

weather report



63°
noon
Monday

Today

• Sunset, 5:03 p.m.
Wednesday
• Sunrise, 6:56 a.m.
• Sunset, 5:04 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 35 degrees
• Humidity 23 percent
• Sky partly cloudy
• Winds southwest 26-37 mph
• Barometer 29.30 inches and falling
• Record High today 69° (1976)
• Record Low today -13° (1951)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday 67°
Low Sunday 17°
Precipitation none
This month 0.12
Year to date 0.12
Below normal 0.27 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 40, winds out of the west 15-35 mph and a low around 14.
Wednesday: Mostly sunny with a 30 percent chance of snow at night, a high near 40, a low around 16 and winds north 10-15 mph.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Partly sunny with a high near 33, a low around 14.
Friday: Mostly sunny with a high near 41 and a low around 16.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Hospital joins cancer alliance

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

A group of about 50 people heard the announcement that the Goodland Regional Medical Center was a founding member of the Midwest Cancer Alliance at 8 a.m. on Monday morning at the family health clinic.

Chief Executive Officer Jay Jolly of Goodland Regional Medical Center said the idea started almost three years ago at a telemedicine conference in Denver where several people from Kansas University including Ryan Spalding and Norbert Belz were on panels.

Telemedicine is a way for on-site patient consultations using telephone and video so patients do not have to travel to receive specialized care, said Jolly.

The next step was when S & T Communications started building the infrastructure to handle the technology, Jolly said. The first trial for telemedicine was in child psychiatry for the hospital. The hospital has a long history of bringing specialized medical care to patients with its out-patient specialists' clinic which brings in doctors in the fields of dermatology, gynecology, urology and many other areas.

University of Kansas doctors were at the Flatlanders Festival in 2006 and ran a cancer screening clinic.

"I was in Goodland last year and was impressed by the infectious attitude of the medical center," said Medical Director Dr. Gary Doolittle of the Midwest Cancer Alliance.

"Traveling great distances for cancer care is just not right," said Dr. Roy Jensen, direc-



First National Bank President Larry McCants (left) talked with University of Kansas Cancer Center Director Dr. Roy Jensen and attorney Ron Vignery after a press conference on Monday morning at the Family Health Center of Goodland Regional Medical Center. The hospital became a founding member of the Midwest Cancer Alliance.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

tor of University of Kansas Cancer Center. "Kansas rates of cancer cure are half of the rate nationally."

Dr. Jensen wants to have the University of Kansas Cancer Center designated as a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National

Cancer Institute. He said the mission of the alliance is to reduce and eliminate the burden of cancer in the midlands.

The alliance will allow the sharing of innovative ideas, treatments and education for doctors and nurses plus allowing patients to

have appointments via telemedicine.

Jolly said Dr. Doolittle will make monthly site visits. Funds for the hospital to become part of the alliance came from Kansas University Foundation and the Northwest Kansas Area Medical Foundation.

Stainless steel for ethanol product



Pipe welding continues at the E-Carusu ethanol plant being built at the Goodland Energy Center five miles west of town. In this case Norman House and Doug Sederstrom quickly checked out the worker fitting stainless steel sections together. The finished product runs through the stainless steel lines once it has been processed. The ethanol plant is getting closer to being operational, and officials hope to begin testing in the spring.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Board says airport needs hangar space

By Tom Betz

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Building a hangar at the city airport is on the drawing board, but airport board members suggested at the city commission meeting that the hangar be built without using Federal Aviation Administration funds.

The city commission agreed to let the airport board look into a municipal lease, purchase for a hangar and to remove the hangar from the federal airport project list.

City Manager Wayne Hill said building a hangar to replace the old barrel hangar has been included in the airport project plans, but that using the FAA funds for that purpose would mean no repair work would be done on the airport for at least four years.

Darin Neufeld, engineer from Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, who has worked with the city on airport projects for about 10 years said the city has to do an annual update to the five-year airport plan. He said the airport board was looking at replacing the barrel hangar, but that the discussion was not to use federal funds for the hangar.

Larry Dickey, airport board chairman said the thinking was to take the hangar off the federal project list, and to approach the local banks about doing a lease-purchase similar to what was done for the water park.

He said hangar space is really needed, and the Goodland airport is in an excellent location for those who are flying across the country. He said the city needs to protect that asset and keep working on improving it.

He said an example of how the airport has

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local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$9.35 bushel
Posted county price — \$8.97
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$4.75 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.62
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$4.50 bushel
Soybeans — \$10.96 bushel
Posted county price — \$11.16
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$7 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$17.90 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Confection — \$30/\$20 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)
(Markets by Scoular 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



Cowboys beat Oberlin

Cowboys senior Tanner Smith brought down a rebound against Oberlin Red Devils sophomore Toby Peters Friday in Oberlin. The Cowboys won their third Northwest Kansas League game 81-53. See story, photo on Page 11.

Auditor to work with county on budget

By Tom Betz

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The Sherman County Commissioners asked the county auditor to spend time working with the county departments during the budget process, and agreed to pay County Clerk Janet Rumpel for her work on the budgets at their special meeting on Tuesday.

Mark Bauer of Vonfeldt, Bauer and Vonfeldt of Larned, who has been doing the county audit for about 10 years met with the commissioners to talk about the budget process and at the request of Rumpel he had estimated it would cost about \$2,800 for his office to do the county budget work in addition to the cost for the annual audit.

Bauer said he expects to spend less time this year than last when he was dealing with new people and new people handling different jobs.

Bauer said his firm does the budget work for some municipalities, and could do some of the same for the county.

"Janet puts in a lot of extra time," Commis-

sioner Mitch Tiede said.

Bauer said his people would work up the budget and the commissioners would approve it or revise it until they get what they want.

"Revenues is the easy part," Bauer said. "What we would need help on would be the expenditures. I can build a budget, but if there is something coming that I don't know about it would have to be added."

"When we started doing the county audit we were more involved in the budget process, we would check it over and provide the first two columns of figures and then Janet would fill it out and send it back and we would revise and finalize it."

"We can do what you want as little or as much. I can estimate expenditures based on what you have done in the past, but if there is something going on in a department I would not know those without you giving me the information."

"You would not know we purchased the health building," Tiede said as an example of an expenditure.

Bauer said the commissioners are getting a good operational budget, which is more than the state budget law requires.

"I have been doing the budget for 10 years," Rumpel said. "Have I done a good job? I asked about how many county clerks are doing budgets. There are not many. I want to know if I have been doing a good job."

"I think you have done a good job," Bauer said. "Having someone who is more involved with the operation helping on the budget will make it better because you know what is going on rather than just having someone outside do it."

"I always think it is good to have someone else look at it," Rumpel said.

"I think that is a good idea because I am going to look at the budget from a different perspective," Bauer said. "My thought is that the way we are doing the budget is the best option and provides you the best operational budget."

Bauer said the help his firm is giving now on the budget is about \$600 a year and it would be

about \$2,800 if his firm did it from beginning through the hearing and approval.

"If you ask me what is the best," Bauer said, "my first choice would be to continue with what you are doing. I want the municipalities to be as involved in the budget process as they know what needs to be done."

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said he felt Rumpel has been doing a good job and that she should be compensated for her extra work on the budget.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas said that Rumpel causes some problems with the department supervisors when she does the department budgets and changes the carryovers.

Bauer said he would do that sometimes as well.

"I look at the budget and see if we are looking at what is truly going to be there," he said. "That is what was happening when I first started helping with the budget. In the

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