

weather report

74°
 noon
 Monday



Today

- Sunset, 6:41 p.m.
- Wednesday**
- Sunrise, 6:38 a.m.
- Sunset, 6:39 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 70 degrees
- Humidity -55 percent
- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds out of the west at 7 mph
- Barometer 29.88 inches and falling
- Record High today 97° (1998)
- Record Low today 21° (1926)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Sunday 89°
- Low Sunday 62°
- Precipitation .30
- This month .91
- Year to date 13.06
- Below Normal 4.22 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 69, a low around 46 and winds from the north at 10-15 mph. Wednesday: Mostly sunny with a high near 75, a low around 45 and winds out of the south at 5-10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high near 78 and a low around 49. Friday: Mostly sunny with a high near 78 and low around 51. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

- Noon**
- Wheat — \$7.93 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$7.76
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
 - Corn — \$3.41 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$3.23
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
 - Milo — \$3.21 bushel
 - Soybeans — \$8.48 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$8.45
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
 - Millet — \$7 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$17.90 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0c
 - Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)
- (Markets by Scoular Grain, Sigo Sun, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



Beavers beat Cowboys

Cowboys Fernando Martinez (on the ground with the football) pushed across the goal line in the game Friday against Scott City. The touchdown was the Cowboys only score as they lost 20-7. See story, photo on Page 10.



City electric crew members put the Flatlander Fall Festival banner back up across Main between 13th and 14th after the sign had some wind holes cut to relieve pressure on the banner when the Kansas winds blow. The festival begins on Friday, and the National Weather Service is predicting a high of 80 for Friday. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Flatlander Festival fun for all

There will be something for everyone at the Flatlander Fall Festival that begins on Friday. From live entertainment at the talent contest to scruffy dogs, the motorcycle show, the rod run, a golf tournament, and a tractor pull.

If none of those are your thing, there's the shopping at the sidewalk sale and vendors' booths along Main Ave. as well as the flea market and garage sale at the Antique Warehouse, games, stock car races, a beer garden and plenty of food on Saturday.

You can sample the chili at Frontier Ag's chili cook-off and vote for the People's Choice awards, and there will be burgers, barbecue, "sno-cones", lemonade, Mexican food, pizza cooked in a wood-fired oven, bierocks, funnel cakes and more at the downtown festival Saturday. Hamburger and hot dog meals will be \$1 each at Sunday's Picnic in the Park, and a pizza vendor and a barbecue vendor plan to sell food at the picnic.

The festival is in its 20th year and is still growing, with the golf tournament and picnic added last year and the talent contest and tractor pull demonstrations added this year, along with the chili cook-off returning with a new sponsor.

The festival added a \$25,000 hole-in-one prize to the golf tournament this year, said Brent Wood, a festival committee member, and is promoting the event around the sur-

City approves beer garden

By Tom Betz

ntbetz@nwkansas.com

City commissioners unanimously approved a request from the Flatlander Fall Festival committee for a beer garden from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 1500 Main on Saturday.

Lincoln Wilson, committee chairman, said the beer garden will be set up the same as last year, but they are hoping for better weather.

Mayor Rick Billinger asked city staff members Rich Simon, public works director; Phil Erickson, streets superintendent; and Charlie Bandel, electric crew superintendent, if they had any concerns about the beer garden.

All three said they had no problem as long as it was set up like last year.

City Commissioner Annette Fairbanks made a motion to approve the permit and Commissioner John Garcia seconded. The commissioner voted unanimously in favor with City Commissioner Dave Daniels joining Fairbanks and Garcia and Mayor Billinger. Commissioner Josh Dechant was absent.

Wilson said the committee wanted to thank the city for all the help it has given the event.

Wilson said the three-day celebration

will begin on Friday with a golf tournament at Sugar Hills Golf Club, and that evening there will be racing at the Sherman County Speedway and pre-registration for the Brick Top Cruisers Rod Run. Saturday will be the big day, with the Rod Run, bike show, vendors and demonstrations filling Main Street from Eighth to 17th.

Sunday afternoon, Wilson said, the festival will wrap up with the Picnic in the Park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Chambers Park with vendors, food and music.

In other business, the commission:

- Approved purchase of two Super Z mowers for the parks department from Cochran Farm Supply for \$15,600. Simon recommended Cochran as the lowest of the three bids received. The other bids were from Yost Farm Supply for a Grasshopper 428D for \$10,350 and a Grasshopper 335 for \$8,000; and Goodland Greenline for two 997 diesel Z-Trak mowers for \$24,000.

Garcia asked if the Cochran mowers meet all the specifications and Simon said they did. Billinger asked if the city had anything for a trade-in, but Simon said what they have is

See CITY, Page 8

County development director begins job this week

Tom Betz

ntbetz@nwkansas.com

The change of directors for the Sherman County Economic Development Council will begin with the arrival Friday of the new director, then next week the old director will be in town to help with the transition.

At a council meeting Tuesday, Chairman Don Newell said Jeremy Jennings will be in town Friday to get his paperwork done at the courthouse and attend the Flatlander Fall Festival over the weekend.

The council approved having outgoing Director Tiffani McMinn come back the first week of October to help Jennings meet the state and regional officials she has been dealing with and to give him an update on the projects the office has been handling.

The council approved paying McMinn as a contract worker for the week, covering her travel to and from Texas.

The council members unanimously endorsed a contract with Jennings they had agreed to offer after a meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 11. The contract calls for paying Jennings \$45,000 for his first year as director.

Newell said he believes the salary is in line with the budget and should not be a problem.

"I think we need to give Jeremy a chance to start," Newell said. "I think he wants to see more committee activity, and we need to get them rolling again."

Newell said Jennings told him he likes the council's web site but wants to tweak it a bit.

Helen Dobbs, the council's office manager, said she has been having trouble updating the site, but hopes to get that fixed in the next week. She said she has been able to update some pages, but some she has tried to change she has not been able to get to show up.

Dobbs said the office had received 66 applications for the second round of the housing and business grants by Tuesday, with the deadline last Friday.

She said the grant committee will meet at noon on Thursday to go through the applications and select two winners in each category.

The council had over 100 applications for the first round, awarded in May.

The grants will be for \$1,500 each for two homes to be improved and two business,

Dobbs said. She reported that work on the two home and two business grants from May is nearly completed, with one house and one business project done and the other two nearly done.

Dobbs said the new grants will require the project to be done by a local contractor, and where possible to purchase all the materials through a local vendor.

Dobbs also reported on a state housing conference she attended in Hutchinson. She said one of the programs dealt with the need to have homes inspected for lead paint.

Dobbs said a state inspector was talking about training being done for contractors in the eastern part of the state, and she asked him

See DIRECTOR, Page 8

Firemen on stand by...



Members of the city fire department (left photo) were standing by in case of a fire at the airport for the power-on refueling of a British Sea King helicopter (above photo) on a cross country flight. Butterfly Aviation requested the fire department presence at the request of the British pilot. The helicopter was to fly back through the area on Saturday. Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News