

The Goodland Daily News

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Eight Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

64°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 6:05 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:38 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:06 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 34 degrees
• Humidity 21 percent
• Sky clear
• Winds calm
• Barometer 29.80 inches and falling

• Record High 87° (1988)
• Record Low -3° (1931)

Last 24 Hours*

High 52°
Low 16°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, low mid 30s, winds northwest 10-20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: mostly sunny, high mid 60s, low lower 30s, winds northwest 10-20 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Friday: mostly sunny, high near 60. Saturday: partly cloudy, high near 60, low mid 30s. Sunday: mostly clear, high lower 60s, low lower 30s. Monday: mostly clear, high 60s. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.64 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.54
New Crop — \$2.64
Corn — \$1.87 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.84
Loan deficiency payment — 15¢
Milo — \$1.58 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.05 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.01
Loan deficiency payment — 91¢
Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.10 cwt.
Nu Sun — \$9.25
Loan deficiency pmt. — 17¢
Confection current — \$16/\$8 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$27
(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.

Bush signs campaign bill

GREENVILLE, S.C. — Without fanfare, President Bush signed landmark campaign finance legislation today as he opened an aggressive multimillion-dollar fundraising swing. Within hours, multiple lawsuits challenged the new law.

"This legislation, although far from perfect, will improve the current financing system for federal campaigns," Bush said in a written statement released after White House aides telephoned bill sponsors with news of the signing.

Here, on the first stop of his quick swing through South Carolina and Georgia gathering \$3 million for Republican candidates, Bush denied that his low-key enactment of the bill was any kind of statement on his ambivalence toward it.

"I wouldn't have signed it if I was really unhappy with it."

County won't take city's trash

Garbage service halted for day

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

Blame it on the sheet rock. The Sherman County landfill supervisor refused to accept trash from the city Tuesday after finding wallboard, metal and construction debris in a load, leaving the city with full trucks and no place to dump them.

That prompted a round of emergency meetings of city and county commissioners which eventually resulted in a truce. For a while, though, the city said it would stop hauling trash.

About 10 a.m. Tuesday, Margaret Russell, landfill and transfer station supervisor for the county, rejected a city truck at the county landfill. With the approval of Curt Way, county manager of public works, Russell said the landfill would not accept any more trucks from the city until the loads were sorted.



The county pulled two dumpsters worth of sheetrock and construction debris from city trash loads Monday and Tuesday before refusing to accept unsorted loads later in the day.

Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

The city had two trucks full of trash with nowhere to put it. An emergency city commission meeting was called at

noon, where a motion was passed to halt service until the city could find a place to dump the trash.

County commissioners held a meet-

ing at 3 p.m. and a joint city/county meeting was called at 4 p.m. The commissioners left the joint meeting with no long-term solutions, but did express willingness to work together. The city resumed trash pick-up today and the county opened the landfill early at 7:30 a.m. so the city could catch up.

The county agreed to accept city loads if the city would supply workers to help separate the trash. The city agreed put an extra person on each truck.

Both sides agreed it was only a stop-gap solution.

Russell said construction debris and metal is routinely pulled from the city's trash. Last week, she said, out of 107,000 pounds dumped on the floor at the transfer station, 1,880 pounds of construction and 640 pounds of metal were separated. She said this is about average.

The separated waste was put in dumpsters at the station, which were emptied on Friday. The city loads on Monday and the first load on Tuesday filled two construction dumpsters, and

half-filled two dumpsters for metal, Russell said.

She called her supervisor, Way, and they decided not to accept any more city loads until they were sorted, fulfilling a long-standing threat by the county. Russell turned away the next city truck which came up to dump.

"We're not trying to be spiteful," Way said. "There is an excessive amount of mixed waste in the trash stream, and it is interfering with our ability to do our jobs."

At the joint meeting, City Commissioner Curtis Hurd told the county commissioners he thought the situation was "a lot of hullabaloo over a small amount of contamination. We're talking not even 2 percent here."

"Should we just ignore the rules and regulations?" County Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked.

"It just seems this is a lot of quibbling over a very small item," Hurd said.

City Commissioner Dean Blume said he understands some items

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Bird City bank sale finished

First National adds a seventh branch

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

First National Bank of Goodland took control of the Security State Bank of Bird City on Friday, adding another branch to the six the 116-year-old bank already has across northwest Kansas and southeast Colorado.

"Oh yeah, we're excited about it," said Claudette Bear, vice-president of the new First National branch. The actual merger has been in the works for several months, she said, but there's been talk about it for years.

Claudette and her husband Kermit, who has been named manager of the Bird City location, had worked at the main Goodland office. Kermit is an executive vice president of First National and Claudette is a vice-president. She said they both were loan officers in Goodland.

Martin J. Burton, former manager of Security State in Bird City, is staying on as senior vice-president at the new branch.

Claudette said she and Kermit have moved to Cheyenne County and are looking forward to their new jobs. She said they are also looking forward to moving into a new bank.

She said First National is building a new bank at 210 Bird Avenue, across the street from the old location. She said the bank's five employees will continue working in the old building until the new bank is finished this summer.

"It can't come soon enough," she said.

Mrs. Bear added that one of the Bird City bank's employees is now working in the Goodland office.

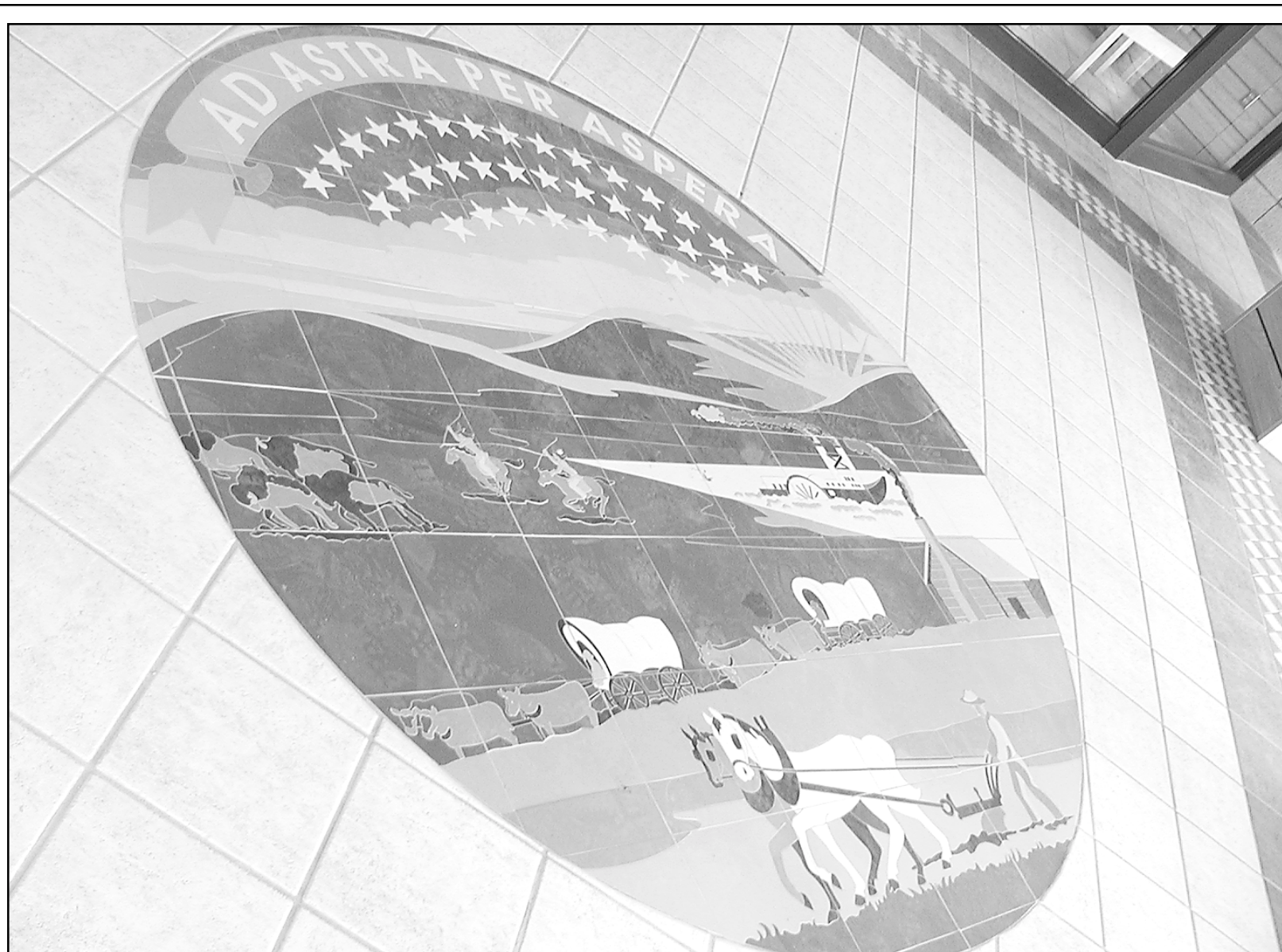
First National can trace its roots back to the Sherman County Bank, which opened in 1886 in Eustis — a city that fought with Goodland over the county seat designation. After the bank moved to Goodland and survived many name and ownership changes, it became First National in Dec. 1901 and started growing in 1933 following a few shaky years.

The employee-owned bank now has branches in Bird City, Colby, Oberlin, Quinter, Sharon Springs, St. Francis and Kirk, Colo. Not including the Bird City branch, the bank has \$330 million in assets, making it the second largest agricultural bank in Kansas after Intrust Bank of Wichita.

Before the acquisition, First National was ranked 31st among the 384 banks with charters in Kansas.

The bank merged with First National Bank of Kanorado in 1934, People's State Bank of Sharon Springs in March 1991, Cheyenne County State Bank of

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The Kansas state seal is on the floor right inside the door at the new tourist and travel center 10 miles west of Goodland on I-70. The center

is expected to open the first of April if the weather stays nice.

Photos by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Updated tourist center near done

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

After a year of work and waiting, a new tourist information center 10 miles west of Goodland is almost ready to open its doors.

"We're hoping April 1, if the weather cooperates," said Julia Crotinger, supervisor of the center, gesturing at fresh snow on the ground outside. "Of course, you never know."

The Kansas Department of Transportation has been building the new center ever since the old buildings were closed a year ago, Crotinger said. She and her crew have been operating out of a trailer in a parking lot on K-27 south of I-70.

"It's been a long winter in that trailer house," she said.

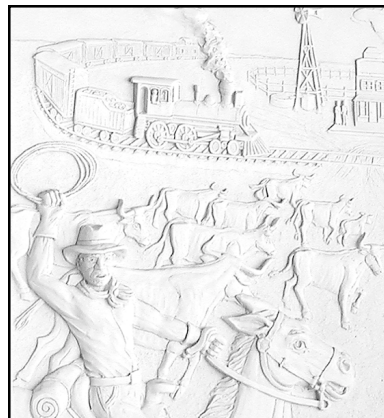
The center is at mile 7 on the east-bound (south) side of the Interstate. To get to it from Goodland, a driver has to go to Kanorado and turn back.

The new center replaces a few buildings put up in the early 1980s in the same location, Crotinger said, adding that the department simply outgrew the old center.

"It was really small," she said. "The old building would probably fit in just the information section of this new building."

The budget for the building was \$1.6 million, Crotinger said.

"I haven't seen any final figures,"



One of several relief sculptures depicting Kansas history on a wall at the new tourist center.

she said, "but you don't go much over on a state budget."

The center is run by the Division of Travel and Tourism Development of the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing.

On the Interstate, Crotinger said the center should average 150,000 to 170,000 visitors a year, which is only a third of what the Department of Transportation says pauses at the rest area. At the trailer, only about 30,000 to 40,000 people have stopped in the last year.

Crotinger said the center should help pump money into the state's

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Contractors of Gray Landscaping Service, Ulysses, have completed grass seeding at the new Kansas Tourist Information Center, located off Interstate 70 east of Kanorado. In May, the contractor will lay sod in front of the building.

Photo by Eric Yonkey/The Goodland Daily News