

weather report

70°

at noon



Today

- Sunset, 4:36 p.m.
- Tomorrow
- Sunrise, 6:27 a.m.
- Sunset, 4:35 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 52 degrees
- Humidity 20 percent
- Sky mostly cloudy
- Winds north at 13 mph
- Barometer 30.22 inches and falling
- Record High 75° (1989)
- Record Low 3° (1940)

Last 24 Hours*

High	72°
Low	25°
Precipitation	none
month	none
year	19.88"
	+2.51"

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly clear, low near 35, light and variable winds.
Friday: mostly sunny, high near 80, southwest winds 5 to 15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: dry, low near 40, high near 80.
Sunday: dry, low near 35, high near 75.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.09 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.12
Loan deficiency payment — 33¢
Corn — \$1.47 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.64
Loan deficiency pmt. — 35¢
Milo — \$2.13 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$3.81 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.02
Loan deficiency payment — 87¢
Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$5.70 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.95
Confection current — \$9 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$15 (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.

Tape: Autopilot disconnected

WASHINGTON — With the flight data recorder from EgyptAir Flight 990 showing things were normal until the autopilot mysteriously disconnected, investigators looking into the Oct. 31 crash say it is all the more important that they recover the plane's cockpit voice recorder.

The search for that second "black box" continued early today amid rubble piled 6 feet high, some 250 feet deep in the Atlantic Ocean off Rhode Island. The recorder may not only reveal what the pilots were saying to each other, but what other noises or alarms were audible in the cockpit.

"We await information off the cockpit voice recorder, when it is recovered, that can help us put this information in context," Jim Hall, chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, said Wednesday.

They are our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, friends and neighbors



Dignitaries and an audience of about 100 watched as the color guard brought in the flags (right) and posted the colors to start the Veterans Day service today at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall in Goodland.
Photo by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News

Saluting those who serve

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

Around 100 people gathered on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month at the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall in Goodland to honor American men and women who have served in the military.

The color guard placed the flag for the service, held at the time and date of the anniversary of the armistice ending World War I.

Commander Bill Selby presented scholarship awards for Voice of Democracy essays to three Goodland students. Jason Showalter was awarded a \$75 scholarship, Jessica Nelson \$50, and Tamera Goodrum \$25.

Scott Schroller, Wal-Mart manager, presented a large card from his store with signatures from customers and employees supporting the effort to erect a memorial to World War II veterans. Schroller said his store has raised \$500 for the \$41 million cost of the monument.

Tom Harrison provided music for the service, playing the piano and singing God Bless America, and America the Beautiful, with the audience joining in for the first verse of America the Beautiful.

Former Veterans of Foreign Wars State Commander Dennis Musil from Colby gave the address. Musil said it is everyone's responsibility to teach others the history and importance of American veterans. Weston also thanked the three winners in the Voice of Democracy contest, and wished them well.

Chaplain Harold Karspeck closed the service with a prayer.

Bud Luckert (front) and Lenard Windell, members of the Goodland Veterans of Foreign Wars color guard, attached a flag on the new flagpole at Western State Bank, during their flag dedication which took place this morning. "We thought it would be an appropriate day to raise the flag for the first time," said Stephen West, president of the bank.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News



County puts bills 'on ice'

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Sherman County commissioners, who have been complaining about the high cost of autopsies for nearly two years, decided Tuesday to accept two bills but to put them on ice until the issue is settled.

Last year, the cost of autopsies billed to the county was over \$16,000, about \$4,000 more than had been budgeted. This year the county has received bill totaling over \$8,000.

While the total is less so far this year, the commissioners are complaining that the amounts for each autopsy is higher than being charged to other counties. The total is higher than what Ellis County, with more than twice the population, pays, in fact.

Commissioner Kenny Davis made the motion to accept the autopsy bills, but to hold off paying the county could meet with the hospital administration to get a handle on the bills. Davis asked why all the bills are being sent directly to the county rather than to the person's insurance carrier first.

Commissioner Gary Townsend earlier contacted Hays Pathology about their costs for autopsies, and the information he received appeared to show that the services were costing less than Sherman County is paying.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel and her staff called a number of counties to see what they were paying for autopsies and how often they are performed. Thomas County reported spending \$1,336 for autopsies done through Hays Pathology, in 1998, and that they were only performed when there were suspicious circumstances.

Russell County reported spending \$4,433 on autopsies in 1998, done by a

Dr. Jones in Great Bend, and that they are usually done on all unattended deaths. The county official also said they do autopsies for auto accidents because the insurance companies want them. The Russell commissioners feel if the insurance companies want the autopsies, the insurance should pay for them.

Cheyenne County paid \$3,988 for autopsies in 1998, it was reported, and they are performed on unattended deaths when there is no apparent cause of death. Autopsies are not done on auto accident victims there unless something is suspicious.

Logan County paid \$4,680 for autopsies in 1998, through Hays Pathology, and they did autopsies on all unattended deaths.

The coroner in Ellis County said it is up to him as to whether or not an autopsy is ordered. He said an autopsy is not ordered on all unattended deaths, except when there are suspicious circumstances. He said this also applied to deaths involving children.

Ellis County paid \$5,264 for autopsies in 1998, using Hays Pathology.

Norton County Clerk Robert Wyatt said the county paid \$2,000 for autopsies in 1998, and used Hays Pathology.

"We have really cut down on the autopsy costs since the commissioners started to complain to the hospital," Wyatt said. "The coroners were ordering autopsies on everyone who died. Since the county refused to pay for some of the autopsies the commissioners did not feel should have been ordered, there are not as many being done."

Wyatt said autopsies are done on young people when the death is unattended or there is something suspi-

cious.

Sherman County Attorney Bonnie Selby suggested having a meeting with Commissioner Davis and the hospital board chairman and administrator to review the situation. She was to try to set up a meeting in the next week or before Thanksgiving.

In other business, commissioners:

- Accepted the resignation of Steve Craft from the Sherman Communications Board. The commissioners have 45 days to appoint a replacement.
- Approved a lease for the 4-H building at the fairgrounds for Hormier Distributing to hold a sale on Dec. 14.
- Approved a \$100 donation to the Sherman County Community Prevention Board to support the operation of the Prevention Center since they did not receive another state grant.

• Approved an audit contract with VonFeldt, Bauer and VonFeldt for the 1999 audit and assistance with the 2001 budget. The cost is not to exceed \$20,975.

• Approved a letter of support for the City of Goodland to receive a public transportation grant from the state office of public transportation.

• Approved the final draft of the employee committee catastrophic illness emergency sick leave policy.

• Took under advisement a request from the employee committee to further study the immediate family definitions in the employee handbook. Currently there are three different definitions in the manual. It was suggested that the different definitions had to do with whether the section of the manual was tied to federal regulations like the Emergency Family Leave Act.

The next commission meeting will be 8 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 30.

Christmas ON US

Monday is opening day

Tickets will be available Monday in Goodland merchants' big second annual Christmas on Us \$3,000 cash giveaway. The contest will kick off that day with a two-page "double truck" ad and all sponsors will be posting banners and handing out tickets for the grand prize drawing.

The contest, sponsored by merchants and The Goodland Daily News, again will offer a \$2,000 grand prize to some lucky area family, with a \$400 second prize, \$200 third prize and eight instant winners of \$50 each.

Beginning Monday, sponsoring area businesses will be giving out tickets for the promotion with each purchase. Shoppers will be given one ticket for each \$10 in merchandise or services purchased.

No purchase is necessary to win. Anyone can get one free ticket per week at The Daily News office or the Goodland Chamber of Commerce office.

At the close of the contest Dec. 16, tickets will be entered in the grand prize drawing, which is planned for downtown Goodland the afternoon of Saturday, Dec. 18. Winning tickets must be presented to claim prizes.

Last year, more than 1,200 people jammed the auditorium at Central School, where the drawing was moved because of bad weather.

There is no limit to the number of tickets you can collect for the contest, but there is a maximum of 250 per purchase. Employees of sponsoring businesses are not eligible to win with tickets obtained at work, and employees of The Daily News are not eligible to win at all.

Instant winner numbers will appear in ads in the Christmas on Us section of The Daily News this month and next. Any leftover instant prizes and the three big prizes also will be given away in the downtown drawing.

Complete rules for the contest appeared in Wednesday's paper. Steve Haynes, president of The Daily News, said the staff is still talking with potential sponsors and there are a few spaces left.

Sponsors so far include:

- Rasure Lumber Do-It Center.
- Elliott's Furniture.
- Knott Just Books.
- Collage Ltd.
- Fixsen Electronics.
- Wane's Carpet.
- Aten Department Store.
- Jan's Hallmark.
- Mann's Jewelry/Julie's Interiors and Gifts.

- Bowladium Lanes.
- NAPA Auto Parts.
- The Corner Garage.
- Gambino's Pizzeria.
- First National Bank.
- Shores Bros. Auto Supply.
- Frontier Equity Co-op.
- Latino's Mexican Restaurant.
- Dan Brenner Ford.
- Cowboy Loop.
- McB's Corner.
- Miller's Electronics.
- American Communications.
- Orscheln Farm and Home Supply.
- Luci's Aquarium.
- Scheopner's Water Conditioning