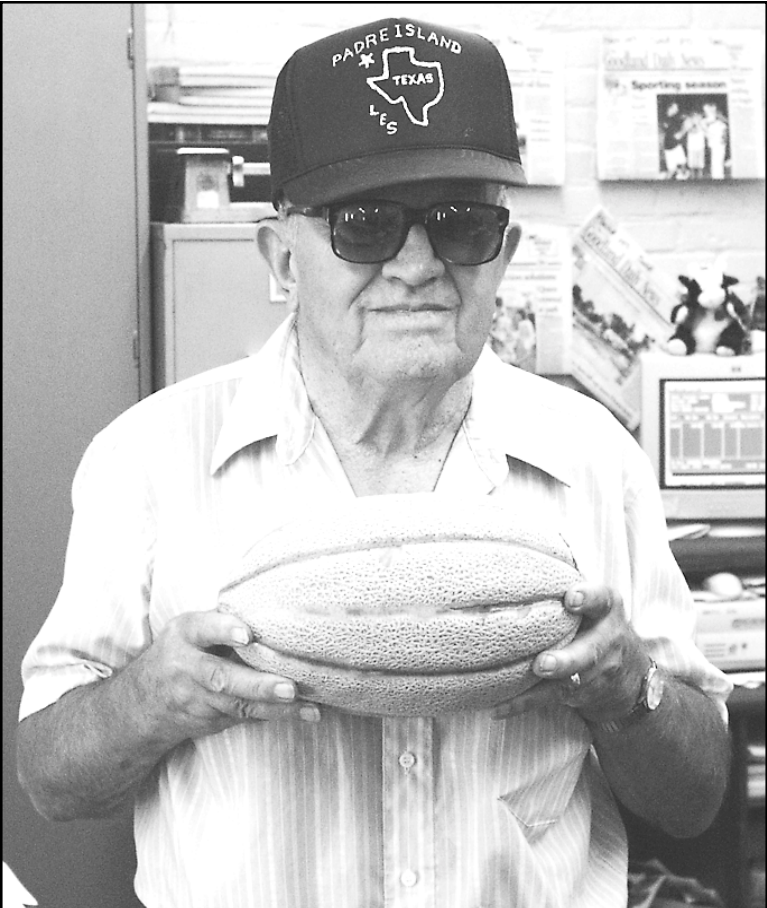


## Lotta melon



Leslie Watkins showed off a 7 1/2 pound cantelope he grew at his home at 403 Cherry in Goodland.  
Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Daily News

# New Cherry Avenue is vast improvement

BUSINESS, from Page 1

ess suffered. “The contractors did a good job,” he said, “and the street looks nice.” He estimated that Grass Roots lost \$50,000 in sales, and that money is gone. The people are starting to come back, he said, but the improvement will not show up in the bank for some time. “I had to drive 4.2 miles out of my way to get here,” Miller said. “The people who designed and engineered this project have tunnel vision.

## Experts offer advice on bite

TOPEKA (AP) — The best way to keep poisonous snakes out of your home, one expert said, is not to give them a reason to come in. “You have to make it unattractive to snakes,” Charles Lee, a wildlife expert with the Kansas State University Extension Office, said Tuesday, a day after a 2-year-old boy was bitten by a small rattlesnake while playing in his basement. “You try to exclude the things that snakes find necessary to live,” Lee said.

# Wyandotte judge resolves his disciplinary case

TOPEKA (AP) — A Wyandotte County district judge who faced sanctions because he allowed an administrative assistant to work as a Kansas Turnpike toll-taker has resolved his disciplinary case. Judge George A. Groneman and the state Commission on Judicial Qualifications agreed to a settlement under which the state Supreme Court would publicly censure the judge. He also would write a letter apologizing to other district judges and urge them to follow personnel rules. He also would repay \$1,048, the amount a complaint said his administrative assistant earned from her court job while she was working for the Kansas Turnpike Authority. The settlement will go to the Su-

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# Avenue vision finally materializes

CHERRY, from Page 1

decide what to do about it. One of those arose in late 1969 when a committee was formed by then Mayor Les Carlton to come up with a plan and do a study to determine the feasibility of a project to straighten Cherry, building a new entrance to Goodland. The project was only supposed to be for a new entrance, Royal Reid, a member of the committee said, but the committee also suggested a baseball dia-

mond west of the new street and a picnic area. The committee worked with McKee Associates, an engineering firm from Colby, Reid said, to come up with a plan to straighten the street and to solve drainage problem. The city commission voted against the plan 3-2, Reid said, citing the expense. The project finally took shape a few years ago when the city commission decided it was time to remove the wye, and construction began earlier this year.

## Employee looks forward to new tasks

COUNTY, from Page 1

job description for the public works post. Way said the landfill should open in October, four years after the old county landfill was closed by the state. Way said he hopes he can handle the responsibility and feels he has learned quite a lot in the past four years as the road and bridge supervisor. The commissioners also agreed to

the purchase of two new track loaders for the landfill and transfer station. Way said the cost would be \$170,774 each from Martin Tractor of Colby. “We will be getting the fencing ready this week and the contractor is to come Monday to begin setting it up,” Way said. “The electrical is mapped out for the poles, but they are not in yet. We are getting closer, and there are a few minor things that remain to be completed before we can actually begin using the

landfill.” Bonnie Selby, county attorney, met with the commissioners about the upcoming property tax sale. She said the number of parcels in the sale has dropped because people have been coming in and paying their back taxes. She said the total is down to about 150. She asked if she should get rebids from the auctioneers based on the lower number of parcels, and the commissioners agreed.

The road closings that frustrated business owners on Cherry began in July at the same time as the railroad viaduct on K-27 on the west side of Goodland was closed for improvements. New approach slabs were installed to smooth the transition from the highway to the viaduct, Donna Binning, construction engineer for the Kansas Department of Transportation said, and the viaduct was repaved. The viaduct opened at 6 a.m. Thursday. The old wye was removed from Cherry and a new section of the avenue

Selby and the commissioners discussed having the county bid in some of the properties to prevent them from going back to the landowners, and from continuing to let the taxes go delinquent. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. The next regular meeting will be 8 a.m. on Tuesday in the commissioner room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, Eighth Street and Broadway Avenue.

# Bush entertains at his first state visit of term

BUSH, from Page 1

whether an agreement would be reached “whether before or after” the timetable outlined by Fox. “We have been working very diligently and would expect our diligent work to continue.” Ashcroft, who had conferred at the White House with his Mexican counterpart, refused to say whether Fox’s morning comments were the first time he had heard of the Mexican timetable. “We can and must reach an agreement,” Fox said in remarks delivered after an elaborate ceremony that featured full military honors and a 21-gun salute. Bush, a former Texas governor, made the point that relations with Mexico are vital to the two countries. “Mexico was the first country I visited as president. Today, it is my privilege to welcome President Fox for the first state visit of my administration,” Bush said. “This is a recognition that the United States has no more important relationship in the world than the one we have with Mexico,” Bush said. “Good

neighbors work together and benefit from each other’s successes.” Administration officials have not talked about timetables for reaching an agreement. On Monday, Fox said he believes four to six years would be a reasonable time frame for reaching a migration agreement with the United States. Bush said on Tuesday he hopes an agreement can come sooner. Bush’s term ends in 2005 and Fox’s in 2006. Secretary of State Colin Powell said Tuesday substantial progress had been made toward agreement on principles and that the two sides were beginning to work on specifics. Bush praised Fox as a “Mexican patriot with a great vision for a great people, a vision of justice and prosperity. Your election signaled a new birth of freedom for Mexico and set an example for the whole world.” After their remarks, Bush met with Fox at the White House along with aides. After a State Department luncheon with Secretary of State Colin Powell serving as host, and meetings

with captains of international finance, Fox will be Bush’s guest at a state dinner in the evening. In comments to reporters on Tuesday, Bush said a sound U.S. foreign policy starts with Mexico. “My foreign policy begins with this simple proposition, but a profound one: The best foreign policy means you’ve got to have a good neighborhood, starts with your own neighborhood,” he said. Fox’s popularity in Mexico, though still high, has been leveling off because of a declining economy and few victories to show for his nine months in office. Bush seemed determined not to let Fox go home with nothing to show for his 62-hour Washington visit. “We’re going to sign a document, there’ll be a statement, there will be all kinds of different subjects that will be covered. ... He (Fox) will be able to go back and tout a unique relationship,” Bush said. At another point, he said: “I will tell you that (Wednesday), you are going to see the maturation of a relationship that is the most cooperative of any re-

lationship between governments in the United States and Mexico in our history.” Both sides favor a change of status for the estimated 3 million Mexican immigrants in the United States and also new policies that would allow large numbers of Mexicans to migrate legally to the United States as temporary workers. The two countries have been working for months on establishing principles for a new system but have yet to discuss in a formal way how many Mexicans would benefit, among other details. Many in Congress are forcefully opposed to leniency toward Mexicans who arrived illegally in the United States. One such critic is Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, who announced Tuesday he will not be a candidate for re-election. Gramm has said he would consent to legalizing undocumented aliens “over my dead political body.” Fox will have a chance to persuade U.S. lawmakers of the need for change when he addresses a joint meeting of Congress on Thursday.

## Newspaper celebrates 100th birthday this week

WELLINGTON (AP) — The Wellington Daily News is celebrating its 100th birthday this week. When Harry L. Woods established the newspaper on Labor Day, Sept. 2, 1901, all type was set by hand and five

carriers delivered the fledgling newspaper. Today, the newspaper is digitally produced through computers, digital cameras, scanners and the Internet. News from The Associated Press is

captured via a telephone dial-in service and the Internet. Woods, a former attorney, was the first of five publishers for The Daily News. When he established it, Wellington was 30 years old and had already had 10 newspapers — all of which eventu-

ally ceased publication. Ownership of the newspaper passed to John W. Berkebile in 1947; to Stewart and Margaret Newlin in 1953; to Jack and Jeanne Mitchell in 1965, and to Liberty Group Publishing — a nationwide chain of newspapers — in 1998.

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