

The Goodland Star-News

MIDWEEK

**Tuesday, Oct. 17
2006**

\$1

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Twelve Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

65°
noon Monday



Today

- Sunset, 6:58 p.m.
- Wednesday**
- Sunrise, 6:59 a.m.
- Sunset, 6:07 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 58 degrees
- Humidity 65 percent
- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds south at 5 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.38 inches and falling
- Record High today 96° (1926)
- Record Low today 48° (1948)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	60°
Low Monday	47°
Precipitation	—
This month	1.23
Year to date	20.46
Above normal	2.5 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: A20 percent chances of showers after noon. Partly cloudy, high near 58, low around 34. Rain likely, mixing with snow after midnight.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: Rain and snow likely, mainly before noon. Mostly cloudy, high near 41, low around 28. Thursday: Partly cloudy, high near 52, low near 32. Friday: Partly cloudy, high near 57, low around 30. Saturday: Partly cloudy, high near 53, low around 29.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.



Check door with back of a hand to see if it is hot before opening.



Elementary students crouched down and covered their mouths when the smoke began to fill the room. They crawled out a sliding door and down a waiting ladder.



Central third graders told Fire Chief David Alan that a handle of the pot should not be sticking out.

Elementary students learn about home fire safety

Sherman County Rural Fire Department volunteers took students from Central and West elementary schools through their fire trailer Friday to show the kids what to do in an emergency.

The visit was part of activities for Fire Prevention Month. In the kitchen area (above) of the home-like trailer, Goodland Rural Fire Chief Alan David asked kids from Rachel Hodges' third-grade class what was wrong with a pan on the stove. Samantha Zupko held up her hand to say the handle should not be sticking out. Brevin Bergsma (next to Zupko), Jacob Stasser, Draven Buchanan, Jordan Siruta (top left) Cole Knitig and Lindsey Geeseka listened as David told the group Zupko was right.

Upstairs, Stasser and Bergsma (top left photo) touched a door with the back of their hands to see that it was warm, which firemen said it would be if there was a fire behind the door.

Students (left) covered their mouths and crouched on the floor of the second story bedroom as harmless smoke rolled out. The students crawled out an upstairs sliding door and two firemen helped the students down a ladder.

The trailer was at Wal-Mart on Saturday, giving other kids the same chance to learn about fire safety. The Goodland Lions were at the store with their vision screening van, and the Kansas Highway Patrol was doing child-seat safety checks. Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.83 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.93
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$3.05 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.80
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$2.65 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.17 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.05
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$6.50 hundredweight
Sunflowers
NuSun crop — \$12
Pinto beans — \$19 (new crop)
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

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Young Guns lose game

Derek Matthews tried to run out of an ankle tackle by a Junior Red Devil from Oberlin in the Young Guns sixth-grade game Saturday at Cowboys Stadium. The team lost 37-7. See photo on Page 11.

County to build storage building

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The dream of having a storage building and workshop for Sherman County's home-owned carnival is going to become a reality with the help of the county commissioners, who agreed Tuesday to help with the project.

The commissioners agreed to accept land owned by the carnival south of the fairgrounds to expand parking and in return help build a 60 x 150 building with space for carnival storage and new handicapped-accessible restrooms for the fair.

Final approval of the agreement is on the agenda for today's commission meeting.

The commissioners and Brad Schields, president of the Sherman County Community Services board, which runs the carnival, had discussed the project in closed session on Sept. 29 to consider acquiring the property. The commissioners asked County Attorney Bonnie Selby to draft an agreement to allow the county to accept the land and build the building, which would be leased to the carnival.

Schields and Brad Schick, who is taking over as the head of the carnival ride maintenance crew, met with the commissioners Tuesday to review the draft agreement.

Schields said there were a few changes he would like to see in the contract, which he said the carnival

Insurance costs mount for carnival

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The president of the Sherman County Community Services board said Sunday he's glad to see that the county will help the group put up a storage building for its carnival rides.

Brad Schields said that will relieve the home-owned carnival of some liabilities and provide a place to store and repair the rides out of the weather. The county will free up space in the Agriculture Building at the fairgrounds where the rides have been stored.

Schields said the carnival board was able to buy land south of the fairgrounds with money from state tax credits, even though they had not been able to sell the total \$125,000 to give them enough to build a building.

"I felt it would be a good thing for the county as well as the carnival," Schields said about trading the land to the county. "I think it is a workable situation for both of us, and it does eliminate us from some liability issues."

board would consider the agreement that night. He objected to a section talking about reviewing the agreement and a \$1-a-year lease every year.

"I feel like we need to have it worded about the agreement staying in effect as long as Sherman County Community Services continues to exist," Schields said. "We don't

want any surprises, and don't want the annual lease of \$1 go up."

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked about having the county pay the cost of installation of the water, sewer and electric in the building.

"We are hoping to ask the city for help with the utilities," Schields said, "but it is your building, so it would be your cost for the installa-

Schields said giving the land to the county would take the carnival out of the land ownership. He said there have been offers for the land, and the carnival felt having the county own it would be the best for both parties.

"I think it is better for us to only own the rides," Schields said. "That way there aren't any assets for someone to go after if there was an injury."

Schields said the insurance cost for the carnival is getting higher each year, making it harder to come out even. He said a regional meeting later this month should get carnival people from around the area together to see if there are any options to help hold down the insurance costs.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said Sunday he had been talking to the county's insurance pool about the growing problems for the nonprofit groups including the home-owned carnivals. Rasure said when he talked to the insurance representative, he was in New York trying to find companies who might be able to

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Citizens invited to dinner

All Sherman County citizens are invited to a "community conversation" tonight to help plan Sherman County's future.

Economic Development Director Tiffani McMinn said Monday that the "Shine on, Sherman County" gathering will begin with a free dinner at 5:30 p.m. at the Goodland Elks Lodge, 1523 Arcade. After dinner, consultant Terry Woodbury of Kansas Communities LLC will lead a discussion among representatives of what he calls "the public square" — business, education, health and human services and government — on the county's needs.

McMinn said the steering committee and Woodbury have completed about 80 interviews and received over 300 surveys that will be part of the discussion.

She said the meeting is a way for people to have a say in the future direction of the city and county, and the planners hope a lot of people show up to take part.

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