

**weather
report****67°**
noon

Thursday

Today

• Sunset, 6:14 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 6:55 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:13 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 60 degrees
- Humidity 48 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds south 16-24 mph
- Barometer 30.01 inches and falling
- Record High today 94° (1975)
- Record Low today 20° (1917)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday	73°
Low Wednesday	44°
Precipitation	none
This month	none
Year to date	13.26
Below Normal	4.53 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly sunny with a high near 72, a low around 49 and winds out of east 10-15 mph. Saturday: Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers, a high near 72, a low around 47 and winds out of the southeast 5-10 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers, a high near 64 and a low around 39. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local
markets****Noon**

Wheat — \$8.06 bushel
Posted county price — \$7.84
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$3.05 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.01
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$2.89 bushel
Soybeans — \$8.21 bushel
Posted county price — \$8.39
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$7 hundredweight
Sunflowers
NuSun — \$17.90 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)
(Markets by Scouler Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

**inside
today**

More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News

**Cowgirls
head to state**

Sammie Raymer putted at hole No. 9 at the Sugar Hills Golf Club on Sept. 4. She was second in regional competition Monday at Syracuse. The Cowgirls qualified as a team for state competition on Monday. See photo, story on Page 9a.

Veterans' clinic opens Monday

By Tom Betz

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The Community Outreach Veterans' Clinic in Burlington, located at 1177 Rose Ave., is ready to open and a ribbon cutting and open house are scheduled for 11 a.m. on Monday.

A free light lunch — from noon to 1 p.m. — will be provided to those attending and free tours will be given from noon to 2 p.m.

A brief program will kick-off the open house with presentation of the flags by the Burlington Veterans of Foreign Wars and the national anthem to be sung by Linda Schall.

Speakers will include Burlington Mayor Kim Knox, Duane Hitchcock a Vietnam Veterans and past commander of the Burlington Veterans of Foreign Wars, City Administrator Bob Churchwell, Danyel Brenner, who

staffs the Eastern Colorado office of U.S. Sen. Wayne Allard; U.S. Rep. Marilyn Swingle, state Sen. Greg Brophy; state Rep. Cory Gardner and Department of Veterans Affairs representatives Brian Mullen and Lynette Roff.

The drive for a community veterans' clinic began in 2004 with a public forum held at the Goodland Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall where nearly 400 veterans and supporters gathered to urge the Denver Regional Veterans Affairs office to consider opening a clinic in the area.

The Denver Veterans Affairs Office sent out a request for proposals in January, and in March said the sites had been narrowed down to Goodland, Burlington and Yuma, Colo.

Visits were made to the three sites in March,

and Burlington was notified on April 30 their proposal had been accepted.

Burlington's proposal included charging no rent for the building as long as it is occupied by the veterans clinic, all utilities will be paid by the city for three years, as well as all maintenance and cleaning.

After three years, the contract will be re-written for a period of seven years. It is assumed the veterans' clinic will begin to pay for utilities, maintenance and cleaning, but no rent will be charged.

Burlington has spent approximately \$200,000 on remodeling and expanding the building formerly known as the Medical Arts Building Churchwell said.

"We have received around \$10,000 in donations from individuals in the area," he

said.

The building now has 2,040 square feet plus adequate parking.

The clinic will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Officials have said there is a possibility that over 4,600 patients in this service area could utilize the clinic in Burlington.

The building was constructed in 1971 as a medical clinic for Dr. C.L. Ross.

Burlington purchased the building from the Ross family in 1990 for \$76,100. The community was involved in searching for new doctors at the time and needed a building such as the clinic to assist them with the search.

Editor's note: Rol Hudler, publisher of The Burlington Record provided information for this story.

School board hears sports change report

By Ramona C. Sanders

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Talk of change dominated Monday's school board meeting with discussion on a new mission and vision statement, a new format for student report cards and a new football league classification.

Goodland High School athletic director Don Smith said the high school football team will now be playing in class 3A. The classification changed because of the school's lower enrollment. No other Goodland sports teams are affected by the change.

Smith is participating in the Kansas State Activity Association's football scheduling process, which covers the next two years. He said the high school football team will now be playing against Scott City, Norton and Ness City-Dighton.

He said the team will be playing Oakley, Colby, St. Francis, Wakeeney, Atwood in the beginning of the regular season.

"(The schedule) is pretty heavy on the northwest Kansas side, that's kind of surprising," Smith said. "I think it's a good schedule for us. It's a good chance to be competitive in the football cycle."

Smith also distributed a chart of student participation in high school athletics, activities and clubs. There are 269 students at the high school, according to the September enrollment count. Smith said there are 152 boys and 117 girls.

Board president Dick Short asked if numbers were available for students who did not participate in anything at all. Board member Chuck Wilkens said he would be interested in seeing the correlation between activity participation and grade point average. Smith said the non-participation numbers have not been compiled but he would provide that to the board in the future.

Superintendent Shelly Angelos updated the school board on the status of the new report card design for kindergarten through 4th-grade students. The board approved the change in June.

The change is being made so that parents can more easily match their child's progress in the classroom with their performance on state testing, Angelos said.

District curriculum specialist Sharon Gregory, who is also the high school principal, will be meeting with teachers this week about the new reporting process. Report

cards will be distributed at the end of October and the beginning of November, depending on the school. The same changes to report cards for other grades are expected later.

Also during the meeting, board members discussed creating a new district mission and vision statement. The current mission statement is: To prepare each student to be responsible and successful in the ever-changing world.

The board talked about whether there was a need to expand upon that statement.

"Maybe there's nothing wrong with a one-sentence mission statement as long as it encompasses what we're trying to do," said board member LeAnn Friedrichs.

Board member Andrew House questioned how specific the statement should be.

"How important is it for the mission statement to be specific enough to where it has teeth, or should it be a broad philosophical statement?" he asked.

Angelos said she felt the statement should be more than philosophical and should contain specifics. Gregory reminded the board that the statement would be a guide to direct teachers, administrators and students.

Each school board member offered the elements they felt should be included in the mission and vision statements. In addition to academics, those ideas included responsibility, success, growth, social interaction, and student engagement.

The board also considered whether they should get input from school teachers and administrators.

"There are two rules of thoughts," said Angelos. "One is to get input from the staff. The other angle, I look at this as the direction the board wants the district to take."

House said he wanted input from teachers and administrators because they are "the professionals." Wilkens said he felt the board should "set the parameters."

Friedrichs agreed with Wilkens: "It's our job and our responsibility to look at these things and give these folks a map of what we want to do. Somebody elected us."

The board agreed to submit their ideas so that board secretary Pat Juhl can compile them and to consider them at the next board meeting.

See SCHOOL, Page 7a

Development council awards more grants

By Tom Betz

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Two business and two housing improvement grants of \$1,500 each were awarded last week by the Sherman County Economic Development Council as part of the second round of the project program for the year.

Outgoing Development Director Tiffani McMinn, who was in town for a few days to work with the new director, said the office got more than 75 applications for the grants, and the selection committee had a tough time narrowing down to the top projects.

The housing grants went to

Bertha Aguilar of 621 W. 17th, for painting and a new roof, and to Sherry L. Elsie-Carroll of 220 N. Main to replace nine windows.

The business grants went to Jacque's Hallmark, 1124 Main to replace 18 windows, and to Wane's Carpet and Drapery Shop, 718 Caldwell to redo the exterior signage and paint the outside.

"I wish we could have awarded every one the committee looked at," she said. "I am glad we were able to keep this program going, and to do more of these in the future."

See GRANTS, Page 7a

Khaylee Luther (on the slide) and her classmates at Central Elementary School enjoyed the warm Indian Summer weather on the school playground Wednesday. The weather was warm, and is expected to remain warm through Saturday.

Photo by Ramona Sanders/The Goodland Star-News

City asked to support task force

By Tom Betz

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Members of the Sherman County Crimestoppers group will be at Monday's city meeting to hear what the commissioners are going to do about the dues for the Quad County Drug Task Force that were cut out of this year and next year's budget.

Doug Murphy, investigator for the Quad County Task Force is on the agenda to talk to the commission and answer their questions.

The Crimestoppers members appeared at city commissioners on Monday, Oct. 1, and asked why the money had been cut from the budget, and asked the city to reconsider. At that meeting Mayor Rick Billinger said the city would look into the legal questions about accepting donations and would consider the

dues at the next meeting.

The commissioners said it was a budget decision, but agreed to review the issue and hear more about what the task force has been doing. The city agreed to ask the city attorney to see if Crimestoppers can accept donations from people to help pay the city's dues, and whether these donations could be tax deductible.

The commission decided during budget discussions in July to cut the \$5,000 dues to the task force from this year's and next year's budget.

Walt Linthacum, spokesman for the group and owner of L and W Andrist Insurance, said they had some questions about why the action was taken, and what could be done about changing the decision.

"It was a budget item, and you

make decisions on what you think you need," Mayor Rick Billinger said. "I think we were wondering if we were getting what we wanted out of the program."

Linthacum said the statistics appear to show that Sherman County is getting its fair share of help from the task force to help fight drugs.

"The statistics show Sherman County was responsible for 52 percent of the arrests," Linthacum said, "and that was before the last ones that made the front page."

"We feel the police can handle this without being a part of the Quad County," said Commissioner Josh Dechant. "Did the police chief ask you to come?"

"No he did not," Linthacum said.

See DRUGS, Page 7a