

**weather report**

**66°**  
noon  
Thursday



**Today**

- Sunset, 8:15 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 5:29 a.m.
- Sunset, 8:15 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil temperature 70 degrees
- Humidity 78 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds northeast 5 mph
- Barometer 30.31 inches and steady
- Record High today 105° (1938)
- Record Low today 45° (1959)

**Last 24 Hours\***

- High Wednesday 76°
- Low Wednesday 58°
- Precipitation none
- This month 1.87
- Year to date 12.60
- Above normal 1.47 inches

**The Topside Forecast**

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 86, winds out of the south at 5 to 10 mph and a low around 61.  
Saturday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of isolated showers and thunderstorms at night, a high near 91, winds out of the south at 10 to 15 mph and a low around 63.

**Extended Forecast**

Sunday: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 91 and a low around 64. Monday: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.  
(National Weather Service)  
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

**local markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$4.10 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.83
- Corn — \$3.24 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.38
- Milo — \$2.81 bushel
- Soybeans — \$8.76 bushel
- Posted county price — \$9.05
- Millet — \$5 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$15.15 cwt.
- Confection — \$28/\$15 cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$32 (new crop)
- (Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

**inside today**

More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



**Fishing good at Bonnie**

Close to record in size, Daryl West's walleye caught Sunday at Bonnie Reservoir was 2 inches under the Colorado record and a wiper caught by his son Kyler was 3 inches under the record. See photos, story on Page 10.

## City applies for 3 airport grants

By Tom Betz

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The Kansas Department of Transportation has money for aviation projects this year, and on Monday the city commissioners agreed to have the city apply for three grants involving possible purchase of one or two hangars and paving around the large barrel hangar and the T-hangars.

The state program would pay up to 75 percent for each project up to a maximum of \$500,000, said City Manager Doug Gerber.

Gerber said the state had announced the aviation project grant program recently and he had discussed the possibilities with the city airport board. The airport board came up with three projects they felt were important with the purchase or building of a hangar.

The state is looking for projects that can be designed and under contract within two

months, and to complete the project in six months, Gerber said.

Gerber said the airport board recommended the city apply for three grants. The first would be to purchase the First National Bank hangar and the Eagle Med hangar that is for sale.

The listed price for the two hangars is \$530,000 and Gerber said the city would negotiate to purchase one or both using the state grant money to help with the purchase. He estimated the city cost of this could be between \$82,500 and \$132,500 depend on whether one or both hangars are purchased.

Gerber said the city contract with John Collett for operation of the airport is probably short on the hangar space.

"We probably owe Collett more hangar space," Gerber said. "He has been patient, but another hangar is important. It is possible to buy the bank and Eagle Med hangars. It is

important to keep Eagle Med here, and city ownership of the hangar would be in the best interest of the city."

A question from Commissioner Dave Daniels was about the city share of the projects.

Darin Neufeld, engineer from Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, said the price on the hangars has not been negotiated, but feels the price is good based on what it would cost to build a new hangar.

The city had a bid two years ago for a 80 foot by 120 foot metal hangar with a low bid of \$311,000, Neufeld said, but the city decided not to build at that time.

Gerber said the city should take advantage of the state airport improvement program because it will allow the city to purchase the hangars, and this is not something that can be done using the Federal Aviation Administration money.

He said another part of the hangar purchase is the city would get some money for rent. He said it would not be enough to cash flow the purchase of the hangar, but the city would get some decent return.

Commissioner John Garcia said he thought the hangar purchase was a good idea and the rent would be a decent return.

Gerber said the other two project recommended by the airport board were paving around the T-hangars and in front of the large barrel hangar.

He estimated the city cost for the T-hangar paving would be \$105,000 and \$37,500 for the barrel hangar.

Neufeld said the state transportation officials are saying the city should submit as many projects as they want and the state will

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## K-27 concrete moving close to halfway mark

Crews from Smoky Hill worked hard to get the first of the four lanes of K-27 — from the I-70 interchange north to the Walmart entrance — paved before the July 4 holiday break. The project was under the watchful eye of the Kansas Department of Transportation, and in one day Smoky Hills paved about 1,100 yards with concrete. Today the company has reversed the paving machine and was pouring the second of the east lanes of K-27 from the Walmart intersection south to I-70. A portion of this project was pre-approved and the second section was approved under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. At Monday's commission meeting City Manager Doug Gerber said the third phase has been approved and bids will be opened in mid-August with the hope the whole project can be completed this summer. The third phase is being done as part of the federal stimulus program.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News



## Annual street sealing to begin on Tuesday

About one-third of the city streets are to be chip sealed beginning Tuesday said Phil Erickson, city street superintendent.

The city will start on Tuesday, and will be letting homeowners know to get their cars off the street.

Erickson said the city will be doing the program in two phases.

"We will do the regular chip sealing this week," he said, "and in about two weeks we will come back and do a fog seal on top."

"After the fog seal the street has to be closed for three hours before it can be driven on to give the fog coat time to dry."

The program will take several days, Erickson said, and the schedule could be affected by the weather. He said the city crew would be knocking on doors along the program streets to get all the vehicles off the street for chip sealing, and later for fog sealing.

If there is a problem the city can have vehicles towed away for the program to be successful Erickson said.

The streets to be chip sealed include Toelkes from Main Ave. east to Caldwell Ave.; Center Ave. from Maple to Eighth; 15th from Arcade Ave. east to Eustis; First from Grand Ave. west to Kansas Ave. Fourth from Sherman Ave. east to Caldwell; Broadway Ave. from 17th north to Toelkes; Eustis Ave. from Fourth to Second and from 15th to 13th; Wyoming Ave. from Eighth south to 17th; Texas Ave. from 17th north to 10th; Syracuse Ave. from Eighth south to 17th; Fourth from Kansas to Grand Ave.; College from Fourth north to Eighth; and 17th from Sherman Ave. west to Cattle-trail.

The program will cover 114,810 square yards, and the total cost is estimated to be within \$186,000.

## Smoky Gardens gets face lift

By Tom Betz

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Trees have been cut and the bottom of Smoky Gardens has been burned as the face lift continues Sherman County commissioners were told on Wednesday

Dick Emig, who has been leading the clean up effort, told the commissioners all the trees have been cut and burnt that were growing in the bottom of the pond.

He said the trees have been soaking up thousands of gallons of water, and the next step is to burn down the cat tails.

Commissioner Cynthia Strnad asked about spraying the Canadian thistle in the bottom.

Emig said the fire did a good job on much of the thistle, and Doug Hall, county noxious weed director, plans to come out and spray a few spots.

"I was pleased with what the fire did," Emig said.

Strnad asked if the plans were to take out all the old pillars from the old pavilion that burned down years ago.

Emig said the workers took out a few as they were cleaning the

camping area, but did not take them all down.

Strnad suggested a photo of what the pavilion looked like before it burned down might be good so people would understand the significance of the pillars.

She suggested planning a thank you to Bob McClure for his years of taking care of the Smoky Garden. She said they might do a picnic or something after harvest.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas said he thought that would be a good idea and bring people down to see how the park looks.

Emig said he liked the idea of the photo and information to put up to let people know what the Smoky Gardens is all about and the history of the pavilion.

He said the next step is to set the posts for the new grills. He said the fire rings have not arrived and are expected to be delivered by July 15.

Thomas asked if there were some grills people could use.

Emig said there were some that could be used.

Commissioner Max Linin asked if Emig was seeing more people

coming down to the park.

Emig said there were a lot of people down on Sunday.

Strnad said she thought it was pretty down there.

Emig said the house was in better shape than he expected. He said the commissioners have time to think about what to do about the house.

Strnad said it was her impression Smoky Gardens was a water table lake and had been spring fed.

Emig said that was right, but to seal the bottom water will have to be pumped in from a nearby irrigation well.

Thomas said taking the trees out will help.

Emig said the trees were taking thousands of gallons of water. He said he feels most of the work is done, and will need to get it mowed. He said he has someone who will do it this time and then he would have an idea of how it takes.

He said there is a small tractor and mower down there, and a rotary mower. He said the county needs to hire an electrician to fix an electrical box, and figures it will cost about

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