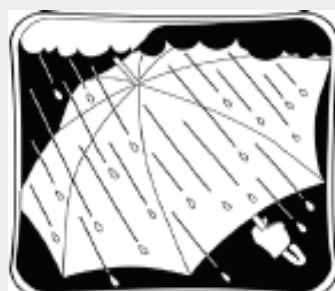


Weather Corner



Tonight...Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 50s. Southeast winds around 10 mph shifting to the southwest after midnight.

Saturday...Mostly sunny in the morning then becoming partly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s. North winds around 10 mph. Saturday night...Mostly cloudy in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Lows around 60. Light winds becoming southwest around 10 mph after midnight.

Sunday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 90s. South winds 10 to 15 mph. Sunday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.

Monday...Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Monday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s.

Tuesday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s. Tuesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s.

Wednesday...Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. Wednesday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s.

Thursday...Mostly sunny. Highs around 90.

Thursday's low, high: 53, 83

Water Use

Thursday 2,778,000 gallons

3 Consecutive Days over 3.5 million will put us in a water watch

3 Consecutive Days over 4.0 million will put us in a water warning

3 Consecutive Days over 4.5 million will put us in a water emergency

Officials develop proposal to keep store

By Tom Betz
ntbetz@nwkansas.com

City, county, economic development and Chamber officials gathered Thursday morning to finish an incentive proposal to persuade J.C. Penney's to keep its Goodland store open.

Details of the plan were to be drafted by City Manager Wayne Hill and be reviewed by a representative of each board, with the hope it can be sent to Penney's by today or Monday at the latest.

Each group agreed to help with a package that could provide Penney's some money to help the store continue and extended relief on city utilities. City Commissioner John Garcia, who has been the main contact person with the Penney's corporate offices in Plano, Texas, said this would be a basic proposal and that if Penney's is interested, the firm might make

a counteroffer.

When the meeting opened at 7 a.m., all of the city and county commissioners were present, plus a majority of the Sherman County Economic Development Council and two representatives from the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce.

Garcia said he felt it was important for people to know the city, county, economic development and Chamber were working to keep the store open.

"The Penney's people have been getting a lot of mail, phone calls and e-mails from people around the area," he said, "and we want to exhaust every effort to convince them to reverse the company's decision."

Garcia said the purpose of the meeting was to put forth the best options. He said he had been working with County Commissioner Kevin Rasure; Steve West,

vice-chair of the Economic Development Council; and Hill to see what they might be able to do.

County Commissioner Mitch Tiede said the closing of the store would not only effecting Goodland and Sherman County, but the whole area.

"We need to do everything we can to keep the store open," he said.

Rasure said someone had asked why everyone was trying to help keep this business open, but not others that have closed.

"We felt the Penney's store was a key store," Rasure said, "and that it draws people to our town."

West, president of Western State Bank, said from the development council's view, they agreed the group should see if there is a way to help Penney's, and that keeping the store was a key for the downtown and the whole area.

Mayor Rick Billinger said he

felt retaining the store was as important as going out to try to recruit a new business.

Commissioner Josh Dechant asked if the incentives are what Penney's is looking for. Garcia said Penney's is a successful business, and that all people here can do is bring them our best proposal.

"We need to get a final proposal in writing and get it to them before it is too late," he said.

A question was raised about a different building or help with the rent where the store is located. Garcia said some of those options are being explored, but those are out of the hands of the public officials represented at the morning meeting.

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks asked if people from surrounding communities have been sending letters to Penney's.

Andi Nelson, Chamber execu-

tive director, said she knows that area Chambers have sent letters, and that Gov. Kathleen Sebelius was sending one, as were other state officials, including Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer (R-Grinnell) and Rep. Jim Morrison (R-Colby).

Tiede said he had been told that people in St. Francis and Bird City were collecting signatures on a petition to send to Penney's.

Don Newell, an economic development council member from S&T Communications, said it was good to see all the groups working together, and that he hopes they can convince Penney's to stay open for at least a couple of years to give the economy a chance to come back.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas said he thought the effort of all the groups working together would show that Goodland is serious about doing what is possible to keep Penney's here.

Farmers check production of wheat types

By Oberlin Herald

John Rich with AgriPro and Brian Olson, area agronomist with the K-State Extension service, took turns talking about results for each variety and some of the other qualities of each type of wheat planted at test plots west of town:

- Art, which Mr. Rich said is the newest release from AgriPro, said last year in this area, it yielded well. The variety has great leaf-rust resistance, he said, but it doesn't have good drought tolerance under extreme conditions.

- Aspen is a white wheat, said Mr. Olson. There's lots of research money for white wheat now, he said, and more money in the farm bill to get people to grow it. The standards for white wheat are stricter, he said, adding that this variety has good yield potential.

- Bill from Colorado State University, said Mr. Olson, has a better disease package than Hatcher. The variety also has good drought tolerance.

- Bond Cl, also from Colorado State University, he said, doesn't have a very good disease package. In performance tests at Colby, said Mr. Olson, the variety has done surprisingly well.

- Danby, also a white wheat, would be good for a lot of acres.

- Fuller has a good yield and has adapted to this area.

- Hatcher is a new release from Colorado State University, said Mr. Olson. It doesn't have a very good disease package, but has had good results in Colby.

- Hawken, said Mr. Rich, is a

later maturing variety. It's recommended to plant at least three varieties, he said. This one would be good to plant because it does mature later, which means there isn't as much chance of an early freeze. It has an excellent disease package. The biggest downfall is it's susceptible to triticum mosaic virus, which is new.

The important thing with this new virus, added Mr. Olson, is that people need to control their volunteer wheat.

- Jagger is susceptible to leaf rust.

- Jagalene, said Mr. Rich, most people are familiar with. It never seems to look like this variety is going to yield much and then it pulls out.

- Keota is a hard red, said Mr. Olson, adding that he isn't very impressed with this variety. It might just be a variety that needs to find a niche, he said.

- Overland, out of the University of Nebraska is a late-maturing wheat that has good resistance to the Hessian fly.

Bond Cl, also from Colorado State University, he said, doesn't have a very good disease package. In performance tests at Colby, said Mr. Olson, the variety has done surprisingly well.

- Overly, a hard red wheat released from K-State in 2003, is one that always looks good. It needs to be harvested earlier than other varieties, though, because it shatters.

- Post Rock is similar to Fuller and has a good yield record, although it's susceptible to powdery mildew.

- Santa Fe, said Mr. Olson, has excellent yield potential, but if the weather turns dry, the crop will hide.

- Smokey Hill is a later maturing wheat with a good yield potential.

- T-136, said Mr. Olson, is out of Wichita. It has good drought tolerance and shattering resistance.

- T-81 is the best variety for adaptability.

- TAM-111, said Mr. Rich, has had a good time out here the past

two years. It looks good in the plot. This variety, he said, performs well under dry conditions.

- Thunderbolt, said Mr. Rich, has a good record of high test weights.

Other varieties in the plot included Winterhawk, Spartan, Millennium and Infinity Cl.

County road work rescheduled

By Tom Betz
ntbetz@nwkansas.com

Flooding in Nebraska has delayed the striping of old U.S. 24 across Sherman County, but the company hopes to be here next week to do the painting, commissioners were told Tuesday.

Curt Way, public works manager, said Casey Clausen of Straight Line of Grand Island, Neb., said his company is running behind because of the flooding in Nebraska, but should be here in the next week or two.

Custom-Designed Ag Buildings
Wick ag buildings are custom-designed to meet your needs. Contact your nearest Wick Buildings Dealer today.

Wick Buildings
A product of Wick Building Systems, Inc.

SAPPA VALLEY CONSTRUCTION, LLC
785-475-3130
Authorized Wick Buildings Dealer

General Public Transportation Van
Hours: 8 am to 4 pm
Days: Monday - Friday
Phone: 460-2901 (8 am-12:30 pm) 443-9208 (12:30 pm - 4 pm)

If possible call for Reservations by 11 am the previous business day. Provided to Colby, Brewster, Gem, Menlo, Rexford and a Portion of Oakley as needed.

"This Project Funded in Part by the KDOT Public Transit Program"

The 8 Wonders of Thomas County! Which Would You Choose???

Local residents know the best spots tourists should visit while in our area. That's why the Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Colby Free Press are asking you to help name the 8 Wonders of Thomas County. This unique marketing effort will help direct tourists to the top eight attractions we have to offer.

We need your help to identify the best of the best. Whether it be a building, museum or a place of business, a remote rural location or an in-town hot spot, Thomas Countians are the best source of knowledge.

Voting will take place in two stages. In stage 1, we're asking for you to name your own top 8 list. Either fill out the form below and return it to The Colby Free Press or vote online at 8wonders.hdnnews.net/thomas/. Voting will take place until June 30th.

Stage 2 will feature the top 16 sites voters have selected as finalists. From that list, you will determine the 8 Wonders of Thomas County. Stage 2 also will be conducted with your choice of paper or online ballot starting July 18th.

The 8 Wonders of Thomas County winners will be announced Aug. 29th.

8 Wonders of Thomas County Ballot:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

No photo copies, please.

Mail to:
COLBY FREE PRESS
155 W. 5th • Colby, KS 67701

MEXICAN BUFFET
CITY LIMITS
THURSDAY, JUNE 26TH
5:00 - 9:00 p.m.
462-6565

AKLEY MOTORS
611 S. Freeman 785-672-3102 118 W. 2nd 785-672-3238

Used Car Special Selections! MILES

2001 Ford Mustang - Yellow	68,364
2004 Chevy Silverado EX - 4x4 - White	72,249
2005 Mazda MPV LX - Blue	77,876
2005 Chrysler 300 - Gunmetal	32,987
2005 Chrysler Town & Country - Silver	39,000
2005 Dodge Neon - Electric Blue	29,206
2005 Pontiac Grand AM - 4 dr - Gold	19,697
2005 Chevrolet Monte Carlo - 2 dr - Red	52,044
2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer - 4 dr - Maroon	86,125
2005 Ford Freestyle - Blue	43,453
2006 Chevy Uplander Van - DVD - Gold	88,000
2006 Dodge Quad Cab 1500 4x4 - Navy Blue	43,000
2007 Dodge Quad Laramie - Electric Blue	11,000
2007 Dodge Grand Caravan - 4 dr - Silver	13,822
2008 Dodge Avenger Sporty RT - 4 dr - White	2,200
2008 Pontiac Grand Prix - Gold	18,206
2008 Chevy Silverado 4x4- Crew Cab- Red	15,075
2008 Buick Lucerne - Platinum	17,000

Kawasaki Motorcycles & Dixon Mowers
www.oakleymotors.com
SEE Dustin, Larry, Eric OR Dan TODAY!

RAWLINS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

707 Grant Atwood, KS 67730
(785) 626-3211

Bringing Specialized Healthcare To Your Community

July 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 McDonald Clinic - p.m.	2 Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	3	4 Nuclear Stress Test MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	5
6	7 Cardiac Rehab	8 McDonald Clinic - p.m.	9 Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Dr. Frankum Surgery	10	11 Nuclear Stress Test MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	12
13	14 Cardiac Rehab	15 McDonald Clinic - p.m.	16 Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	17 Dr. Reeves Podiatry	18 MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Nuclear Stress Test Dr. Reeves Podiatry	19
20	21 Cardiac Rehab	22 McDonald Clinic - p.m. Dr. Miller Cardiology	23 Mammograms Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	24	25 MRI Mobile Unit Vasc Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Nuclear Stress Test	26
27	28 Cardiac Rehab Dr. Rubowitz Oncology	29 McDonald Clinic - p.m.	30 Diabetic Clinic Echocardiograms Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	31		

In House Services Available Daily
CT Scan ** Bone Mineral Density
** EKG
Electrocardiograms

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH A VISITING PHYSICIAN, PLEASE CALL (785)626-3211
Cheryl Banister, RN
Specialty Clinic Director