

**weather
report****47°****noon Monday****Today**

•Sunset, 4:23 p.m.

Wednesday

•Sunrise, 6:54 a.m.

•Sunset, 4:23 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 32 degrees
- Humidity 53 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds southeast 8 mph.
- Barometer 29.70 inches and steady

- Record High today 74° (1923)
- Record Low today -9° (1978)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	40°
Low Sunday	23°
Precipitation	.02
This month	.02
Year to date	21.38
Normal	19.46

The Topside Forecast

Today: mostly sunny, high near 48, low near 25, winds south 7-11 mph. Wednesday: partly cloudy, high around 54, low around 28, winds northwest 6-10 changing to the southwest.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: mostly sunny, high around 58, low around 26. Friday: mostly sunny, high around 58, low near 27. Saturday: mostly sunny, high near 63, low around 25.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local
markets****Noon**

Wheat — \$3.11 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.18
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$1.88 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.71
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$1.56 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.68 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.68
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Confection — \$19/\$13 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$25
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

**inside
today**

More local
news and
views from
your
Goodland
Star-News



Cowboys win opener

Senior Lane Winter (No. 21) scored two of his 17 points during the second half of the Cowboys win over the Imperial, Neb., Chase County Longhorns, (62-39), Friday at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Story, photo on Page 12a.

Goodland family suffers tragedy

By Kathryn Burke*The Goodland Star-News*

A murder-suicide took the lives of two long-time Goodland residents Sunday.

Richard, 75, and Donna, 69, Hurd were found dead at their home at 102 Broadway around 8:35 p.m.

Their grandson, Chris, discovered the bodies and called police to the scene.

Goodland Police Chief Ray Smee said the two died of gunshot wounds and the preliminary data points to Richard taking Donna's life and then his own.

"In cases like this," he said, "there is just not a lot of information."

Chief Smee said detectives were still unsure of what actually happened and with no witnesses they may never know the whole story.

"With this type of situation," he said, "all your witnesses are gone, so

I don't speculate at all."

Richard Hurd, a third generation resident born and raised in Sherman County, was a retired parts salesman for Shores Bros Auto Supply.

His first cousin Curtis Hurd said Richard was a friend of everybody.

"He was a very jovial person," he added, "he loved to visit."

Richard was a Navy veteran and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Although Richard was suffering from diabetes and had recently gone to Hays for a minor surgery, Curtis said the couple seemed to be healthy.

"As far as I know," he said, "They were in pretty good health."

He said he spoke with Richard only a few days before the shooting and he didn't notice anything out of the ordinary.

"He didn't seem to be upset over anything," Curtis said.

Donna (Hayden) Hurd was born in Sherman County to Charles and Elvertine Hayden. The family lived in Wallace County but she graduated from Goodland High School in 1953.

Hurd worked for several law offices and then in the county treasurer's office until her retirement last December.

"They were enjoying retirement," said Hurd's former co-worker and newly elected county treasurer Iris Scheopner.

Hurd's older sister Charlene (Hayden) Kramer said she liked working for the county, but the long days were hard.

"She enjoyed working," she said, "but she was getting tired."

Scheopner said Hurd still worked in the office to fill in sometimes and was even helping out with taxes last month.

"She was real easy going," re-

membered Scheopner. "She had a good sense of humor."

"She was always pleasant," added Shelby Miller, Hurd's former boss and county treasurer. "Everyone liked to work with her."

She said everyone at the office was shocked to hear the news since they had seen Hurd so recently.

"We're just devastated in here," she said.

Kramer said Richard and Donna went to church every Saturday night at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church. She said Donna was involved with the Goodland Arts Council, too.

Chief Smee said the Goodland Police Department, the Sherman County Sheriff's Department and the Kansas Bureau of Investigations were all investigating the case.

He said on Monday almost all of the family had been notified of the

shooting and the Hurd's sons Tim, of Raymore, Mo., and Mike, of Kansas City, Mo., were on their way to town.

Kramer said she hadn't spoken to many family members, but she knew everyone was shocked at the shooting.

"I'm so shocked myself," she said. "I can't believe it."

She said Chris Hurd, the grandson who discovered the bodies, was still very upset Monday. Hurd is a new student in the automotive technology program at Northwest Kansas Technical College.

"Their grandson is broken up," she said. "He can't talk."

The couple had been married for 50 years and had two sons, one grandson and one great-grandson.

"She was a wonderful mother, grandmother and great-grandmother," said Kramer. "Everybody who knew Donna loved her. She was a very lovable person."

Kids collect food for Genesis baskets

By Kathryn Burke*The Goodland Star-News*

With over 100 Christmas baskets to fill for Genesis this year, members from youth groups and area 4-H clubs fanned out across Goodland to pick up donations Saturday morning.

A mix of kids from first grade through high school loaded into vans and pick-ups and went out to their designated areas. Each group was assigned a block marked out on a big map at the fellowship hall.

The groups scanned every porch along the route and picked up the bright blue or white bags that were left out.

For one group of young boys, picking up food was a fun adventure. All of the boys piled out of the truck they were traveling in at each porch and helped each other carry the sacks of food.

The sacks were filled with holiday foods, from green beans and stuffing to tasty holiday treats.

"This one has marshmallows!" exclaimed one of the boys. They looked through each bag and excitedly picked out items they especially liked.

As the group picked up more and more bags, they realized their drive would be a success.

"Does that look like enough to fill 100 baskets," wondered Genesis co-director Pat Jordan as the food poured into the fellowship hall at the First United Methodist Church.

Clark Jordan, Pat's husband and co-director of Genesis, said he thought it might be enough after they bought a few more perishable items.

The two said the food drive is where they get the majority of the food that goes into the baskets.

Genesis collects food to go into their pantry for the needy throughout



Cy Paxton (above, left), Ian Bonsall (middle) and Zach Miller helped each other carry sacks of food left on doorsteps for Genesis Saturday morning. Gage Owens (left) and Paxton strained to carry a particularly large sack full of food down the steps to fill up the Genesis Christmas baskets.

Photos by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

the year. Picnic in the Park also donates chicken to the pantry year.

The young volunteers were rewarded

for their hard work with hot cocoa, doughnuts and a fun snowball fight after a chilly morning of food collection.

Lovington leaves Prevention Center position

By Sharon Corcoran*The Goodland Star-News*

Married to her job for six years, Cris Lovington has gotten a divorce.

It's not that she no longer loves the work, she says; she simply wants to try something new.

After devoting her time, personally and professionally, to the Regional Prevention Center and related causes for the past six years, Lovington started Monday as a teachers' aide for speech therapy for West Elementary School and the Head Start preschool.

Lovington said she wanted to have time to take college classes and work toward a degree, but she still plans to be involved in the community. She just has to decide how much she can do without forgetting her personal goals.

When talking about her pet causes, though, she seems to have some separation anxiety.

Lovington and her husband Art will continue to be sponsors for the Motivation, Achievement, Success Youth Group (MAS), and she will continue to help with GRACE, a

club at Goodland High School to help girls assert themselves and show pride in their culture.

She will continue on the Hispanic Advisory Board, which will start the new year with a new name as the Target Area Council of Harvest America, and she will continue to attend the Sherman County Community Partners Coalition meetings.

As for other groups and activities, Lovington wants to be involved as much as possible but will have to make choices.

"I've become involved with so many things with the prevention center that it's hard to let go," Lovington said. "I have to be realistic to do college; I can't do them all."

It has been hard trying to decide, she said, adding she had made a list of things she was involved in and has been looking at how much time they take to decide what needs to be cut.

Lovington's job at the prevention center has involved teaching parents how to talk to their children about drug and alcohol abuse and tobacco use and to be aware of what their

children are involved in.

When she first started the job, she thought the brochures on parenting sounded corny. She decided to try it on her own family in order to know if it works.

"I applied it to my family," she said, "and it works. There's no guarantee your kids won't get involved with alcohol or drugs, but you know how to handle it and to keep the lines of communication open."

The prevention center has videos and other resources to help families to prevent unhealthy behavior and holds Prime for Life classes, where first-time offenders learn the facts about alcohol and drug abuse. It's not "preachy," Lovington said, but helps them to see where they are with a risk of developing alcoholism and make a decision about whether they want to risk it or not.

Besides believing in the importance of preventing substance abuse, especially among youths, Lovington takes to heart several causes related to raising children who are healthy mentally and emotionally. She believes in giving Hispanic people a voice in the community, especially by helping those who don't speak English to find the

resources they need.

Lovington said a lot of things she was involved in people thought were part of the prevention center because she was there.

"They weren't," she said. "I just did them because I wanted to. Maybe I need to stop believing in so many things."

Lovington said closest to her heart is the youth group, which will be her no. 1 priority in her community activities. The advisory board will be no. 2, she said.

For the others, Lovington said, she will help when she can. She plans to keep her daughter Olivia, 17, involved.

"I want her to grasp how to be involved in her community when she's older," Cris said.

Lovington said she's excited to be teaching younger kids, to do something new and to have different hours, to get off at 3 p.m., have summers off and holiday breaks.

"I don't know why I didn't think of this sooner," she said.

But then she will have to have things to do during the breaks, adding she planned to spend her week off between jobs cleaning house but it only took two days.

"I couldn't believe how soon I was done," she said.

Lovington said some people thought she took the new job for money, but it actually involved a pay cut.

Lovington took classes in nursing at Colby Community College but doesn't have a degree. She couldn't continue with school for personal reasons. But now her children are older — besides Olivia, she has a son, Andrew, who is an assistant manager at Pizza Hut.

She doesn't want to have to leave school now. She hopes to earn a degree in counseling and be able to help families, and she wants to set a good example for young people.

Lovington will help with GRACE, but if she is going to tell kids to stay in school, she needs to do that herself.

Previously, she has used herself as an example of what she wishes she had done.

"A 'what if?'" she said.

Lovington couldn't take classes while working at the prevention center because of the evening hours and traveling she had to do for the job.

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