

The Goodland Star-News



Conservation Awards

Friday, February 20, 2004

Philbrick Conservationist of the Year

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News

Brady and Jane Philbrick have proven that conservation and business can work together for the benefit of both, and because of their efforts they are the 2003 Sherman County Conservationists of the Year.

The Philbricks will receive their award at a ceremony during the annual meeting of the Sherman County Conservation District starting at 6:30, Monday, in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, 824 Main Ave.

"It just feels good to know your efforts are appreciated," Brady Philbrick said. "It's also nice to be recognized by your peers."

In December, a committee of five from the county's conservation board selected the Philbricks for this honor along with the recipients of other awards. To be eligible for Conservationist of the Year, said Fred Wedel, district conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the person or persons must have received the Bankers Award. The Philbricks received it in 1994.

"You can't talk about conservation in Sherman County without talking about Brady Philbrick," Wedel said. "The backbone of his operation is conservation tillage."

Conservation tillage refers to any tillage or planting method that covers 30 percent or more of the soil's surface

with crop residue which helps prevent soil erosion by either wind or water. Methods include no-tillage, strip-tillage, ridge-tillage and mulch-tillage.

Wedel said Brady understood the benefits of conservation early and for more than 30 years has strived to make the best possible use of the land while taking care of it at the same time. He said on at least two occasions he has taken other farmers out to Philbricks' to show what can be accomplished through conservation.

Brady said some of the most notable benefits of the conservation methods he uses are the need for less moisture, less wind erosion and fewer hours on the tractor. He said he also uses less equipment now, but keeps it around "just in case."

Wedel said Brady "is a master" at finding the right combination of conservation management decisions and farming techniques for a specific situation to produce the best possible yield while preserving re-fertility of the land.

Today's farmers face decisions about irrigation/water management, nutrient and pesticide management and crop residue management which refers to the tillage method used. Tillage methods include conventional-tillage, low- or reduced-tillage and no-tillage all of which can be combined with chemical-tillage. Chemical-tillage is the use of herbicides, pesticides and other crop protection



Brady and Jane Philbrick stood in one of their fields, with Goodland in the distant background, Friday afternoon during an interview.

Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

products to control invasive weeds and insects.

With no-tillage the soil is left undisturbed from harvest to planting which helps prevent soil erosion and in-

creases its ability to absorb moisture. Chemical-tillage is used to control pests. Brady said he has primarily used no-tillage since 1995, but says the conditions on a specific tract of land may

cause him to use a different method.

No-tillage leads to direct seeding in which a double-disc opener opens the

See PHILBRICK, Page 8



60th annual meeting, Monday, Feb. 23 6:30 p.m. VFW Hall

County Conservation District annual report

This is the Annual Report of the Sherman County Conservation District for the Calendar year of 2003.

The 2003 Annual Meeting was held February 24th, 2003 at the VFW in Goodland. Mr. and Mrs. Allen Quenzer were named Conservationists of the Year. Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Sieck, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Sieck and Mark Sieck were awarded the Banker's award and Mr. and Mrs. Darle Fortmeyer were recipients of the Windbreak Award. Jim McDowell received the Educator of the Year Award.

One hundred seventy-five cooperators enjoyed the meal furnished by the District and local banks. Lynn Ihrig introduced Ron Wilson, Cowboy Poet who provided the entertainment for the evening. Dennis Shank and Bill Selby were elected to the board by secret ballot.

Thirty-six plaques were presented at the 2003 Annual Meeting for the Poster, Limerick, Essay Contest and Hyper-Studio Stack Contest. Sandy Rodgers, District Manager and Fred Wedel, District Conservationist presented conservation programs prior to the contest.

The Goodland Star-News pub-

lished the Annual Soil Conservation Edition. KLOE/KKCI radio continues to support conservation throughout the year.

Sherman County Farmers continue to support conservation in Sherman County. All Compliance plans are on schedule. Approximately 386 CRP contracts are in place for approximately 47,793.2 acres, roughly 20 percent of the County. The State Water Resources Cost Share Funds have been allocated for the 2003 program year. Practices include irrigation system upgrades, tanks, livestock wells, terraces and diversions. The Sherman County Conservation District agreed to be a pilot county for the State Water Resources Cost Share Program Irrigation Water Management Practice. There are seventeen EQIP contracts, one Wetland Reserve Program contract and three Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program contracts in Sherman County.

The Sherman County Conservation District continues a strong education and information program. A fair booth was displayed in August. Fred Wedel, District Conservationist and Sandy Rodgers, District Manager worked with 5th and 6th graders and

the third Hyper-Studio Stack contest was a big success. The 3rd through 6th grades also participated in the Poster, Limerick and Essay Contest. Sandy gave programs in the classroom and Fred took 5th and 6th graders on a mini tour to look at conservation practices in the field. The District Board voted to offer 2 scholarships to graduating seniors in Sherman County who plan on attending a higher learning institution, with their choice of study being related to agriculture. The scholarships will be given for the first time to two graduating seniors in the class of 2004.

The District offers grass seed, flags, trees, rabbit netting, weed barrier, polymer and gyp blocks for sale as a service to area cooperators, as well as, providing additional funding for the District Programs.

Sherman County Conservation District paid dues to the National Association of Conservation Districts, the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts, the KACD Auxiliary, Western Prairie RC&D, and the Kansas Association of Conservation District's Employees Organization.

The District works closely with their conservation partners, including

State and National legislators, NRCS, County Commissioners, K-State Extension, Wildlife and Parks, FSA, Groundwater Management District #4 and many others to reach mutual conservation goals. The District continued their Memorandum of Understanding with Wildlife and Parks concerning cost share funds. Three producers were awarded cost share funds through this MOU for tree plantings. Sharon Bowker continues as the representative to the Western Prairie RC&D with Sandy Rodgers serving as alternate. Sandy Rodgers serves on the local advisory committee for Western Prairie RC&D and Fred Wedel serves as an advisor to that group.

The Sherman County Conservation District Manager, Sandy Rodgers, continues to participate in the Northwest Kansas Conservation and Environmental Alliance. This group consists of District Managers representing nine County Conservation Districts. Their objective is to search for funding through grants and foundations to enhance and ensure a quality environment for future generations in Northwest Kansas. Sandy currently serves as President.

The District offered prize money to 4-H and individual fair booths that carried a conservation theme.

National Wildlife Week and Soil Stewardship weeks were observed by distributing educational material to the schools, public library, various offices and churches in Goodland.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Ihrig, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Graber, Dennis Shank and Fred Wedel attended the KACD Convention held at Wichita in November. Vance Johnson won Honorable Mention in the State Poster Contest.

The District reviewed their long-range program and also reviewed the memorandums of understanding with all cooperating agencies.

The Sherman County Conservation District's objective is to promote locally led conservation and to assist landowners and operators apply conservation practices to the land with the technical assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The Conservation Office is available for assistance to anyone needing help solving his or her conservation needs. The District Board meets the first Thursday after the first Tuesday of every month with the exception of July.

Sherman County Conservation District • Program 2004

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WELCOME

PROGRAM

ELECTION

INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

(Recognize former Award Winners)

Friends of Conservation Awards

State Limerick Award

Poster, Limerick & Essay Contest

Windbreak Award

Bankers Award

Conservationists of the Year

BUSINESS

Minutes & Treasurer's Report

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

Lonnie Whiteker

Bill Selby

Dennis Shank

Lynn Ihrig

Dean Graber

Scott Jarrett

Sandy Rodgers

Lynn Ihrig

Sandy Rodgers

Sandy Rodgers

Dan Farmer

Key Banker

Key Banker

Fred Wedel

Lonnie Whiteker

Dennis Shank

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Treasurer

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Member

Advisor

District Manager

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Everyone Welcome!**



NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL

Fred Wedel

Dan Farmer

District Conservationist

Conservation Technician

Leonards selected for Bankers Award

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

A Goodland couple, just trying to keep the family farm afloat through a long drought, were surprised to receive the bankers award from the Sherman County Conservation District.

David and Lori Leonard don't see anything special about their farming practices; they have just adapted to changes over the years. And they say they were amazed to win the award.

"It was a shock when we got the letter and saw we won," Lori said.

But Sherman County Conservationist Fred Wedel has no doubt the Leonard family deserves the award.

The Leonards are good at moisture management, Wedel said, and use the best seeds and practices, and their farming methods leave a habitat for wildlife. Wedel even cites the Leonards' modesty as a reason they deserve the award.

"They go about their business," he said, "and do their work. That's another reason they are very deserving of the award."

David has been a full-time farmer since 1980 and farmed during the



David and Lori Leonard with part of their windbreak in the background.

summer for the previous four years while he was in school. The Leonards live on his parents' farm north of Ruleton, where they have been since marrying in '81. The family raises crops in rotation, cattle and seed wheat, which they sell.

David said the farm has been in his family since 1940, and some of their land has been in the family for over 100 years. And it has seen many changes over the years.

He said they started irrigating in '65 and converted to center pivots in '74.

"It was a big deal when we converted to center pivots," he said, "and didn't have to lay pipe anymore."

The Leonards say their neighborhood has changed too. It has changed a lot in the last 20 years, David said, as people in the area have moved to town or died.

"It's pretty slim pickin's," Lori said, "to find others to help. You need to be self-sufficient."

"But it's peaceful anyway."

The Leonards have had to make changes to adapt to the drought in the last four years.

Farming's been different the last few years, Lori said. With the

drought, David said they have been making as few trips across the fields as possible. The ground loses moisture each time, he said.

And they have cut back on cattle. Lori said they reduced their number of calves because the pastures are in poor shape. The Leonards raise wheat, corn, pinto beans and sorghum in their crop rotation, at least they try to.

"Lately it's been crop insurance," David said. "We plant; we don't harvest."

But they are optimistic about the future. It's gonna change someday, David said.

"He always says we're a day closer," Lori said.

"Some say it's a seven-year drought," David joked; "we've had four, so there's only three more to go."

On the serious side, David said farmers won't realize it at first when the drought does end.

"We won't get out of it overnight," he said. "You'll work your way out of it, while you don't even know it."

In the meantime, the Leonards use

See LEONARD, Page 9

Congratulations to Sherman County Conservation District Award Winners

Conservationists of the Year

Mr. & Mrs. Brady Philbrick

Bankers Award

Mr. & Mrs. David Leonard

Windbreak Award

Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Isaac

Friends of Conservation Award

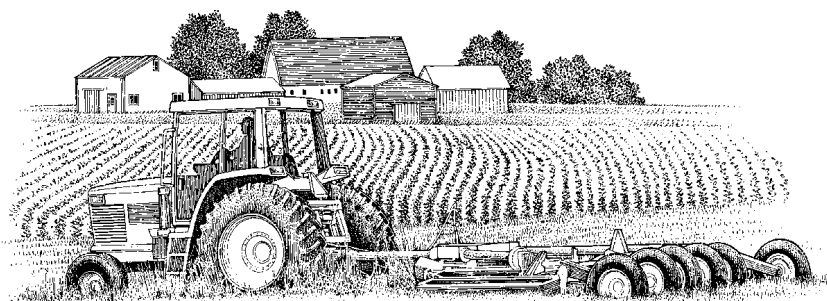
The Goodland Star-News

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Conservationists of the Year

Mr. & Mrs. Brady Philbrick

Friends of Conservation Award

The Goodland Star-News and
KLOE/KKCI and KWGB

Bankers Award

Mr. and Mrs. David Leonard

Honorable Mention Limerick Winner

Vance Johnson son of Marty and
Beth Johnson

Windbreak Award

Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Isaac

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Susan Duke

A Salute to Area Farmers



It starts with pride. Pride in himself and the way he farms. The American farmer knows he can expect a season full of long hours and hard work. But he's up to the challenge. In fact, he wouldn't have it any other way. A good farmer is a good neighbor, too. Involved in his community and committed to the land. He's a family man. Passing knowledge on to his children so they'll be ready when it's their turn to farm. A good farmer runs a tight operation. But his eyes

are always open; looking for new ideas and tools that can make his business a little more efficient; a little more productive. He listens hard when other people talk farming. But mainly, he takes a long look at his own program and decides things for himself.

Throwing out what didn't work and sticking with the things that did. Upgrading his system until his goals are reached and then upgrading some more. He's hard to please, but he's fair. A good farmer, in short, is one of America's greatest natural resources.

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Pine tree windbreak protects Isaac's cattle

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

For Vernon Isaac a love of the mountains and pine trees was the main reason he planted his award winning windbreak about eight miles southeast of Edson.

Vernon and Karen Isaac are the Sherman County Conservation District Windbreak Award winners, and will receive their award at the annual banquet on Monday at the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall.

The award winning windbreak was planted by the Isaac's at the place where Vernon has run his cow/calf operation over the past 30 years.

Vernon was born in 1937 at Turpin, Okla., and grew up there graduating from high school in 1955.

When he was 21 he followed the harvest north and stayed in Sherman County working on several area farms.

He met Karen while he was working on the farms. She is from St. Francis where she was born in 1941, and graduated from high school in 1958.

In 1963 Vernon went to work for Dutch Mueller and became manager of the Mueller Farms headquartered



Karen and Vernon Isaac stood in front of one of their favorite trees in their extensive pine tree windbreak southeast of Edson.

about 20 miles southeast of Goodland. He has managed the farm for over 40 years.

Vernon and Karen were married in a civil ceremony in Boulder, Colo. in 1969.

Isaac began purchasing land in Northwest Kansas in the 1974, and one of the places they bought was a farm about eight miles southeast of Edson where they established their cattle operations.

Vernon said he planted his first section of windbreak in 1980 with 600 trees of which 275 were Ponderosa pine and 325 were Austrian pine. He got the Ponderosa's from Colorado State University and the Austrian pine's from Kansas State University.

"He hand dug every hole," Karen said. "When it would rain he would go out and clean the silt out of the little trees so they wouldn't be covered up."

He said the K-State trees were larger because they had been started using continuous lighting to help grow bigger than the Colorado trees. He said the K-State trees were about half an inch in diameter, and several inches tall while the Colorado trees were smaller.

"I was told you couldn't get Austrian pines to grow here," Isaac said. "At the time I wanted to plant my windbreak of pine trees it did not match the recommendations of the Extension Service or the Soil Conservation District. I wanted a pine tree windbreak so I went ahead with my plan, and without any help."


The 600 trees were planted in six rows and went west of the house and then south to the feed bunks. The three outside rows were Austrian pine and the inside three rows were Ponderosa pine.

To water the trees Isaac installed a drip system, and as the rows were completed the drip was turned on. He said he lost about six trees the first year.

The next year he planted 600 Austrian pine, and when his wife said the soil conservation office said they had some extra trees he sent her back for 200 more of the Austrian pine for a total of 800.


The 600 were planted from the feed bunk south and then west with four rows of trees. The additional 200 were

See ISAAC, Page 11



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Conservation District celebrates 60th year

By: Fred Wedel

Sherman County District Conservationist

The Sherman County Conservation District will hold the 60th annual meeting on February 23. The Conservation District was chartered June 21, 1943. This is the fourth annual meeting I have the privilege to attend. As I prepare for this event I am reminded of the FFA Creed. Paragraphs 2 and 3 follow:

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agriculture pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those association which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

As I look forward to 2004, I am anxious about the weather as drought recovery continues. Although the spring of 2003 was perfect for range-land and winter wheat the summer and fall remained very dry and drought recovery is slower than anticipated. Recent snow is helpful and more is needed. A year ago a list of ways to improve soil quality and manage available pre-



Fred Wedel

cipitation was shared with you. Those ways are important so I will talk about them again.

Eliminate compacted layers in cropland. The best time to deep rip is when soil moisture is below 60 percent. Do it now!

Reduce mechanical tillage by reducing the number of trips over a field. More than 1/2 inch of soil moisture is lost with each tillage pass.

Match irrigated acres to available water (rule of thumb, 5gpm per acre).

Use crop rotations that require less irrigation water. Consider "limited irrigation."

Rest and defer native range so grass plants can rebuild root systems. Full season grazing always reduces range health and plant vigor.

Return low yielding fields with class IV & VI soils to grass. (EQIP range planting or CRP)

Plant grass waterways and crosswind trap strips where needed.

Leave more crop residue standing to catch winter snowfall and reduce wind speed at ground level. (standing cornstalks and standing wheat stubble, etc.)

Use strip till and no-till planting methods whenever possible. Conservation tillage trends show the tillage system showing the most in-

crease in acres is No-Till/Strip-Till systems.


The focus of the Natural Resources Conservation Service continues to be Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA). CTA results in a conservation plan for a specific farm or ranch or a specific tract on the farm or ranch. The conservation plan must meet the goals the farmer or rancher has for managing all resources for profitability and sustainability. CTA is based on voluntary local landowner cooperation that contributes to healthy bottom lines as well as healthy ecosystems, landscapes and watersheds. CTA and the planning process then considers other tools such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) or the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) to apply for funding for installation of conservation practices that were chosen in the planning process. In addition, Kansas through the State Conservation Commission annually provides funds for conservation practices to the Sherman County Conservation District. Thus, conservation practice application is plan driven based on natural resource concerns and needs

Now, about EQIP: The last day for applications for the 2004 EQIP Program is Friday, March 12. The EQIP Program is not an entitlement. All applications are based on a resource need that fits within a list of resource needs de-

veloped by the NRCS State Technical Committee. The resource concerns are: Air Quality, Water Quality, Water Quantity, Wind Erosion, Grazing Land Health and Sedimentation above Federal Reservoirs. NRCS is always seeking input from Local Conservation Districts. The Sherman County Conservation District is heading up a Local Work Group (LWG) to make recommendations on how some of the Sherman County EQIP allocation will be used. Bill Selby, a member of the Sherman County Conservation District (SCCD) is also a member of the State Technical Committee that provides feedback to NRCS in Kansas. Additionally, each of the 5 Conservation District Areas in Kansas have two members on a "Blue Ribbon" committee that meets directly with NRCS State Conservationist Harold Klaege. Another method of local input into conservation programs involves a comment period each time a new conservation program is implemented. For example, the comment period for the Conservation Security Program (CSP) runs thru March 1st. All comments are welcome and encouraged. Just log onto the farm bill web site, scroll to CSP, and follow the instructions for sending or emailing your comments. Be proactive and become involved.



Remember this, the settlers of Sherman

See DISTRICT, Page 7



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CONGRATULATIONS SHERMAN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT AWARD WINNERS:

CONSERVATIONISTS OF THE YEAR

Mr. and Mrs. Brady Philbrick

WINDBREAK AWARD

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Isaac

BANKERS AWARD

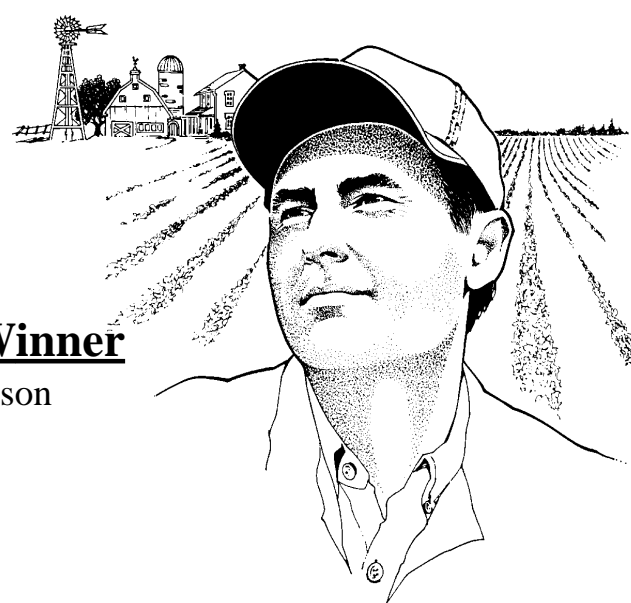
Mr. and Mrs. David Leonard

Honorable Mention Limerick Winner

Vance Johnson son of Marty and Beth Johnson

FRIENDS OF CONSERVATION AWARD

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County board wonderful group to work with

By Sandy Rodgers

District Manager

Last year I wrote an article about working with Fred and Dan (The NRCS Guys), so I thought it only fair to write about "The Sherman County Conservation District Board of Supervisors" (these guys really are my bosses, so naturally I will keep that in mind).

I gave them the opportunity to write their own biographies but I had no takers on that idea so here goes!

The only board member that had any part in hiring me that is still on the board is Bill Selby. Bill and I are the old timers. Bill is married to Eva Lou and they were blessed with three very handsome sons and three equally handsome grandsons. Tragically, they lost their son Brent to Diabetes a couple of years ago, shortly after Bill was injured in a very serious car accident.

The point of sharing this information about Bill and Eva Lou is that I've learned a lot about keeping your chin up from them. In the midst of their troubles, they still always had time to be concerned about others, and offer a smile or a positive thought. Bill has



Rodgers

always been a very dependable and informed board member as well as a very fair and supportive boss.

Then there is Lynn Ihrig, he and I have worked together next longest. Lynn is married to DeeAnn and has four children. I have really enjoyed watching Lynn and DeeAnn's children grow up and follow their 4-H activities and school activities.

Lynn and I go way back to high school, 4-H, etc. So we both have stories to tell on each other. Lynn likes to tease me and I try to give it back, but usually he wins! I have always been able to count on Lynn to help me out and he too has been a very good boss.

Lonnie Whiteker and Dennis Shank came on the board about the same time. I think Lonnie was first. Anyway, Lonnie is the Chairman and Dennis is the Treasurer, so guess who gets called the most. Lonnie and Dennis. Lonnie is married to Marlene and

Dennis is married to Gaylene. It is really fun to get together with these gals at special board functions.

I can't remember Lonnie ever missing a board meeting and is very good about keeping up with all that goes on in the office. Dennis is a great treasurer (with his accounting background he can make sure I am always on track). These two guys always come through when I need something.

Dennis and Gaylene have a son and a daughter and two beautiful granddaughters. I enjoy Dennis' granddaughter Hannah when she comes to visit.

Dean Graber is the newest board member and I have known his wife Barb for over 20 years. Dean has been a fellow K-State fan with my Dad for many years and served on several of our District Nominating Committees. Dean and Barb have a grown son and a three-year-old grandson. Dean brings a lot of knowledge and fresh new ideas to the board and is always willing to help.

Our very newest addition to the board is our Advisor, Scott Jarrett. You know you are getting older when

the board Advisor graduated with your daughter. I just can't figure out how someone his age can be so smart! He is very easy going and really thinks things through. He seems to always come up with a practical answer to most situations. We are very lucky to have him. Scott and his wife Tanya have two small children, a boy and a girl.

I wish everyone could work for a group of people this dedicated. I feel very lucky. There are several board members I have worked for in the past

that I feel very fortunate to have known as well. I have learned from all of them.

You might not know this but the board members do not get compensated for their time and effort. They volunteer to run for election to this board. It is a big responsibility and each and every one takes their duties very seriously.

These men represent Sherman County Conservation issues very well. The next time you see one of these guys tell them "Thanks."

District's 60th year

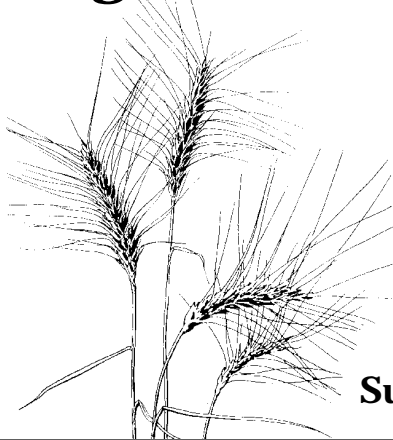
DISTRICT, from Page 6

County survived the thirties (and later thrived). The residents of Sherman County survived the fifties by adopting new farming methods and technology. Even though times have changed, the people of Sherman County will recover from the current drought and economic difficulties because of their will to do so. Sherman County Producers are some of

the most progressive people I know. I do look forward to the rest of 2004 and the opportunity as NRCS District Conservationist to use current Conservation Programs to help you reach the conservation goals you have for your farm or ranch.

**60th Annual banquet
Monday, Feb. 23
6:30 p.m. at V.F.W. Hall**

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Philbrick's win top award

PHILBRICK, from Page 1

soil so a grain drill can plant the seed after another device immediately closes the soil. This planting method allows farmers to plant in seven and a half inch rows rather than the traditional 30 inches. The narrower rows result in a more complete and thicker canopy which further helps retain moisture and prevent soil erosion.

One of the farming methods Brady uses for non-irrigated soil, Wedel said, is crop rotation where a tract of land, for example 160 square acres, is divided into thirds on which winter wheat is planted on a third, grain sorghum on another and the other is allowed to lie fallow, unplanted. Then with the next planting season the crops are rotated. Rotating crops, Wedel said, also breaks the life cycle of some invasive pests, both plant and insect.

Other conservation methods the Philbricks have implemented is converting from flood irrigation to central pivot and to plant windbreaks, also known as shelterbelts.

Brady's partner in all things is Jane who helps during harvest and acts as



Sami



Murillo



Andrew

a sounding board for ideas. Jane was re-elected to the Goodland School Board last April taking her seat July 1 when she was unanimously voted in as the board's vice president.

Brady said he first met Jane in January 1986 when they were setup by her sister and his best friend and six months later they were married. Both are graduates of Goodland High School, he in 1970 and she in 1974.

Brady attended Colby Community College for a year before returning to the family farm to work with his fa-

ther. Jane received her bachelors degree from Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina and her masters from Western Washington University.

The Philbricks have two children: Samantha, 15, a sophomore at Goodland High and Andrew, 14, in the eighth grade at Grant Junior High.

Samantha plays the trumpet for the high school band, along with the jazz and pep bands. She was a member of the Cowgirl golf team this past season and is a member of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. Samantha is active with 4-H.

Andrew ran cross country for the Mustangs last fall and competes in the Scholar's Bowl. He is active in 4-H, other interests include music and singing.

Part of their family this school year is Maricel Murillo, an exchange student from Costa Rica and a high school senior. She is a manager for the Cowgirls basketball team and was a finalist for the 2004 Snoball queen.

Brady said Maricel had never seen snow until she came to the U.S. and to give her the opportunity to experience it to the fullest took her on a family ski trip to Colorado last weekend.



Brady Philbrick described what no-tillage means and accomplishes in one of the fields where he uses the method.

Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

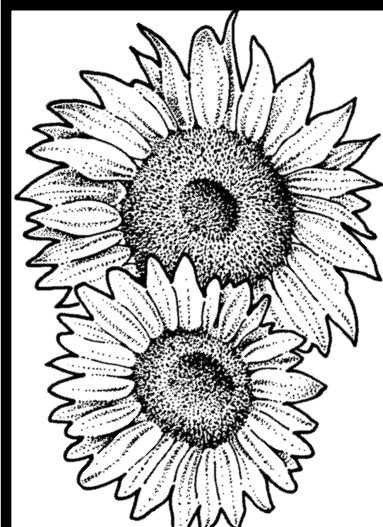
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