

weather
report

51°

noon

Thursday

Today

• Sunset, 7:43 p.m.

• Sunrise, 5:43 a.m.

• Sunset, 7:44 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 59 degrees
- Humidity 52 percent
- Sky Cloudy
- Winds east at 16 mph
- Barometer 30.20 inches and falling
- Record High today 94° (1936)
- Record Low today 25° (1944)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday	64°
Low Thursday	45°
Precipitation	tr
This month	.2
Year to date	3.16
Below normal	.68 of an inch

The Topside Forecast

Today: Areas of drizzle, chance of showers after noon. Cloudy, high near 50, low near 41. East wind wint between 10 and 20 mph with gusts high as 30. Chance of precipitation 60 percent.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, high around 64 low near 43. Sunday: Mostly sunny, high hear 75, low near 43. Monday: Mostly sunny, high near 74 and low near 45. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.01 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.93
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$2.05 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.11
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$1.67 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.12 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.23
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$5.55 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$7.75 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$8.75
Confection — Call
Pinto beans — \$17 (new crop)
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigo 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



Cowgirls run
at Oberlin

Senior Kali Rietcheck ran the 400-meter dash in 1 minute, 8.26 seconds but missed placing among the top six at Tuesday's Oberlin Invitational track meet. See story, photos on Page 10a.

Chamber wants council to merge

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The Sherman County Economic Development Council and the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce share an office, but Chamber board members want more, asking the council to consider a merger at a special joint meeting on Tuesday.

While council members appeared skeptical, Chairman Shelly Thompson said the suggestion would be on the agenda for the next meeting, on Tuesday, May 16.

Chamber President Brian Linin said that six months after shedding its paid director, office and many of its programs, the Chamber is in better shape and its finances are in order. He said membership is up to 100, and the overall attitude seems to be more positive.

"We (the Chamber board) are determined to do whatever it takes," Linin said. "We are

receptive to any and all options to achieve our goal. I mean any and all options."

He handed out a two-sided sheet that explained the background of the situation and the two options the board had considered.

Five years ago the Chamber ran economic development through their office and rented space to the Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau. However, the visitors bureau, which has a separate board established by county resolution, decided they were being charged too much for office space and management costs by the Chamber. Losing that income, the executive director of the Chamber decided to retire after 22 years, and the Chamber moved to new offices.

An effort to get money for economic development from the city was rebuffed and a citizens group formed to create a separate economic development group funded by city

and county money. The Sherman County Economic Development Council was formed under a county resolution four years ago.

The Chamber continued to operate and produced the Freedom Fest in July with a special concert by Country singer Tracy Lawrence. In August the Chamber came to the development council and asked for help because the Chamber was unable to pay their bills and were in the hole about \$27,000.

The development council agreed to move the Chamber into an empty office in the building at 1208 Main and to pay the phone, utilities and supply costs until the Chamber was able to get back on its feet. The council helped pay \$8,000 of the Chamber's outstanding bills.

The Chamber has been operating with volunteers manning the office since September. Linin reported in April all the outstanding

bills have been paid, and the Chamber has paid the rent of \$100 a month on the office space.

Linin said merging the two groups with one board and one organization was the preferred option.

"We looked at where we were and asked where do we go from here," Linin said. "Our volunteers are tiring. Members want more from the Chamber. Finances are stable, but not enough for a full-time director or office."

"The board is tiring, and the future is uncertain."

He said they listed the option of merging the operations with separate boards, but the Chamber board doesn't see that as an optimum solution.

"This is a difficult position," he said. "We

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Beware: Snake oil salesman on stage today

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

"You can call me Running Water."

"Since your name is Running Water, what do you expect her to call you, Arnold?"

So goes the introduction of Running Water, a fake Indian played by Jacque Schields; Kansas Melody, the fairest sunflower in Shermanville played by Janet Redlin; and Professor Silius Scavenger, a snake oil salesman played by Dale Schields in "Rogue of the Railway or ... Should He Free Her or Knot?" the Goodland Arts Council's annual dinner-theater production.

The production will be on stage at 6 p.m. tonight and Saturday night and at 2 p.m. Sunday afternoon at the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall. Call the Carnegie Arts Center at 890-6442 to see if tickets are still available.

Scavenger is a black-hearted scoundrel who comes into town with his "medicine show," a group of actors whose antics divide the audience's attention as he touts his snake oil as a cure for everything from diphtheria to gout and a fine



Dale Schields, as Professor Silius Scavenger, practiced his pitch in rehearsal Monday night, with the aid of his "fake Indian" sidekick, played by his wife, Jacque Schields. They will perform in the Goodland Arts Council's production of "Rogue of the Railway or ... Should He Free Her or Knot?" this weekend at the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

furniture polish as well.

Scavenger admits he doesn't know an honest trade and the medi-

cine show is bankrupt, so he's going to try to marry Kansas Melody so people will trust him. The hitch is

that she is the sweetheart of Sheriff Billy Bold, played by Curt Goodwin.

Brick colors approved for new intersections

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Bricks have been removed from the intersections at 10th and 12th on Main, and dozers and jackhammers have broken out the concrete to prepare for the new water lines and new brick that will be installed in August.

Monday the city commissioners decided to go with the dark red

bricks for the intersections, which is the same as the new bricks on Main at Sixth, Seventh and Eighth that were installed four years ago.

There will be a difference with the downtown intersections because the crosswalks and stop bars will be done with gray bricks.

Darin Neufeld, from Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates,

who is the project engineer told the commissioners the gray is not quite the same as the concrete gray, but will probably be closer after some traffic runs over the bricks.

He said the concrete dome pavers, which will be used in places where bricks won't go, will be similar to those used at Pioneer Park and other places in the city.

Neufeld presented a schedule of the construction project progress showing what has been done the first two weeks, and what is planned for the next two weeks.

He said the work is going well, and the workers have found some surprises as the old concrete was removed. He said they found a hole at the intersection at 10th, and found

there was a missing section of storm drainpipe at the intersection at 12th.

Residents east and west of 10th were notified they would be without water for several hours Wednesday evening as the water lines were replaced at 10th and Main. Water line replacement at 12th and Main is

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County approves director's contract

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

The Sherman County Commissioners approved the new director of economic development.

Shelly Thompson, chairman of the Sherman County Economic Development Council, introduced Tifani Kirk. Kirk was hired as the new director at its Tuesday, April 18th meeting. Kirk has been the director of the Wallace County Economic Development for 3 1/2 years. She said she would be in Goodland in two weeks and had to find a place to live.

The commissioners have to sign her contract and she is paid through the county.

"I need to get a plan of what I'm going to do," she said.

"Economic development has done a lot since it was formed," said Commissioner Chuck Thomas.

"I'm sure I'm going to have plenty of questions later," Kirk said.

An application for the Neighborhood Revitalization Rebate was from Dale Hudson, Brewster, for a machine shed. There have been 14 applications this year and 23 for last year for the tax rebate, said Kevin Rasure, chairman of the county commissioners.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby reviewed a contract from Rosewood Resources for use of county right of way. She said the address needs to be changed from the public works address to the court house. Also she had concerns about damages beginning included in the \$10 per rod (16.5 feet) for using right of way three miles north and one mile east. The commissioners agreed to let Rasure sign the contract with Rosewood Resources after the recommended changes have been made. This a natural gas pipeline to connect several wells in that area.

Curt Way, public works director, and mowing contractor Darrell Schrader talked to the commissioners about the mowing contract for county roads. Way said they would start mowing on oil roads on June 1 and gravel roads the third week in June.

"Fuel is a big concern," Schrader said, and added that he needs 23,000 gallons of diesel fuel for the season.

Schrader wanted another \$5,000 for first mowing pass to help with fuel expenses. Last year mowing was budgeted for \$160,000 and another \$5,000 for fuel adjustment.

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Rain can't dampen kids' spirit



Dustin Juleson was ready for the rain Friday when the fifth graders from North School went fossil-hunting in the Niobra chalk cliffs south of Russell Springs. See story, photos on Page 1b.

Photo By Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News