

weather report

91°
noon
Monday



Today

- Sunset, 7:54 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 5:52 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:53 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 83 degrees
- Humidity 32 percent
- Sky mostly clear
- Winds northwest 10 mph
- Barometer 29.99 inches and steady
- Record High today 107° (1934)
- Record Low today 47° (1974)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Sunday 103°
- Low Sunday 66°
- Precipitation trace
- This month trace
- Year to date 7.16
- Below normal 7.02 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 89, winds east 5 to 20 mph and a low around 65. Wednesday: mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 90 and a low around 63.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Partly sunny with a high near 90 and a low around 62. Friday: Mostly sunny with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 85. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. *Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$7.15 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$7.44
 - Corn — \$4.79 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$5.14
 - Milo — \$4.34 bushel
 - Soybeans — \$11.86 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$12.89
 - Millet — \$7 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$24.55 cwt.
 - 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



Player signs with Bethany

Tanner Smith, a spring Goodland High graduate, signed a letter of intent to play two sports at Bethany College starting this fall. Smith received basketball, baseball and academic scholarships. See story, photo on Page 12.

Primary Election today

Most contests Republicans, one Democrat

By Tom Betz

ntbetz@nwkans.com

The polls are open today for the Primary Election, and nearly all the contests on the ballot are Republicans seeking their party's nomination, with just a couple of Democratic contests to decide who will face the Republican nominee in November.

All Sherman County voters will cast ballots at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall at 824 Main Ave., with the polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

To vote, you must be registered as a Republican or Democrat. Independent voters may vote by declaring a party at the polling place, and any registered voter can declare for another party.

On the Republican ballot, contests are for county commissioner in District 3, sheriff, treasurer and judge of the 15th Judicial District for Division 2.

Democratic races are for commissioner in District 2 and to decide which of two eastern-Kansas candidates will face Republican Sen. Pat Roberts in the general election Nov. 4.

In District 3, long-time incumbent Commissioner Kevin Rasure is seeking a third term against Max Linin, a farmer who lives south of Goodland. District 3 is the western

Republicans have precinct races

By Tom Betz

ntbetz@nwkans.com

Republicans have a few precinct committee contests in the primary election Tuesday, including two where couples are running against each other and two where long-time incumbents face opposition from more conservative challengers.

The Republican Central Committee includes a committeeman and committeewoman from each precinct, either a city ward or a rural township. Members meet in case there is a vacancy in an elected office, as happened in January with the retirement of Register of Deeds Carol Armstrong.

The Republican central committee selected Billie Hoyt to fill Armstrong's position. The governor, in most cases, is bound to accept the nomination from the last person's party and appoint him or her to the office.

Four precincts have contests for pre-

cinct positions on the Republican ballot, a somewhat unusual situation. In two, couples are running against each other.

In Itasca Township, Harlan D. House has been the committeeman and Cora A. House has been the committeewoman for the past two years. Running against them are Leonard Mac Thompson and his wife Patty J. Thompson. Patty Thompson ran against Cora House four years ago for committeewoman.

In Goodland Ward 4, John M. Koggie is running against lawyer J. Ronald Vignery for precinct committeeman, and for committeewoman their wives will face off, Rosanne M. Koggie against Judith A. Vignery. The Vignerys have been the committeeman and committeewoman for more than four years.

In Ward 1, Michael Bretz faces lawyer

See RACES, Page 10

part of the county, including Grant, Stateline, Lincoln, Logan, McPherson, Smoky townships, Kanorado and Ward 2 in Goodland.

In Republican races:

Rasure has pushed for spending county money in the county, clashing at times with the other two commissioners and with the Road and Bridge Department.

Sheriff Kevin Butts is seeking a second term. His opponent is Frank Tabor, a former

city police officer who is working in Iraq and has not spent much time campaigning.

Treasurer Iris Scheopner is seeking a second term. Her opponent is Wanda Schritter, a bookkeeper for the Goodland First United Methodist Church.

The most hotly contested race is for district judge to fill the vacancy that is being created with the retirement of Judge Jack Burr after 30 years.

Three lawyers are vying to fill the position: Scott Showalter being from Goodland, Andrea Wyrick of Colby and Kevin Berens from St. Francis, who registered to vote in Sherman County this spring. Because the Sherman County magistrate position was combined with the district judgeship 30 years ago, the winner will have to live in Sherman County.

Other Republicans on the ballot include County Clerk Janet Rumpel, County Attorney Bonnie Selby, Register of Deeds Billie Hoyt and Cynthia Strnad, who changed her registration in the spring to run for County Commissioner in District 3.

The Democratic race for commissioner in District 2 pits incumbent Mitch Tiede, who is seeking a third term, against Dee Miller, a retired federal employee. The district includes the northeast part of the county, Voltaire, Shermanville and Llanos townships, plus Ward 1 in Goodland and the north part of Ward 4.

Only people who live in the commissioner districts will be able to vote in those races. A bill to allow at-large voting and abolish the districts failed in the state Legislature the last two years.

Statewide, the Democrats have a primary race, with Lee Jones of Overland Park facing Jim Slattery of Topeka to determine which man will face Sen. Roberts in November.

The Republicans do not have a statewide contest, with Sen. Roberts running unopposed along with Congressman Jerry Moran, who will face Democrat James Bordonaro of Emporia in the general election in November.

4-H float top overall winner in fair parade

The temperature was about 100 degrees Saturday when the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair parade wound its way up Main Avenue, and the crowd had gathered in any spot that offered shade.

The parade took about half an hour to pass in front of the judges, who were out in the sun on a flatbed at Central Elementary School.

Kids on both sides of the street kept busy picking up mounds of candy that were thrown from the floats and vehicles passing by.

Grand Marshals Butch and Karen Vandiver rode the lead car behind the leading American flag carried by members of the Goodland unit of the Kansas National Guard.

Floats, cars, bikes, motorcycles, fire trucks, farm tractors and politicians filled the street and waved and tossed candy.

Winners of the classes in the parade included:

Community Floats — First, Paw Wash Relay for Life Team; second, Northwest Kansas Technical Col-



First place in the 4-H float division and overall first place in the fair parade on Saturday went to the Glendale Livewires.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

City, county have \$1.6 million to spend

By Tom Betz

ntbetz@nwkans.com

It looks like Goodland and Sherman County voters will get more than they bargained for when they approved a special one-cent sales tax more than two years ago to pay for a \$12 million joint road project — about \$1.6 million more.

City and county commissioners met together Thursday morning to talk about how to spend \$1.6 million in bond money and interest remaining from the joint road project. All the jobs are done, except paving on County Road 14, which has been delayed by the state, leaving about \$900,000 in bond money and \$700,000 in interest.

City commissioners suggested doing the stretch of Armory Road west of Caldwell and a piece of West 17th street to spend the estimated \$400,000 that would be their share.

County commissioners said they would extend the concrete paving

on County Road 14 south of Old U.S. 24 to the I-70 interchange, and buy rock for a chip seal to be done in a few years on the new pavement.

Kevin Cowan, a bond lawyer with Gilmore and Bell of Wichita, said the \$1.6 million remains because the joint road projects have come in under budget so far, and the unspent money earned more than \$733,000 in interest over the past two years.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said the exact amount could change when the bids for County Road 14 are opened Sept. 17, but the county has prepaid the Kansas Department of Transportation \$1.1 million toward that an expected cost of \$1.9 million.

Mayor Rick Billinger and city commissioners Annette Fairbanks, Dave Daniels and Josh Dechant came to a county commission meeting Thursday morning with City Manager Wayne Hill and City Clerk Mary Volk.

Last Monday, the city commis-

sion held a special session at 7 a.m. to talk about options for using of the money.

Mayor Billinger said if the money is not spent on road projects, the city and county would have to pay a penalty to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service of about \$180,000 under its arbitrage rules.

"The arbitrage problem is the amount of interest made on the bond money that is higher than what the interest rate is on the bonds," Billinger said.

Daniels said the IRS doesn't allow governments to make a lot of money by issuing bonds and banking the money. Under the rules for issuing tax-exempt municipal bonds, like the city-county road bonds, the money has to be spent over a fairly short period.

County Commissioner Mitch Tiede said he did not see any reason not to go ahead and spend the money.

"I don't see any advantage to

paying a penalty to the IRS," Tiede said. "It is a win-win for the county and city."

He said the county would probably extend the County Road 14 project south down to I-70, a project the county already has on the state highway five-year list.

Josh Dechant said he was thinking the best project for the city would be Armory west of Caldwell to Main. Another would be a block of 17th west of Main and part of Center Avenue north of 17th.

Billinger said he wondered how citizens would feel about the city and county doing projects that were not specifically in the list voted on more than two years ago.

County Commissioner Kevin Rasure said he felt voters would be pleased that the city and county have done a good job with the money, and it could be stretched to do additional projects related to the original list.

"These are projects we will have to do in the future," Rasure said,

"and it is a bonus to our taxpayers that they won't have to have an added tax to pay for these projects."

"The other advantage Cowan said was the increase in sales tax may give us the money for some maintenance on the paved projects a few years from now."

Darin Neufeld, an engineer from Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates who has done the city projects and Road 14 for the county, estimated the Armory road project would cost about \$300,000 and the 17th Street block about \$100,000.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said the commissioners had asked Public Works Manager Curt Way to find out if he could contract for rock to stockpile for chip sealing the new asphalt on Old 24 in a few years.

City Clerk Mary Volk said she would call Cowan on Monday to see if he is sure the projects being suggested would work, and will report back to the city commissioners at their meeting at 5 p.m.

When was the last time you said something GOOD about Goodland?

Brought to you today by:
Wal-Mart Super Center

