



Odd addresses can water lawns today.

Odd addresses can water Monday, Thursday, even Tuesday, Friday, for three hours each day. No watering on Wednesdays and weekends.

THURSDAY

August 22
2002

50¢

The Goodland Daily News

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Twenty Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

82°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:34 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:07 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:33 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 80 degrees
- Humidity 45 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds northwest 8 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.15 inches and rising
- Record High 102° (1938)
- Record Low 45° (1945)

Last 24 Hours*

High 78°
Low 64°
Precipitation .02

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy with 40 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 60-65, winds east 10 m.p.h. Tomorrow: partly sunny with 30 percent chance of thunderstorms, high mid 80s, low near 60.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: cloudy with 30 percent chance of thunderstorms, high lower 80s, low upper 50s. Sunday: partly cloudy, high upper 80s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$3.51 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.46
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Corn — \$2.49 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.42
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Milo — \$2.24 bushel
- Soybeans — \$5.01 bushel
- Posted county price — \$5.07
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Millet — \$10.00 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$11.60 cwt.
- Oil new crop — \$11.00 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Confection current — inquire
- Pinto beans — \$25

(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.

Guilty verdict relieves city

SANDIEGO — The guilty verdicts against a neighbor in the abduction and slaying of 7-year-old Danielle van Dam brought some relief to a city that has been shocked and mesmerized for months by the high-profile kidnapping.

"I wanted to cry. I'm glad that they found somebody guilty and that we can all rest and feel a little more safe," said Vicki Sanders, who lives in the same neighborhood that was home to both the van Dams and David Westerfield.

It was a sentiment echoed by many others throughout San Diego after jurors found Westerfield guilty Wednesday of kidnapping.

New system to find abducted kids

By John Milburn

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — Kansas plans to launch a statewide Amber Alert system on Oct. 1, to become one of a dozen states with a method for locating and recovering abducted children.

A 30-member task force formed by Attorney General Carla Stovall has been meeting since March to get the program operating. It is a partnership between the attorney general, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, Kansas Highway Patrol, local law enforcement and the Kansas

Association of Broadcasters.

Stovall made the system one of her initiatives as she completed her term this spring as president of the National Association of Attorneys General. "I really thought it would take more to get it going, but that's not been the case," said Stovall, whose term in state office ends in January.

Stovall said Kansas had been working on the system long before a spate of child abductions gained national media attention during the summer.

She cited the recent successful rescue of two

California teenagers as proof the system works.

"There's no question we have a lot media attention," said Stovall, pointing to the reporters present at Wednesday's meeting. "Partnering with the media makes our job a lot easier."

Under the system, alerts will be broadcast much like severe weather alerts, using the Emergency Alert System that is activated when a tornado or other severe storm is imminent. The decision to activate the alert will be made when authorities determine that a missing child has met the criteria established by the 30-member task force.

The system was first implemented in Arlington, Texas, after the 1996 abduction and murder of 9-year-old Amber Hagerman. Nationwide, the alerts are credited with helping rescue at least 26 children since 1996, most in the past two years as more state and local systems have come online.

Amber Alert systems are already being used in Wichita, Topeka and the Kansas City metropolitan areas. Training for the statewide program will begin Sept. 6, with a series of news conferences

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Giving shelter



Terry Baker, owner of Terry Baker Construction, and his son Dusty were putting a new roof on a home at 605 College this morning.
Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Woman killed in car accident

A 43-year-old Sherman County woman died early this morning after she was thrown from her pickup during a rollover accident on K-27 south of Goodland.

A state Highway Patrol trooper said at 5:15 a.m. Diane Tompkins was southbound in a 1998 Ford pickup on K-27 about 7 miles south of Goodland.

At the point where K-27 curves to the east, Tompkins reportedly drifted off onto the west shoulder, turned to get back on the road, lost control and rolled the pickup into the west ditch. After

rolling an undetermined amount of

times, the pickup landed on its wheels. The patrol said Tompkins was not wearing a seat belt and was thrown from the pickup during the rollover. Her body was taken to Bateman Funeral Home in Goodland.

Tompkins, who recently moved here from Colorado, lived with her parents, Tommy and Viola, about two miles southeast of where the accident happened.

The highway patrol is still investigating the cause of the accident.

Donut shop plans to open downtown

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

A new donut shop is planning to open in Goodland — one of several new eateries making plans to open here this year.

Selena Lee and James Wilson, owners of Daylight Donuts in Colby, are expanding into downtown Goodland and plan to open up a franchise store in time for the Flatlander Festival in late September.

Harold and Mary Ann Snethen opened Picnic in the Park, a Chester Fried Chicken franchise, in July on Main, and Kendall and Jacque Cooper plan to open a Taco John's in October or November on Commerce Road just north of the Goodland Sinclair station.

A sign on the old Steiner's Drive-In on 17th Street promises that "Baldemiro's" Mexican food restaurant will open soon, and over the past week the building has been painted yellow with red trim.

The new Daylight Donuts would be competing with existing Carol Lee Donuts. One of the new donut shop owners said she isn't worried and thinks there is a place for another donut shop in Goodland.

"There is a good opportunity there," she said. "We've been planning to open a store in Goodland for about two years, and we're just now getting the opportunity."

The shop at 1222 Main will be a dis-

play store, Lee said, and while donuts and coffee will be sold there, the pastries will be made in Colby and driven over every morning.

"My husband is very picky and won't let anyone else make the donuts," she said. "He has been with Daylight Donuts for 12 years, and he makes a very good product."

She said she's not sure what hours the store will keep, but it will at least be open from 6 to 11 a.m.

"Hopefully, it will be longer than that," Lee said. "We'll stay open as long as people are buying donuts."

The store in Colby sells cappuccino, hot chocolate and juices, but Lee said she'll have to wait and see what will sell in Goodland. The franchise allows them to experiment with the type of donuts they make.

"We'll move things in a little a time and see what takes," she said.

Lee said she'll be at the store when it first opens up, and later will alternate days with an employee in Colby who will become the store's assistant manager.

"We'll need help from Goodland, too," she said. "We'd hate to drive over from Colby and do it all by ourselves every day."

People in Goodland asked the couple to open a store in Goodland, Lee said, and helped the couple get started. Steve

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Little rain won't end drought

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Thunderstorms dropped about .02 of an inch of rain on Goodland Wednesday night and this morning, bringing the total rainfall amount so far this year to 5.69 inches, which is about 10 inches below the normal level for this time of year.

Scott Lockhart, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service office in Goodland, said other areas in Sherman County may have gotten more or less moisture than what the service mea-

sured at the airport.

Still, he said, all of northwest Kansas is classified as being in exceptional drought, which is the highest level of drought there is. And, he said, he doesn't see Sherman County catching up on rainfall later this year.

"It doesn't look favorable at this point," he said, noting that Goodland has only received .077 of an inch of rain so far this month, which is more than an inch below the normal level.

Lockhart said rain began falling about 9:30 p.m. Wednesday night, last-

ing until about 10 p.m. It started up again, he said, about 6 a.m. this morning, lasting for about an hour.

More rain is expected today, he said, with a 20 percent chance for moisture this afternoon and 40 percent chance for tonight.

While it has been exceptionally dry and hot through this spring and summer, Lockhart said, the weather pattern has shifted a little, bringing more rain and cooler weather to Sherman County.

"Storms are tracking through the area instead of around the area," he said.

Thief causes damage at restaurant

Somebody broke into Picnic in the Park late Sunday or early Monday, getting away with about \$20 in change and causing about \$150 in damage.

Harold Snethen, who owns the Chester Fried Chicken franchise with his wife Mary Ann, said he left the store at 1016 Main Avenue about 3 p.m. Sun-

day afternoon and found the back door damaged Monday morning.

The door was pried open, he said, and the door knob was destroyed. A bathroom window frame in the back also was damaged, Snethen said, and it looked like someone had tried to get in through there before trying the door.

The money was taken from a petty cash bag in a desk, Snethen said, but nothing else was stolen. There was a vacuum cleaner and other equipment sitting outside the back door which wasn't touched, he said.

"It looks like they were just after money," he said.

Commissioners to buy sign for new waste collection facility

First collection set for mid-September

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The Sherman County commissioners on Tuesday approved buying a new sign for the household hazardous waste facility being set up at 1860 Cherry.

Crystal Linsner, who heads the county program, told the commissioners she had a bid from Hot Brush for \$385 and from Goodwin Signs for \$350. The commissioners approved the bid from Goodwin.

Linsner asked for permission to see about purchasing a gate to be put on the area south of the building, and the commissioners suggested she contact

Orscheln and Frontier Equity about the gates.

She said she is going to advertise for volunteers to help with the first collection, which will be 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 14. People can bring old half-filled paint cans, fuel, nail polish, cleaners and other household waste products for disposal.

Linsner said a couple of people from Ellis County will be coming with the big trailer to help, but there is a need for several volunteers to help check the material in. She said people who are interested can call her at (785) 899-4800.

The commissioners asked if Linsner had found anyone to take old oil, and she said calls are in to several places in Goodland that might take the old oil. However, if no one is interested, then

oil will not be accepted on the collection day.

"The problem with old oil is finding someone who can use it or can haul it to a place where it could be recycled," she said.

After the commission meeting, Linsner and William McKnight met with Fire Chief Dean Jensen and Jerry Nemechek, city building official, at the new facility to review things that need to be done before the upcoming collection.

Jensen recommended installation of a couple of fire-rated doors and covering a hole in the ceiling to isolate the area from the rest of the building which the county did not rent.

Nemechek mentioned several cracks

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Crystal Linsner (center) head of the household hazardous waste program and William McKnight (left) county building maintenance supervisor, stood in front of new cabinets and listened as Jerry Nemechek gave recommendations.
Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News