

weather report

69°
noon
Monday



Today

- Sunset, 7:39 p.m.
- Wednesday**
- Sunrise, 5:49 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:40 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 55 degrees
- Humidity 12 percent
- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds light and variable
- Barometer 30.10 inches and falling
- Record High today 88° (1967)
- Record Low today 17° (1908)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Sunday 63°
- Low Sunday 24°
- Precipitation none
- This month 1.11
- Year to date 2.04
- Below normal 1.31 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny with a high near 81, winds southwest 10 to 30 mph and a low around 46. Wednesday: Mostly sunny with a high near 86, winds southwest 10 to 30 mph and a low around 45.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers, a high near 56 and a low around 37. Friday: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers, a high near 54 and a low around 35. (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 — \$7.81
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Corn — \$5.51 bushel
- Posted county price — \$5.43
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Milo — \$5.11 bushel
- Soybeans — \$11.30 bushel
- Posted county price — \$12.27
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Millet — \$7.00 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$17.90 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Confection — \$30/\$20 cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$32 (new crop)
- (Markets by Scouler Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



Cowgirls split games

Senior Andrea Wolak (right) held a Scott City runner on third base in the first game on Monday at Centennial Park. The Cowgirls split the double header, winning the first game 11-4 and losing the second 8-7. See story, photos on Page 10.

Plant progress, sale explained

By Pat Schiefen

pjschiefen@nwkans.com

The 25-megawatt power plant at the Goodland Energy Center should be ready to go by June, members of the Goodland Rotary Club heard Friday, and the company that plans to buy the plant from local investors sees it as a long-term investment.



Aran

Speakers from the Goodland Energy Center included Norman House, president of the partnership building the plant; John McCulloch, an engineer on the project; Deanna Livengood, also an engineer on the project; David Meyer, new plant operations manager; and Kethesch Aran of Energy Holdings Ltd.

Energy Holdings signed a letter



Engineers John McCulloch (right) and Deanna Livengood were at the Goodland Rotary Club meeting on Friday talking about the progress on the power plant at the Goodland Energy Center.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

of intent to buy the plant, which is about three-fourths completed, on Wednesday, April 16.

"The letter of intent will allow both parties to discuss a possible transaction, and to perform the necessary due diligence required,"

said Doug Sederstrom, chief financial officer for Goodland Energy Resources, adding that it's not yet a firm commitment to a sale.

Aran said his group will bring expertise on energy, management, regulation and capital to the center.

Energy Holdings is involved in several natural-gas-fired power plants in California, he said.

The plant being built at Caruso, five miles west of Goodland, is designed to burn coal and "biomass," but can generate electricity and industrial steam from old railroad ties, tire chips and other waste products.

"Since the plant utilizes waste for fuel," Aran said, "emissions credits will be created, an important element of Energy Holdings' desire to produce ecofriendly energy and an asset with significant future value."

McCulloch, the engineer for the center, introduced Livengood, who gave a video presentation of the progress and operation.

Final X-rays of the tubes in the boiler were done last week, she said, with a water test for leaks to be done soon. She showed slides of the mostly completed building and cooling towers. Yet to be finished

are the fuel conveyers and environmental elements that deal with water and exhaust.

McCulloch said they hoped the plant would be ready by the end of June. At first, he said, coal will be trucked in from Colorado to power the plant. Other fuels to be used will be processed in the area, he said, creating jobs.

When asked if chopping up the tires to burn them will take water, McCulloch said no.

He said he hopes a coal field around Limon, Colo., will be opened in time to fuel the plant. The field runs from Limon to Colorado Springs, he said. At first people wanted to build a power plant at Limon, but there was not enough water available.

Livengood said the plant will add about 65 jobs here.

Aran said his group wants to be part of the community and wants to make the plant viable for a long time.



Master Gardener Kay Melia chatted with Dale Schilling at the Home and Garden Show on Sunday afternoon. Melia and Schilling, hosts of the KLOE Good Neighbor Hour years ago, are planning a reunion on the air at 4 p.m. on Wednesday as part of the Evening Show.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News



Kaylee Willems, 6, and her mother Shelly checked out the Wildcat swing Saturday afternoon at the Wolf Creek Accents booth at the Home and Garden show at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Speakers, demonstrations enlighten home, garden audience at Max Jones

By Tom Betz

ntbetz@nwkans.com

Educational sessions at the 21st annual KLOE/KKCI/KWGB Home and Garden Show over the weekend at Max Jones Fieldhouse covered women and cancer and gardening tips, drawing about 2,000 people Saturday and Sunday.

The free event featured booths of more than 20 businesses. Marty Melia, manager of KLOE/KKCI/KWGB Radio, which organizes the show, said it was a good show and the crowds were steady both days.

Outside Max Jones, a trailer from the Northwest Kansas Technical College was set up where Frank Avila, heating, ventilation and air conditioning instructor, demonstrated some of the things homeowners need to watch out for when operating their air-conditioning systems. Avila had a homemade air-conditioning unit and he showed what happens when the homeowner shuts off too many of the vents or has a dirty filter, causing the fan and compressor to overwork and eventually burn up. Another area Avila said is important is keeping the outside unit, known as the condenser, clean and open to get plenty of fresh air to circulate.

Avila said the trailer, a new addition to the college's outreach effort, can be equipped with demonstration units from several departments.

College President Ken Clouse said the trailer will be going on the road next week to the 3-I Show in Great Bend, May 7-9, and he hopes to use it to attract students to the programs being offered.

Inside Max Jones, booths from businesses showed off the latest in lawn tractors and mowers, plus outdoor furniture and spas and hot tubs.

Organizations including Goodland Rotary and Kiwanis clubs had booths. Rotary had a survival unit the club has organized that will be sent to a relief agency, a special tub with a tent, sleeping bags, a cook stove and kitchen utensils that could be used by a family that has lost its home in a disaster.

Kiwanis members were showing people the plans and samples of the American flag project the club is promoting. The program costs \$30 a year. The club will put a flag holder in the person's front yard or at a business and will put out an American flag on the "five big" patriotic holidays of the year, Memorial Day, Flag Day, the Fourth of July, Labor Day and Veterans Day. Lawyer Jeff Mason said the club has more than 40 people signed up and hopes to increase that to 100 by Monday, May 26, for Memorial Day.

Tina Goodwin, Goodland Regional Medical Center marketing director, said the women's health conference on Saturday had gone well. She said some of the sessions had small audiences, but she felt that was because it is the first time anything like this has been done.

Janna Eisenbart, a nurse practitioner and oncology nurse at the hospital, and Jackie Jorgensen, nurse practitioner at Goodland Family Health Center, presented the programs and answered questions.

Shine On Sherman County plans dinner, conversation

Everyone is invited to a free dinner and community conversation at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Goodland Elks Lodge, sponsored by Shine On Sherman County.

Jessica Cole, head of the Shine On steering committee, said after the dinner, each of the group's five task forces will report on what they have been doing over the past year.

She said the meeting should help keep people informed of what has been going on, and members can ask for comments from the audience on things that need to be done.

The Youth Committee, which has

been working with young people interested in building a skate park at Steever Park, has been the most visible of the task forces, Cole said.

Over the past year, the committee, with the hard work of many of the young skaters and their friends, has raised more than \$30,000. Dirt work is ready to begin on the first-phase concrete slab for the park.

The Government Alliance task force has been researching ways for the city and county to consider unifying and improving cooperation

See SHINE, Page 8

See SHOW, Page 8