (1897)

Last 24 Hours\*

High Sunday 59°

Low Sunday 18°

Precipitation none

This month 1.67

Year to date 2.45

Above normal 0.78 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain after noon becoming snow after midnight, a high near 51, winds out of the northeast 10 to 15 mph and a low around 28. Wednesday: Cloudy with a 70 percent chance of rain and snow till noon then rain, a high near 43, winds out of the north at 10 to 15 mph and a low around 25.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high near 56 and a low around 29. Friday: Mostly sunny with a high near 59 and a low around 32.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.93 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.06

Corn — \$3.19 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.40

Milo — \$2.95 bushel

Soybeans — \$8.71 bushel

Posted county price — \$8.83

Millet — \$5 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$15.20 cwt.


Confection — \$28/\$15 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$32 (new crop)

(Markets by Scoular 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



Goodland to send 16

Mason Hernandez stayed in control in a match at the District 4 Tournament Saturday. Hernandez lost to Lucas Baker of Pratt in a 10-5 decision. Goodland qualified 16 for state. See story, photo on Page 10.



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# State hands over keys to armory

By Tom Betz  
nt.betz@nwkans.com

A group of about 40 people gathered at the national guard armory Thursday afternoon for a short ceremony to turn the keys over to the city and end 25 years of guard service to the town.

Among the group was a contingent of Kansas guardsmen lead by Maj. Gen. Tod Bunting, state adjutant general, and included several former members of the Goodland detachment of the 170th Maintenance Company. Lt. Col. Greg Salisbury was present, and said he was the first detachment commander when the Goodland unit was formed in October 1985.

Staff Sgt. Mark Reasoner, who was the last unit administrator, was present as was Command Sgt. Maj. Manuel Rubio who served in the Goodland unit.

Among the civilians present were representatives from the city and from Northwest Tech and Chuck Lutters and his son Paul, brother to Sgt. Derrick Lutters who was killed on May 1, 2005 in an explosion in Iraq.

Maj. Gen. Bunting said he had been out to Goodland on better occasions, but that most of the time when he appears it is for a sad occasion. He said he was proud of the men and women who had served in the Goodland unit, and was sorry to have to close the armory.

He told the group he was pleased to hear about the future plans for the armory, and felt having it be part of the college was a great use of the building.

He said he was glad the city had decided to name the building for Sgt. Lutters, and said that while the armory would be closed the Kansas

Chuck Lutters (above left) talked with Maj. Gen. Tod Bunting (center) state adjutant general and Doug Gerber, city manager, before the closing ceremony held Thursday afternoon at the armory. Lt. Col. Greg Salisbury, the Goodland unit's first commander in 1985, talked with Staff Sgt. Mark Reasoner (right photo) who was the last unit administrator. The city announced at the ceremony the building would be named in honor of Sgt. Derrick J. Lutters, who was killed in an explosion in Iraq. The building will be deeded to Northwest Tech to help them expand classes.

Photos by Tom Betz  
The Goodland Star-News

National Guard would “always be here if you need us.”

Bunting handed a special tri-fold flag flown at the armory to Mayor Josh Dechant along with the master wooden case with the last American

keys to the building.

Mayor Dechant said it was the decision of the city commission to accept the building and to name the building for Sgt. Derrick Joseph Lutters. He said the decision had been discussed with the Lutters family, and officials from Northwest Tech said they were pleased to have the building named for the young man who had been a student at the college.

At the close of the ceremony Bunting talked to Chuck Lutters and his son Paul and said having the building named for Derrick meant a lot to the family and to the people who served with the young man.

Dechant handed the keys over to City Manager Doug Gerber who in turn handed them to Dr. Ed Mills of Northwest Tech who handed them to Chuck Lutters. Lutters will be in charge of maintaining the building as the college seeks to expand with aviation courses.

Probably the first use of the building later this year will be to hold the wrestling mats for the college wrestling team expected to begin practice this year.

Dr. Ed Mills said the college met with representatives of K-State-Salina Thursday morning and showed them the armory as a potential place to start an aircraft maintenance and avionics classes in the near future. He said the university officials were impressed with the facility and that being next to the city airport there was ample opportunity to tie the building into the airport.

Gerber said another plus was the Federal Aviation Administrator has approved a plan to extend the major airport runway by 2,000 feet to the south on city land.

## Council announces business, housing grant awards

Sherman County Economic Development Council announced Tuesday the awards for the latest round of business and home improvement grants.

Helen Dobbs, office manager, said the review committee had selected Brittany's Photography and Plains Heating and Air Conditioning for the business improvement grants and Viola Fenner, 1004 Walnut received the home improvement grant.

Each grant is for \$1,500 to help with improvements to the business or home, and in all cases the projects cost several times more than the grant.

The council awards the business and housing grants three times a year, and has been doing these for four years.

Dave Daniels, city commissioner and former council member, talked to the council about the “Run for The Wall” that will bring about 300 motorcycles through Goodland on May 22, and spending the night. He said a dinner is being organized for the evening and the Rotary Club will provide a breakfast on Sunday before the group heads east.

He was asking the development council to

consider a donation to help pay for gasoline for the group. He said with approximately five gallons each, the cost would be about \$4,000. He said this is the 22nd annual Run for The Wall, and the first time the group will be spending the night in Goodland. He hopes the community can help make this an annual stop for the group.

Doug Gerber, city manager, talked about the official armory closing ceremony on Thursday. He said the building will be named in memory of Sgt. Derrick Lutters, and the announcement would be made at the same time as the closing ceremony.

Gerber said the Northwest Technical College will be touring the building in the morning with K-State-Salina and discussing a potential aviation program. The city has agreed with a citizen committee recommendation that turning the building over to Northwest Tech is the best use of the building and it will be deeded to the college.

Gerber said the city has received approval of a plan to expand the airport runway 2,000 feet in the next few years.

Larry Keirns, prospective business com-

mittee member, reported on the grocery store progress. He said the city commission approved the package with the lease. Sam Mancini will begin remodeling, making changes in the building, and working with an architect, he said. Keirns made a motion to change the prior council motion regarding signage to a motion to donate \$25,000 for the grocery store signage, which would be placed at the owner's discretion and bills up to \$25,000 would be paid by the council. Dana Belshe seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Several names were suggested for council members, and they will be checked with and invited to the next meeting in April. At this time the council has one vacancy.

Mike Hamilton, council member, requested additional money be given to the Shine On Sherman County Beautification Committee. He said the committee has \$2,500 and would like that matched at this time instead of waiting to raise \$5,000. He said this would enable the committee to go ahead with their project.

Keirns made a motion to donate \$2,500 at this time. Belshe seconded, and the the mo-

tion passed.

After discussion regarding the director position, Keirns made a motion to allow the committee consisting of Hamilton, Walt Linthacum and Marciea Weaver to spend up to \$1,500 for advertising. Nancy Cole seconded the motion and it passed.

After discussion, Dana Belshe made a motion to change the council meeting time to 5 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Weaver seconded the motion and it passed. Council members present included Belshe, Shelly Thompson, Keirns, Cole, Linthacum, Weaver and Fairbanks by phone. Members absent included Jan Haigler, Danny Archer and Mike Hamilton

In her report Hobbs said the Micro Loan Committee received copies of journal entries of judgments from the county attorney for several of the first round of loans.

She said Goodland Bowladium Lanes hopes to be open soon. Six lanes are operational now. There is a plumbing problem in the kitchen that needs to be fixed, and another small leak caused by metal with the heating system.

## Easter egg hunt planned for Friday

The annual Goodland Easter Egg Hunt will be held at 5 p.m., on Friday, March 26, at the Northwest Tech Memorial Union on the college campus sponsored by Kiwanis and the Northwest Tech Circle K students.

Plans are to use the grass area by the Memorial Union to hide the eggs, and the kids will be broken into four age groups.

The age groups are babies to age 3, pre-school to kindergarten, first to second grade and third to

fourth grade. Plans are to hide the eggs and let each group go separately to retrieve the eggs.

Kiwanis started a student chapter of Circle K on the Northwest Tech campus, and the student members will be helping with the community Easter Egg Hunt.

The Northwest Tech students will be stuffing eggs Thursday, beginning at 3 p.m. Anyone interested in helping with the community event call Tiffini Overstreet at (785) 890-1517.

Have you filled out and mailed your U.S. Census form yet? Count Day is April 1.

## Found: A warm perch

Saturday the sun was warm and quickly melted the snow and ice from Friday's storm for the first day of spring. Early Saturday morning this sparrow found a warm tire to perch on in the sun at El Reynaldo's with the icicles hanging on the vehicle. The National Weather Service is predicting a 20 percent chance of rain turning to snow after midnight with a 70 percent chance of rain or snow on Wednesday.

Photo by Tom Betz  
The Goodland Star-News