

weather report

51°

noon
Monday



Today

- Sunset, 5:08 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 6:53 a.m.
- Sunset, 5:09 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 31 degrees
- Humidity 22 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds north 18-27 mph
- Barometer 29.88 inches and falling
- Record High today 72° (1934)
- Record Low today -13° (1989)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	43°
Low Sunday	20°
Precipitation	none
This month	none
Year to date	0.18
Below normal	0.25 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny with a high near 49, winds out of west at 5 to 15 switching to the south and a low around 21. Wednesday: Partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of rain before 11 p.m., after 11 p.m. patchy freezing rain and then chance of rain or freezing rain, winds out of the north at 5 mph and a low around 29.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Cloudy with patchy fog before 8 a.m. with a 40 percent chance of rain during the day and a 10 percent chance of snow at night, a high near 42 and a low around 24.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$3.82 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.95
Corn — \$3.04 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.33
Milo — \$2.75 bushel
Soybeans — \$8.17 bushel
Posted county price — \$8.48
Millet — \$5 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$14.15 cwt.
Confection — \$28/\$15 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$32 (new crop)
(Markets by Scoular 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 beat Oberlin

Cowgirl Ashley Archer fought for a rebound against Norton. The Cowgirls play the Burlington Lady Cougars tonight at Max Jones. See photos and story on Page 10.

Health Fair draws large crowd

By Tom Betz

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The annual Sherman County Health Fair drew a crowd of more than 400 to the Northwest Tech campus Saturday morning with more than 40 health related booths to provide people with information and give out blood test results.

Tina Goodwin, director of marketing and volunteer services for Goodland Regional Medical Center, said she did a quick count on Saturday and about 436 people had registered, which is about the same number as last year.

The hospital completed 741 blood draws and Goodwin said many of those people need to stop by the lab and pick up their results if they did not leave an envelope.

She said the results do not “automatically” get sent to the doctors as many people assume.

“I was very pleased with the turnout,” Goodwin said, “particularly with the wide variety of healthcare booths represented. Booths came from all over the state — Kansas City, Wichita, Hays and Garden City. The KU Medical Center free screenings were very successful. The KU people thought about 80 people got skin cancer screenings and about 15 got the prostate exam.

“I am grateful to Northwest Tech for the use of their facilities and the great volunteers from the school who helped with the event. It’s the perfect place for an event like this. Not only are the facilities wonderful, but it’s a great community collaboration to showcase to very important organizations in Goodland — the tech college and our hospital.”

The Lions had a special hearing trailer with handicap access plus the Wichita Veterans Affairs Center had the Kansas Veterans assistance motor home on display.

The Lions kept the hearing trailer going and inside had a vision testing machine as well.

Many of the booths had handouts, and were busy throughout the morning talking to people and answering questions.

The health fair is sponsored by the Goodland hospital, together with the Sherman County Extension Office, Northwest Kansas Technical College and Goodland Activities Center.



Making a squish ball to relieve stress was one of the hands on projects at the Sherman County Health Fair Saturday morning with Larisa Coon (above) helping young people make their own squish ball using a balloon with mixture of flour and sugar. Coon said the squish ball was for fun, but was serious as a way to relieve the stress of the day and exercise the hands. Sarah Johnson, (right) daughter of Connie Johnson, reads to a couple of kids in a kids area at the Sherman County Health Fair held on Saturday at the student union of Northwest Tech. The kids area gave them a place to play while their parents visited the displays at the fair.

Photos by Tom Betz and Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News



Micro loan approved for Bowladium roof repair

By Tom Betz

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Workers are at the Bowladium building trying to get the bowling alley open by the end of this month, and Friday the Sherman County commissioners reversed their decision and granted a \$3,600 micro loan on the project to repair the roof.

Members of the micro loan review committee met with the commissioners to explain why they had recommended approval of the \$3,600 loan to Bowladium. At a previous commission meeting the county commissioners had decided not to approve the micro loan.

Review committee members Bill Mehling, Roxann Kling, Jon Yost and Josh Dechant met with the commissioners to give them background on the micro loan process and explain how the recommendation for Bowladium had been reached.

Yost said he felt the commissioners had a misunderstanding about the Bowladium recommendation. He said the request was to fix a leaking roof, and presented bids for the repair.

“The owners asked for \$15,000,” Yost said. “As a committee we talked about it and decided if \$3,600 was what was needed to get them open we would give them that and make it payable to Roofmasters and Bowladium. That is what we agreed to recommend.”

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked if the owners of the Bowladium got a grant and if they had put any money in this project.

Yost said the manager lives in Goodland and the two men from California have put up to \$90,000 on the roof over the main portion of

County helps sponsor bull event

By Tom Betz

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The Professional Bull Riders are expected to return to the Sherman County fairgrounds on Aug. 4, for another Thunder on the Plains Chute Out, and Sherman County commissioners were asked to make a small contribution this year.

Randy Whitmore, a member of the local committee, was at the commission meeting on Friday to report on how the event went last year and what is planned for this year.

He said the total cost of the event was about \$48,000 last year and the local committee came out in the black. He said the event brought five of the top 10 riders to Goodland and had an audience of about 2,400.

Whitmore said they appreciated the \$10,000 the county gave the group last year, and were back to ask for a small sponsorship this year. He said the group has several new sponsors and that Coors is going to step up and some sponsors from Colby.

He said they are excited about bringing the event back this year.

He said the bleachers and arena is rented, and the group is starting to get the local sponsors earlier this year so they can budget for advertising. This year they plan is to go from Limon to Salina.

Commissioner Max Linin asked what the audience was for the event over the past years.

Whitmore said he felt the audience was steadily increasing as it has grown from 1,759 earlier to 2,400 last year.

He said the PBR has changed the event from En-

terprise to Division One, and that is the same division as the stock show.

A question was raised by Thomas about the event starting half an hour late.

Whitmore said it was his fault because when they sent in the application he wrote 7 p.m. in one spot, but when the tickets were printed it was to start at 6:30 p.m.

“It was my fault,” he said. “PBR would not let us change. I felt the barrel man did a great job helping fill the extra time. It ran off in good time once we got started.”

He said Hudson did a great job handling the stock and this year they will have a new barrel man, Pumpkin Town Clown.

Thomas said he was glad to see the event taking off.

Linin said he was all for helping the event.

Thomas said the county money was a bit tighter this year.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby suggested splitting a \$500 sponsorship between her office and the county commissioners.

Thomas said that sounded good if Selby had enough to do that.

Selby said she would support the event as the commissioners feel it is worthwhile and brings people to the county.

Whitmore said the local group works with the fair board and then donates to the Relay for Life and Flatlander Fall Festival. He said they get help from the Goodland Ambassadors, and donate to these for their help with the event.

Selby said it is not a lot of money, but was asking who scrutinized these loans.

Dechant said that is the job of the review committee and they look at all of them.

Mehling said he has been on the committee since it started and felt they had done a good job of giving money to small businesses and those wanting to start up.

Kling said the committee members know they need to push for more information on the businesses.

Selby said the county doesn’t get anything if the banks foreclose. She said the county micro loans are always in a second position as long as the business has another lender.

Yost said the county can get a personal judgment and get a wage garnishment if the loan goes into default.

Selby said that is the only recourse. She said the county has filed a petition against a few of the original loan recipients, but dates for hearings have not been set.

Thomas said the commissioners were thinking the micro loan is sort of a county department and taking a lot of time for the attorney’s office to follow up on these.

Dechant asked if handling these was part of the normal business for the county attorney.

Selby said it was not and the only collection work the office does is to help local businesses with returned checks.

Helen Dobbs, economic development office manager, said it was her understanding that some of the businesses who received the early

the building.

Josh Dechant said the purpose of the micro loan program is to help businesses open, and not to be involved in all the financial questions of the business.

Thomas said the commissioners were looking at the loan with a ques-

tion of whether the business would repay the loan.

Yost said part of the process of getting a micro loan is having a letter from a bank saying they cannot get a loan.

Dechant said Commissioner Max Linin is a new member of the

review committee, but has not been to a meeting. Dechant said the way the review committee is set up they review the applications to see who and what businesses get money.

“It is a revolving loan fund,” he said, “and we have been doing this for almost 10 years.”

