

weather report

90°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:16 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:28 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:16 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 79 degrees

• Humidity 36 percent

• Sky sunny

• Winds south 13 m.p.h.

• Barometer 30.21 inches

and falling

• Record High 104° (1985)

• Record Low 42° (1952)

Last 24 Hours*

High 89°

Low 60°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: clear, low mid 60s, winds south 10 m.p.h.

Tomorrow: sunny, high near 100, low mid 60s, winds southeast 10 m.p.h., 30 percent chance of rain in the evening.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: partly sunny with 30 percent chance of thunderstorms, high lower 90s, low lower 60s.

Thursday: partly cloudy with chance of thunderstorms after noon.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.13 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.05

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$2.11 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.15

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Milo — \$1.77 bushel

Soybeans — \$4.81 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.01

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Millet — \$4.25 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$10.85 cwt.

NuSun — \$11.05 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

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.

Arizona fires

fully contained

PHOENIX — The largest wild-fire in Arizona history is now fully contained and firefighters have started moving on to other blazes, while homeowners returned after long evacuations are coping with the aftermath.

"When you get home, there's a tremendous amount of adjustment after something like this. You're still exhausted and you don't realize the mental and emotional strain this takes out of you," said Mel Coleman, whose home in Linden survived the fire.

"You just sort of break down emotionally, just knowing that your home is safe, that everything you worked for is still intact," said Coleman.

After starting in two locations on June 18 and June 20 and burning across 468,638 acres of eastern Arizona forest, the blaze was declared fully contained on Sunday.

Budget meeting tonight

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland City Commission will be talking about how to spend the city's money next year starting at 5 p.m. tonight at the city administration building.

City Manager Ron Pickman has met with department heads, gone over budget worksheets and looked over numbers from previous years. The next step is a budget workshop, and the public is encouraged to show up.

"If anyone has anything they would like to say," Pickman said, "this would be a good time to do it, while the commissioners are still formulating the plan."

Last year, the commissioners heard complaints about a hike in the property tax after the budget had already been put together.

"We would much rather hear people's thoughts while we are still talking about it," Pickman said, "rather than after the fact."

This year it doesn't look like taxes will go up, Pickman said, unless the commissioners decide the city needs more money. There aren't any big plans on the board right now for next year, he said, but the commission might take on a few projects.

"That's something we'll have to talk about," he said.

During a workshop, the commission can't set policies or make decisions, Pickman said. It is a semi-formal way for the commissioners to get together and talk about what direction the budget should take. Anytime the commissioners get together to talk about city business, though, the meeting is open to the public, except under specific circumstances, such as personnel issues or a pending lawsuit.

Tonight, after Pickman gives a general overview of the budget, librarian Janet Warren will speak to the commission about the Goodland Public Library, and Public Works Manager Ed Wolak will talk about utility funds.

On Tuesday, the heads of the High Plains Museum, police department, fire department, building inspection and public works will talk about their operations.

The commissioners will ask about costs, operations, special projects and future needs, Pickman said. The department heads have already filled out budget worksheets, estimating what they will need for the year.

The workshop is scheduled for 5 p.m. tonight and Tuesday, ending when the commissioners decide they have done enough. If everything isn't finished by Tuesday, Thursday will be a wrap-up day. Pickman said the commissioners told him they would rather stay late Monday and Tuesday than come in Thursday.

The commission will hold a budget hearing Monday, Aug. 5, and is expected to approve a budget then. It won't become final until it is certified by the county clerk on Friday, Aug. 26.

Sunday summer fun ...



SUNDAY AFTERNOON WAS HOT AND SUNNY, but people didn't seem to mind too much as they found ways to play in the sun and enjoy the day. A brisk game of Hide and Seek was going on at the Topside Territory (above), where Janee Nelson, 9, who was 'it', waited for brother Michael, 13, to make his move. The Nelson and Collett grandchildren were being watched by their grandmother Marilyn. Others playing were Jonathan Collett, 14, Michael Collett, 12, Christopher Nelson, 14, and Crystal Nelson, 7. In nearby West Side Park (right), Sonya Garza, 6, was having fun batting the tennis balls being pitched by her grandfather, Jose Perez. Steever Water Park (above right) was doing a bustling business, and Lee Villarreal, 24, found the water slide a great way to cool off.

Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News



County trying to save stock car races

Sherman County commissioners, at their meeting at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, plan to discuss what to do about demand meter charges at the county fairgrounds and how to handle situations where farmers are plowing and planting county rights of way.

Members of the Sherman County Racing Association appeared at the last meeting and then attended a city commission meeting on July 1 to seek some understanding and possibly some help dealing with the large electric bills hitting them this year.

Ed Wolak, city public works director, told the county commissioners at their last meeting in June that a demand meter

has been in place at the fairgrounds for many years, but that until this year the city has been subsidizing the bill. He suggested the best thing the county could do was to change out the lights at the arena and track so they use less power.

Commissioners Kevin Rasure and Mitch Tiede attended the city meeting on July 1, and asked the commissioners if there was anything that could be done about the high bills because they were afraid they would cause the racing association to fold, and they put a burden on the county fair board.

The city commissioners said they understood the problem, but did not see anything that they could do unless

maybe make a donation to the racing group to help pay the electric costs.

Changing out the lights would cost the county about \$4,000. Trent Blythe, of B and B Electric told the commissioners it could probably cut the demand coast by a third.

At the June 28 meeting, county commissioners received a complaint from a citizen about a farmer who was plowing into the county right-of-way and even into the road. The commissioners adjourned and drove out to view the situation. They plan to ask to County Attorney Bonnie Selby what they can do to stop this from happening.

The commissioners also will discuss:

- A policy dealing with employee requests for access to personnel files.
- A request from the Goodland Chamber of Commerce for a donation for the fireworks.
- Signing of grant documents for the Sherman County Health Department.
- Hold a closed session with Sheriff Doug Whitson and former Deputy Art Lovington, who was fired recently.
- Hold another closed session with Mary Messamore, county communications director, on a personnel matter.

The commissioners meet in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, 813 Broadway Ave.

Hospital gets \$9,000 for children from Wal-Mart foundation

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Regional Medical Center got almost \$9,000 from the Children's Miracle Network, the first time a hospital not partnered with the foundation has received money directly from it.

Terre Johnson, vice-president of the foundation, was in town at the end of June to present the \$8,780 check to Dale Schields, the hospital's director of human resources, along with Brad Koza, Goodland Wal-Mart manager, and Dolly Irvin, Wal-Mart support manager.

The money, which will be used to care for children, was collected at Wal-Mart through donations by customers, something the store has done for years, Johnson said. Usually the money goes to a foundation-supported hospital in Wichita, he said, to be used to help patients from Sherman County.

Wal-Mart employees across the country wanted the donations to go di-



Schields



Johnson

rectly to local hospitals, he said, and Goodland's was the first because it already has a good relationship with the store.

"I came out one time to talk about a project," Johnson said, "and Dale Schields was already there, talking about another community project. I thought, 'Wow. This would be a good place to get this program started.' It wouldn't have been the first if a good relationship did not already exist."

The foundation is trying to set up the

program with hospitals in Colby, Hays and other Kansas cities, Johnson said.

Schields said he wasn't sure what the hospital was going to do with the money.

"We've never had an amount of this size just for pediatrics," he said.

"What a great problem to have," Johnson replied.

Johnson said he would send some guidelines to the hospital on how it can spend the money. The money could be

used to send a sick or injured child to a larger hospital, or to help the parents with travel expenses, he said.

"Just remember, you are going to have to set some kind of limits," he said. "With a surgery, or any kind of care, \$5,000 can go in about 30 seconds."

Schields said the money would give the hospital a chance to do things it hadn't budgeted for.

"This gives us the opportunity to do what we can to save a life," he said.

Short re-elected as board president

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

At its first meeting of the fiscal year Tuesday, the Goodland School Board reorganized, electing officers, making appointments and deciding where to put school money.

Dick Short was elected as board president for the eighth year in a row

and Kathy Russell was named vice-president for the third year. Short also served as president for a few years in the 1980s.

The board decided to continue meeting at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, adopted a 1,116-hour school calendar, set lunch and breakfast prices and approved text-

books selected by the curriculum council committee.

Members voted to have the district checking account at First National Bank, activity accounts at Bankwest and First National and to invest idle funds at Bankwest and First National.