

weather
report

57°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 7:40 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:46 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:41 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 58 degrees
- Humidity 55 percent
- Sky mostly clear
- Winds light and variable
- Barometer 29.99 inches and falling

- Record High 94° (1965)
- Record Low 23° (1967)

Last 24 Hours*

High 64°
Low 43°
Precipitation none

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: mostly cloudy with 30 percent showers and thunderstorms until midnight, high upper 60s, low mid 40s, winds south 10-20 m.p.h. Saturday: mostly cloudy, high near 70, low lower 40s.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: mostly cloudy with chance of showers and thunderstorms from noon on, windy, high upper 60s. Monday: mostly cloudy then becoming partly cloudy, windy, high mid 60s, low lower 40s. Tuesday: partly cloudy becoming mostly cloudy.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.05 bushel
New crop — \$2.68 bushel
Corn — \$2.37 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.21
Milo — \$0.00 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.81 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.65
Millet — \$6 hundredweight
New crop — \$5.50
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.10 cwt.
Oil new crop — \$9.70 cwt.
NuSun — \$9/50 cwt.
NuSun new crop — \$10.10
Confection — \$17/\$7 cwt.
New Crop — \$17/\$10 cwt.
Pinto beans — withdrawn
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside
today

More local
news and
views from
your
Goodland
Star-News



Cowgirls
on the road

The Cowgirls continue playing hard as the softball season moved into the final weeks. Tuesday, the Cowgirls hosted Ulysses, but lost both games. The girls traveled to Holcomb for games Thursday.

For a wrapup of the junior varsity and more photos see Pages 11 and 12.

West first graders ‘on the move’

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

First graders hung from the gym walls at West Elementary on Tuesday. Their notebooks detailed trips as far as Hong Kong and Croatia for their big school projects.

OK.

No real kids were hanging on the walls. The kids, for the most part, stayed right here in Sherman County. But their “flat-body” doubles had a heck of a good time traveling the globe, and both parents and Goodland School Board members were impressed.

The walls of the gym were plastered with postcards and paper duplicates of the first-grade students, along with notebooks with photos and information about where the “students” had been and the adventures they had.

Lynette McLean, a first grade teacher, said the concept came from a book, “Flat Stanley,” in which a boy is accidentally flattened and his body is mailed all over the world.

The most-traveled flat kid from West went to Hong Kong. There were notebooks from Texas, New Mexico, Utah, Florida, Colorado, Connecticut, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Minnesota, California, New Hampshire, Illinois, Nebraska and Kansas, from England, Germany, Croatia and Mexico. Many had photos showing the “student” having fun in some exotic locale, and included information about where they had been.

McLean said her classes have been doing the “flat body” project for several years, but this was the first time that all four first-grade classes had participated.

She said each student was asked to have their parents help find a relative or friend who might be willing to help with the project.



Goodland first graders Gannon Ihrig (left) and John Hendrich (right) traveled to Hong Kong and New Hampshire as part of a class project. Ihrig's aunt took his flat-body double to the sights in Hong

Kong, and Hendrich's cousin took him for fun in the snow in the New England state. The photos were part of the traveling adventure notebooks on display Tuesday at West Elementary.

Then each kid drew a paper duplicate of themselves, a flat body, to be sent to the relative. McLean said some of the classes drew full-size

bodies by tracing each other, but others did smaller versions.

The bodies were mailed out in January and the people were asked



Kong, and Hendrich's cousin took him for fun in the snow in the New England state. The photos were part of the traveling adventure notebooks on display Tuesday at West Elementary.

to send some information and possibly some photos back with the paper body.

While the students were waiting

for their flat bodies to return, they did research projects which were in-

See FLAT BODIES, Page 3

County valuation to drop \$1 million

County endorses \$125,000 carnival grant

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The Sherman County home-owned carnival could expand if it gets a \$125,000 grant the Sherman County commissioners endorsed Wednesday.

Harlan House, a member of the home owned carnival board, and Penny Nemechek, county grant writer, explained the grant proposal at a the commissioners’ meeting and asked the commissioners to add their endorsement to the project.

House said the carnival would purchase land immediately south of the county fairgrounds to build a storage building and workshop. He said the land would be available for

fair parking, and possibly a future carnival attraction, a train that would circle part of the fairgrounds.

Nemechek said the grant application had to be submitted this week to the state Department of Housing <and Commerce?> for their community service program. She said a staff person from the state had reviewed the land purchase and suggested adding the building.

The grant asks the state to allow state tax credits to be issued for the \$125,000. She said these would be available in July if the grant is approved, and the project must be completed within 18 months.

House said the tax credits would give anyone who donated to the

project a 70 percent credit they could take against their state taxes. He said several people and businesses had indicated they would make donations.

House said the land cost is about \$59,000 and \$65,000 should be enough to build a 60 x 120 steel building.

He said one reason to use the 3.2 acres for parking was to reduce the number of kids running across Main from the parking west of the fairgrounds. He said the carnival group wants to add a train that would circle the grounds and pick up people from the new parking area and bring them into the fairgrounds. He said if the grant is approved, the land could be

available for parking by fair time.

“This is an example of how the community can pull together and what can be achieved,” House said. “We have had a lot of people step forward to help, and would ask for your signature in support.”

Commissioners Kevin Rasure and Mitch Tiede said they felt the carnival has done well and been good for the fair and the community. Rasure made the motion to endorse the grant and Tiede seconded. The vote was unanimous with Commissioner Chuck Thomas voting in favor and agreeing that the carnival has been an excellent addition to the fair, and that they need more space for the future.

See TAXES, Page 10

Hospital had plus month in March, not out of the red

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

The good news for Goodland Regional Medical Center is that the hospital had a \$3,000 profit in March and finished the month \$30,000 above budget.

The bad news is: the hospital is so far in the red, it will take much larger gains to climb out.

The hospital finished last year with nearly \$700,000 in losses and budgeted a \$339,000 loss for this year. So far, the hospital has lost \$256,168 this year. Most of the loss comes from depreciation on equipment, however, not hospital operations, so it's not a cash loss.

With an increase in room rates and other charges, said Chief Financial Officer Andy Laue, the hospital is

Clinic may ‘borrow’ Colby manager

Goodland Regional Medical Center may “borrow” a clinic administrator from Colby to help with converting Rural Health Ventures from a free-standing to a provider-based clinic.

The hospital’s board voted in February to begin taking control of the clinic, but there is much to be done to make the transition complete.

getting an increase in contractual allowance from insurance providers.

The amount that will not be paid

by insurance, such as Medicare, he said, was \$382,753 for March. The provision for bad debt is up, Laue said, and between that and the con-

tractual allowance, 42.2 percent of what the hospital bills probably will not be collected. Provision for bad debt in March was \$67,397.

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for the West Side Apartments because of the tax credits that were used in building the project.

He said the total project cost \$1.5 million and he had valued the 18 units at \$1,111,760 last year.

However, the owner, Northwest Kansas Housing, paid the taxes un-

der protest and Ballard said he had to review his valuation.

“I discovered that under the state rules, none of the tax credits are to be considered as part of the valuation of the project,” he said. “They

setting the scope of chiropractic privileges at the hospital to lay the groundwork for future arrangements with chiropractors.