



# HAPPY New Year!

## The Goodland Star-News

**WEEKEND**

**Friday, Dec. 29  
2006**

**\$1**

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### weather report

**34°**

noon

**Thursday**

**Today**

- Sunset, 4:31 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 7:06 a.m.
- Sunset, 4:32 p.m.

#### Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 32 degrees
- Humidity 78 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds north at 14 mph
- Barometer 29.86 inches and steady
- Record High today 65° (1999)
- Record Low today -12° (1911)

#### Last 24 Hours\*

High Wednesday	47°
Low Thursday	27°
Precipitation	—
This month	1.33
Year to date	23.35
Above normal	3.63 inches

#### The Topside Forecast

Today: Periods of snow. Blustery north wind. Snow accumulation of 5 to 9 inches. High near 29, low around 21.

#### Extended Forecast

Saturday: Cloudy, high near 27, low near 14. Snow likely. Sunday: Cloudy, high near 32, low near 13. Monday: Mostly sunny, high near 35, low around 12. Tuesday: Mostly sunny, high near 37, low around 18.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

## Nature readies a second punch

**By Tom Betz**

*The Goodland Star-News*

Warmer temperatures and sunshine helped clear the roads of western Kansas and eastern Colorado this week, but Mother Nature had a second punch ready for New Year's weekend travelers.

The National Weather Service in Goodland expects a major winter storm to come from the west, starting with rain Thursday evening and turning to snow overnight. The Goodland office issued a winter storm warning from 5 a.m. today through 5 a.m. on Sunday.

"The strong storm system will move east of the Rockies on Friday and onto the central plains by Sunday," the weather service winter storm warning said. "A wintry mix of precipitation will continue across the region before turning to all snow by early Saturday morning. Heavy snow accumulations of well over a foot are possible along with areas of freezing precipitation."

Snow is expected to continue through Saturday with areas of blowing snow driven by north to northwest winds of 15 to 20 mph, and increasing to 25 to 30 mph. Winds with gusts to 45 mph will develop across far eastern Colorado and western Kansas this afternoon and continue through Sunday morning.

Snow accumulations through Sunday are expected to be from 10 to 15 inches, with the heaviest expected west of a line from McCook, Neb., to Gove.

Today's high should be near 29 with a low around 20. Saturday, the high is expected to be 27, and a low of 14. Areas of blowing snow and a 70 percent chance of snow during the day and continue through the night. New snow accumulation of 5 to 9 inches possible.

Sunday, the high should be near 33 with a 30 per-



City of Goodland's public work crews were busy Wednesday moving as much snow as they could to get ahead of the next winter

storm. The National Weather Service expected the next wave to move into the area Thursday.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

## Energy center workers take off for holidays

**By Tom Betz**

*The Goodland Star-News*

Work at the Goodland Energy Center has slowed to a crawl with the holiday and snow, but weather permitting, builders say they plan to resume construction shortly after the first of the year.

Doug Sederstrom, chief financial officer for Goodland Energy Resources, said most crews left the center on Friday, Dec. 15, so the employees could spend holiday time with

their families. He said the snow has slowed progress.

"There has been significant progress at the site over the past two months," Sederstrom said. "We are currently negotiating several major orders. We anticipate confirming these orders after the first of the year. Weather permitting we anticipate significant progress by late spring."

Sederstrom said Ron Pickman and Mark Justus continue to be consultants with the three projects, which include a coal-fired

power plant, an alcohol plant and a biodiesel fuel plant.

"Ron Pickman turned in his resignation on Nov. 15 to spend time with his ailing father," Sederstrom said. "Ron's father died a few weeks later. Ron is still with Goodland Energy Resources on a consultant basis."

Sederstrom said Pickman, a former Goodland city manager, had made it clear from the beginning that he was involved to get the project moving forward.

"Mark's contract was for the initial development of the project and not to include the actual construction phase," Sederstrom said. "As the projects entered into the construction phase, JMC Engineering was hired on Mark's recommendation. Mark is still assisting JMC Engineering on a consultant basis."

Sederstrom said he has heard a number of rumors about the projects, but believes things are moving along and they expect the plants to be running by the end of next year.

## Moran applauds decision

**By Tom Betz**

*The Goodland Star-News*

Congressman Jerry Moran said Thursday he's pleased to see the Department of Veterans Affairs plans to open a veterans outreach clinic in the Goodland area — and hopes it will be in Kansas.

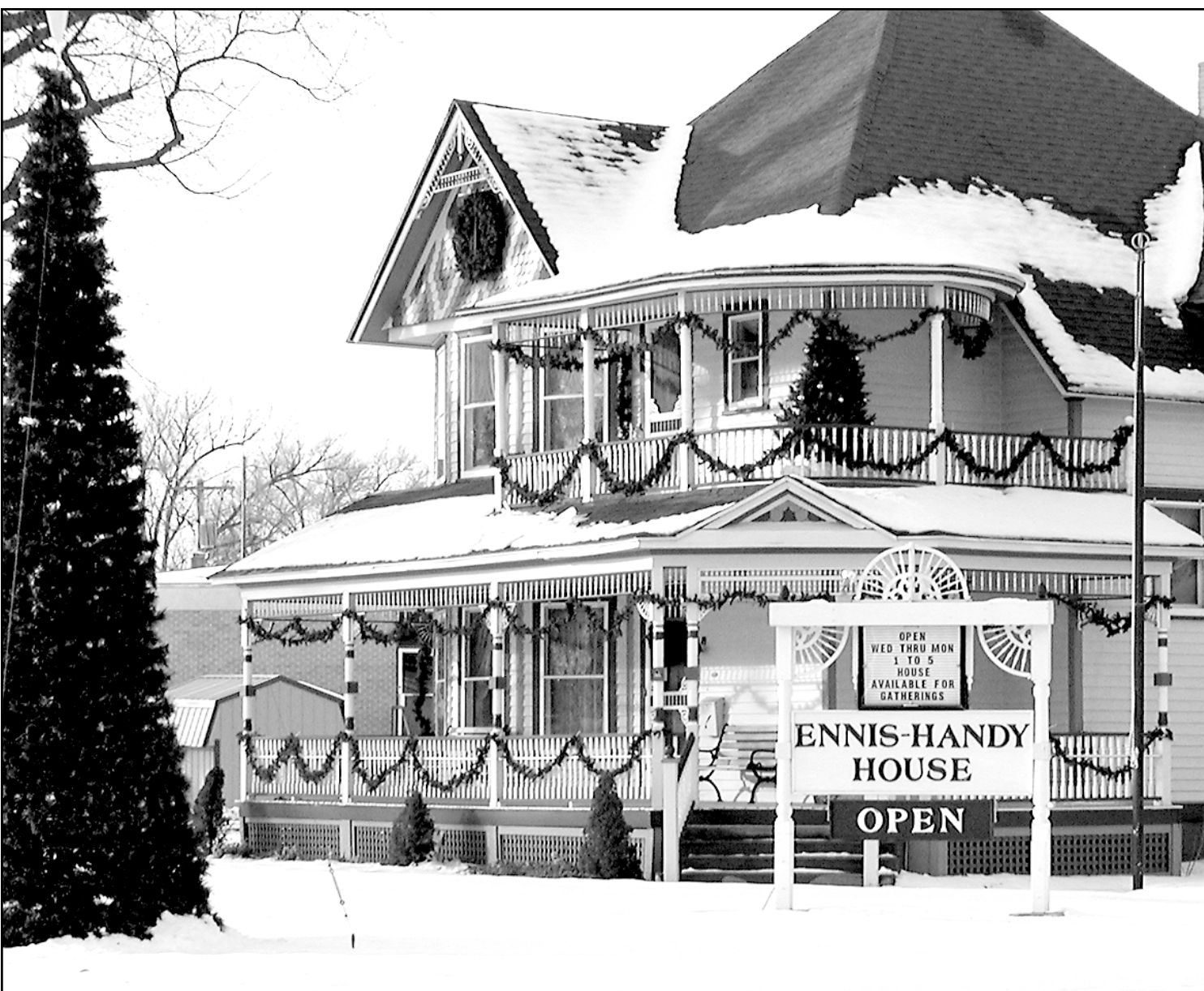
Three High Plains communities are in the running for a clinic that will be opened next year to serve a nine-county area, the department's Rocky Mountain Region said last Monday: Yuma and Burlington in Colorado or Goodland.

Moran was on the road in northcentral Kansas, making stops on his listening tour, headed to Glasco, which is south of Concordia.

In a phone interview, he said he was glad to hear about the clinic announcement when he came back from a trip to Cuba. He said it was good to see the veterans calling the Rocky Mountain Regional office to say they want the clinic to be in Goodland. He agreed it might not be a deciding factor, but saying it is a "squeaky-wheel-gets-the-grease" process.

"I am trying to be a squeaky wheel," Moran said. "I talked to Dr. Lawrence Biro, Veterans Affairs director in Denver, and have pushed for an outreach clinic in Goodland

### *Snow creates beautiful scenes ...*



The Ennis-Handy House, 202 W. 13, was all decorated up for the holidays. The historic home, run by the Sherman County

Historical Society, is open to the public and available for parties.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

**See CLINIC, Page 7a**

### local markets

#### Noon

Wheat — \$4.40 bushel  
Posted county price — \$4.67  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Corn — \$3.69 bushel  
Posted county price — \$3.49  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Milo — \$3.34 bushel  
Soybeans — \$5.85 bushel  
Posted county price — \$5.95  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Millet — \$7 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
NuSun crop — \$13.40  
Pinto beans — \$19 (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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## Shooters win hoop contest

Trace Engel from Oakley took a shot in the Goodland Elks Hoop Shoot on Sunday, Dec. 17. Engel won first place in the 8-9 boys age group. See story, photo on Page 10a