

weather report

68°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:56 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:51 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:55 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 72 degrees

• Humidity 92 percent

• Sky cloudy

• Winds southeast at 10 to 20 mph

• Barometer 30.13 inches

and falling

• Record High 107° (1934)

• Record Low 47° (1974)

Last 24 Hours*

High 81°

Low 62°

Precipitation .18 inches

month-2.51 inches

year-16.62 inches

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: rain, heavy localized possible, low 60 to 65, southeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

Friday: cloudy early, becoming partly sunny in the afternoon, high near 85, southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Monday: chance of thunderstorms, lows 60 to 65, highs 85 to 90.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.26 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.13

Loan deficiency payment — .32¢

Corn — \$1.88 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.79

Loan deficiency pmt. — .20¢

Milo — \$2.82 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.05 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.14

Loan deficiency payment — .75¢

Millet — \$4 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$7 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$2.86

Oil new crop — \$6.90 cwt.

Confection current — \$17/10 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$13 (new crop)

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco

Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and Prairie Pea

and Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire

Late news
from the
Associated
Press

1 p.m.

House defies veto threat

WASHINGTON (AP)—Defying repeated veto threats from President Clinton, the House today passed a Republican 10-year, \$792 billion tax cut offering a multitude of tax breaks for average taxpayers and special interests.

The vote was 221-206 to send the bill to the Senate, where expected final passage was scheduled for this evening. In the House, five Democrats joined most Republicans in support, while the GOP lost only four of its votes.

“We have a good deal for the American people,” Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., said at a Capitol Hill rally. “It’s fair, responsible and balanced tax-relief bill.”

The bill would trim all income tax rates by 1 percentage point: first, the bottom 15 percent rate would drop to 14 percent by 2003; the other four would be reduced in 2005.

Marshal recalls years in 4-H

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

His first reaction was surprise. Bill Hartzler never expected to be grand marshal for the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair parade.

When he was asked to accept the honor by the 4-H Ambassadors, he recalled, they told him that several people had nominated him. His ties to the fair go back a long ways.

Hartzler, 79, was born and raised in Goodland and grew up on a farm northwest of town. He said he joined 4-H when he was 9 or 10 and was in the organization for three or four years. He had livestock projects, hogs and steers.

“I liked it back then, when I was a kid,” Hartzler said about 4-H. “I think it’s very good for young people. There are so many things to learn — leadership, record keeping, the care of animals and different projects that can be used in later life.”

He said that for him, exhibiting at the fair was the highlight of the year. Then when his family moved to town in 1933, he got out of 4-H. Hartzler graduated from Sherman Community High

School in 1937.

He met his wife, Ruth, in 1940, the same year he joined the Army Air Corps, and they were married Jan. 1, 1942, in Wichita Falls, Texas, where he was stationed. Hartzler retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1967. After that, he and his wife lived in El Paso, where they owned a paperback bookstore, for 13 years.

Then in 1980, they moved back to Goodland. Since then, Hartzler has been involved in the community.

He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Elks Lodge, Retired Officers Association, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Boy Scouts, Sherman County Historical Society and the Heritage Alliance.

“I stay busy,” he said.

Hartzler said he got involved with 4-H again as a woodworking project



Hartzler

leader around 10 years ago and served for about five years.

He has used his woodworking skills to help the Chamber of Commerce make their helicopter twirlies, which they give away at trade shows or include in welcome packages. He sharpens the sticks and Golden West Skills residents assemble the toys. Hartzler has been involved with this project

from it’s beginning in 1985 and has helped make close to 70,000 of them.

About being chosen as grand marshal, Hartzler said, “I do appreciate being asked and feel honored that I was chosen.”

The fair parade will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday, beginning at 17th and Main and proceeding north to Eighth Street. An ice cream social will be held at the fairgrounds for all parade participants and sponsors.

Babies put crunch on town’s day care services

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

If you plan on having a baby soon, and both parents will be working, you’d better also plan to make arrangements for daycare.

Daycare providers in Goodland all say basically the same thing: There are not enough spaces available, especially for infants.

Of the 13 registered and licensed Goodland providers polled, none readily offered to accept an infant. Costs quoted ranged from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per hour per child. Many providers require a minimum per week fee, usually around \$45 to \$65.

Elaine Lynott, a daycare provider in Goodland since January, said she got into the business because she had to quit her job at the hospital to care for her new baby.

“When my baby was born, I couldn’t find anyone that would take an infant,” she said. “I had to quit my job.”

Lynott decided to watch other children both to make some money and to fill a need. Soon, she was at the maximum capacity the state allows. Currently, she cares for three infants (under 18 months), one who is 18 months old, and several ages 1 to 5 who come on a part time basis.

“There are several levels of daycare providers,” said Don Brown, spokesman for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. “There are registered daycare homes, licensed daycare homes, group licensed daycare homes, and preschools.

A registered home can not care for more than five children at a time. The home is subject to inspection, but, only if the department receives a complaint, said Brown.

A licensed daycare home can care for up to six children. These homes must pass initial and annual inspections, he said.

The number of children allowed at a group licensed daycare home depends on the size of the home, Brown added, but there must be one adult for every six



Amber Cowan (above), granddaughter of the Willis and Sandra Buskirk, played with Hanna Sanderson at the Buskirks’ licensed group daycare home in Goodland. Buskirk (right) entertained Hanna Sanderson as she ate breakfast. Clay Hokr and Brenden Garza (above right) took time out from playing to have breakfast at the Buskirks’ daycare.

Photos by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News

children.

A preschool must meet the requirements for a group home, but, also offer educational programs, said Brown.

The most current list from the Sherman County Health Department includes two registered providers, 16 licensed providers, five licensed group daycare homes and two preschools.

The number of infants a provider can

care for depends on their age.

“Infants basically count as two,” said Kris Cowan, a licensed provider for the last four years.

Cowan said taking on an infant it is very difficult for a provider because of the restrictions placed on them.

“I am limited to the number of children I can have in my home,” she said, “including my own.



“If I take an infant, I cannot take as many children, because they take extra care.”

Another operator agreed. “The problem,” said Yvonne Acosta, who has been a group licensed provider for two years, “is that infants require more attention and limit your income because you can’t care for as many children.”

Cowan said she believes that there is definitely a shortage of good, quality providers.

“But people still aren’t willing to pay for it,” she added.

If a provider has a budget for seven children, she said, and a parent takes a child out for the summer and hires a

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County may change work week for road crews

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Sherman County Road and Bridge crews currently work four 10-hour days per week, but because of citizen complaints, commissioners discussed returning to a five-day work week during their meeting Tuesday.

Commissioner Kenny Davis said he had received several complaints about the current system, and he did not feel it was working as expected.

“When we were sold on this work plan,” Davis said, “it was with the idea it would be more flexible and cost effective, but I don’t think this is the case.”

Commissioners Chuck Frankenfeld and Gary Townsend said they would ask Public Works Director Curt Way to bring them some cost-saving figures. Both said they felt the current four-day plan was more productive than the five-day week.

Sale of the old medical clinic was next on the agenda. Assistant County

Attorney Bonnie Selby, who is awaiting official appointment as county attorney by Gov. Bill Graves, told the commissioners she has prepared a letter to Ron Vignery, attorney for the Goodland Regional Medical Center, detailing some changes she is suggesting in the lease-purchase agreement with the Goodland School District for the Medical Arts Clinic.

The commissioners had a phone conference concerning the bridge bonds with Dave Warren, financial advisor with Chapman Securities, and Kevin Cowan, bond counsel with Gilmore and Bell. Warren asked if the commissioners had decided to use temporary notes to reimburse the general fund for the bridge expense.

Townsend said he was disappointed with Warren for confusion over the need for a petition period for the arterial road bonds. Warren apologized. Cowan explained that the temporary notes could be used to give the county the money to

go ahead with the bridge project and the money would be available within two weeks.

He said that after the petition period is over for the arterial bonds, they would then prepare a bond issue to cover both road work, mostly on old U.S. 24, and the bridge at Caruso.

The commissioners voted to proceed with the temporary notes to borrow money for the bridge.

Dennis Bentzinger of Med Enterprises asked commissioners to renew a fire extinguisher contract he has had with the county for the next year. He told the commissioners the expenses should be less since the fire extinguishers have been upgraded. He said there are 117 extinguishers in county buildings and county equipment. The commissioners approved renewal.

Tom Hellerud and Dr. Sue Jennings, deputy county coroners, asked the county to pay for them to attend a seminar in Hays in September. Townsend

made a motion to pay the expenses, but it died for lack of a second.

Davis brought up the prairie dog problem, and asked what options there might be. County Clerk Janet Rumpel showed the commissioners the state laws, which gives responsibility to township trustees. However, she said, there are several townships which do not have any officers or any budget.

The commissioners asked Rumpel to call around and see if it is possible for the county to take over the responsibility and if taxes can be levied to cover the costs. Rumpel said under the state law, there is authority for the townships to hire someone to control prairie dogs, but the costs are to be billed to the property owner. If the property owner did not pay, it would become a lien against the property.

In reviewing budgets, the commissioners ask Sheriff Doug Whitson to discuss his. There was concern about the uniform upkeep expenses and

whether the jailers qualified for this as well.

After checking, Whitson said the state law which sets up the uniform allowance for the sheriff and deputies was passed in 1969, before full-time jailers were needed. He said the matrons and jailers are deputized and required to wear a uniform.

The commissioners decided that all full-time employees in the sheriff’s office who are required to wear uniforms should be paid the uniform allowance.

Following further discussion of the department budgets, it was decided the clerk should compile the figures as submitted and use the 1999 figures for the “non-essential” budgets.

Rumpel was also directed to gather information on the hospital ownership and the autopsy expenses to be sent to all hospital board members.

The next regular commission meeting will be 8 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17, in the Sherman County Courthouse.