

weather report



31°

10:30 a.m.
Monday

Today

• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 6:50 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 41 degrees
- Humidity 75 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds southwest 29-35 mph
- Barometer 30.38 inches and rising
- Record High today 76° (1926)
- Record Low today -10° (1919)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Wednesday 60°
- Low Wednesday 30°
- Precipitation trace
- This month trace
- Year to date 18.92
- Below normal 0.28 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with a 30 percent chance of snow, a high near 40, winds breezy out of the south at 10 to 30 mph and a low around 23. Saturday: Cloudy with a 70 percent chance of snow, a high near 29, winds blustery out of the north at 15 to 35 mph and a low around 11.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Mostly sunny with a high near 30 and a low around 16. Monday: Sunny with a high near 27 and a low around 12. Tuesday: Sunny with a high near 37 and a low around 21.

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

local markets



10:30 a.m.

- Wheat — \$6.18 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$5.43
 - Corn — \$5.87 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$5.70
 - Milo — \$5.58 bushel
 - Soybeans — \$9.89 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$10.52
 - Millet — no bid
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$26 cwt.
 - Confection — no bid
 - Pinto beans — \$28 (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 open tonight

Cowgirl Senior M'Lynn Hinger got ready to make a basket at the scrimmage held on Tuesday night at Max Jones Fieldhouse. The first game for the Cowgirls and Cowboys is tonight. See photo, story on Page 8A.

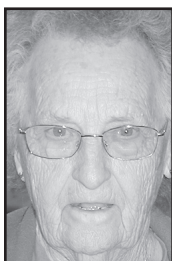
More winners in Christmas on Us

The second set of numbers have been drawn for the \$50 instant prizes and are in the Christmas on Us merchant advertisements in today's The Goodland Star-News.

People need to check the numbers of the tickets they have received from the participating merchants and compare them to the ones in the ads.

A total of four instant winners of \$50 have collected their prize so far with six more instant winners to be given out before the grand prize drawing for \$1,000 and second place of \$500 at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 20, on 12th Street across from the Sherman Theater.

Three instant prize winners collected their \$50 prize on Tuesday including Jan Haigler who got her ticket at Garcia's Home Furnishings and Appliance, Shirley Hayden got her ticket from the Star-News and Teri Owens got her ticket from Elliott's.



Hayden



Haigler



Owens

The first winner of the \$50 instant prize was Brenda Fisher. She got her winning number from a ticket she received at Cowboy Express and claimed her prize on Monday morning.

There will be six more lucky winners of the \$50 instant prizes, a \$500 second place winner and a grand prize winner will collect \$1,000 in the Goodland Merchants "Christmas on Us" promotion that spreads a total of \$2,000

around to lucky shoppers the next two weeks.

Be sure to collect your tickets at participating merchants, and you may be one of those who find your number hidden in the special merchant ads inside Friday's *The Goodland Star-News*.

Participating businesses are: Garcia's Home Furnishings and Appliance, Elliott's, Cowboy Corner Express, Jacque's Hallmark, Olde Westport Trading Company, Cochran Farm Supply, Gambino's Pizza, Casey's General Store and the Star-News.

Participating businesses will hand out one ticket for every \$1 up to \$10 a customer spends, and one additional ticket for any portion over \$10 and for every \$10 over with a limit of 250 tickets per transaction.

If you ask at the Star-News office, we'll give you one free ticket each week. No purchase is required to win. If you buy a newspaper at the same time we will give you another ticket.

The customer takes half of each ticket and the other side is dropped into gift-wrapped collection boxes, which are emptied once a week into a large barrel. The Star-News staff will pick tickets each week and hide the winning numbers in "Christmas on Us" advertisements, which will run on Friday.

Winners have four days, until noon each Wednesday, to bring their tickets to The Star-News office, 1205 Main, and collect \$50 in scrip, which can be spent at participating businesses.

At least 10 of the \$50 instant prizes will be

See WINNERS, Page 5

Company wants to expand

Alan David from Eagle Med was at the City of Goodland Commission meeting talking about a possible expansion of Eagle Med operations at the municipal airport.

David said the plane stationed in Goodland is the busiest of the Eagle Med fleet. The medical service currently uses the small hanger and pays \$1,000 a month.

He said Eagle Med wanted to know if they could lease all or part of the large hanger. Part of what is happening David said is Eagle Med is getting larger planes and the new planes will not fit in the small hanger. He said the company is looking to locate an aircraft mechanic possibly here so all maintenance does not have to be done in Wichita.

City Mayor John Garcia asked how soon David needed to know.

David said as soon as possible. Of course, he said the company would pay a larger monthly lease.

City Manager Doug Gerber said the down side is there would be less room for general aviation.

Gerber said the city needs to talk to John Collett of Butterfly Aviation. Butterfly currently has its operation in the large hanger. The commission is expected to have an answer from Collett at the upcoming meeting on Monday.

Mayor John Garcia reported lights were being placed on the City of Goodland sign at the corner of K-27 and old business U.S. 24.

Garcia said he would like to see more signs inside the city.

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks thought signs needed to be placed a short distance before the I-70 exists to welcome people to Goodland. She said it needs to be big enough to make a statement.

City Manager Doug Gerber said the old commission had talked about having a partnership with the Convention and Visitors Bureau's signs.

Commissioner Bill Finley said he thought the topic should be tabled until after the first of year.

"There are more pressing issues than signs," he said.



Holiday lighting season beginning

The corner of 12th and Caldwell has taken on a holiday appearance with the Grady Bonsall family (right) out working to put up lights on their house and around the yard. The lights and extra decorations come on at night (above) and Bonsall was out on Wednesday making sure all the lights were working. The city has announced they will be giving utility customers a 10 percent discount on their December electric bill to encourage citizens to get involved in the holiday lighting to brighten up the city.

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



Post office to hold meeting on more changes

By Kevin Bottrell

kbottrell@nwkans.com

In what is becoming a familiar sight around northwest Kansas, U.S. Postal Service representatives will come to Colby in two weeks to talk about where they might send mail to be sorted.

The service has been conducting a study on moving Colby's mail processing to Denver. The Colby study was one of a slew of new studies looking at mail processing across Kansas. The service is looking to consolidate Salina, Hutchinson, Hays and Dodge City into Wichita; Liberal into Amarillo, Texas; and Topeka into Kansas City, Mo.

U.S. Postal Service representatives will meet with the public to answer questions and take comments at 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 12, in room 108 of the student union

at Colby Community College. The service is required by law to hold public meetings like this to share study findings and record public comments.

The service announced this latest study in September, just days before moving all of Colby's mail processing to Salina. If the Salina processing facility is closed, Colby's mail would need somewhere else to go. Salina's public meeting was scheduled for Wednesday.

The service ended its fiscal year with a \$5.1 billion loss. In a Nov. 15 press release, the service reported a decline in mail volume by 3 billion pieces from 2010. Revenue from First-Class mail, the service's most profitable product, fell by \$2 billion.

Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe said if the service is to make

a profit again, it has to reduce its costs by \$20 billion in the next four years.

Preliminary study results say moving processing to Denver would save \$28,426 per year, with another \$323 of maintenance savings. The transportation costs, however, would be \$14,337, making for a net savings of \$14,412. The facility would lose one job. Employee reassignments have to be made according to the collective bargaining agreements the service has with its employee unions.

If implemented, the consolidation would mean two to three day service for First Class mail. In contrast, the Postal Service promoted the move to Salina as overnight service, as long as the mail made it onto that day's truck.

Like the last consolidation, the

service has said retail services at the Colby Post Office will not change. However, it may alter truck departure times for Colby and the outlying post offices that send mail here before it goes on to Denver.

The last change moved up truck departure times from Goodland to 1:00 p.m. and those of outlying

post offices even earlier. Some businesses, including *The Goodland Star-News* and the *Colby Free Press* and other area newspapers, had to adjust their schedules to meet the new deadline. For *The Goodland Star-News* the deadline had to be

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Genesis Food Drive Saturday

Place donations on your porch by 9 a.m. to be picked up.

