

The Goodland Daily News

Volume 70, Number 120

Eight Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

92°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:16 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.
• Sunset, 8:16 p.m.

Midday Conditions

Extreme fire danger

- Soil Temperature 80 degrees
- Humidity 26 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds west 14-20 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.78 inches and steady
- Record High 104° (1936)
- Record Low 44° (1985)

Last 24 Hours*

High 102°
Low 65°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly cloudy with 50 percent chance of rain, low upper 60s, winds south 10-20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: partly sunny with 30 percent chance of rain, high mid 80s, low mid 60s, winds east 10-20 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Friday: partly sunny with 20 percent chance of rain, high lower 90s, low upper 60s, breezy.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

- Wheat — \$2.80 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.75
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Corn — \$1.88 bushel
- Posted county price — \$1.85
- Loan deficiency payment — 14¢
- Milo — \$1.58 bushel
- Soybeans — \$4.25 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.37
- Loan deficiency payment — 29¢
- Millet — \$4.25 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$10.35 cwt.
- NuSun — \$10.50 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — \$0.00
- Confection current — inquire
- 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.

Bomber kills seven on street

JERUSALEM — A suicide bomber jumped out of a car, dashed past two policemen and ran to a bus stop before blowing himself up and killing at least seven other people today, according to police and rescue workers. More than 35 people were wounded.

The blast in northern Jerusalem came hours after an Israeli announcement it would gradually reoccupy Palestinian areas until terrorism stops. The Israeli decision, seen by some as another step toward toppling Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and his Palestinian Authority, was a response to a suicide bombing on a Jerusalem bus on Tuesday in which 19 Israelis were killed.

President Bush decided to hold off revealing his plan for Palestinian statehood. Officials said a presidential announcement would unlikely have a positive impact.

Firm proposes leasing landfill

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Representatives of U.S. Waste Industries of Colorado Springs met with the Sherman County commissioners on Tuesday to ask if the county would be interested in leasing the transfer station and landfill on a 10-year basis.

Victor DiVello, president of the company, said they were interested in handling the city's trash collection system, and leasing the county landfill as part of the project.

DiVello had presented the city commission a proposal on Monday to purchase all the city equipment and dumpsters for about \$400,000 and they would operate the collection system. The presentation was based on the idea that the monthly total charge to a residential customer would be about \$24, and included in that is the monthly portion of the county's solid waste fee.

DiVello told the county commissioners he did not have all the figures together on the landfill operation, and that these would be delivered to the county in a few days. He said the company has landfills in Colorado Springs and Pueblo, Colo., and operates from Raton, N.M. to Denver.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said the county might be interested in doing something with the new landfill, but they're not in any hurry.

"We are beginning to see what it costs to operate, and it looks like the revenue is not going to be as high as we projected," Rasure said. "We are not real excited at this time."

"I am sure there is always some interest," Commissioner Mitch Tiede

County roundup

During their meeting Tuesday, the Sherman County Commissioners:

- Encouraged an economic development group and awaits resolution from them. Story to come.
- Heard a proposal from a waste company about leasing the transfer station and landfill. Story at left.
- Listened to proposals from the extension council, development services and alcohol and drug abuse boards for budget increases from county. Story to come.

said, "but we are not actively seeking to sell the system at this time."

Commission Chairman Chuck Frankenfeld said the county was interested in seeing what the city was doing, and wondered if the county said "no," would the company haul the trash to Colorado Springs?

DiVello said he did not know if they would haul it to Colorado Springs, but that they have a 70 year life in each of their landfills. He said it would be a better operation if they had both the city collection and the county transfer station and landfill.

"We can hopefully make it a very good operation," he said.

When questioned about the future use of the landfill, DiVello said the

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Car thieves didn't get far this morning

Two Hispanic men who allegedly stole a white station wagon in Goodland this morning didn't get far, as a Burlington police officer caught them on Hwy. 24 about 30 minutes after the car was reported stolen.

Goodland police say at 8:55 a.m. Zachary Hilty, 18, Goodland, reported his 1987 Chevrolet station wagon had been taken from Total gas station at 2710 Commerce Road.

Burlington Police Chief Randy Milburn said officers there heard about 9:04 a.m. that the car had been stolen. He said police officer Kevin Siler and a sheriff's deputy were dispatched to look for the stolen vehicle.

Milburn said Siler spotted the station wagon driving west into Burlington on Hwy. 24 and stopped the car on 10th and Wyoming at 9:34 a.m., exactly 30 minutes after the report came in.

"That worked out just perfect," he said.

Milburn said both of the men in the car were arrested and are being held in Burlington for possession of stolen property. He said the station wagon has been impounded.

Milburn said he believes both of the men are in their late 20s and are from Denver, but officers haven't gotten much information from them because neither speaks English.

Hundreds flee fires; plane crash reviewed

By Tom Gardner

Associated Press Writer

Hundreds more people were forced to flee wildfires that have charred nearly a half-million acres across the West as the owner of an air tanker that suddenly broke up and plunged to the ground said the plane had been repaired four years ago for cracks on one wing.

Investigators on Tuesday tried to learn what caused the air tanker's wings to snap off before the fuselage spiraled into the ground in the Sierra Nevada town of Walker, Calif.

All three crew members were killed in the fiery explosion, a signal of how dangerous the fire season might be this year. The crash resulted in the grounding of all C-130A firefighting aircraft in the United States.

"At the start of the drop, everything appeared normal," said George Petterson, an investigator with the National Transportation Safety Board, who added that he'd never heard of such a double wing failure happening to a C-130A before.

The crash occurred as air tankers and helicopters were helping more than 700 firefighters on the ground battle a Sierra foothills fire that by today had blackened at least 15,000 acres and threatened

ened the rustic mountain hamlet of Walker. The blaze was one of many fires burning in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming and Utah that have charred nearly a half-million acres of paper-dry forest and brush. Thousands of people have been forced to flee and more than 60 homes have been destroyed, most of them in Colorado.

Federal forest officials say more than 1.5 million acres have burned across the country in 2002 — nearly twice the 10-year average for this time of year.

In Colorado, about 2,000 people were forced to evacuate Tuesday as a fire southwest of Denver grew to more than 120,000 acres. With the new evacuations, 7,500 people remained away from their homes. Because the fire grew by about 7,000 acres, the percentage of containment was lowered from 47 percent to 40 percent.

The fire, the largest of three major Colorado fires that burned more than 175,000 acres of forest and brush, was allegedly set by Forest Service worker Terry Barton, who faces charges in federal court. Her claim that she started the fire while burning a letter from her estranged husband has raised suspicion among prosecutors.



Lexi David, 10, and Raquel Tomsic, 5, cleaned up at the water pump in front of the Carnegie Arts Center on Tuesday after making "living rocks." The activity was part of the center's summer art program.

Photos by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Children create 'living rocks'

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Twenty-eight children prepared to bring rocks to life Tuesday afternoon on the Carnegie Art Center's front lawn.

They sunk their arms up to their elbows in large plastic jars filled with gooey mud and then poured the mixture into plastic bags, using their little hands to form it into the shape of a rock. They laid the rocks in the sun to dry, and next week they'll come back to cover their creations with moss.

Christie Rasure, director of the project, said the kids were creating what's called "living rocks." She said the activity is part of the center's summer art program.

The children made the rocks, Rasure said, by mixing peat moss, perlite (the white beads in potting soil), polymer fibers and cement with water.

After the rocks are cured, she said, the kids will cover them with a mixture of living moss and buttermilk and will be able to watch the moss grow. She said the creations will make good garden decorations.

Rasure, an avid gardener, said she got the idea while watching the Home and Garden network. The activity has never been done before during the art program, she said.

"I wanted to do something different," Rasure said.

At first, the children used wooden stir sticks to mix the rock material, but then several decided it was easier to just use their hands. A group discussed the pros and cons of abandoning the stir sticks.

"Use your hands," Lexi David, 10,



Shayley Miller, 7, used her hands to mix material used to make the living rocks.

toled another little boy. "It feels good."

"But then I'll have to wash them," he said.

"So," she responded, "you'll have to wash them anyway."

Rachel Hageman, 7, said she was looking forward to growing plants on her rock and putting it in her room at

home.

Sloan Ruhs, 8, said he planned to put his rock in his garden at home next to the sunflowers, strawberries, watermelon, cucumbers and onions. He said he enjoyed the activity.

Why? "Ummm, it's fun."

Woman shares memories at center

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

During the 25 years she has worked at the Good Samaritan Center, Karen Hickson said she has enjoyed meeting residents and staff members who have come and gone and watching the center grow and change.

Someone recently asked her if the time has flown by. Looking back, she said, it's really hard to say.

"It seems like it has," Hickson said, "but yet it hasn't. I know as you grow older time goes faster and faster."

One thing is for sure. The 53-year-old has accumulated a large collection of memories during her time at the center, 208 W. Second.

She will probably recall some of those on Friday at a party the Good Samaritan staff is throwing to celebrate her 25th anniversary of working at the center. Hickson's friends, family and former co-workers are invited to the celebration, which will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the center.

Hickson, a Goodland native, has worked at the center longer than any other employee there now and staff members can remember only one other former employee who reached the 25-year mark.

Hickson said she was 28 when she started working at the center, which opened in 1962. At first, she said, she worked part-time as a nurse's aide, but switched to full-time after her three children entered school.

Back then, Hickson said, only one or two aides were on the floor at a time, but now there are five or six as the center has grown. Over the years, she said, two wings, a dining room and a garage have been added and other areas have been remodeled.

At one time or another, Hickson said, she has worked all three shifts at the center. She said she was working the night shift while the new wings were being built and her and another nurse's aide would go outside during breaks to try to figure out what would go where in the new additions.

Equipment at the center used to help care for residents has become more

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