

weather report

72°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:28 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:38 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:28 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 47 degrees
- Humidity 13 percent
- Sky mostly cloudy
- Winds north 5 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.73 inches and steady

• Record High 74° (1974)

• Record Low 4° (1929)

Last 24 Hours*

High 72°
Low 32°
Precipitation none

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: partly cloudy, high near 50, low near 27, winds east northeast 9-13 m.p.h. Saturday: Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of snow after noon, high near 37, low around 19, winds east southeast 9-14 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: cloudy with a 40 percent chance of snow, high around 28, low around 13. Monday: mostly cloudy, high near 36, low near 20. Tuesday: partly cloudy, high around 40, low around 23. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$3.34 bushel
 - New crop — \$3.20 bushel
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 - Corn — \$2.27 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$2.16
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 - Milo — \$2.11 bushel
 - Soybeans — Not available
 - Posted county price — \$6.84
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 - Millet — \$5 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$11.10 cwt.
 - NuSun — \$11.35 cwt.
 - Confection — \$16/\$9 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 - Pinto beans — Withdrawn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



Mustangs lose to Colby

Mustang player Ben Davis moved into position past a Colby Eagle defender Tuesday afternoon during an eighth grade B team game at Max Jones Fieldhouse. See photos and story on Page 12.

Citizens respond to family's need

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News

"Thanks for all the help," was all Maria Garza could manage to say as she looked at bag and boxes of donated clothing, shoes, towels and other items, new and used, piled up in her aunt's living room.

Garza and her three children were left homeless by a fire last Thursday which ravaged their mobile home southwest of Goodland. Though firemen were able to save part of the trailer, the family lost nearly everything they owned.

Area people— friends, neighbors, even strangers, some from as far away as Burlington have been bringing gifts of food, clothing and household items ever since.

"Wonderful" is the word used most often by her aunt, Sheri Arroyo, to describe the support people have given her niece's family. Goodland people have made several deliveries of donated clothing, shoes and household items, she said.

Arroyo has been the family's spokesperson since the fire destroyed the trailer at 2810 Commerce Rd., Lot 3. The family moved in with Arroyo, who lives across the street.

"The community's been wonderful," said Arroyo. "My bedroom is so crowded, I can't hardly get to my bed."

Arroyo said the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Burlington gave the family new coats and shoes, and has delivered a meal every night since the fire. Many people brought bags of clothes and shoes to *The Goodland Star-News*.

Arroyo said her niece is a little overwhelmed, but is grateful for the town's support. She said the children have more clothing now than before the accident. There is even a possibility they may get a replacement trailer home, at little or maybe no cost.



Maria Garza and two of her children, Mercedes, 4, (left) and Jenitsabeth, 18 months, sat amidst bags and boxes of donated clothing Tuesday morning in her aunt's living room. Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

Hearing set on economic development loan

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Aircraft Seal and Gasket Corp., with the help of the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission, is asking the city to be the conduit for an economic development loan of up to \$750,000.

Monday the city commission set a hearing for 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 1, on this request.

Doug Bruggeman, who has been working with the planning commission in Hill City for 10 years, told the city commission the aircraft parts company is eligible for an economic development loan through the state Department of Commerce and Housing.

"This is not a grant, but rather is a loan to a business, and is based on the number of jobs to be created," Bruggeman said. "It can be used for a variety of business needs, and the

city would be the intermediary to make the application.

"The loan requires one job to be created for every \$35,000 that is borrowed, and can be up to a limit of \$750,000. For Aircraft Seal and Gasket, it would be about 22 jobs for the maximum loan amount."

Bruggeman said one of the first questions about this type of loan is who will be responsible for repayment. While the city would be the applicant and the grantee, he said, Aircraft Seal and Gasket which would repay the loan to the city and the city would return the money to the state.

"The city would be required to secure collateral for the loan," he said, "but if for some reason the company was unable to pay back the loan, the city would not be responsible for any shortfall."

"The city would have to make rea-

sonable collection efforts if the business should fail, but the state would not hold the community liable for the shortfall."

The first step is to hold a public hearing on the application. Bruggeman said the application deadline is Dec. 5, and the state will make a decision within about six weeks.

Roy Dixon, consultant for Aircraft Seal and Gasket, said the company would buy new and reconditioned equipment with the money, and that the city would have a first lien on the goods.

Bruggeman said the state requires that 51 percent of the jobs created under the Community Development Block Grant economic development program be considered low to moderate income, and that the state considers that to be \$24,750 for a single person in Sherman County.

It is \$28,300 for a couple, and goes up about \$300 for each additional family member up to seven.

City Manager Ron Pickman said he felt meeting the income levels would not be a problem.

Bruggeman said he agreed, and that it was up to the state to follow up on the details of that part of the program.

The loan will probably be for seven to 10 years with 4 percent interest, he said.

The city commissioners all agreed to proceed with the hearing. Members said it was good to see that the state had ways to help the new business.

Pickman reported that the building is nearly ready for the equipment, which is expected to arrive after Thanksgiving. He said the workers were sealing half the floor this week, and would do the other

half next week, which will give it several days to cure before the first equipment arrives.

He said there was one major problem facing the city because the electrical main box ordered for the building was damaged in shipping.

"We had to refuse the delivery because of the damage," Pickman said. "The company is to send out some technicians to see if they can repair it on site. If they cannot, it will take some time to get another one built."

The problem was that the trucking company driver did not properly tie the equipment down after making a delivery in Colby, and before getting to Goodland, the load shifted and caused the damage.

"We will not accept the electrical box unless the company can guarantee it will work properly and agrees to extend the warranty."

Deadline nears on county prairie dog program

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Sherman County's prairie dog control program, which began in August, is making headway, members of the committee told the county commissioners Tuesday morning during their regular meeting.

Member Harlan House said this is the perfect time to poison the prairie dogs, especially if a predicted storm hits this weekend.

"Now is the ideal time," House said. "If you wait until January or February to do the treatment, it will be too late."

Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked if the committee members thought the program was working and if they were seeing results.

"It is working," said Brent Flanders of Shermanville Township, "but we are at a key point to get it done, or we will have wasted our efforts."

"I am seeing results," said Ken Klemm of Voltaire Township. George Cramer of the State Line Township near Kanorado said he was seeing good results, but that he was seeing more dogs coming over from Colorado.

"I had a van with Colorado plates come to my place and open the back

doors and let some prairie dogs out," Cramer said.

Ron Schilling from Edson said he was waiting for the county crew to treat his dogs, and expected them to be handled in the next week.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said there is about three pallets of poison left, but that as far as he knew, most of the people who have prairie dogs have contacted county weed supervisor Daryl West and have said they would do something about the problem.

"I have heard mostly positive comments about the program," House said.

"There is a 640-acre section in Shermanville I am concerned about," Flanders said.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked if the neighbors could help handle that problem. Flanders said he was trying to work with the landowner to get that arranged.

"We appreciate what you have done so far," Keith Coon said.

"I think it will knock them down to a manageable level," Tiede said.

The other committee member present was Lester Cress, who agreed that the program was working, but said that it needs to be completed in the next few weeks.

The deadline set in August was to have a reasonable effort by the landowners underway by Dec. 1. The commissioners said a letter would be sent to landowners who have not treated their dogs, and asked the committee members to check in their townships to see who might need to receive such a letter.

The members are to report back with any names at the next meeting on Wednesday.

If a landowner does not make an effort to treat the dogs within a few weeks of receiving a letter, the county can spread the bait and bill the landowner.

Stray piglet caught!

By Tisha Cox

Colby Free Press

Caught!

A four-hooved fugitive that's been the scourge of Colby for the past week was captured Thursday morning, thanks to an alert watchdog.

Ryan McLemore, son of Fire Chief Bob McLemore, caught the piglet after a long chase.

He said his dog spotted the pig in his front yard and he called his dad, who brought some of his firefighters.

"My dog went to the front door and was looking at something," he said. "I saw she was looking out and saw this pig in my front yard."

McLemore said the pig was happily nosing around the yard before Colby's finest showed up.

A chase ensued, with assistant fire

chief Rick Dickman, volunteer firefighters Jay Kelley and Ross Carney, police officer Tom Nickols and K-9 officer Bobby Herron, McLemore and Justin Alexander, who works for Kriss Farms, in pursuit.

McLemore said they chased the swine more than a mile before he caught it after diving at the animal.

The foot-tall animal squealed a lot when it was caught, he said.

"I thought it was pretty funny," McLemore added.

The pig made its first appearance last Friday.

Police Chief Randy Jones said earlier in the week the department had several calls on Friday and Sunday about the porker, which was dodging through traffic.

The pig was seen near downtown Colby last Friday.



Ryan McLemore, son of Colby Fire Chief Bob McLemore, chased the stray piglet down the tracks and caught it Thursday morning. Photos by Jay Kelley / The Colby Free Press

