

**weather
report**



36°

noon Monday

Today

• Sunset, 5:52 p.m.

Wednesday

• Sunrise, 5:58 a.m.
• Sunset, 5:53 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 39 degrees
• Humidity 50 percent
• Sky Mostly cloudy
• Winds North at 15 mph
• Barometer 30.05 inches
and steady
• Record High today 84° (2003)
• Record Low today -3° (1958)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday 36°
Low Monday 28°
Precipitation .01
This month .01
Year to date .59

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny with a high around 54, west wind 5 to 10 mph, with a low of 27.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: Partly cloudy, high around 61 and a low near 25.
Thursday: Partly cloudy, high near 53 with a low around 24. Friday: Mostly sunny with a high around 58 and a low near 27. Saturday: Partly cloudy with a high around 59.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local
markets**

Noon

Wheat — \$4.17 bushel
Posted county price — \$0
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$2 bushel
Posted county price — \$0
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$1.62 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.95 bushel
Posted county price — \$0
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$5.50 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$7.10 cwt.
NuSun crop — \$8.10
Confection — Call
Pinto beans — \$17 (new crop)
(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



**Adult class
knits purses**

Marilyn Imel (right) helped Wilda Kalbach with a purse she was knitting Wednesday. Imel teaches a knitting class for adults on Wednesday evenings at the Carnegie Arts Center. See photo on Page 3a.



Volunteers helped unload one of the panels for Goodland's community Christmas display to be restored. The display was put up around the Goodland Regional Medical Center every year until last Christmas, when damage and deterioration forced sponsors to shelve it. Workers (back, from left, above) include

Richard Stramel, Darren Kannady, Trevor Linton, Darin Neufeld, (front) Koren Dechant, Ed Carleton and Josh Dechant. Ron Lucas, owner of Goodland Greenline, provided a truck to move the panels. Jeanette Foust (below), one of the artists who painted the display, studied one of panels.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

**Restoring
city treasure**

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Members of the Goodland Rotary and Lions clubs loaded pieces of the Christmas display usually put up around the hospital Saturday morning and moved them to the old Corner Garage paint shop for repair.

Jeanette Foust, one of the original artists who will be in charge of the restoration, studied the larger pieces lying flat on the floor.

The next step will be evaluation of what work needs to be done and a cost estimate, said Josh Dechant, a member of the Rotary Club. The workers commented on how big some of the pieces were.

"We never had heat to work on the pieces before," she said. "There was no heat in the Centennial Building when we first did them."

The display was finished in 1988 by Foust, Maxine Rauscher and Connie Hatcher, who now lives in Arizona.

Foust said they have the original drawings and the formulas for the colors, since the artists mixed their own colors.

The late Ordie Billenwillms gave the money for the original display, Rauscher said. The welding department of the Northwest Kansas Technical College made the original and replacement stands.

The display was not put up last Christmas because of its condition. Ron Lucas, president of the Rotary Club, said only about half of the display was in good enough shape to put up, so they decided to shelve it. Rotary has been in charge of putting the display up and taking it down with the help from students from the college.

The deterioration was caused by weather, wind, assembling, dismantling, transporting and storage over the years,

See TREASURE, Page 9a



Antenna plant employs 40 after first year

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Adronics/Elrob Manufacturing is up to 40 employees in the Wolak Building at 1006 Center after just a year.

The building, purchased by the city and remodeled in the fall of 2003, had housed Mosburg IGA until it closed. Later, there was a fire in the empty structure.

When Aircraft Seal and Gasket

Corp. of Brea, Calif., wanted to move to Goodland in October 2003, the city promised to repair and equip the fire-damaged building.

Former City Manager Ron Pickman said the city agreed to provide the building free for the first two years. The major work needed was on the roof and replacement of the south wall, he said.

The building was named after Ed Wolak, city public works director,

who died from a heart attack while supervising the construction.

Aircraft Seal and Gasket later agreed to move out of the building when failed to meet its commitment to hire a minimum number of employees.

Hays-based Adronics/Elrob wanted to open at satellite location in Goodland. Adronics makes at-tunes and related parts, include the coaxial cable used to connect the

antenna to car radios, antenna base mounts, global position system mounts for cars and under-hood lighting, said Troy A. Robinson, vice president of the firm.

Adronics designs and produces the specialized equipment for making antennas, he said, and they keep the equipment for making replacement parts for at least 10 years. They start making antennas for future batches of cars years in advance.

They ship parts all over the world, to Korea, France, South America, Germany, Mexico and other countries.

Adronics products are used on General Motors, Honda, Hyundai, Kia, Isuzu and Hummer vehicles and Harley Davidson motorcycles. Robinson said the New Jersey company, which moved to Hays in 1990,

See ADRONICS, Page 9a

**'Everyone' sick in January
good news for hospital**

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

A lot of people were sick in January, but it wasn't all bad news.

Goodland Regional Medical Center saw a lot of patients, stressing the staff and forcing the hospital to send some elsewhere, but the silver lining showed up in the financial reports.

January was a huge month, Administrator Jay Jolly told the hospital board at its regular meeting Monday, Feb. 27; it seemed like everyone was sick.

The hospital was on "divert" several times, said Debbie Hickman,

director of patient care services, due to the number of patients and due to staff being sick. A nurse who has just worked 12 hours can't work another 12, she said; when the call-in list has been exhausted, patients have to be sent to other hospitals.

The hospital was on divert five times, said Administrative Assistant Dianna Briney, but there may not have actually been any patients sent to other hospitals. The hospital has to go on "divert," she said, when it has either reached its bed limit or has as many patients as the staff can care

See HOSPITAL, Page 9a

**Police search for unlucky robber
who tried to hold up motel here**

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

An unlucky robber attempted to hold up the Comfort Inn on K-27 about 6:40 a.m. Sunday, but left empty handed.

Officer Greg Kroskey said he got to the motel a few minutes after the robber left, and put out an alert for a full-sized blue van with green tags headed west on I-70.

Police Chief Ray Smee said a state trooper west of Goodland did not see the van.

"He came in twice," Kroskey said. "The first time he asked the clerk, Tammy Randall, for a room and asked where he was. She told him they were full and

showed him where he was on a map.

"He left and came back in and asked for a cup of coffee. She showed him the breakfast area, and when he came back he lifted up his shirt to show her the gun and said 'Give me your money.'

"She told him 'I don't have any, I made the drop already,' and showed him the empty cash drawer.

"He told her, 'Best not call the cops, I didn't done anything,' and left. She watched him drive off and head up the Interstate and called 911."

Smee said the clerk described the man as white, 5 foot, 4 inches tall, weighing 125-150 pounds, with

See ROBBERY, Page 9a