

Bella's Market work to begin

By Tom Betz

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It has been almost exactly a year since the city commissioners approved a lease of the Ed Wolak building to a Denver company planning to open a grocery store, and Bella's Market should open later this summer.

Sam Mancini, owner of Village Markets, said Wednesday he has finally completed the details and signed the building lease to get the grocery store project moving ahead.

Mancini said it took a lot longer to get the lease details worked out and to get his financing than he had planned, but he is looking forward to getting it moving later this month.

Michael Solomon said Wednesday he has been in contact with Mancini and is working with Mancini's office to get a sign put up at the building.

Mancini said he wants to start later this month and hold a ground breaking in April. He said he will have information about the design in a couple of weeks.

The name of the grocery has changed in the past year he said as it has been something he has been working on, and felt the name separates his stores from the King Soopers and other big stores.

"We wanted a name that was more personal and had more of a feel of a neighborhood

market," he said.

Bella's Market is named for his daughter who was born last year. He said this year all the other Village Market stores will have a name change.

Village Markets currently owns eight grocery stores with locations in St. Francis, eastern Colorado including Stratton, and southwestern Nebraska.

Mancini had told the city commission last March when he was at the meeting it was his plan to open the store in late August or early September, but if that time frame did not work the store would open the next year.

City Manager Doug Gerber was pleased

to see contractors show up at the building in October, but said he had not seen a signed lease at that time.

Mancini said he is sorry it has taken so long, but is confident he has all the things taken care of to get the project moving.

The store is expected to employ 10 people full time and 20 on a part time basis, Mancini said. He said he likes to hire local people and train them. The store manager would probably be transferred to Goodland, he said.

As part of the plan Mancini will be including a meat cutter and a pharmacy as part of the store with a drive up entrance for the pharmacy on the north side.

weather report

57°

noon
Thursday

Today

• Sunset, 5:50 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 6:02 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:51 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 34 degrees
- Humidity 26 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds west 5 mph
- Barometer 30.26 inches and falling
- Record High today 82° (1972)
- Record Low today -20° (1948)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday	46°
Low Wednesday	10°
Precipitation	none
This month	.42
Year to date	1.23
Above Normal	.04 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 62, winds breezy out of the north at 10 to 35 mph and a low around 23. Saturday: Mostly sunny with a high near 55, winds out of the northwest at 5 to 15 mph switching to the south and a low around 26.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of rain, a high near 56 and a low around 28. Monday: Sunny with a high near 62 and a low around 33.

(National Weather Service)

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local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$7.03 bushel
Posted county price — \$7.65
Corn — \$6.13 bushel
Posted county price — \$6.72
Milo — \$6 bushel
Soybeans — \$11.93 bushel
Posted county price — \$13.04
Millet — \$5 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$30.80cwt.
Confection — no bid.
Pinto beans — \$18
(Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



Signing help open exhibit

Former Goodland resident Charlotte Hinger autographs a book at the Carnegie Arts Center on Sunday afternoon. The exhibit for March is student art. See photos, story on Page 8A.



Young hunters experience fun of field hunting

By Pat Schiefen

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Saturday was a beautiful day to be outside and 29 kids aged 10 to 15 got to go to a youth hunt sponsored by High Plains Rooster Chapter of Pheasants Forever. Tyler Dorsey, grandson of George and Gorda Adelgren, and Martina Janousek each won a shot gun.

The young hunters were accompanied by adults and guides who helped with planting the pheasants and chuckars for the dogs to find. All told there were about 100 people at the location on Melba Curry's land north and west of County Road 68 and west of County Road 17. This was the fourth year the hunt had been at this location.

The kids heard about hunter safety, got to shoot at clay pigeons at Troy Mannis' shooting stand and got to shoot at pheasants and chukars. The young hunters got the experience of hunting behind trained dogs. They also learned how to clean the birds they shot.

Each group were taken into the field after birds had been planted and the dog worked across and back and forth until they came to a point where a bird was hiding. The adults would position the hunter to get a shot when the bird flew. A few times the guide had to actually kick the bird out of cover to get it into the air.

Everyone ate hamburgers for lunch prepared and served by the chapter for Pheasants Forever and Steve Duell.

The birds were from Spring Creek Game Birds and TNT Game Birds of St. Francis.

Numerous people brought their hunting dogs including Michael Dorn, Josh McQuitty, J. L. Wilson and MJ's Upland Dog Haven, Melvin and Julie Crow, of Goodland.

Sponsors and workers for the event were Melba Curry, Troy Mannis, Dave Rietcheck, Gary Coon, J.L. Wilson, Josh McQuitty, Blake Arneberger, Mike Johnson, Dan Fischer, Darren Fischer, Dalton Fischer, Lyle Fischer, Dennis Bentzinger, Lance Janousek Farms, Bill and Ashleigh Hill, Hill Trash Service, Bill Jenkins, Mark Smith, Troy Parson, Nate Gilbert, Larry Helus, Sherry Barrett, John Koggie, Larry House, Bill William, Mike Weigle, Benny Young, Leonard family, Shawn Alsu, KLOE Radio, Steve and Colleen Duell, Frontier Ag, Inc., Fontenalle Seed — Michael Dorn, Walmart, Smoky River Rendezvous, Jim Electric, Inc., MJ's Upland Dog Haven C.M.A. Distributors, Inc., Kansas Highway Patrol, Headley Gun Shop, Crop Production Services, GunRunner Trading Post, National Kennel Club, NUCS, TNT Game Birds — Todd Neitzel, Spring Creed Game Birds — Martin Hilt, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

The hunt has become an annual event and sponsors are planning to have another hunt next year.



A smaller group (top picture) from the 29 kids who came to the High Plains Rooster Chapter of Pheasants Forever youth hunt on Saturday walk through a field in a controlled hunting area to get their shot at shooting a live chukar or pheasant. Everyone coming to the hunt got a chance to shoot at clay pigeons from a shooting stand (bottom left). Two of the young hunters (bottom right) talk to an adult at the hunt.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Energy improvement loan program approved

By Tom Betz

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Citizens in Goodland will be able to use energy audit recommendations to improve their homes, and apply to repay the cost through their monthly utility bill with approval on Monday of an agreement between the city and Efficiency Kansas.

City Manager Doug Gerber said the city staff had been looking at the program for a few weeks and had a long presentation about the program at the previous meeting. He said the goal of the program is to help Goodland homeowners finance home energy improvements.

He said the homeowner has to have an energy audit done, and the city becomes involved because the financing of the improvements can be repaid through the monthly utility bill. He said the program is limited to 90 percent of the estimated savings in the audit recommendations.

The money actually comes from

Efficiency Kansas to the city and to the homeowner. The city collects the money and sends it to Efficiency Kansas, he said.

In the presentation made by Nikkie Lee of Efficiency Kansas and Shauna Johnson, co-chair of the city Take Charge committee, on Feb. 21, the program was discussed in depth and Lee said the Efficiency Kansas loan program is separate from the Take Charge Challenge the city of Goodland is participating in this year, but is a program people can take advantage of with an energy audit and make points for the Take Charge Challenge.

She said the Efficiency Kansas program has been around for two years, and presently provides an energy audit subsidy to make the cost \$100 for any homeowner in the state. She said some of the energy audits have cost \$300 to \$700 and the subsidized audit is to help throughout the state. She said there are now more than 70 energy

auditors who can make these inspections.

She said the state has a scholarship program for someone to become an energy auditor, and encouraged the commissioners to find someone in the Goodland area who would be interested in becoming an auditor. Presently the closest energy auditors are in Garden City or Concordia.

Gerber said the program has safeguards for those who are applying for loan funds, and said a side benefit is getting more credit for the city in the Take Charge Challenge program. He said a number of homeowners have had energy audits and the city gets points for those, but gets more points if the homeowner goes ahead and does the energy improvements.

The Take Charge Challenge program is a competition among five cities in northwest Kansas including WaKeeney, Oakley, Colby, Goodland and Hoxie to see which one can

save the most energy. The winning community will receive \$100,000 to improve energy efficiency in the town.

The web site takechargeks.org has the light bulb exchange program where people from each community pledge to change from incandescent lights to compact fluorescent bulbs, Johnson said.

Gerber said if the commissioners approve the agreement with Efficiency Kansas the staff will begin getting the details of the loan program worked out to be able to start taking applications later this spring. He said he had City Attorney

Jeff Mason review the agreement and he felt it was reasonable.

Mayor Josh Dechant said Lee had recommended the city set a maximum and a minimum for the loans. The agreement sets the max at \$27,000 and the low base of \$1,000. He asked if a safeguard was in place to make sure the business owner is getting paid for the work and materials purchased.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said he felt the process ought to have documentation about how much work is being done so the hom-

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Daylight Saving Time Begins March 13