

weather report

81°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 7:35 p.m.
Tomorrow
• Sunrise, 6:06 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:34 p.m.

Midday Conditions
• Soil Temperature 76 degrees
• Humidity 43 percent
• Sky mostly clear
• Winds calm
• Barometer 30.15 inches and falling
• Record High 102° (1943)
• Record Low 46° (1964)

Last 24 Hours*
High 94°
Low 55°
Precipitation 1.15 inches

Northwest Kansas Forecast
Tonight: Partly cloudy, 30 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 60, winds south 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high 90, low 60-65, winds south 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast
Wednesday and Thursday: chance of thunderstorms, high 90-95, low 60-65. Friday: chance of thunderstorms, high mid 90s, 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 — \$2.42 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.19
Loan deficiency payment — 26¢
Corn — \$1.55 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.41
Loan deficiency pmt. — 58¢
Milo — \$2.40 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$3.82 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.94
Loan deficiency payment — 96¢
Millet — \$7.00 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$5.35 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.30
Confection current — \$15/\$6 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.

Officials say sailors dead

MOSCOW — Rescue teams abandoned efforts Monday to find survivors in a sunken Russian submarine after determining that all 118 crew members had perished. Norwegian and Russian officials in charge of rescue efforts concluded the submarine was completely flooded after it suffered a massive explosion and sank Aug. 12 during naval exercises in the Barents Sea. Norwegian divers who managed to open the escape hatch on the nuclear submarine Monday found no sign of survivors and confirmed that the Kursk was flooded, officials said. The Russian navy said a video camera would be lowered into the hull of the Kursk to determine conditions inside. But the rescue effort was now shifting to raising the submarine.

Senator will visit the area Tuesday

Brownback to talk about tax, farms

By Rachel Miscall
The Goodland Daily News
U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback plans to talk about ending the “marriage tax” penalty, opening foreign markets for Kansas farmers and Social Security reform when he meets with voters in Cheyenne and Thomas counties on Tuesday.

But he won’t do all of the talking. The senator, who is touring Kansas during the annual August recess, will answer questions and listen to complaints or suggestions when he drops by the courthouse in St. Francis Tuesday morning, before making his way to Colby by noon central time.

Sen. Brownback, who was first elected in 1996 to fill the remainder of Sen. Bob Dole’s term, plans to get to the Cheyenne County courthouse, 212 E. Washington, at 9 a.m. Central Time. The senator’s next stop will be Colby — over an hour away — where he will speak at noon at a Rotary Club luncheon at Colby Community College, 1255 S. Range.

After that, he plans to continue east to Hays, where he will visit with constituents at the Hays Medical Center. Erik Hotmire, the senator’s press secretary, said though Sen. Brownback, in the second year of a six-year term, can not make it to Sherman County, people here are welcome at the meetings.

“It’s a short drive to Colby or St. Francis,” he said. Hotmire said the senator will speak briefly about his efforts to help farmers struggling with low commodity prices by opening doors for them to export their products to foreign countries such as India and Pakistan, and to help married couples by eliminating the marriage penalty tax.

The average married couple pays \$1,400 more in taxes each year than a single person with the same income, said Hotmire. He said the senator doesn’t think that is fair. Republicans passed a bill changing tax rates, but President Clinton threatened to veto it, calling the cuts irresponsible.

Sen. Brownback, he added, will want to talk about what he is doing to make sure Americans get back what they have paid into Social Security and his ideas for changes that will allow the program to continue.

Good girl



Mandy, a miniature collie, returned a soft frisbee to her owner, Dirk King, who was playing catch with her before rain started to fall Sunday afternoon in Goodland. Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News



A car went through a big puddle by West Elementary School Sunday evening after a thunderstorm had moved through town. The sun was

out (below) for a short time after the storm broke and before the sky became cloudy again.

Photos by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Storm soaks city

Thunderstorms rolled through Sherman County Sunday afternoon and evening, depositing a little over an inch of rain in the Goodland area.

Sven Nelaimischkies, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service office in Goodland, said rain began at 3:10 p.m. at the Goodland airport and continued off and on until about 6 p.m. After that, it started up again and continued until about 9:30 p.m., he said.

The rainfall amount was 1.15 inches at the Goodland airport and 1.1 inches in Goodland.

KLOE Radio reported a call from Kanorado said the city had 1.15 inches of rain, and another from Edson, gave a report of 1.20 inches.

Four miles west of Brewster, .36 of an inch was received. Burlington received .54 of an inch. Nineteen miles

south of Goodland, the amount was 1.20 inches.

The storms came from the west and moved east, Nelaimischkies said. No wind or hail damage was reported to the weather service.

But wind gusts were reported between 3:30 and 4 p.m. in western Sherman County. At 3:30 p.m., four miles north of Kanorado, a 60-70 mph wind gust was reported. Then at 3:48 p.m. a 73 mph wind gust was reported 12 miles west of Goodland on I-70 and at 3:55 p.m. a 60 mph wind gust was reported at Ruleton.

Nelaimischkies said that at 4:45 p.m. nickel-sized hail was reported 17 miles north of Weskan in Wallace County. The biggest hail from the storms was golf-ball size, which was reported 14 miles northeast of Tribune in Greeley County, he said.



Party elects officers, looks for candidate

By Dana Sulsberger
The Goodland Daily News

The Sherman County Republican Party committee elected new officers Thursday and decided to meet later this month to choose someone to fill the county commission position left open after Gary Townsend died.

The committee decided to meet on Tuesday, Aug. 29, to fill two positions left open after Townsend’s death.

Members need to pick someone to finish the rest of the commissioner’s

term and someone to take his place on the ballot in November’s general election. The committee will meet in the commissioner’s room on the first floor of the courthouse, with the time of the meeting will be announced later.

Townsend died last Thursday from complications involving a bone marrow transplant he had early in June.

The committee, by law, had to officially elect new officers before the meeting to select a commissioner could be held, said County Chairman Bill Gattshall. Gattshall said at Thursday’s meeting that two candidates had shown interest in the position, Harold Snethen and Barb Isenberg. Snethen owns Windy Plains Bike Shop, and Isenberg is retired.

Members by law have 21 days to decide on a replacement commissioner and a new candidate.

The fill-in could be the same person on the ballot in November, or the committee could chose a different person.

The main reason that the committee met Thursday night was to select people to fill three officer positions, chairman, co-chairman and secretary.

Bill Gattshall and Cora House were nominated for the chairman position. Gattshall is the current chairman, and House had been secretary since 1992.

The first vote for chairman was a tie of eight votes for Gattshall, and eight

votes for House.

Jeff Mason asked if the committee could have co-chairs, but Gattshall said it wouldn’t work that way.

Gattshall suggested they call a five-minute recess so members could discuss their choice for chairman in hopes that someone would change their vote.

The second vote came in with seven votes for House and nine votes for Gattshall. For the vice-chairman position, House was the only one nominated and she won by a unanimous vote.

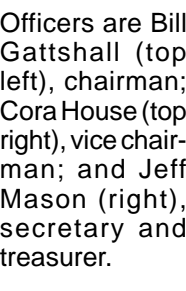
Mason, a member of the committee who had not previously held an office, was nominated for the secretary position and won by a unanimous vote. Lois Caldwell was also nominated but declined to run.

By the end of the day Friday, Gattshall said, letters would have to be sent to the eight members of the Republican committee in the 3rd District.

Townsend represented the 3rd District as commissioner, so the members of the committee who live in this area are the ones who need to select a new representative.

The letters have to be sent at least seven days before the meeting to select the candidate, in order to give the proper legal notice to the members and to the county clerk.

The eight members and Gattshall



Officers are Bill Gattshall (top left), chairman; Cora House (top right), vice chairman; and Jeff Mason (right), secretary and treasurer.

will meet on Aug. 29 with any candidates interested in the county commission position.

Candidates must be at the meeting so that the committee members can ask them questions, and they will be given the opportunity to give a small speech, said Gattshall.

Anyone interested in the commissioner’s position will have to get in touch with Gattshall beforehand. Interested parties must find two of the eight 3rd District members to nominate and second them.

Commissioners to review budget draft

Sherman County commissioners plan to review a draft of the county budget and discuss problems with the courthouse boiler and air conditioning on Tuesday.

A preliminary calculation of the budget figures shows that with everything all the departments asked for, the total budget would increase by about \$62,000 which would require a property tax increase of about 1 mill.

Commissioners Chuck Frankenfeld and Kenny Davis are expected to look

for ways to bring the budget down during their review of each department’s requests. If they decide to accept the increase, they will have to pass a resolution to raise the property tax levy.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said the county’s assessed valuation is up by \$2,311,732, which means a mill will raise \$55,784 this year, an increase of \$2,312 over last year.

Even with the increase, though, the commissioners will need to cut about \$62,000 to stay within the budget with-

out raising the property taxes.

William McKnight, building maintenance supervisor, will meet with the commissioners and be part of the phone conference about the inspection of the boiler, and discuss problems with the air conditioning in the courthouse.

The commissioners will also open the two bids received for hauling trash to Garden City.

The commissioners meet at 8 a.m. in the commission room on the first floor of the Sherman County Courthouse.