

Goodland band plays at ground-breaking party

Smoky Hills adds television tower here

By Tisha Cox

Colby Free Press

There was a small party on the prairie near Brewster on Wednesday as Smoky Hills Public Television broke ground for a new digital transmitter which by next year should bring a strong, clear signal to northwest Kansas.

Members of the public television agency's board, the station manager and the Goodland High School Cowboys band were all present for the event eight miles south of Brewster.

General Manager Larry Holden said it will be the fourth digital transmitter for the station. Smoky Hills has already converted three other transmitters, he said, and is installing a new digital tower for northwest Kansas to replace three analog translators currently serving the area.

Holden said the \$3.2 million project will improve the quality of reception and will increase the amount of programming public television can provide.

Construction will meet a federal mandate that all television broadcasts be converted to digital by 2009, he said. In February 2009,

analog broadcasts will stop.

Money for the equipment came from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service, \$2 million, and the Kansas Public Broadcasting Council, \$1.2 million.

"Not only will the quality of the picture people receive improve," Holden said, "but the new tower will allow us to broadcast from midnight to 6 a.m., making public television in Kansas available 24 hours a day."

Ted Bannister of Bison, Smoky Hills board chair, said the tower is important.

"It is as important as the construction of a university, library or other cultural institution," he said. "It is a big deal even though it may seem mundane."

Construction on the transmitter building will begin Monday and the 1,200-foot tower and antenna will go up over the next eight months. By December, the station hopes to test the tower and its signal. It should be broadcasting full time by early 2007.

According to the station, the tower will be the highest man-made structure in western Kansas.



Larry Holden, High Plains Public Television general manager, said the new digital transmitter south of Brewster will bring a strong sig-

nal to northwest Kansas. The Goodland High School band performed at the groundbreaking Wednesday.

Photo by Tisha Cox/Colby Free Press

Town was abuzz about pioneer list for courthouse cornerstone

The Goodland News-Republic continued to cover the construction of the new Sherman County courthouse in 1931. Plans were being made as to the contents of the cornerstone which was due to be placed in early May. One idea was to place in the cornerstone the names of pioneer families who were still in the county printed in a special edition of the newspaper.

PIONEERS LIKE IDEA OF CORNERSTONE EDITION Finding a lot of People Here Forty Years

The pioneers who settled Sherman County are taking to the idea of having a list of all residents who have been here 40 years or more published in an edition, which will be preserved for future generation, in the cornerstone of the new courthouse, and already a large number of them have reported and been put on the list.

There are quite a number of people who have been here 40 years. The early period of settlement was about 1885 and 1886, and



marcia smith

• from the vault

a lot of people came about that time, took homesteads, broke out the prairie, erected buildings and organized communities.

There is some speculation as to just how many names will be on the list. At the end of the week, 75 names have been reported, and more have been coming in this week.

As groups congregated Saturday and Sunday to discuss this new idea for the corner stone laying, there were many guesses as to just how many 40-year residents there are in the county.

There are native sons and daughters who were born in this county more than 40 years ago and are still making this their home. It may be that these will be listed separately.

Any embarrassment to ladies who might not like to admit quite that number of years ought to be sufficiently offset by the honor of having her name preserved for generations in the new building.

Some people who have been here a long time have reported the names of others that they know, or at least believe, have been here for 40 or more years. It is urgently requested that each person entitled to the honor make the fact known and give the date of arrival in Sherman County.

Also, when possible, the person should recall some memorable occasion of the early days. Some quite interesting stories, heretofore unpublished, have been told.

Additional plans were being made for the ceremony surrounding the laying of the courthouse corner-

stone. Several community groups were involved.

MAY COMBINE MAY 10 CEREMONY WITH ALL-COUNTY PICNIC

Plans are being discussed for a big public cornerstone laying ceremony for the new Sherman County courthouse. Albert Zuspahn, chairman of the county commissioners, has been advised by the contractor that it will require about 40 days for the builders to get to the point where the stone can be put in place.

The Farm Bureau and the Chamber of Commerce recently considered an all-county picnic in the early spring, so it is probable that it will be worked in with the cornerstone laying.

The local lodge of Masons will lay the stone, Mr. Zuspahn says. An effort will be made to secure a prominent speaker to deliver an address on the occasion, Gov. Harry Woodring, Sen. Arthur Capper, Sen. George McGill or some equally prominent Kansan. Should Vice-President Charles Curtis re-

turn to Kansas this spring, he may be secured for the occasion.

In the cornerstone will be cemented a large strong box which will contain a number of things for future generations when they tear down the building now being constructed. A Bible, copies of the newspaper, some historical documents and the list of settlers of Sherman County who still are living here will be included.

Advertising for new automobiles in 1931 was interesting, especially to today's readers. Makes and models of cars which are no longer manufactured were featured.

The first car was the Essex, "The Finest Performing Six Hudson Ever Built."

"Essex is the only low-priced car that follows the motor design of the highest-priced cars in using light weight moving parts and in engine speed."

Other statistics listed were 70 miles an hour, 60 horsepower, big and roomy. "The value sensation in

a year of sensational values," the Essex was available at Neu Motor Company for \$595.

Leonard Martin Motors, 824 Main, was advertising the Nash automobile.

"For 14 years, Nash has been raising its quality standard and its standard of value. A new deal for today's dollar! Delivered prices — Cars fully equipped — Nothing more to buy."

These models were available: Six-60, four-door sedan, 114-inch wheel base for \$987; Eight-90, four-door sedan, 124-inch wheel base for \$1,775.

One familiar name of automobile was the Ford. It was advertised with "silent, fully enclosed wheel brakes, four Houdaille double-acting hydraulic shock absorbers, more than 20 ball and roller bearings, aluminum pistons and rustless steel."

Pictured was the Ford DeLuxe Coupe. The prices quoted seemed quite low, \$430 to \$630, but the fine print stated bumpers and a spare tire cost a little extra.

Student to talk about archeology dig

A Goodland student will give a presentation in Colby on the archeology training program field school held in Kanorado last summer.

Brad Geist, a freshman at Goodland High School, will give a slide presentation on the field school at 12:45 p.m. (Mountain Time) Sunday at the Thomas County Historical Society's annual meeting at the Prairie Museum of Art and History.

The presentation will follow a short business meeting that begins at 12:30.

The society is celebrating its 47th year with an eye on archeology.

Geist helped with the dig in the 2005 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school and made a DVD of the project. Refreshments will be served following the presentation.

The Kansas Geological Survey, the University of Kansas Department of Anthropology and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science joined with the Kansas State Historical Society and the Kansas Anthropological Association for the field

school.

At 1:30 p.m., Dr. Donna Roper, an archeologist, will speak about "Recent Explorations of an Early Wichita Indian Village in Central Kansas." Following the programs, an atlatl throwing demonstration will give people a chance to try this ancient hunting technique. The atlatl, or "spear thrower," uses leverage to give a spear greater velocity.

The annual meeting is open to the public. There is no charge, but donations are accepted. Contact the Thomas County Historical Society at 1905 S. Franklin, Colby, or call (785) 460-4590.

public notice

NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION

A primary election will be held August 1, 2006. Candidates for the following offices will be nominated by each political party which has qualified to participate in the Primary Election,

One candidate for United States Representative, 1st District
One pair of candidates for Governor/Lt. Governor
One candidate for Secretary of State
One candidate for Attorney General
One candidate for State Treasurer
One candidate for Commissioner of Insurance
One candidate for State Representative, 121st District
One candidate for Member, State Board of Education, 5th District
One candidate for County Commissioner, 1st District

One candidate for Township Clerk, Grant Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Iowa Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Itasca Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Lincoln Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Llanos Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Logan Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, McPherson Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Shermanville Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Smoky Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Stateline Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Union Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Voltaire Township
One candidate for Township Clerk, Washington Township

The following officers will be elected in each political party which has qualified to participate

in the Primary Election-

One Precinct Committeeman from each of the four City Wards and each of the Townships
One Precinct Committeewoman from each of the four City Wards and each of the Townships

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed my official seal. Done at the City of Topeka this 31st day of March, A. D. 2006.

Ron Thornburgh
Secretary of State

Published according to K.S.A. 25-204 this 11th day of April 2006.

Janet R. Rumpel
Sherman County Clerk

Published in The Goodland Star-News on Tuesday, April 11, 18, and 25, 2006.

Conservation reserve deadline April 28

The deadline for the sign up Conservation Reserve Program general program and for re-enrollment and extension has been extended to April 28.

Dennis Mote, director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency in Wallace and Sherman counties, said the extension will allow farmers and ranchers to take advantage of the program, which pays them to plant grass or trees on land subject to erosion.

After the sign-up ends on April 28, Mote said, the agency will evaluate farmers' plans based on cost and the environmental benefits index factors for wildlife, water, soil, air and long-term benefits. Those which are accepted will be effective in October.

Information on the program is available at the office, 210 W. 10th, or on the Internet at www.fsa.usda.gov/da/p/cepd/crpinfo.htm.

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