

weather report

75°

noon Monday

Today

- Sunset, 8:11 p.m.
- Wednesday**
- Sunrise, 5:36 a.m.
- Sunset, 8:10 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 74 degrees
- Humidity 47 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds southeast 11 mph.
- Barometer 30.18 inches and steady
- Record High today 106° (1934)
- Record Low today 52° (1950)

Last 24 Hours*

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| High Sunday | 93° |
| Low Sunday | 63° |
| Precipitation | .01 |
| This month | .45 |
| Year to date | 8.73 |
| Normal | 12.33 |

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny and hot with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight, high around 97, low near 67, wind south southwest 9-14 mph. Wednesday: Mostly sunny and hot with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunder storms before midnight, high near 100, low around 66, winds south southwest 5-9 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny and hot, high around 97.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings compiled at midnight.

Power plants to produce clean energy

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

Organizers, investors and leaders of the new Goodland Energy Center say they are working to guard the environment as they build steam-fired power, ethanol and biodiesel plants west of town.

At a meeting last week, former City Manager Ron Pickman said the plants will all be clean. The co-generation electric plant will mainly burn coal, but also will use plant waste for fuel.

"We want to make sure these plants are very efficient," Pickman said, adding that they are employing the newest technology to keep the area free of coal dust, ash and other pollutants.

Mark Justus, owner of ReNewable Energy Resources, said the center will use steam from the plant to power the ethanol and biodiesel plants.

Justus said the ethanol plants used to have a bad reputation for pollution, but today the plants are clean.

The ethanol plant is coming from St. Paul, Minn., where people worked to close it down for not meeting Environmental Protection

Agency requirements and stinking up the neighborhood.

Jean Thalminy, a freelance writer for *Preservation* magazine, wrote in April that the facility was one of the only urban ethanol plants in the nation.

The article says the plant was shut down due to stepped-up Environmental Protection requirements to reduce pollution and odor. It said the owner, Gopher State Ethanol, did not have the money to buy the needed equipment and shut down.

Justus said the plant didn't work out in Minnesota because it was in a populated area where neighbors didn't appreciate the industrial plant. He said they plan to use the newest technology here to stay environmentally friendly.

The smell associated with an ethanol plant, he said, has been reduced over the years. He said waste from the plant will be collected and placed in an afterburner at the power plant.

The biodiesel plant will employ the latest technology, he said. The brand-new plant from Austria will

See POWER, Page 8

Courthouse bricks get fixed



Crews worked high above the lawn at the Sherman County Courthouse Friday. The workers, with Midcontinent Restoration of Fort Scott, are repairing bricks and mortar on the building.

The project is expected to take several weeks, and cost \$76,000. Crews will replace mortar and reposition bricks all around the building built in 1931. Photo By Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

Kansas guard celebrates 150th birthday

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News

About a dozen people visited the National Guard armory in Goodland Sunday afternoon to help kick-off a six-week celebration of the Kansas National Guard's 150th anniversary.

Goodland was the first stop for the "Whistle Stop Caravan" as it began a month-long tour throughout Kansas. The caravan will visit about 55 state armories staying between 30 and 60 minutes at each stop.

Lt. Col. Doug Jacobs of the joint forces headquarters in Topeka welcomed and thanked those who came out Sunday, and invited them to look at the items on display.

Each community is invited to place an item in the special time capsule commemorating the anniversary which will be held at the Kansas National Guard Museum in Topeka. The capsule, an artillery shell container, will be opened in 50 years.

Goodland city commissioner Josh Dechant presented Jacobs with a statement of support signed by all the members of the commission that was placed in the capsule. In return, Jacobs presented Dechant with a print of the painting "The Battle of Prairie Dog Creek" by artist Ralph Heinz.

Jacobs said the crises leading to the



Lt. Col. Doug Jacobs thanked Goodland city commissioner Josh Dechant for the statement of support signed by all the city commissioners which was placed in the special anniversary time cap-

sule. The 1950s era jeep to the left travels in the mobile museum, seen at right. The mobile museum, after unloading the jeep, can be set up for display.

Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

battle was the first time the state militia units, the forerunner of the Kan-

sas National Guard, were called out by the federal government for action.

Sherman County commissioner Kevin Rasure also presented Jacobs

with a statement of support that was put in the capsule signed by the commissioners. Through Jacobs, Rasure thanked the soldiers and airmen of the Kansas National Guard for their service to the state and the country.

The caravan consisted of the Kansas National Guard's mobile museum, a restored jeep from the mid-1950s and a Civil War vintage cannon with cussion.

On display in the museum are uniforms, weapons, equipment, documents and photos representing the history of the Kansas National Guard.

"The history of the Kansas National Guard touches every corner of the state," said Maj. Gen. Tod Bunting, the state adjutant general. "Since 1855, the Kansas National Guard has provided homeland security, responded to natural disasters and brought real value to the communities where they are located."

"This tour is just one way we can showcase the contributions of the generations of remarkable men and women who, as citizen-soldiers and citizen-airmen, have proudly served their state and nation for 150 years."

For more information about the year-long anniversary celebration go to www.accesskansas.org/ksadjutantgeneral/150thGuardAnniversary/index/html.

Goodland girl shoots for stardom

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

Look out, Nashville, here she comes!

Goodland's Tammy Weeter is competing for a chance at a \$100,000 cash prize and national title in the Colgate Country Showdown, a country music talent search. Country stars Garth Brooks, LeAnn Rimes, Sara Evans and John Michael Montgomery are all past contenders.

Weeter, a 2003 Goodland High School graduate, will compete in the 24th annual edition of the talent search and radio promotion. The contest starts at 7 p.m. Mountain Time Friday at the band shell in Dodge City's Wright Park.

Q97 FM radio is the event's host. Admission is free, and there will be benches under the trees in the park in front of the bandstand.

Nearly \$200,000 in cash and prizes will be awarded nationwide, including the grand prize of \$100,000 cash to the national winner at the televised special hosted by Walt Disney World Resorts.

Weeter said she has been singing in local performances, including fairs and at church, since she was 12 and has written six songs with Shad Sheldon, a Goodland electrician who was a founding member of

the local country band Exit 17 and writes music in his basement. Weeter said she writes the songs, and Sheldon puts them to music.

At Dodge City, she will sing "I'm Gone," a song she wrote, and "Fancy," by Reba McEntyre.

Weeter, a student at Fort Hays State University, is doing an internship in radiology. She said she would be interested in working at the Goodland hospital when she's done if that works out. She grew up in Goodland and likes the area, and has a fiancé in Sharon Springs.

She is interested in a music career. As far as being offered a recording contract, Weeter said, "I could handle that."

Last year's national winner, Heather Shelley of Scott City, competed at Dodge City before winning the state, regional and national titles and a recording contract. The national competition was in Nashville.

"After Heather Shelley won last year, we had 25 applications and had to narrow it down to 12," said Carol McQuiggin, account representative for Western Kansas Broadcast Center in Dodge City. "It was hard; some of these kids are so talented."

See MUSIC, Page 8

Diversion fund reviewed by county commissioners

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

When a defendant accepts a diversion of his case, with the charges put on the shelf and eventually dismissed if he behaves himself, a diversion fee is collected by the county.

How that money is handled has created a disagreement between the Sherman County clerk and the county attorney.

County commissioners Tuesday asked County Attorney Bonnie Selby, Treasurer Shelby Miller and treasurer-elect Iris Scheopner to come to the meeting with County Clerk Janet Rumpel to discuss the diversion fund.

When the smoke cleared, the commissioners had agreed to leave the money in the hands of

the county attorney, who agreed they would receive an accounting of how the fund is being spent.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said the auditor Mark Bauer of VonFeldt, Bauer and VonFeldt of Larned, mentioned the Prosecuting Attorney Diversion Fund when he presented the audit report last Tuesday.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby said she did not understand the concern. She said he had talked to Bauer and he told her there were no problems with the account, but that he recommended that the money should be deposited in the county General Fund for accountability.

"He did not say that had to be done," Selby said. "He said it was

See COUNTY, Page 8

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$3.08 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.11
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Corn — \$2.22 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.22
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Milo — \$1.85 bushel
- Soybeans — \$6.34 bushel
- Posted county price — \$6.66
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Millet — \$5 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$9.70 cwt.
- NuSun — \$10.70 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Confection — Ask
- Pinto beans — \$25

(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



Elks K-18 beats Colby

Josh Duke (17) slid into home just ahead of the ball Thursday as the Elks K-18 team defeated Colby 8-5. Photo, story Page 10.