

weather
report

36°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 6:09 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:31 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:10 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 44 degrees
• Humidity 93 percent
• Sky light rain mixed with snow
• Winds northeast 13 mph
• Barometer 30.27 inches
and falling
• Record High 86° (1946)
• Record Low 13° (1931)

Last 24 Hours*

High 55°
Low 32°
Precipitation .01 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, rain mixed with snow; low 25-30. Tomorrow: Dry, partly cloudy; high 50-55; low 30s.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: dry, high 60s, low 30s.
Monday: chance of rain, high 50s, low 30s. Tuesday: dry, high 50s, low 30s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.22 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.05
Loan deficiency payment — 40¢
Corn — \$1.86 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.92
Loan deficiency payment — 7¢
Milo — \$2.84 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.71 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.59
Loan deficiency payment — 30¢
Millets — \$3.60 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.60 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.54
Confection current — \$13/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$12 (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.
Volcano finally
erupts in Japan

DATE, Japan — After threatening mountainside villages for four days, Mount Usu erupted today, spewing a roiling mixture of rock, gas and ash over the snowy countryside.

People near the volcano rushed into the streets and onto rooftops to watch the eruption, which was visible for miles.

There were no reports of injuries or damage, and Mount Usu appeared to be subsiding — at least temporarily — hours after it sent a huge column of ash and debris shooting into the sky early this afternoon.

Officials, however, warned that the danger was far from over.

“It is possible that widespread damage could result from this eruption,” chief Cabinet spokesman Mikio Aoki said from the government’s emergency headquarters in Tokyo.



Finishing work continued on Monday at Wheat Ridge Acres Assisted Living Center on West Eighth Street. Bob Arcovasso (above left) and Steve Dickson with Bubba Tough, Denver, painted a wall inside the center. Jim Schoenthal (right) from AMS Corp., Kearney, Neb., installed ceiling tiles in one of the hallways.

Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

‘Assisted living’ gets final touches as opening nears

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Wheat Ridge Acres, Goodland’s first assisted living community, is nearing completion with the last touches of decorating to be done over the next few weeks.

The complex is to open in May, and many of Goodland’s senior citizens have already made reservations for the private apartments. The facility offers month-to-month rent with no buy-in fee or long-term lease required.

Don Fiegel, a resident of Goodland for 21 years, has been appointed director of the facility. He grew up in Kingman and Barber counties, graduated from Dighton High School and then attended barber school. He served in the U.S. Army for two years and earned a business administration degree from the University of Kansas.

Fiegel was married to Beverly Pelzl in 1966. They have a son and a daughter, and two grandchildren.

He managed the Sears and Roebuck store in Goodland from 1973-75. He became an insurance agent after this, and has sold insurance in Goodland

since 1981.

The facility is managed by Heritage Healthcare Management Inc., a firm headquartered in Cleveland, Tenn., with over 20 years of experience in the care of the elderly. The company manages The Legacy in Burlington, and five other assisted living communities in Colorado. They were asked by a committee of local volunteers to build the Goodland facility in response to a growing need for differing levels of care for seniors.

Fiegel will bring to his new position a special compassion for seniors, said Judy Cloyd, director of operations of the company.

Assisted living facilities are becoming a more popular alternative for those people who don’t need the level of care provided by a nursing home, said Ms. Cloyd. It is the fastest growing segment of senior care in the nation today. It includes a combination of housing and personalized services designed to respond to the individual needs of those who require help with activities of daily living and some intermittent health care assistance. Residents are essentially



healthy and are encouraged to do as much for themselves as they can.

The benefits of assisted living, she said, are privacy, dignity and independence that are fostered in a secure environment where help is just moments away. Residents have their own apartment and bring their own furnishings to create a homelike atmosphere. Tailored service plans are developed to assure flexibility and respect for individual needs.

A professional staff is there 24 hours a day. Meals are prepared by the staff and snacks are always available in the dining room.

In addition to the assisted living facility, the acreage will include duplexes

for independent living with minimum supervision. These two-bedroom homes feature a full kitchen with all appliances, as well as a garage. For a single monthly fee, many services will be provided, including all utilities, maintenance inside and out, emergency response on site, recreation opportunities, trash pickup and snow removal. Optional services, such as meals, assisting with medication or bathing, housekeeping and washing clothes, also are available. The first four duplexes out of 28 units will be available in April.

An open house will be held later. Watch the paper for the announcement or call Fiegel to arrange for a personal tour at 899-0100.

Pool bids cut to fit budget

City approval set for Monday session

After more than 2 1/2 years of planning, the Goodland City Commission will consider contracts Monday with Rhoads Construction and Associated Pool Builders Inc. for the new Steever Water Park.

City Manager Ron Pickman said he was able to get the total price down below the \$2.1 million budget the commission had set, and will present the contracts for approval at the regular meeting, which begins at 5 p.m. When the original bids were opened in late February the total was about \$85,000 to high. The commission gave Pickman the task of cutting the cost to get it under the cap.

The commission voted 4-1 to approve the water park with Commissioner Rick Billinger voting against because he said it was too much money to spend on a swimming pool.

Once the contracts are approved, work can begin in earnest. It is expected that construction will take about a year, with the new pool and slide areas ready to open the summer of 2001.

Annette Fairbanks, who headed the citizen committee, said the final cut was a change in the design of the slide which reduced the price by about \$10,000. That gives the city a little breathing room, she said.

“We are pleased we were able to keep the basic design we started with,” she said. “I think the citizens will be pleased with it when it is completed, and it will be something we can be proud of.”

The commission will also consider the request for money to help the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce with the economic development efforts this year. The Chamber had asked for \$50,000 this year, but the commission did not believe that much was available. Pickman was to look at the city budget and see what money might be available and asked that a chamber representative come to Monday’s meeting.

In other business, the commission:

- Consider the utility charge write off through March.
- Appoint two to the High Plains Museum board.
- Consider a beer license for Safari Steakhouse.
- Appoint a representative to the Kansas Municipal Electric Association board.
- Consider an ordinance allowing the city to sell unclaimed, abandoned and confiscated personal property.

• Hear an update from Pickman on both Memorial Field, the new ballpark, and the status of commercial air service.

The city commission meets at 5 p.m. in the commission room, upstairs in the City Administration Building, 204 W. 11th.

Time near to change your clocks

It’s time once again to enjoy long, lingering evenings in the yard, the garden, the hammock or on the front porch.



With the arrival of Daylight Saving Time on Sunday, evenings will be an hour longer next week. There’ll be plenty of time to garden — or loaf.

While the time changes officially at 2 a.m., most of us probably will set our clocks up an hour before going to bed so we don’t miss church or brunch.

Remember, it’s spring forward. Set your clocks up one hour. But you’ll regain the hour you lose this week when Standard Time returns in the fall.

Clean in time for the storm



Members of the Catholic Youth Organization washed cars Thursday at the Dairy Queen parking lot, raising money to go to a youth rally in Denver. Andrew Melia (front), Kami Pianalto (left), Jenna Anderson (back left) and Michael Pickett (right) dried off this car.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News