

weather
report

94°

noon
Thursday



Today

• Sunset, 8:14 p.m.
Saturday
Sunrise, 5:32 a.m.
• Sunset, 8:13 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 79 degrees
• Humidity 27 percent
• Sky Mostly sunny
• Winds north at 10 mph
• Barometer 30.00 inches
and Steady
• Record High today 107° (1934)
• Record Low today 47° (1990)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 94°
Low Thursday 64°
Precipitation —
This month .53
Year to date 12.14
Below normal .86 of an inch

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny, high near 96 and
clear with a low around 67.

Extended Forecast

Saturday through Wednesday:
Sunny and hot. High around 100
and lows around 67.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.53 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.71
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$2.32 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.26
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$2.02 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.22 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.23
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$5 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.35 cwt.
NuSun crop — \$10.35
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



Pickin' show
begins today

The band Spontaneous
Combustion fired up the
audience at last year's
Pickin' on the Plains blue-
grass festival. This year's
event begins today and
runs through Sunday. See
photo, story on Page 3.

Water park to get heat pumps

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Mother Nature has been the heat source for the pools at Steever Water Park since the heating system went out in May, but that will change by next year.

The City Commission agreed Monday to replace the boiler with a heat pump system at an estimated cost of \$40,000.

The heating plant went out shortly after the pool opened at the end of May. Public Works Manager Rich Simon told the commission in June that the heater coil in the five-year-old boiler was shot, and that it could cost up to \$30,000 to put in a new natural-gas boiler.

Mayor Rick Billinger suggested looking into a heat pump system. City Manager Wayne Hill; Charlie Bandel, electrical crew chief; Rod Blake, power plant superintendent; and Simon went to Minden, Neb., on July 3 to look at a heat pump system there.

Hill said the Minden pool is about two-thirds the size of Steever Water Park, and it takes nine heat pumps to heat the water to the 80-degree temp they keep it at.

He said the heat pumps keep the water at a set temperature, and that while he and the other Goodland people were there, one pump came on for a few minutes and shut off again.

Simon said he was impressed with the system.

Hill said the Minden pool operator said the starting temperature was 58 degrees, and it took two days for the heat pumps to bring the water to 80.

“Once the temperature is reached,

Life guards rule the summer



Steever Water Park life guards Tanae Garrett, Whitney Archer and Megan Stefan watch the kids in the water. The life guards are helping with the Red Cross swimming lessons, and the

last session of the summer began on Monday. A community page about the life guards and the swimming lessons can be found on Page 9. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

only one pump is used to keep it up,” Hill said. “More pumps might turn on if the temperature falls.”

Hill said U.S. ThermoAmp, of Latrobe, Penn., which manufactures the Heat Siphon, recommended eight pumps for Steever Water Park.

Hill suggested putting them on a fenced pad across the street to the south and piping the water from the pool and back under the street.

He said the company that made

the recommendation has done a climate study on the Goodland area, and believes that eight pumps are enough to keep the water park heated.

“I have a lot of figures from the company,” Hill said. “They have studied the temperatures over a 30-year period from May 15 to Labor Day.”

He said the electric bill would be \$4,000 a month if all eight pumps

were working every day. There is a two-year guarantee on the pumps and five years on the compressors. Hill said the electrical cost would be less because not all the pumps would be running at one time other than to heat the pool at the beginning of the season.

The heat pump works the opposite of an air conditioner, Hill said. The water is pumped through a heat exchanger where it is heated and

then pumped back to the pool.

“We have the expertise to do the project in house with our people,” Hill said.

He said there would be four lines to be buried under the street. Two would be the in and out lines for the water, plus a large power line and a fresh water line to be able to wash out the pump area.

See POOL, Page 11

Review shows visitor's bureau doing good job

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

The review by the county's auditors for the Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau showed that the group was doing a good job with its record keeping and found no irregularities, says Director Donna Price.

Price gave the report of auditors of Vonfeldt, Bauer and Vonfeldt of

Larned at the board meeting on Tuesday morning at 7:30 a.m.. They wanted the bureau to specify banks as depositories at the beginning of each year, she said.

Price said they wanted them to add a list of obligations to the financial reports the board gets for its meetings, and the board thought that would be a good idea. It would give the board an idea of what money had

been committed. The auditor suggested surety bonds for Price and the board, a kind of insurance against employee theft, and Price said she was making inquiries on the cost.

The auditors thought the board should sign the minutes for each meeting and the board said they would start. The auditor said there should be a petty cash checkbook. The board thought it would be an

unnecessary expense, though, as the fund is only \$100 and all money is accounted for.

The auditor felt that a receipt book might be useful in keeping track of the money received. Price said that is done through deposit receipts and she did not feel a receipt book was necessary.

“I would rather see more time spent promoting businesses and the com-

munity than doing paper work,” said Bill Stoik, a board member and owner and manager of Super 8 Motel.

A reporter from *American Profile* magazine will be in Goodland for the Sunflower Festival to take pictures, Price told the board. The magazine is inserted as a supplement in *The Goodland Star-News*.

See REVIEW, Page 11

Monday last day to register

Citizens who want to vote in the primary election on Tuesday, Aug. 1, have until 5 p.m. Monday to register at the Sherman County clerk's office.

Clerk Janet Rumpel said voters can switch parties up until that time. She said all primary voting will be held at the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall, 814 Main in Goodland. This will be the first election with the new electronic voting machines.

Advance voting will open on Tuesday at the clerk's office, Rumpel said.

“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.”

There are four Republicans seeking the nomination for county commissioner in District 1. Commissioner Chuck Thomas of Edson is seeking re-election, facing primary opposition from former City Commissioner Curtis Hurd, farmer Larry Enfield, who lives in the Armstrong Addition, and Darin Neufeld, an engineer and part owner of Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates.

Thomas and Neufeld clashed over county engineering contracts for the joint road project, which were awarded to an out-of-county firm.

Only Republicans registered in District 1 will vote in the commission race, which is the only county office on the ballot. There are contests for the Republican nomination for governor, secretary of state, insurance commissioner and District 5 of the state Board of Education.



Dirk and Pam Sheldon talked to Carl Epley of Western Engineering at an open house held last Thursday at Howard Johnson's

Hotel about how close the road will come to their home, and ways to save some trees. Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

K-27 grading work begins south of city

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Grading for a new K-27 south of Goodland began on Monday, people heard at a Kansas Department of Transportation open house here last Thursday evening.

Carl Epley, general manager for contractor Western Engineering, said crews have been watering the first three-mile section, and grading was to begin on Monday. Epley is from the North Platte, Neb., branch office of the Harlan, Iowa company. Eric Oelschlager, area engineer

for the Transportation Department from Atwood, said the 12.6 mile project is being split into two sections, and the north six miles will be done first, from the south edge of Goodland to County Road 57, about six miles south of town.

Epley said the grading for the new roadbed will start from the south of the first project section and work to the north.

Most of the people who attended the open house live along the section

See K-27, Page 11

Sealing project restarts Monday

The chip sealing of 16.5 miles of K-27 north of Goodland has been delayed, but state highway officials expect the work to resume on Monday.

Eric Oelschlager, area engineer from Atwood, said Hi-Plains Sand of Kanopolis is doing the seal project, but had to stop because they ran out of rock.

Oelschlager said Hi-Plains

started the project last week, but will have to come back to complete it. He expects the project to take two days if the weather is OK.

Drivers will have to wait for pilot cars, and there could be delays of up to 15 minutes said Kristen Brands, area public affairs manager from Norton.

The cost of the sealing is \$333,000 for the 16.5 miles.