

weather report

70°
at noon

Today
• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.
Tomorrow
• Sunrise, 5:22 a.m.
• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Midday Conditions
• Soil Temperature 75 degrees
• Humidity 34 percent
• Sky cloudy
• Winds northeast 8 mph
• Barometer 30.28 inches and falling
• Record High 106° (1940)
• Record Low 43° (1985)

Last 24 Hours*
High 92°
Low 60°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast
Tonight: Cloudy, 60 percent chance for showers, low 55-60, winds southeast 10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, 70 percent chance for showers, high 70, low 55-60, winds southeast 10-20 mph.

Extended Forecast
Wednesday: chance for thunderstorms, high 70, low 55-60, Thursday: chance for thunderstorms, high 80-85, low 55-60. Friday: dry, high 90-100, low 60-65.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon
Wheat — \$2.69 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.41
Loan deficiency payment — 4¢
Corn — \$1.74 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.68
Loan deficiency payment — 31¢
Milo — \$2.22 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.19 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.38
Loan deficiency payment — 52¢
Millet — \$3.60 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$5.80 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.83
Confection current — \$13/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$12 (new crop)
(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigo 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.
Harvest 2000 comes to end

TOPEKA — The wheat harvest in Kansas is finished in all but the northernmost and western sections of the state, the Kansas Department of Human Resources says.
It's been an unusual year, in which the cutting got started earlier than normal and is on track to be completed by the end of June for one of the first times in recent memory.
Some analysts say the crop produced 25 to 40 percent less grain than the past two years, both of which saw high production, but the price of wheat remains low.
"It's been kind of a roller-coaster ride," said Gary Spellman, branch manager of Collingwood Grain in Lyons. "I guess you lose some customers, you gain some customers, and it all balances out in the end. We'd had two excellent years, two excellent crops."

Foreign artist needs permit to paint

By Rachel Miscall
The Goodland Daily News

An 80-foot replica of a Vincent VanGogh sunflower painting is going up in Goodland, but first a Canadian painter has to find a way to get across the border.

Sponsors have the site, most of the money and have even started to build the huge sculpture inspired by one of VanGogh's paintings. Now the group, Sunflowers U.S.A., is waiting for Cameron Cross to get a work visa.

Community leaders formed the non-profit organization earlier this year to raise money to bring Cross and his vision of a 32-by-24-foot painting rest-

ing on a 76.5-foot easel to a spot near I-70 in Goodland.

Thanks to a \$50,000 state tourism grant and private donations, the group can pay for the painting, said Marcia Golden, vice president of the group. Now, she said, they need to raise enough to pay for the steel frame and easel.

The project is estimated to cost \$145,000, Golden said, and the group has raised close to \$90,000, including the grant. The giant painting will be erected on city land at the old "Y" area where Cherry Street veers into Business U.S. 24.

"We are ready for him to begin his

painting," said Ron Harding, Chamber of Commerce executive director, adding that the gigantic wooden and fiberglass canvas has been built and is sitting in four pieces in a garage on Caldwell.

Harding said Cross, who lives in Winnipeg, is ready to hop on a plane at anytime, but is stuck in Canada until the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service approves his application for a work permit.

"Typically, Canadians have no problem getting into the U.S.," said Harding, "but it's different if they are going to work here."

He said Cross' first application for a

certain type of visa was not approved because the artist, who is a retired high school art teacher, did not fall into any categories allowed under the permit.

"He didn't fit their criteria as an artist-professor," he said.

Harding said if that application had been approved, Cross would have been on his way to Goodland last week. Now, he said, the Canadian artist probably won't get here until mid-July.

Another application was filed on March 15, said Harding, and will most likely be reviewed this week by the naturalization office in Lincoln, Neb. This time, Cross has to fall into the category of an "internationally recognized

artist."
"We believe he will fit into that category," said Harding.

It won't be too far of a stretch. Cross wants to construct seven of VanGogh's sunflower paintings — which would complete the tortured French painter's flower series — in places where sunflowers are significant across the globe. The first is already standing in Altona, Manitoba, in Canada, and the second in Emerald, Australia.

The Goodland painting will be the third, and Cross is planning to erect another in South Africa, Harding said. For information, call 899-7128.

Dog days of summer



Prince

Event big success for family

By Dana Sulsberger
The Goodland Daily News

"Prince" was a lucky dog on Saturday.

He was the only canine adopted during the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter's second annual "Dog Day of Summer" event.

"We had a few other nibbles," said Jamie Helmut, a volunteer with the shelter. "We are just waiting to hear back from them."

About 20-25 people stopped by the old roadside park east of town, said Helmut, which was about twice as many as last year. There was also twice as many dogs, with 30 total.

"All the dogs were really well behaved," she said. "I think that it went really well."

"We never really know what happens after the event," said Sharon



"Prince," the only dog actually adopted on Saturday, enjoyed the attention of a young boy who came to find a friend.

Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily

Bowker, president of the board that runs the shelter. "Sometimes they go home and think about it and then come back."

She said the event was mostly a time to give community members a chance to check out what the shelter's foster care program has to offer.

Business owners say small signs aren't doing job

By Dana Sulsberger
The Goodland Daily News

Business owners along K-27 told city and state officials Friday that the biggest problem they see with having the east side of Exit 17 closed is that the signs are not big enough, so people miss the detour exit.

"We can't force people to read the signs," said John Ryan, an inspector for Evans-Bierly Hutchinson and Associates out of Great Bend, the city's engineers for the project, at a Friday morning meeting at McDonalds.

The exit ramps are to reopen on Wednesday, about a week sooner than expected, because the state contractor and engineer agreed to speed up the work.

However, the west ramps will be closed for about a week soon after the work on Exit 17 is done.

The city called the first business meeting two weeks ago, after merchants complained that the I-70 closings came at the start of their peak season and a two-week closing would hurt them badly. The meetings were to continue until construction is done or there's nothing more to talk about. It was decided Friday that another meeting would be set up only if needed.

Owners and managers of businesses along K-27, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Ron Harding, City Manager Ron Pickman, representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation and engineers with the Great Bend firm were at the meeting, about 11 people in all.

Darin Neufeld, an engineer with Evans-Bierly Hutchinson, said that the detour signs were standard size for jobs of this nature.

There is no statewide policy, said Neufeld, about the use of signs, but new safety standards will make it even harder to mark detours in the future.

"We can only teach so many people how to drive," said Ryan. "We just have to hope that the rest will follow."

Paul Nelson, owner of the Goodland McDonald, asked about the possibility of moving the signs that direct people to gas, food and lodging.

Neufeld said that those signs are owned by private contractors and they can't move them.

Work on the east ramps should be completed on Wednesday as long as the concrete sets up in time, said Ryan.

"It would take an act of God to slow us down enough that we wouldn't finish by this weekend," he added, saying they will have no problems finishing before the holiday weekend.

The concrete should be poured in one day, then it is just a matter of waiting for it to set up enough that it can be driven on, said Ryan.

"Right now we are putting all of our efforts into just getting them open," he said.

The construction company should start milling the other side of K-27 soon after re-opening Exit 17, said Neufeld, and will give merchants plenty of warning before closing the I-70 ramps.

"We will try to give you a heads up sooner this time," said Neufeld.

Retired people have alternative to living in nursing home

By Dana Sulsberger
The Goodland Daily News

The retired got their first glimpse at a new place that they could call home at the open house for the Wheatridge Acres Retirement Community on Sunday.

There are 31 available units in the main building, and five of these units are now occupied, said Don Fiegal, director of the community.

Three duplexes are also available, and there are plans for 11 more in the field behind the existing units, he said. The duplexes are for those residents who don't want to keep up a lawn and house, but don't need help in the home.

All the pictures in the main building are pictures of old-time Sherman County residents from the High Plains Museum.

"If you look closely, you just might recognize someone," said Fiegal. "One lady came through here and recognized her great aunt."

Within the main building there is a

dining hall, a beauty shop, an activity center and a laundry room.

Residents living in the apartments will have their laundry done and their apartments cleaned on a monthly basis, as well as use of five sitting rooms. Meals are included in the cost and all three meals are provided.

In the duplexes, residents will have all the lawn care and winter snow-shoveling done for them, but they will prepare their own meals and clean the house themselves, unless they want to pay for the additional services.

The cost to residents ranges from \$1,775 to \$2,850 per month in the assisted living apartments and \$1,400 in the duplexes, which includes utilities and trash removal.

"All of this belongs to the residents," said Fiegal. "I want them to feel that they are at home."

There are also several rooms that people can stay in for a short time, said Fiegal.

"My mother-in-law had a stroke and



A tour group stops to examine a picture of Sherman County residents in the library of the new Wheatridge Acres Retirement Community.

Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News

was unable to travel," he said. "When we had a family reunion to go to, we checked her in here for the weekend." One of the rooms, called the Alcove,

has only one big room. The carpenters didn't have a wall where it was supposed to be on their blueprints, so they never put up the

wall. "It was a problem at first," said Fiegal, "but I already have three people who want to move in here."

Medical board to consider options for finding new radiologists

The Goodland Regional Medical Center board will discuss options for replacing Diversified Radiology of Colorado, the group who provides radiology coverage for the hospital, at Tuesday's meeting.

The radiology group's contract will expire in September, and they do not

plan to renew. Radiologists are specialists who supervise the X-ray department and related services, and review and interpret the films for doctors.

Other items on the agenda include the financial report by Andy Laue. Randy Schoenthaler, board treasurer and chairman of the finance committee,

may be asked to comment.

There will be discussion on whether or not the hospital should purchase a spiral computerized tomography scanner.

Board members will sign policy manuals for the surgery, lab and medical records departments. Medicare re-

quires that all hospital manuals be reviewed annually and be signed by the hospital's chief executive officer, medical staff, and board. These particular department manuals are scheduled for this month.

Administrator Jim Chaddic will report on the hospital's most recent stra-

tegic planning committee meeting. The committee members include the administrator, medical staff, board and department heads and supervisors.

The board has allowed a little over an hour to discuss personnel in executive session. They will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the hospital board room.