

weather
report

93°

at noon



Today

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

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 68 degrees
- Humidity 22 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds northwest at 6 mph
- Barometer 22.00 inches and falling
- Record High 102° (1943)
- Record Low 46° (1964)

Last 24 Hours*

High	100°
Low	59°
Precipitation	trace

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy. 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 60-65, southwest winds 5-15. Tomorrow: Partly sunny, chance of thunderstorms, high 90s, low 60s.

Extended Forecast

Thursday and Friday: Chance of thunderstorms, high 85-90, low 60s. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Cherry Street should be open soon!



Paving crews from Venture Corp. put down a section of pavement Monday on Cherry Ave. between the railroad tracks and Dollar General. This is the first section of blacktop to be completed, but City Man-

ager Ron Pickman said the pavement should be done in a few days, and he expects Cherry to be open by the weekend.

Photo by Reagan Smith/The Goodland Daily News

College
classes
to begin

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

Classes begin Wednesday at the Northwest Kansas Technical College, the faculty and staff of the college are ready for the year and the students have been tested and pre-enrolled in programs.

The faculty and staff had work days and in-service training last week to prepare for the school year, which begins with orientation and classes on Wednesday.

With the work that has been put into preparing for the year and the number of students expected, President Ken Clouse has high expectations.

"I'm expecting an exciting and dynamic year," he said.

In-services sessions had senior faculty work with new teachers to sharpen skills such as student motivation and preparing lesson plans, Clouse said. The entire staff listened to a presentation by motivational speaker Phil Coleman on customer service and

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Health care, air service, farm bill top issues Moran hears

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran continued his listening tour with a stop in Goodland this morning, saying that Sherman County was the 49th county he has been in so far out of the 66 in the 1st Congressional District.

A crowd of about 30 people met with the congressman in the basement at Western State Bank this morning.

Opening the meeting, Moran said one of the issues that will be coming up is the redistricting of the state since the 2000 census has been done. That means his Big First district will be growing.

"As we know, we are short of people, and because of the need for balance in each area, this district will grow to the east," Moran said. "One map I have seen would add the counties in the southeast, which would mean I would represent three corners of the state."

The other three districts center on Kansas City, Wichita and Topeka and northeast Kansas.

Moran opened the floor to questions, saying he would like to hear from those in the audience and the issues they feel are important.

The first was from a woman who said she thinks the federal government should encourage the development of reliable high speed telecommunications access and air service for rural areas.

"My husband and I telecommute to our jobs every day," she said, "but it is not easy and we find it cumbersome and expensive."

Moran said transportation and technology are two of the things he sees as essential to bringing stability to rural areas.

He said efforts are underway to strengthen the Essential Air Service



First District Congressman Jerry Moran (R-Hays), was in Goodland today as part of his listening tour of the 1st District. He met with about 30

citizens in the basement of the Western State Bank to hear about issues they felt were important.

Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News

program, which provides subsidies to small-town flights, and to address the specific reasons that were given when service to Goodland was ended. One of the technicalities has to do with the distance to a major hub airport, and the new Denver International Airport is less than 200 miles from Goodland. Now, that is the distance required to be eligible for the air service program.

"Part of what we had was the technical reasons to cut service," Moran said, "but mainly I think it was because we had an air carrier who did not want to

be here."

Moran agreed the rural areas cannot afford to be left behind in telecommunications, and said he is involved in a bill designed to create more access. The program would open up loans and grants to bring services to areas with less than 25,000 population.

Dwight Perrey asked if it would be possible to open a veterans medical office in Goodland similar to one in Hays.

"It is possible," Moran said. "As chairman of a subcommittee on veter-

ans medical services, our goal is to bring services closer to the vets, and we have had some success. We need to do more."

"Can I do something?" Perrey asked. "Send me a letter telling me why it is important," Moran said. "I need the personal perspective."

When asked how many pages he wanted, Moran said he didn't care, but he would read the first three.

Adding to the discussion on veterans Moran said he is working on a pilot program to allow veterans to go to their

own hospital for medical care rather than travel to a government hospital or clinic.

Another area he said was a problem is prescription drugs, where a doctor tells a patient he needs a specific drug, but to get the Veterans Administration to pay, the patient must get a government doctor to sign off on it. This is a problem for many veterans who live in rural areas, Moran said.

Jay Jolly, Goodland hospital admin-

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Livestock in city a problem; conflict in understanding laws

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland City Commission heard complaints from visitors about the laws allowing livestock in some areas and quibbled over the county's share of the cost for recreation at its regular meeting Monday.

A city ordinance passed in December 1992 says that no livestock may be kept in the city limits except at commercial properties with proper fencing. This has caused a dispute, City Manager Ron Pickman said, because some landowners thought they were covered by a grandfather clause in an ordinance passed in 1972. The grandfather clause was not actually passed, he said, just discussed, and when the ordinance passed in 1992, the clause was not even considered.

Building Inspector Jerry Nemechek received a complaint from a landowner

about an animal kept in the city limits, Pickman said, and researched the law. Nemechek found the law prohibiting all livestock but not the grandfather clause, and sent out a letter to landowners stating that stock animals are not allowed.

"The city was caught by surprise," Pickman said, "as city officials were not aware of the problem until some of the landowners called to complain about the letter."

The commissioners agreed that livestock had not been a problem and the ones who now have animals should be able to keep them.

"My personal thought is to leave it alone," Commissioner Curtis Hurd said, "until such a time as a majority of landowners in those areas (where animals are allowed) would petition the city."

Mayor Tom Rohr and Commission-

ers Dean Blume and Rick Billinger agreed while Commissioner Chuck Lutters said he was concerned that the livestock allowed be only those used for the landowner's livelihood and not pets.

"If I bought a piece of land with the understanding it was grandfathered that I could keep a horse," Billinger replied, "I would be upset to find out I can't."

"That's the problem we have," Pickman said.

The grandfather clause was taken away by the law passed in 1992, he said, so now they need to consider whether to give the landowners conditional use permits allowing them to keep animals. The city attorney will need to draw something up, Pickman said, allowing the commission to talk about the issue officially.

The four areas where landowners believed they were under the grandfa-

ther clause need to be addressed, Rohr said. Those areas are from Main to Caldwell, Armory to Toelkes, 19th Street east of Cherry and south of Business U.S. 24 east of Caldwell, Pickman said.

The commission approved an agreement with the county on the recreation program after a discussion in which commissioners complained about the amount the county pays for the program. The agreement allows for the county to pay the city 1/2 mill of the county tax levy for recreation, Pickman said, which amounts to about \$24,000-\$27,000 per year, while it costs \$600,000 to operate the recreation program.

The agreement is reviewed annually, he said, and has been in effect for many years.

"It doesn't look to me like the county's paying their fair share," Hurd

said.

The city either accepts this agreement, Lutters said, or gets nothing. The agreement was approved on a 4-1 vote with Hurd voting against.

In other business, the commission:

- Chose to opt out of the state water utility fee and continue to pay sales tax on purchases made by the water department. Pickman felt the city could save money by paying the fee, but some of the commissioners felt the savings would not be long-term. The city had only one opportunity to make the decision, Pickman said. The commission voted 3-2 to opt out with Rohr, Billinger and Lutters voting for and Blume and Hurd voting against.

- Approved a change order for the project on Cherry Ave. allowing \$9,258 from the Pioneer Park Project to be

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local
markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$2.52 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.49
- Corn — \$2.01 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.85
- Loan deficiency payment — 14¢
- Milo — \$3.22 hundredweight
- Soybeans — \$4.52 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.36
- Loan deficiency payment — 56¢
- Millet — \$4.00 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$8.30 cwt.
- Oil new crop — 7.40 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — \$0.95
- Confection current — no bid
- Pinto beans — \$16 (new crop)
- (Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, 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.

Fed cuts rate
a seventh time

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve, still trying to keep the U.S. economy out of a recession, cut a key interest rate today for the seventh time this year, lowering the federal funds rate by a quarter-point to 3.50 percent.

The reduction pushed the funds rate to its lowest level in more than seven years.

Bank of America cut its prime lending rate to 6.5 percent, the lowest level in seven years. Other banks were expected to follow suit.

On Wall Street, stock prices dropped after the announcement, investors having anticipated the Fed's action. Within 20 minutes of the announcement, the Dow Jones industrial average had lost a 45-point gain and another 20 points. The Nasdaq was down 7 points.

With the reduction, the Fed has cut rates by 3 percentage points since the beginning of this year.