

weather report

80°



noon
Thursday

Today

• Sunset, 8:04 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 5:44 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:03 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 80 degrees
- Humidity 59 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds northeast at 5 mph
- Barometer 30.03 inches and falling

- Record High today 106° (1943)
- Record Low today 52° (1958)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday	93°
Low Thursday	66°
Precipitation	.55
This month	1.19
Year to date	12.8
Below normal	.54 of an inch

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy, hot, high near 100. Calm winds changing to southeast between 5 and 10 mph. Low near 68.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Monday: Highs around 100 and lows around upper 60s. Tuesday and Wednesday: Partly cloudy, with highs around 92 and lows around 64.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.



Rural firemen from Goodland and Kanorado (left) poured water on the remains of a barn and boxcar at Richard Townsend's home south of Caruso on Wednesday afternoon. Townsend (above) said he was working on a seed drill when a spark caught the nearby grass on fire. He called 911 as soon as the fire started.

Photos by Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

Spark ignites fire, singes house

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The hot, dry weather and a spark combined to create a roaring fire at a farm three miles south of Caruso on Wednesday afternoon, and rural firemen called for help to control the flames.

The northwest corner home of Richard Townsend, 72, at 6198 County Road 14, was smoking and flames were spreading to other out buildings when the rural fire trucks ar-

rived. The house was saved, but a nearby shed, a barn and an old box car, a number of trees in a windbreak north of the house and a corral were destroyed in the blaze.

Townsend said he was working on a piece of a drill near his shop, west of the house about 4 p.m., when a spark caught the nearby dry grass and weeds on fire. Townsend said he pulled his pickup out of the fire and called 911. He said the fire was really going by the time the firemen arrived.

Rural firemen put water on the house and knocked the flames down from the nearby shed, which collapsed. The trees and the northwest corner of the house were burned. The fire spread outward from the shop, moving northeast into the windbreak, and southwest where it caught the barn and box car on fire.

City firemen were called out at 5:05 p.m., and a few minutes later the Kanorado rural fire department was asked to send a truck.

An ambulance was called out to be on standby since it was a structure fire.

The fire burned right to the edge of another boxcar, but the firemen were able to keep it from catching on fire.

Townsend sat on the tailgate of his pickup across the driveway from the action, and said he was glad the firemen were able to save his home. He was worried about having lights in

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Candidates say economy, roads top issues

By Pat Schiefel

The Goodland Star-News

Candidates in the Republican primary for 1st District county commissioner focused on the economy and roads at a candidate forum Tuesday night at Goodland High School.

About 90 people listened to the candidates in heat moderated by large fans. The forum was sponsored by the Sherman County Farm Bureau, which had prepared five questions for each to answer.

The candidates all talked about how the drought had hurt the county's economic base and the positive effect the new Goodland Energy Center could have. Everyone was concerned that once roads were fixed up with the special countywide sales tax how they would be maintained.

Something new was the question about having county commissioners run at large so everyone could vote on each of them. All the candidates thought that was a good idea.

Jeff Deeds, a farmer and member of the Farm Bureau board, introduced the candidates, Larry Enfield, Curtis Hurd, Darin Neufeld and

Education board candidate answers questions at forum

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Saying she was frustrated by federal and state education policies, Sally Cauble of Liberal told the audience at a candidate forum Tuesday she was the best Republican candidate for the District 5 seat on the state Board of Education.

About 90 people showed up at the high school auditorium to listen to Cauble and the four Republican candidates for county commissioner in District 1 talk at the forum, sponsored by the Sherman County Farm Bureau. Cauble spoke first and answered five pre-

determined questions and one from the audience.

In her opening statement, Cauble, 55, said her family farmed near Wright, and she grew up in Dodge City. She attended Southwestern College in Winfield, earning a bachelor degree in elementary education.

Cauble said she taught in several school districts in Kansas and Tennessee before moving to Liberal. She has served two terms on the Liberal School Board, and is on the board at the college.

"I am frustrated on what the federal and state (governments) have sent down to schools to do," Cauble said. "I believe local school boards are the best decision makers for the students."

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condition the roads are in."

We need to spend as much county money as possible in the county, he said, adding that he thinks the county should spend less money on new equipment and more on roads.

"I will take phone calls and listen," Enfield said.

Hurd said he felt like he could bring a lot of experience to the job. He served four years on the city commission and eight on the housing authority board, with four doing grant writing and working with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. He is active with the Sherman County Historical Society and the Ennis-Handy House.

"My grandparents homesteaded here," he said. "I was here when they brought dirt in for the county. The county has been good to me and my family. I would like to give something back."

Neufeld said he grew up on a small farm in northwest Phillips County. He spent 10 years at Kansas State University and in U.S. Air

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local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$4.36 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.35
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
- Corn — \$2.12 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.94
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 2c
- Milo — \$1.82 bushel
- Soybeans — \$4.96 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.97
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
- Millet — \$5 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$9.35 cwt.
- NuSun crop — \$10.35
- Confection — Call
- Pinto beans — \$15.50 (new crop)

(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

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Racing fans see crashes

Roger Snethen (car S5) and Tyrell Smith (car 12), both of Goodland, waited their turn to do hot laps at Sherman County Speedway on Saturday. There were spinouts and a rollover. See story, photo on Page 10a.

Chuck Thomas. Each made an opening statement. Enfield said he has grown up here, gone to the last country school in the county and graduated from Goodland High School. He has been in business for himself for 28 years as a farmer. He has been on the Farm Bureau Board for 12 years.

"I drive 150 miles per day on gravel roads checking on irrigation wells," Enfield said. "I know what

Grand marshals praise 4-Hers

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Both have been involved with 4-H through their kids and grandkids; he has bought 4-H livestock and provided medical care for a variety of 4-H animals, and she has been a 4-H leader and has served on the executive board of the Sherman County Extension Council.

Now they look forward to waving from a float at Saturday's fair parade, where they will be grand marshals, an honor they are thankful to have been given. Richard Whitmore and Shirley Gray have been in Goodland since the early 1960s, and both raised families here.

A few years after Gray's husband Bill died in 1992, and Whitmore's wife Jean died in 1993, they married, and the couple has been enjoying their retirement years together.

"My wife and I and she and her husband were friends for many years," Whitmore said. "Jean died in 1993; she had lost Bill about a year before."

Whitmore came to Goodland in 1962 as a veterinarian. He bought 4-H livestock every year and, through his practice, got



Shirley Gray and Dr. Richard Whitmore

a preview of the year's animal projects. "I treated all the animals," he said, "from snakes to camels to ostriches. I had a pretty good idea what we would see at the fair."

His two children, Randy Whitmore of Goodland and Rhonda Williams of Colorado Springs, were both in 4-H growing up. Now he keeps up with 4-H through his three grandchildren and Gray's 13.

Gray and her husband came to Goodland in 1961. They had five kids in 4-H, Pam, Eric, Ted and Kristi Gray and Lynn

(Gray) Helmstetter. She was a sewing leader and served two terms on the executive board of the extension council. And she worked in the arts and crafts booth for many years until retiring this year.

"It's good to see the younger generation taking over and doing a great job," she said.

Besides her own work with 4-H, she said, she helped out wherever needed while her husband was on the fair board, from cleaning the grandstand to toting chairs to sweeping rain water out of the exhibit hall.

"All the fair board wives did," she said, "and we had fun doing it."

Whitmore said he is enjoying retirement. He fills in for other veterinarians in the area and makes walking sticks from black diamond willow collected in Montana. But mostly, he and Gray spend their time visiting their children and grandchildren.

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Parade moves to Broadway

The Northwest Kansas District Free Fair kicks off Saturday with the annual parade moving to Broadway because of the intersection construction on Main.

Aaron Duell of the 4-H Ambassadors, who organize the parade, said the line up will begin at Broadway and 17th at 4 p.m.

The parade will head up Broadway at 5 p.m., and Duell said it will turn east at Eighth and end at Gulick Park rather than going out to the fairgrounds.

Events Saturday begin with the dog show at 8:30 a.m. at the fairgrounds.

There will be a modified tractor pull at 6 p.m., and the carnival rides will be open on Saturday.

Brad Schields, chairman of the home-owned carnival board, said this is the first time the rides have been open on Saturday.

"We will see how it goes," Schields said. "We have two new blow-up rides to replace the Crazy Train roller coaster."

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