

weather report

86°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:25 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:12 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 69 degrees
- Humidity 38 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds south 26-31
- Barometer 29.91 inches and falling
- Record High 99° (1954)
- Record Low 48° (1964)

Last 24 Hours*

High 93°
Low 61°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, 20 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 55-60, winds south 10-20. Tomorrow: mostly cloudy, 30 percent chance of thunderstorms, high 80-85, low 50s.

Extended Forecast

Friday and Saturday: chance of thunderstorms, high 75-85, low 50s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Roads open up for Goodland



The new Cherry Avenue should be open to traffic on Thursday. on Wednesday, which will allow the road to be opened to traffic. Workers on the paving crew Monday said striping would be done. Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News

Frustration comes to end

Over a month of inconvenience and frustration is expected to end this week with the opening of Cherry Ave. on Thursday and the K-27 viaduct Friday.

The crew from Venture Corp. of Great Bend put the final layer of asphalt on the street Tuesday, worker Cindy Carson said, and are paving the parking lot at Dollar General today.

The street should be open on Thursday, she said, although some parking areas may not be accessible immediately and the crew will have some cleanup to do.

This crew has been good to work with, said Dee White, a roller operator, and the project superintendent, Don Harrison has really worked hard. White said she has been with Venture for seven years.

The construction of Pioneer Park west of the new Cherry Street is planned for next spring and the landscaping will give the area a more complete look.

White has also enjoyed seeing the large sunflower painting which overlooks the area, and thinks it is really nice that Goodland has such an attraction.

"I may have to come back to Goodland next year," White said, "to see what the park looks like. It sounds like it will be really nice."

Although there will still be work to be done, the opening of Cherry Ave. will allow a straight entrance to Goodland on the south. Both Cherry and the K-27 viaduct have been closed for the last few weeks, forcing almost all traffic into downtown Goodland to use Cattletrail. The resulting heavy traffic has torn up the pavement on Cattletrail, once the location of K-27, and delayed drivers.

Businesses along Cherry south of the railroad tracks saw their trade plummet. Pizza Hut, Dollar General and Grass Roots have all complained about the effects of the long, complicated detour to their area, but that problem should be over as of Thursday.

Viaduct to open Friday after month-long closure

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

After being closed for over a month, the railroad viaduct on K-27 will be open to traffic from the intersection of Business U.S. 24 to Eighth Street on Friday, but there is more work to be done next spring.

Crews have put down two layers of asphalt on the highway, said Kristin Brands, public relations officer for the Kansas Department of Transportation in Norton, and will put on the third layer from the viaduct north to the county line in the spring.

The work on the viaduct has included new concrete approach slabs, said Donna Binning, construction engineer for the department, making the transition from the road to the bridge smoother. The crews then put down a cold recycle, Brands said, a process of

milling the old road and reusing the ground-up asphalt. Then new asphalt was put down on either side of the viaduct, she said.

After the viaduct is open, crews will still need to do some work behind the guard rail that will not affect traffic, Brands said.

The viaduct will not be closed to put down the final layer of asphalt in the spring.

The crew will put the top lift on one lane at a time, she said, and will move one-way traffic under a flag.

The K-27 work is part of a project to rebuild the highway from U.S. 24 to the county line which has the road from here to St. Francis closed all summer. Workers have been regrading some areas and recycling the old pavement in others.

One bridge has been replaced and

another rebuilt, with several hills cut down to improve sight distances. Paving is done just north of town and moving on toward St. Francis.

All the work is to be done in time to reopen the road by November, except for the top lift and some grading and seeding.

Other work to be done in the spring will include paving the intersection of K-27 and U.S. 24 with concrete, putting in traffic lights at the intersection, putting in a new city street to tie Cattletrail Ave. into U.S. 24 and paving the existing Cattletrail, Brands said.

The portion of Cattletrail that intersects K-27 will become a one-way street, she said, with northbound traffic only. That will eliminate a dangerous situation where people have to cross over both lanes of K-27 just south of the bridge, where sight lines are poor.



Workers for Ritchie Paving were laying down a layer of asphalt on a section of north K-27 Monday for about a mile north of U.S. 24.

Commissioners to promote city for site of ag-related plant

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

After a 90-minute closed door session early this morning, the Sherman County commissioners agreed to draft a letter promoting Sherman County to a prospective agriculture-related industry looking for a plant site.

Commissioner Chuck Frankfeld made the motion and Commissioner Mitch Tiede seconded.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure voted in favor to make the vote unanimous.

While not revealing the exact nature of the industrial prospect, the commissioners said they received confidential financial information from Ron Harding, executive director of the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce, during the closed door session.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby and County Clerk Janet Rumpel also were present, and the commissioners asked Selby to draft the letter to promote Sherman County as a good site for the firm's consideration.

Commissioners Frankfeld and Rasure said they will accompany Curt Way, road and bridge superintendent, to a meeting in Colby at 3 p.m.

today. The meeting is to review the Northwest Kansas Solid Waste Authority's five-year plan, and requirements to update the plan.

The final county commission meeting of the month will be at 8 a.m. Friday in the commissioner room at the courthouse.

Items on the meeting agenda include payment of the claims vouchers for the month, an update on the status of repairing the roof of the historic Southwest Bell Telephone Building, review of the proposed budget for next year and selecting the auctioneer for the upcoming property tax sale.

Mary Ann Sneathen, county accounts payable clerk, will meet with the commissioners to discuss questions about the county purchasing policy in relation to some sheriff's department purchase requests.

Flood control along the Kyle Railroad and east of the city along County Road 21 will be discussed with Arnold Scott, who lives along the road. Scott has complained to Way about flooding in the area and will discuss this with the county commissioners.

Mary Messamore, head of the county central dispatch, will meet with the commissioners to give them an update.

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Doctor relocates after 18 years in Colorado

By Reaghan Smith

The Goodland Daily News

Dr. David Younger, from Burlington, has moved his practice to Goodland, joining the medical staff of the Regional Medical Center and Rural Health Ventures here.

Dr. Younger, board certified in family practice, has been in Burlington for 18 years. He has decided to move his practice to Goodland following extensive discussions with hospital and clinic representatives.

"I am looking forward to relocating my practice to the Rural Health Ventures clinic and continuing to serve the residents of this area, as I have been doing for nearly 20 years," said Dr. Younger.

"We are pleased to welcome Dr. Younger to the community and the hospital," said Doug Irvin, Goodland Regional Medical Center board chairman. "Dr. Younger already has

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Board hears district project update

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Superintendent Marvin Selby gave the Goodland School Board an update on district projects Monday, saying contractors may start mechanical work at the high school this week and a balcony at Max Jones Fieldhouse has been shortened.

At the regular meeting, Selby said workers from Wichita doing piping, plumbing, heating and other mechanical work at the high school will arrive Tuesday and possibly start work today. Selby said today that contractor Don Vaughn called to say the crew won't be here until next week because of the Labor Day holiday.

Contractors are building three new

science classrooms on the second floor and remodeling other rooms and restrooms across the hall.

The board wanted to finish the project by the first day of school on Tuesday, but ran into problems bidding the mechanical work and other delays. Principal Harvey Swager has said the mechanical crew will be working at night so they won't interfere with the school day. Selby said workers are hoping to have the job finished in December.

"I think our community will be proud when it's completed," he said.

The superintendent said contractors are ready to install door frames and paint the hallways and the new science furniture and lab centers the board or-

dered are sitting in a warehouse in Lenexa, waiting to be sent to Goodland.

The superintendent said the district is paying \$1,300 a month for storage, which is cheaper than shipping the furniture here before the project is done. Once the furniture arrives, Selby said, it will take a week to install.

The board approved paying \$31,579 to Mike Miller, project manager and owner of Miller Construction, which is doing much of the demolition and construction work, and \$72,535 to Hicks-Ashby, the Lenexa classroom furniture company.

Glenn Strait, the district's architect from Colby, previously approved both

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afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press



1 p.m.

Bush addresses budget data

CRAWFORD, Texas — President Bush draws his monthlong vacation to a close confronting new economic data that suggest his budget priorities come at the expense of Social Security.

Bush was speaking today in San Antonio at the American Legion's 83rd annual convention, where aides said he wanted to reiterate his demand that Congress approve big spending increases for defense and education when lawmakers get back to work next week.

It is his last bit of business before he and first lady Laura Bush fly back to Washington after 26 days away from the White House.

"While Congress has been on recess, the president has been focused on the priorities of the American people," White House spokesman Scott McClellan said.

"The budget battles of the past should not be relived."