

weather report

79°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 8:15 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:16 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 66 degrees
- Humidity 43 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds southeast 12 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.20 inches and falling

• Record High 102° (2002)

• Record Low 41° (1945)

Last 24 Hours*

High 82°

Low 55°

Precipitation none

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: mostly cloudy with 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high lower 80s, low upper 50s, winds south 10-15 m.p.h. Wednesday: partly sunny with 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high lower 80s, low upper 50s.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: mostly cloudy with chance of showers and thunderstorms, high mid 80s. Friday: partly cloudy, high upper 80s, low upper 50s. Saturday: partly cloudy with chance of showers.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.83 bushel

New crop — \$2.78 bushel

Corn — \$2.41 bushel

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Milo — \$2.14 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.67 bushel

Millet — \$6 hundredweight

New crop — \$5

Sunflowers

Loan deficiency pmt. 36¢

Oil current crop — \$9.40 cwt.

New crop — \$9.65 cwt.

NuSun — \$9.75 cwt.

New crop — \$10 cwt.

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Pinto beans — withdrawn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



Swim team hosts meet

Daniel Blake, 16, holds onto one of the lane ropes used in the swim meet held Saturday at Steever Water Park. Goodland finished seventh in the meet, which was the first held in the new water park. See Photos and story on Page 8.

Wheat harvest could start soon

By Shannon Davidson

The Goodland Star-News

The wheat is turning, its color more vibrant, and turning faster than last year, and there is fair amount of anticipation with the upcoming harvest only a week or two out.

The Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service said that, across the state, 37 percent of the wheat is turning color compared to the 36 percent at this time last year and 42 percent for the five-year average.

“Wheat is progressing nicely,” said Dana Belshe, Sherman County extension agent. “All counties are turning at the same speed and a little ahead of normal from the hot weather”

Average temperatures should keep the wheat in fair condition, Bleshe said.

“Some of the earlier fields in the area could be ready by the middle or end of next week,” he estimated.

Bean and sunflower planting is finishing up after a wet weather delay, but the rain was needed. The month of June has seen rain accumulation of 4.24 inches, which is 2.59 inches above normal for the month.

Mueller Grain General Manager Lynn Hoelting said he is grateful so far that Mother Nature is on our side.

A good crop is needed after the drought cycle, he said, and so far,

Mother Nature is playing her part well with cooler weather and rain accumulation.

Drought has taken its toll on the area over the last few years, with the last two having a strong affect on the amount of stubble and average crop yield. This year has started bringing about a change. The National Weather Service said Goodland has accumulated 10.35 inches of moisture so far this year, which is 1.66 inches above normal.

“By and large,” Hoelting said, “the wheat crop is doing well and maturing nicely, with an average to above-average expected yield.”

Mueller Grain is expecting a bumper harvest, he added.

“One nice thing this year from previous years is the amount of stubble left from the harvest,” said Roger Stockton of the Kansas State University experiment station in Colby. “Protection of the soil will be better than the last two or three years.”

As the anticipation builds, the positive attitude is building along with it. The farmers and all businesses involved are more upbeat this year and the overall feeling is that it is going to be an above-average harvest.

Brad Cowan of Frontier Equity Co-op said he didn’t wish to comment on a wheat harvest prediction.

Budget requests, solid waste fee top county agenda

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Sherman County commissioners heard budget requests from two organizations last Tuesday, and today will hear two more and discuss the county solid waste fee.

Last Tuesday, Tina Goodwin, and members of the board of the Goodland Arts Council ask for money to help operate the Carnegie Arts Center, and Susan Wegele of the Northwest Kansas Family Shelter requested continued county support for their 18-county operation.

Today, the commissioners will hear budget requests from David Branda and Lloyd Holbrook of the Sherman County Historical Society and a request from the Thomas County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council.

The commissioners must review the county solid waste fee each year and decide if it should be raised or lowered before July 1. Currently, the county solid waste fee is \$150 per residential property, and there is a schedule for businesses. The fee, collected along with the county property taxes in December, gives the county income to operate the transfer station and landfill, plus the monitoring wells and closing costs of the old city dump, which has shown underground water contamination.

Goodwin asked the commissioners to support the art center, saying the state has reduced their operating money by 15 percent, and she expects to see more cuts next year.

The request was for \$2,500, and Goodwin explained the many programs the art center is involved with each year, including the kids crafts in June and July.

She said the roof repair has been completed, and that with the building on the national historic registry they continue to apply for any grants that may be available.

Wegele, who lives in Oakley, asked the commissioners to continue their support of the family shelter, which has been \$1,000 for the last few years.

She said the main office is in Hays and the executive director is Charlotte Linsner, who used to live in Goodland. Wegele has an outreach office in Oakley and handles the nine western counties, including Sherman.

She said there are over 50 volunteers in the area who help man the crisis line and work with people in their area. These volunteers receive 16 hours of training per year as part of the program.

Last year, the Hays and Oakley offices received 4,891 calls, and 55 adults and 82 children were sheltered, she said. The crisis line calls were 15 percent higher than the year before.

Wegele said she was at all nine of the county health fairs, noting that none of the eastern nine counties hold health fairs.

The commissioners told both Goodwin and Wegele they would be working on the budget in the upcoming months and would consider these requests.

In other business today, the commissioners:

- Will discuss nomination of hospital board members.

- Discuss a housekeeping resolution.

- Look at alternatives for repairing the roof at the county shop.

- Discuss proposed changes to commercial trash rates, and finalize the trash contract with Chuck Redlin’s trash collection firm, In the Can.

- Hear the audit report for last year from Mark Bauer of VonFeldt, Bauer and VonFeldt.

- Hold an informational meeting at 10 a.m. with Amy Griffey of the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development about possible grants the county or organizations may be eligible for.

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Reroofing the entire high school is the top project on a list of summer projects presented by Superintendent Marvin Selby at a school board meeting on Monday, June 9.

The board approved a bid for the high school roof project at a special meeting on May 30, and because the bids were below estimates by about \$80,000, they will do the whole roof this summer.

The low bid was from Interstate Structures of Kearney, Neb., at a price of \$279,488 for the entire roof

Proud to be an American



Honoring the flag

Flag Day was celebrated Saturday at Grant Junior High with the Goodland Elks Lodge handling the service and over 50 people attending. Everyone who attended received a small American flag to wave, as this little girl was (top), when the Girl Scouts marched in with the colors for the ceremony. Marlin Roeder, Elks esteemed leading knight, gave the Elks flag salute and Rusty Renner (left) sang the “Star Spangled Banner” and “I Am Proud to be an American.” Grant Principal Jim Mull (below) helped Ron Barkley of the Elks and the Girl Scouts hoist a flag which flew over the nation’s Capitol. The Scouts were Danielle Lovato of the Daisy Troop; Miranda Hernandez of Troop 221; Naomi Salina, Amy Floyd, Kimberly Fuentes, Taylor Milke, Michaela Langley, Trace Waugh, Stephanie Bauer, Elizabeth Wellman of Troop 159; and Dayelle Waugh of Troop 95.

Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Star-News



High school roof leads list of summer projects

with a 20-year warranty.

Chuck Lutters, district maintenance supervisor, said the company had done the roof on Max Jones Fieldhouse.

The project is to be completed by the end of the summer, but there could be some finishing work when the students return to school.

The other big project of the summer will be the refinishing of the Max Jones Fieldhouse floor. Selby said it will be sanded down and refinished and repainted.

Other project the district will be contracting out include:

- External maintenance on brick-work at the high school.

- Carpet two rooms at West Elementary for the kindergarten, which moves from North next year.

- Install energy efficient lights at the high school, with B and B Electric doing the work.

- Replace and repair several windows at Grant Junior High, with Dependable Glass doing the work.

- Zimmerman Plumbing will repair several urinals at Central.

- Curb, gutter and sidewalk in front of the high school will be replaced and new carpet will be in-

stalled in the junior high office.

Selby said the maintenance staff and a work crew of four men and a paint crew of eight women will be handling some jobs.

He said there is lots of painting that needs to be done, and they have started in the Max Jones dressing rooms.

The crew will be putting in a new pole vault runway and modifying the cover for the vaulting equipment.

There will be a new door installed