

weather report

22°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 4:49 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:04 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:50 p.m.

Middy Conditions

- Soil Temperature 35 degrees
- Humidity 88 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds northeast 12 mph
- Barometer 30.22 inches and steady
- Record High 65° (1951)
- Record Low -11° (1930)

Last 24 Hours*

High 33°
Low 12°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Cloudy, 60 percent chance of light snow, low 10-15, northeast wind 5-15 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, 20 percent chance of light snow, high 30, low 10-15, south-west winds 5-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: chance of snow, high 35-40, low 10-15. Friday: dry, 40, low 10-15. Saturday: chance of snow, high 30-35, low 10-15.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.95 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.87
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
Corn — \$1.91 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.90
Loan deficiency pmt. — 9¢
Milo — \$3.15 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.25 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.17
Loan deficiency payment — 73¢
Millet — \$8.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$5.85 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.75
Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$15
(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire

Late news
from the
Associated
Press

1 p.m.

Nominee defends ideas

WASHINGTON — Attorney General-designate John Ashcroft declared Tuesday that abortion is a constitutionally protected service and pledged to enforce the law without regard to personal preferences.

Ashcroft, in remarks prepared for his confirmation hearing, addressed the barrage of criticism he has received from liberal organizations.

Not since the Clarence Thomas hearings a decade ago has the Senate Judiciary Committee heard such an onslaught of criticism against a nominee, this time from civil rights, abortion rights women's groups and others.

Ashcroft said he would enforce federal laws protecting access to abortion clinics. While he said he believes Roe v. Wade was "wrongly decided," he accepts it.

Road dispute nearing end

County will fix rough section

By Rachel Miscal

The Goodland Daily News

An end is in sight to a three-year dispute between the city and the county over repairs to a quarter-mile section of Old U.S. 24 in east Goodland that city officials say the county is legally responsible for maintaining.

While the city and county have been wrangling, no work has been done on the rough, bumpy stretch of road, though the county resurfaced the rest of the road from the city limits east to the county line. Finally, several taxpayers living east of town complained to the county commission and officials got together to solve the problem.

After reviewing a draft agreement written by City Manager Ron Pickman and County Attorney Bonnie Selby, the Goodland City commissioners on Monday suggested no changes and discussed little beyond maintenance of another stretch of Old U.S. 24 at the west edge of Goodland.

The joint resolution, which was drawn up after city and county commissioners met earlier this month, says the county will use money raised by a quarter-cent special sales tax to repair the road on Goodland's east edge.

When the sales tax, which raises \$20,000 a month for repairs to Old U.S. 24, went into effect in October 1998, city commissioners said they thought the section in dispute was part of the project. However, county commissioners said they didn't plan to pay for repairs to the section, which connects Business U.S. 24 and Old U.S. 24, because it is in the city limits.

City officials later agreed to a road swap to get the county to fix the stretch, but then backed out of that agreement, saying state law requires the county to maintain the section, designated as a "connecting link" to a county road.

Under the rejected deal, the county would have taken over the Old U.S. 24 stretch if the city maintained North Caldwell by the airport.

City and county commissioners have spent years haggling over who is responsible for the short section, but Pickman told commissioners at the meeting Monday that once he and Selby meet to clarify the draft, it should be ready for the officials to sign. The manager said later that he and Selby plan to meet next week.

To avoid future disagreements over

road maintenance, Pickman said he and the county attorney will write a separate city-county agreement covering repairs and snow removal on roads that are on city and county land. Those include North Caldwell, West Eighth Street and a portion of Armory Road.

City Commissioner Curtis Hurd said the agreement should clarify who is responsible for the section of Old U.S. 24 in west Goodland, between K-27 and the city limits. Pickman said the second agreement will take longer to finish.

The draft resolution says the city agrees to let the county have its share of the money raised by the sales tax to help pay for repairs to Old U.S. 24. Pickman said after the meeting that when the sales tax was first implemented the city agreed to forgo its share, which would be about 40 percent of what's generated.

That means the city is giving up about \$8,000 a month to pay for repairs to Old U.S. 24, most of which is in Sherman County. However, before the sales tax was passed county commissioners said they would seek a half-cent tax if Goodland wanted a percentage.

County Treasurer Shelby Miller said at the start of 2000 there was about \$210,000 in the account for Old U.S. 24 repairs. She said the county spent about \$300,000 last year making repairs to the highway and there is about \$200,000 in the account now.

In other business, commissioners:

- Approved buying a \$13,800 1999 General Motors Sonoma pickup from Finley Motors, provided the truck has a six-cylinder motor instead of a four-cylinder. The truck will be used as an animal control vehicle. Police Chief Ray Smee gathered five bids from local dealers and the commissioners picked the lowest-priced vehicle according to age and mileage.

- Reappointed Cara Daise and Clyde Lambertz to four-year terms on the housing authority and appointed Esther Beard to fill Terri Richardson's spot. Richardson resigned earlier this month.

- Asked residents interested in serving on the cemetery board to call the city offices, as two members' terms expire in February and neither wants to serve again.

- Agreed to hold its annual utility rate workshop at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 12.



Snowmen and angels

The snow Saturday gave Goodlanders a chance to do winter stuff. Mr. Chiller (above) appeared in Chris and Melody Abbott's yard at 224 W. Fifth. Chris built the snowman on Saturday and Melody added the hat, which she made, and the scarf on Sunday. Robert and Cortney Cowan (left) made snow angels Sunday in the yard of their home at 304 E. 12th.

Photos by Janet Craft
The Goodland Daily News

A big boom



Rollie Hallagin was preparing to clean the gas tank of a small scoop tractor in his garage Monday morning when there was a big boom. Fire Chief Dean Jensen said a space heater must have ignited gas fumes, causing the garage at 520 W. Ninth to catch fire. By the time volunteers were done putting out the fire about 11:30 a.m., Jensen said the garage and everything in it had been destroyed.

Photo by Rachel Miscal/The Goodland Daily News

Dog owners offered free licenses and shots

The City of Goodland will be giving away dog licenses Friday to encourage people to get licenses and rabies shots for their pets.

The free licenses will be available from 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. Friday at the city clerk's office, 204 W. 11th. Bring a current rabies vaccination certificate.

City ordinances require that all dogs kept in the city have a license. The cost is \$2.50 or \$5 per year, depending on whether or not the dog is neutered. After the last day of February, though, the registration fee is doubled.

LeAnn Taylor, administrative assistant for the Goodland Police Department, said it's at least the third or fourth year that the city has offered free licenses. This way, if a dog is picked up or lost, the city can track down who the dog belongs to.

Taylor said if a dog that doesn't have a current rabies shot bites someone, the

animal has to be quarantined for 10 days at the city pound. This costs \$10 a day and can be expensive, she said.

To get pets ready for licensing, Prairieland Animal Clinic will hold a vaccination clinic from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday for cats and dogs.

Veterinarian Gary Smith said the clinic will offer both rabies and distemper shots which will take about 10 minutes. No exams will be given. Rabies shots cost \$8 and are good for two years. Distemper shots good for one year cost \$11.

Pet owners will receive a certificate to take to the city office. Smith said he would like people to call for an appointment.

If you have had a dog vaccinated for rabies and need a certificate, you can get one printed off by calling Prairieland at 899-6166 or stopping at the clinic, 204 N. Caldwell.

Trooper found shot in car

PRATT (AP) — A Kansas Highway Patrol trooper was found shot in his patrol car at a community college Monday night, the patrol said.

The trooper was flown to a Wichita hospital where he was in critical condition, said Sgt. Gary Warner.

The trooper was found shot twice in the neck shortly after 7 p.m., sitting in his car in a parking lot on the Pratt County Community College campus, said Lt. Phil Bostian.

He was identified by as Lt. Tom Quinn of Ellinwood.