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Twelve Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735



Today Sunset, 5:00 p.m. Tuesday • Sunrise, 6:57 a.m.

- Sunset, 5:00 p.m.
- **Midday Conditions**
- Soil temperature 32 degrees
- Humidity 57 percent
- Sky clear and sunny
- Winds northwest 25 mph Barometer 29.98 inches
- and steady • Record High today 79° (1951)
- Record Low today -14° (1963)

Last 24 Hours* High Sunday

r ligh Sunuay	40
Low Sunday	15°
Precipitation	.03 snow

The Topside Forecast

Today: mostly cloudy, high around 23, low around 6, winds blustery out of the north northwest 25-39 mph. Tuesday: mostly sunny, high near 38, low near 18, winds west southwest 10-14 mph.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: partly cloudy, high around 47, low around 18, winds west northwest 7-13 mph. Thursday: partly cloudy, high near 49, low around 18. Friday: party cloudy, high near 45, low near 18. Saturday: partly cloudy. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.



Wheat - \$3.59 bushel Posted county price — \$3.56 Loan deficiency pmt. - 0¢ Corn — \$2.67 bushel Posted county price — \$2.49 Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢ Milo — \$2.53 bushel Soybeans — \$7.86 bushel Posted county price — \$7.78 Loan deficiency pmt. -0cMillet — \$5.50 hundredweight Sunflowers Oil current crop — \$11.30 cwt. NuSun — \$11.55 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 Pinto beans — Withdrawn (Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean.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.)

County shows net increase in jobs

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-news Sherman County has seen an increase of about 140 jobs since Nov. 2002, it was reported at the Sherman County Economic Development Council meeting Tuesday.

Carolyn Applegate, executive director, said they had been gathering information on the new jobs created by the 35 businesses that have opened in the past 14 months. She said a total of 140 jobs were added with the largest being Hanks restaurant which is to open Sunday with 30 new jobs.

Others which contributed new jobs were Taco Johns with 19 and S&T Telephone with an addition of 10 jobs last year. She said some of the new jobs were in small businesses with only two or three, but they added up.

On the negative side Applegate said the businesses that closed lost the county under 20 jobs. She admits this does not take into account businesses who cut back on jobs or

did not replace employees who left. There is meeting were to have a person from the state no specific information on these, but Applegate said she felt the total would leave at least 100 new jobs in the county.

She said there are other projects in the works for this year including a quick lube on the southeast corner of the Wal-Mart parking lot and she expects the strip mall on the north side of the Wal-Mart parking lot to break ground in the spring.

Other things happening this spring she said is the expected opening of the new Sinclair station at the east Goodland I-70 exit, the sale of Howard Johnsons and hopefully the sale of the truck stop.

Applegate said there had been a meeting about the marketing of the industrial park, and the main thing is for the industrial park group to restart their board and once that is done they can meet with the economic development committee to agree on a marketing plan.

Two of the recommendations from the

Department of Commerce come out and evaluate the industrial park, and that a new video presentation needs to be produced as part of the marketing plan.

Applegate said Jim Knedler of the department of commerce has agreed to come out and evaluate the industrial park, and Don Newell has some suggestions for making a new video presentation for the city and the industrial park.

Newell, who is a new board member, showed a video that S&T had done in cooperation with the Northwest Kansas Technical College as an example of what could be done for the city. He said the current city video is outdated, and with his company's help a new presentation could be produced and put on DVD as well as video. He said the new DVD technology makes it much cheaper to send out to prospects, and that his company has the ability to produce these.

The council agreed that a new video presentation should be considered, and wanted further information and costs at the next meeting.

Council Chairman Dave Daniels said Applegate had signed her contract, but has asked that the job description be revised.

Applegate felt the job description needed more accountability, and she would try to have a draft by the next meeting.

Board member Cara Daise of Bankwest said she would like to have someone else from the bank be on the board and suggested Shelly Thompson. There was some discussion about the replacement, and it was decided there needed to be some discussion with the bank on this position.

The council reorganized for the year with John Garcia being elected chairman and Daniels being elected vice-chair. Kim Bohme

See JOBS, Page 3

County uses MadVac to clean up at landfill





Using an industrial sized vacuum Curt Way cleaned up the trash that had blown out of the county landfill southwest of Goodland, and Butch Vandiver bags up the first load. The county purchased the MadVac to help keep the area around the landfill cleaned up. Way said it works pretty well, but some of the bags have to be pulled out of the weeds by hand before the vacuum will pick them up. The MadVac \$19,219 and was purchased in December from Sellers Equipment.

Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Star-News





Cowboys win at Hays

Freshman Brett Bahe (right) applied pressure on his opponent from Ellsworth Saturday during one of his preliminary matches on his way to winning the gold medal at 103 pounds. See photo and story on Page 12.

Nosey neighbors can help catch burglars

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News About a dozen people discussed plans to making Goodland a safer develop a better sense of community place at a special meeting of Crimestoppers Friday morning in the city administration building.

The meeting was held in response to a rash of burglaries reported in the last two months within the city and in the surrounding area. At least 22 burglaries have been reported in Goodland since Nov. 24, with a sharp increase since Dec. 22. Eight have been reported in 2004.

Police chief Ray Smee said one of the best ways for people to help stop an active program. crime is to be watchful and be a

of communication open between the enforcement to its job. people and law enforcement. Smee said these are two of the ways to help leading to improved public safety and security.

The revitalization of the Neighborhood Watch program in Goodland was proposed as a way to get people more active in crime prevention and to become better educated in prevention measures. Judy Mc-Kee, who is helping to bring new life to the program, said about 20 people came to her house for an informal meeting to talk about implementing

She said the group appreciated "nosey neighbor" acting as extra officers William Fulcher and Brad sets of eyes and ears out in the com- Parker who described what the promunity. He stressed keeping the line gram can do and how it helps law

McKee said Neighborhood Watch will have an information booth at the Goodland Activities Center Health Fair on Feb. 7. The booth will have literature about the program available, provide information on what is going on in Goodland and answer any questions people might have.

Jim Wedermeyer, president of Goodland's Crimestoppers, said group needs to become more visible in the city's neighborhoods. He called for increased exposure in the newspaper and on the radio. Wedermeyer proposed that a campaign to provide window stickers with the Crimestoppers' logo and telephone number to residents be started.

He said Crimestoppers' reward effective.

program needs more exposure and the public better educated on how it operates.

Rewards from Crimestoppers for tips leading to the arrest of criminals can be up to \$1,000. The dollar amount is based on a point system which helps evaluate to value of the tip and the role it played in solving the crime.

Wedermeyer said that no reward is paid unless the police chief asks for it. Smee said that rewards have been paid only three times in Goodland, totaling \$350, since 1999 and all were for drug-related cases.

Crimestoppers and Neighborhood Watch are two separate programs, however Smee said working "hand in hand" both can be more

As a way to get the Crimestoppers' name out there, Jason Hickson, of the parks and recreation department, proposed the group sponsor a fund-raiser such as a free night at the swimming pool which also could include a movie and/or pizza.

Being watchful for suspicious activity in the neighborhood and maintaining open lines of communication does help law enforcement officers do their jobs more effectively and helps create a better sense of security in the community.

"If everybody works together," said Smee, "we will put a stop to it."

The next meeting of Goodland's Crimestoppers is 10 a.m. Friday in the conference room on the second floor of the city administration building, 204 W. 11th St.

Dead trees to be removed from Chambers Park

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News Seven trees are marked for removal from Chambers Park, and the city crews are expected to start cutting later this week.

City Manager Ron Pickman said the trees are being removed after an

trict forester in December.

Strine sent the city a letter explaining that six honeylocust and one spruce tree needed to be removed because they are either dead or have major dead spots in the crowns.

In a phone interview Friday Strine inspection by James H. Strine, dis- said the major reason for the re-

maturity, and are going downhill.

"I hate to see trees cut down, but these trees have reached the end of their life span," Strine said. "They need to be removed because they could be a hazard and could cause injury to park users. The majority of the honeylocust trees are in a state

moval is the trees have reached their of decline and should be removed in be developed for this park." the next few years.

"The drought conditions compound the problem and accelerated the decline. I did find evidence of a canker on some of the trees marked for removal. This can be a serious disease with honeylocust.

"I suggest a tree replacement plan more dead trees this spring.

Strine said he had been in contact with Dale Hayden and Pickman about the tree replacement program.

Pickman said the city tree board is working on a replacement plan.

Strine said unless there is a break in the drought he expects to find