

# Homecoming, parade, pep rally planned

It's time for Homecoming at Goodland High School as the Sherman County High School Alumni Association is planning its annual homecoming parade and pep rally, for 6 p.m. on Thursday Oct. 7, before the Cowboys face the Colby Eagles at 6 p.m. on Friday.

The Goodland Cheerleaders have selected the theme "Put the Eagles in the Past." The theme will be prominently featured in the parade, pep rally and school decorations during the week at Goodland High School.

The Homecoming parade will get underway at 6 p.m. at Eighth and Main Av. and travel to 13th

and Main before turning east and heading to Cowboy Stadium for the annual pep rally and bonfire to follow.

Parade participants are asked to assemble around 5:30 p.m. in the following locations: convertibles, Classic cars and motorcycles in front of the library and courthouse on Broadway Ave. Floats, flatbed trailers and organizational entries on Eighth Street alongside the courthouse and Gulick Park. The high school band will assemble near the intersection of Eighth and Main and will lead the parade along with the Goodland Police and Sherman County Sheriff's Department and

color guard.

The Goodland Police and city Public Works Department will block off Eighth Street from Main to Caldwell Ave., as well as, Broadway from Ninth to Eighth Street between 5:45 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. It is requested only parade participants enter this area during those times to assist the alumni association in safely staging the parade.

The SCHS Alumni Association will award a prize of \$50 to all Goodland High School organizations or classes with parade entries. Entries from other groups or individuals are welcome to participate and are encouraged to take part.

The Alumni Association urges all Goodland High School boosters to decorate their entries in black and gold for the homecoming parade.

The parade will be highlighted by the traditional appearance of the homecoming king and queen candidates riding in convertibles, and the fall sports teams on flatbed trailers. The parade will also feature the always popular "Jumpin' Junior's," Senior parents, cheerleaders and members of the Black and Gold Booster club.

Other parade notables will be members of the Class of 1960 at Goodland High School along with those from Edson and Kanorado.

The Class of 1960 has a rich history and members will be recognized at this year's homecoming activities both at the pep rally and Friday night's football game with Colby High School.

Another traditional parade highlight will be former homecoming queens and attendants riding in convertibles as yet another link to past GHS homecomings.

After turning from Main at 13th Street, parade participants will proceed to Cowboy Stadium and enter the south gate with parking available in the west end zone. After parade dignitaries have been seated, they will be recognized at various

intervals during the pep rally that will feature skits by the Senior parents and Senior members of the football team, routines from the cheerleaders, the annual presentation from the "Jumpin' Juniors" and music from the high school band.

The Alumni Association encourage all residents to turn out for the Homecoming parade, pep rally and bonfire on Oct. 7, as the Cowboys prepare to meet the Colby Eagles Friday Oct. 8th at 6 p.m. in the annual homecoming football game at Cowboy Stadium.

## Company expects gas prices to stay the same

Black Hills Energy customers in Kansas should expect to pay about the same per-unit price for the natural gas commodity this winter as they did last winter the company said on Monday.

The natural gas commodity portion of the typical bill accounts for 65 percent to 75 percent of a residential bill and represents what Black Hills Energy pays for the gas.

"Natural gas is a clean, abundant and reliable fuel, and as a state-regulated utility, we're glad to pass natural gas prices to our customers without markup," said Steve Hanna, Kansas director of operations for Black Hills Energy. "We use a portfolio purchasing strategy to manage volatility and remain competitively priced, buying up to 70 percent of our gas supplies throughout the spring and summer in preparation for winter through the use of fixed-

price and option contracts, and by placing some gas supplies in storage facilities."

Black Hills Energy anticipates prices will remain steady during the heating season due in large part to high storage levels stemming from the sluggish economy and resulting lack of demand for natural gas for manufacturing. Contributing to low prices are vast new discoveries of natural gas in the United States.

Hanna cautioned, however, that wholesale prices can change quickly due to unforeseen events such as hurricanes affecting Gulf production or sustained frigid weather depleting reserves.

"Regardless the price, we encourage customers to increase the efficiency of their homes and businesses to reduce energy consumption, which translates into savings on their monthly bill," Hanna said.

The company offers a budget billing program to level out monthly payments and spread winter bills over the entire year. Customers who struggle to pay their bill are encouraged to contact the company immediately to arrange a payment plan or be referred to their local energy assistance agency.

Black Hills sponsors its own energy assistance program, Black Hills Cares, matching customer and employee donations and forwarding the total to local agencies for residential energy assistance. Customers can indicate on their bill the amount they want to contribute.

For more information about Black Hills Energy programs and services, call the company's 24-hour customer service center at (888) 890-5554, or visit [www.blackhillsenergy.com](http://www.blackhillsenergy.com).

## Effort at Kansas State Fair returns \$201,397 to people

With a respect for private property rights, State Treasurer Dennis McKinney's staff had a booth at the Kansas State Fair and returned more than \$201,000 in property to more than 979 Kansans.

"It is my job to reunite Kansans with their lost financial assets," McKinney said. "Reaching out to fairgoers is a great way to give back to Kansans what is rightfully theirs. 445 I was pleased I was personally able to help one Kansan receive a property valued at over \$4,185 and help another person find a missing royalty payment of \$1,015."

During the 2009 State Fair week over \$188,000 in unclaimed property was claimed and paid out to Kansans. The Treasurer's booth was in the Meadowlark Building at the Kansas State Fair this year. Staff from the office worked each day of the fair searching for, and filing

claims for people that found their unclaimed cash and property.

"Our staff works hard to return as much as possible and the State Fair is a wonderful venue for us to connect Kansans with cash and property currently being held by our office," he said.

Each year thousands of people lose track of their bank accounts, cash, stocks, bonds, refunds, royalties, safe deposit boxes and other property, he said. People move and forget to furnish their bank, broker, employer or insurance company with a forwarding address.

It is the State Treasurer's charge to locate the rightful owners and heirs to the over \$220 million in unclaimed assets currently being held by the State of Kansas, he said. Since McKinney became State Treasurer in 2009, the unclaimed property unit has found 70,000 possible claims valued at over \$53

million. Over \$140 million has been returned to Kansans over the lifetime of this effort.

Kansans who didn't make it to the State Fair may call the State Treasurer's office at 1-800-432-0386 or visit [www.KansasCash.com](http://www.KansasCash.com).

Dennis McKinney took office as Kansas State Treasurer in January 2009. Under McKinney's leadership, the State Treasurer's Office has reduced expenses while setting records in returning unclaimed property to rightful owners, increasing participation in the state higher education savings plan and reforming its housing loan program to create jobs around the state. Responding to the state's budget crisis McKinney cut his own salary by 4 percent while the Treasurer's team managed operations to not only absorb budget cuts but return more than \$65,000 to the State this year.

## matters of record

**Goodland Police**

The following incidents have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

**Sept. 1** – 9 p.m., 1507 Grand Ave., Kerek A. Mason reported theft.

**Sept. 3** – 10:14 a.m., 1008 W. 17th, S&M Repair reported motor vehicle theft.

**Sept. 4** – 12:55 a.m., 1600 Cherry Ave., arrested Michael Lee Ledesma for minor in possession. Case referred to city attorney.

**Sept. 4** – 2:19 a.m., 1600 Cherry Ave., arrested Harley C. Bennett for minor in possession. Case referred to city attorney.

**Sept. 5** – 3:19 a.m., 512 W. 14th,

arrested Benjamin Ramirez for domestic battery against Norma L. Ramirez. Case referred to city attorney.

**District Traffic**

The following fines have been paid in the Sherman County District Court.

**March 5:** Angela G. Brown, speeding, \$210.50.

**May 21:** Deidra C. Bottomley, speeding, \$203.50.

**May 23:** Caroline S. Dybala, unlawful parking, \$162.50; no liability insurance provided, \$300.

**May 27:** Douglas S. Britton, no oversize permit on 12.5 foot wide load, \$243.50.

**June 14:** Melissa M. Dawkins, speeding, \$168.50.

## Water right retirements being accepted for water district

The State Conservation Commission will begin accepting applications for the Water Right Retirement Program beginning today and six high priority units in the Northwest Groundwater Management District are included.

The Water Right Retirement Program is a voluntary, incentive-based program designed to help restore aquifers and streams in critical areas.

Six "High Priority" units in the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 4 have been designated as eligible target areas by the Chief Engineer because of significant water level declines.

They have been designated to be in need of aquifer recovery and are now closed to further appropriations of water. The six areas in Cheyenne, Sherman, Thomas, and Sheridan counties are the subject of additional management program protocols being

discussed with landowners by the water management district.

Applicants who are selected for water right retirement grants are compensated by the State Conservation Commission in exchange for the permanent retirement of a water right. Priority is given to retiring water rights in areas which would have the greatest impact on the aquifer system. A fixed rate price of \$2,000 per acre-foot of Historic Consumptive Water Use is available for eligible water rights to be retired. Grants are approved on the basis of competitive bids.

To be eligible, water rights must have been actively used in the last 10 years. Dryland farming is permitted after a water right is retired. Limited irrigation can be temporarily allowed to establish a permanent cover on the land being transitioned from irrigation. Partial water right reductions can be considered for

retirement grants.

The Fall sign-up period is Oct. 1, through Nov. 15. If program funds are still available, a Spring sign-up period will be held on Feb. 15 through March 31.

For more information, contact Steve Frost, Water Conservation Program Manager, at (785) 296-8964. Complete WTAP rules and regulations, applications, maps, and other details are posted on the State Conservation Commission web site at [www.scc.ks.gov](http://www.scc.ks.gov).

Information and assistance can also be provided at the Groundwater Management District No. 4 in Colby, (785) 462-3915, or at the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources Field Office in Stockton, (785) 425-6787.

### corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

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GHS Cowboys of the Week

Based on positive academic performance, attendance improvement, positive attitude or random acts of kindness, the student nominees this week are: Carly McCracken and Layne Perdew.




Carly McCracken

Nominated by: Susan Hall

Parents: Carl & Wanda McCracken

Activities: Science Olympiad, STUCO, DECA, AFS




Layne Perdew

Nominated by: Sara Short

Parents: Joanie Brighton & Don Perdew

Activities: AFS, 4-H

Proud sponsor this week:



Good Samaritan Society

SHERMAN COUNTY

208 W. 2nd, Goodland • 785.890.7517

City Wide Clean Up

October 4th-October 8th, 2010

Residents may place any unwanted items in alleys and front yards during this week only. City Crews will be picking up any discarded items throughout the week. **Any items that residents DO NOT wish to be discarded need to be removed from these locations prior to the CITY WIDE CLEAN UP.** Items such as tree limbs, leaves, grass clippings, furniture, appliances, metal, plastics, tires, etc. need to be separated out to allow faster and more efficient pickup by City crews. There is no need to phone in your pickup, just place the items in the designated places during that week. **The City Commission's goal is to beautify the City and with your help and cooperation, we can obtain that goal!**

