

weather
report

82°

noon

Thursday

Today

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 5:24 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 72 degrees
• Humidity 43 percent
• Sky partly sunny
• Winds east at 7 mph
• Barometer 30.14 inches

and steady
• Record High today 105° (1933)
• Record Low today 42° (1948)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 92°
Low Thursday 55°
Precipitation .21
This month 4.51
Year to date 11.61
Above normal 1.49 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny and hot, high near 98, south wind around 10 mph. 20 percent chance of showers, low near 60.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: 20 percent chance of showers, partly cloudy with a high near 93, low near 62. Sunday: 20 percent chance of showers, high near 94, low near 60. Monday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 88, low near 60. Tuesday: Mostly sunny, high near 86, low 59. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.52 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.52
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$1.94 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.95
Loan deficiency pmt. — 1¢
Milo — \$1.71 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.85 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.99
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$5.55 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$8.60 cwt.
NuSun crop — \$9.60
Confection — Call
Pinto beans — \$15.50 (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



Two students
head home

Wanja Runke, exchange student from Germany, spent time with host family Jeff and Tanya Gray's dog at their home. Runke and Lise Hangaard Vinge of Sweden headed home this month. See story, photos on Page 3a.

Plans come together for Fourth

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Organizers for the Freedom Fest on Tuesday say the pieces have come together and it should be a fun family evening of carnival rides, good food, free watermelon, country music and the largest fireworks show in northwest Kansas.

The activities will begin at 5:30 p.m. when the carnival rides open. The 4-H Junior Leaders will be selling hamburgers and hot dogs beginning at 6 p.m., and the Goodland Rotary will have a free watermelon feed.

At the same time, there will be a line dancing performance by kids from Carnegie Arts Center class.

A free concert by Willie Mack, sponsored by area businesses, will begin at 6:30 p.m. Mack was at the Slice of Life golf tournament, and a group of businesses got together to bring him back for the Freedom Fest.

Mack hails from Chino, Texas, a town of 850. He says he grew up on a ranch building fences and branding cattle and uses his experiences as inspiration for his song writing.



Mack's new album, "Average Guy," will hit stores the end of August, featuring songs all written or co-written by Mack.

People are encouraged to bring a lawn chair to enjoy the concert and the fireworks.

Brad Schields, chairman of the carnival board, said the volunteers will be running the rides to see if they are ready for the fair at the end of the month.

Special wrist bands will be sold for \$5 for the kiddie rides and \$10 for all rides.

"I am pleased and excited to see our community come together to keep this tradition going," said

Laramie Farris, 9, showed her patriotism by displaying the American flag on her face. The children at the Carnegie Arts Center Summer Art Institute made face paint and painted each other's faces on June 22.

Photo by De Ann Ihrig
Carnegie Arts Center

Kevin Rasure, Sherman County commission chair, who got a coordinating committee together to plan the Independence Day program on May 25.

Rasure said Monday enough money has been raised to pay for this year's fireworks. He encouraged people to continuing to donate to build up the special fund to pay for next year's show. He said milk cans will be placed around the fairgrounds to accept donations for next year's fireworks.

When it is dark, which fireworks expert Joe Diaz said should be about 9:30 p.m., the fireworks will begin to celebrate the 230th birthday of the United States of America.

All of the money being donated is being put in a special Freedom Fest Fireworks Fund through the Sherman County Community Foundation, and can be spent only on next year's show.

The carnival group, Sherman County Community Services, has agreed to take on planning for future festivals.

Joint road projects on drawing board

Sales tax begins on Saturday

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Survey crews are busy on old U.S. 24, north Caldwell and 17th Street getting the design work moving on the joint city-county road program, and the one-cent sales tax to pay for the fork goes into effect Saturday.

What began as a discussion between the city commission and

county commissioners in May 2005 has become reality after the county voters approved in March, by a nearly 3-1 vote, the tax to pay for the \$12 million project.

The project includes:

- Repaving the 35 miles of old U.S. 24 across the county.
- Repaving five miles of County Road 65 (Eighth Street) west of K-27.
- A new concrete section of Road 14 from old U.S. 24 north to Road 65.

• Asphalt paving for a mile of Road 16 that runs by the Sugar Hills Golf Club.

• repaving of North Caldwell from Eighth to the airport entrance.

• Replacing the intersections at Eighth and Caldwell and Armory Road and Caldwell with concrete.

• Repaving Eight street from Cattle Trail east to D'Lao Drive.

• Concrete paving for 17th street from Main to the railroad crossing at Cherry.

Under state law, the county had to

ask the state Legislature to pass a bill allowing the Sherman County voters to raise the sales tax.

In what some say was the fastest the Legislature has ever moved, the bill was introduced in the Senate by Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer and in the House by Rep. Jim Morrison in January. It took less than 30 days from introduction for committee hearings and passage by both houses to get to the governor's desk, just the third bill of the session she signed.

In October, Darin Neufeld, engi-

neer from Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, submitted an economic development grant to the Kansas Department of Transportation to help pay for the paving of County Road 14, where the new Goodland Energy Center is being built.

In December, Sherman County was awarded \$800,000 to help pay for construction of that section.

Every township of the county and

See ROADS, Page 7a

K-27 project gets moving

The first phase of construction started Tuesday on a new section of K-27 from Goodland south to the Wallace County line, but the real work will begin with earth moving in July.

A public meeting to answer questions on the project will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Howard Johnson Hotel in Goodland, said Kristen Brands, northwest district public affairs manager with the Department of Transportation from Norton.

Western Engineering of Harlan, Iowa, was the low bidder on the \$14.7 million project, said Eric Oelschlager, project engineer for the state

See K-27, Page 7a

Bahe quits as wrestling coach

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Goodland High wrestling coach Randy Bahe, whose teams had a strong run a state tournaments over five years, resigned Monday.

The school board hired his assistant from last season, Joe Stramek, as the new head wrestling coach for next year.

Stramek spent the 2005-2006 school year as a student teacher from Fort Hays State University for Dennis Stone at Goodland High. He will teach math besides being a coach.

The school is still looking for assistant coaches. Ponch Avelar and Stramek were the assistants this year.

"We need to find quality people to surround him," said High School Principal

Harvey Swager.

Bahe has been the head wrestling coach for five years. His team tied for second at the state tournament in 2003 with one individual champion, placed fifth at state in 2002 with one individual champion and third in state in 2004 with three champions. In 2005, he was the Class 4A Coach of the Year with one state champion. The team was 10th tenth at state this year with one individual champion.

Kathy Bahe, his wife, resigned as cheerleader sponsor. The paper was unable to contact the Bahes for comment Thursday.

The board signed thank-you cards to Amie Reicks, Marjorie Schnabel, Shawn Gastineau, Kris Cowan, Connie Jo Johnson, Shauna Johnson and Kelly Hendrich for running the garage sale on Friday

and Saturday at the old Cobblestone Greenhouse, selling the contents left by the previous owners. The women represented the site councils for North and Central elementary schools.

"They took in almost \$3,000," said Superintendent Marvin Selby.

He said the district had an offer from Christie Rasure for the growing tables in the north greenhouse for \$20 each. The board agreed to sell them.

Selby said that money would be added to original amount of the garage sale and divided between the two site councils.

Selby said the auditors were pleased with the tentative year-end cash summary and budget summary. He thanked the

See SCHOOL, Page 7a

Superintendent turns over reins

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

Superintendent Marvin Selby hands over the reins of the Goodland School District to Shelly Angelos today after more than a decade in the job.

"I really enjoyed my 12 years in Goodland, and I've had a run of good board members," Selby, 73, said. "Everybody was working for the school system and the kids."

Selby said he intends to golf and garden. He will stay on as a financial consultant for the school district for about one day a week and will be paid \$20,400 for the school year.

"This has been a super place for Bonnie and I," he said, referring to his wife, who is a lawyer and the Sherman County attorney.

"The year before I came, the board overspent the budget," Selby recalled, adding that at the present time the district is in good financial shape. "I am proud that the district is 40th in the state for average teacher's salary and below average in taxes in the state."

Selby said he started his 48-year career in education in 1958 at Valley Falls, making \$4,500 a year. He taught math, physical education, social studies and coached football, basketball, track and baseball for two years.

For the next four years, he taught physical education and was the foot-



Superintendent Marvin Selby

ball and track coach for Hiawatha. The next 22 years he spent in Colby. He was the head football and track coach for three years, athletic director for nine and principal of the middle school for 10.

Selby's first superintendent job was in North Lyon County for eight years. The district ran one consolidated school for the four small towns of Reading, Americus, Allen and Admire. The largest town was

Reading, with a population of 700. From there, he moved to Goodland.

In his career, Selby said, he's seen a shift in emphasis to academic success over the years. He said 15 to 20 years ago, in junior high the aim was to get the kids to feel good about themselves.

In that time, he said, higher education has switched from well bal-

See SELBY, Page 7a

Independent candidate files for commissioner

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

There will be a contest for Sherman County commissioner in District 1 this fall with the filing Wednesday of an independent candidate to face the winner of the four-way Republican primary.

Conrad Pettijohn, owner of PJ's Home Improvement, filed as an independent candidate on Wednesday, said County Clerk Janet Rumpel. She said he had more than the 54 signatures required to get his name on the general election ballot for Tuesday, Nov. 7.

The Republican nomination for the commissioner post will be decided in the primary Tuesday, Aug. 1.

Chuck Thomas, an Edson farmer, holds the seat now. He will face three challengers, including Darin Neufeld, an engineer whose firm was bypassed by commissioners when they were deciding who would design county roads in a joint city-county project.

Larry Enfield, lives in the Armstrong Addition and farms north of Ruleton, and Curtis Hurd, a retired contractor and former Goodland city commissioner, filed Monday June 10. Neufeld is an

engineer for Evans, Bierly, Hutchinson and Associates. All are Republicans.

Commissioner District 1 represents all of Goodland Ward 3, the part of Ward 4 south of Sixth Street, and Iowa, Itasca, Union and Washington townships.

Only those registered as Republicans in the district can vote in the primary, Rumpel said. The position will be the only county office on the ballot this year.

Rumpel said this is a party election, and only Republicans, Democrats or unaffiliated voters who want to declare a party affiliation are eligible to vote. An unaffiliated person can get a primary election ballot by declaring as a Democrat or Republican, but Democrats and Republicans cannot switch parties on Primary Election day.

For the primary election, voter registration books will close at 5 p.m. on Monday, July 17, Rumpel said. Voters can switch parties up until that time.

"If the person is registering for the first time in Sherman County," she said, "they will have to provide a form of identification that shows their current address."