


weather report

64°
10:30 a.m.
Friday



Today
• Sunset, 7:23 p.m.

Saturday
• Sunrise, 6:11 a.m.
• Sunset, 7:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions
• Soil temperature 51 degrees
• Humidity 72 percent
• Sky mostly cloudy
• Winds south 24 to 31 mph
• Barometer 29.77 inches and falling
• Record High today 90° (2006)
• Record Low today 12° (1997)

Last 24 Hours*
High Wednesday 57°
Low Wednesday 45°
Precipitation none
This month 1.59
Year to date 2.70
Above Normal .27 inches

The Topside Forecast
Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 73, winds out of the west at 5 to 15 mph switching to the south and a low around 44. Saturday: Mostly sunny with a high near 69, winds breezy out of the west at 5 to 35 mph and a low around 42.

Extended Forecast
Sunday: Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain and thunderstorms, a high near 57 and a low around 34. Monday: Mostly sunny with a high near 55 and a low around 35. Tuesday: Mostly sunny with a high near 63 and a low around 41.
(National Weather Service)

Senator helps launch fund raiser



Sen. Jerry Moran spoke at the kickoff for the public phase of the hospital foundation's fund raising campaign. Moran said he is a supporter of local health care, because it is essential for maintaining the rural way of life. Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

By Kevin Bottrell

kbottrell@nwkansas.com

The Northwest Kansas Area Medical Foundation kicked off the public phase of its fund raising campaign on Tuesday with a small ceremony at Goodland Regional Medical Center, which included an appearance by Sen. Jerry Moran.

Moran said one of his motivations for public service was a belief that the rural way of life should be preserved, and rural health care is essential to that. Moran used his parents as an example. His father died last year and his mother is in her 90s, but they never had to move from their home in Plainville, he said, because despite being a small town, it had the health care delivery system they needed.

Much of what happens in health care, Moran said, is determined by what people do at the local level, but for his part he said he would make sure that the hospital will keep its critical access status. Moran said he also would like to see Medicare and Medicaid be able to pay evenly with the cost of service.

Moran said Goodland was the first place he went after being elected.

"Goodland is a place that has figured out what you need to do to have a bright future," he said. "You've said 'we're going to raise the money ourselves.'"

Foundation Chairman Jeff Mason opened the kickoff ceremony. Health care is an integral part of Sherman County, he said, but moving into the future the community needs to band together to make sure it can care for its people.

Ron Vignery, chairman of the fund raising campaign's steering committee, said the campaign's goal is to raise \$1 million, and it is already almost two thirds of the

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local markets

10:30 a.m.

Wheat — \$6.07 bushel
Posted county price — \$6.04
Corn — \$6.15 bushel
Posted county price — \$6.41
Milo — \$5.91 bushel
Soybeans — \$13.01 bushel
Posted county price — \$13.56
Millet — \$11.50 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$26.95 cwt.
Confection — no bid
Pinto beans — \$28
(Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

School board chooses firm for design work

By Pat Schiefen

pjschiefen@nwkansas.com

The Goodland School District is continuing its quest to give the best education possible, while at the same time getting the most for its money. With the failure of the school bond last year the district is once again looking for ways to renovate its facilities as well as moving to a three-building concept.

With the community meetings that were held at the beginning of the year, the consensus was that the district would try to move to

a three-building district. Among the issues is the fact that the student population is too large to go to three buildings without adding some space for the sixth grade. The district is thinking about leaving the current grade setup at West Elementary and reopen North Elementary School adding additional classrooms for the sixth grade. Both grade schools are in need of storm shelters. The seventh and eighth grade students would be moved into the current high school, which has room for them.

The district interviewed four architectural firms, all from Kansas, at a special board meeting on April 3. They were Strait Associates Architects of Colby; Horst, Terrill and Karst Architects of Topeka; Wilson and Company Engineers and Architects of Salina; and Gibson, Mancini, Carmichael and Nelson of Garden City.

The Goodland School Board decided unanimously to begin contract negotiation with Gibson, Mancini, Carmichael and Nelson. The board liked the fact that the firm

wanted to build a relationship that would continue into other projects. The firm had the lead on the building of the new Garden City High School as well as the remodeling of the Tribune Grade School.

Stewart Nelson gave a presentation to the board for the firm. Also present was Nick Nemechek, project manager of the Tribune project. He is related to the Nemecheks that live in Sherman County. Also working for

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Steer clear of wild animals

By Pat Schiefen

pjschiefen@nwkansas.com

Spring is in the air and humans are not the only ones enjoying the weather. This is the time of year when people notice baby animals they think are abandoned and call the game warden, said Mike Hopper, game warden.

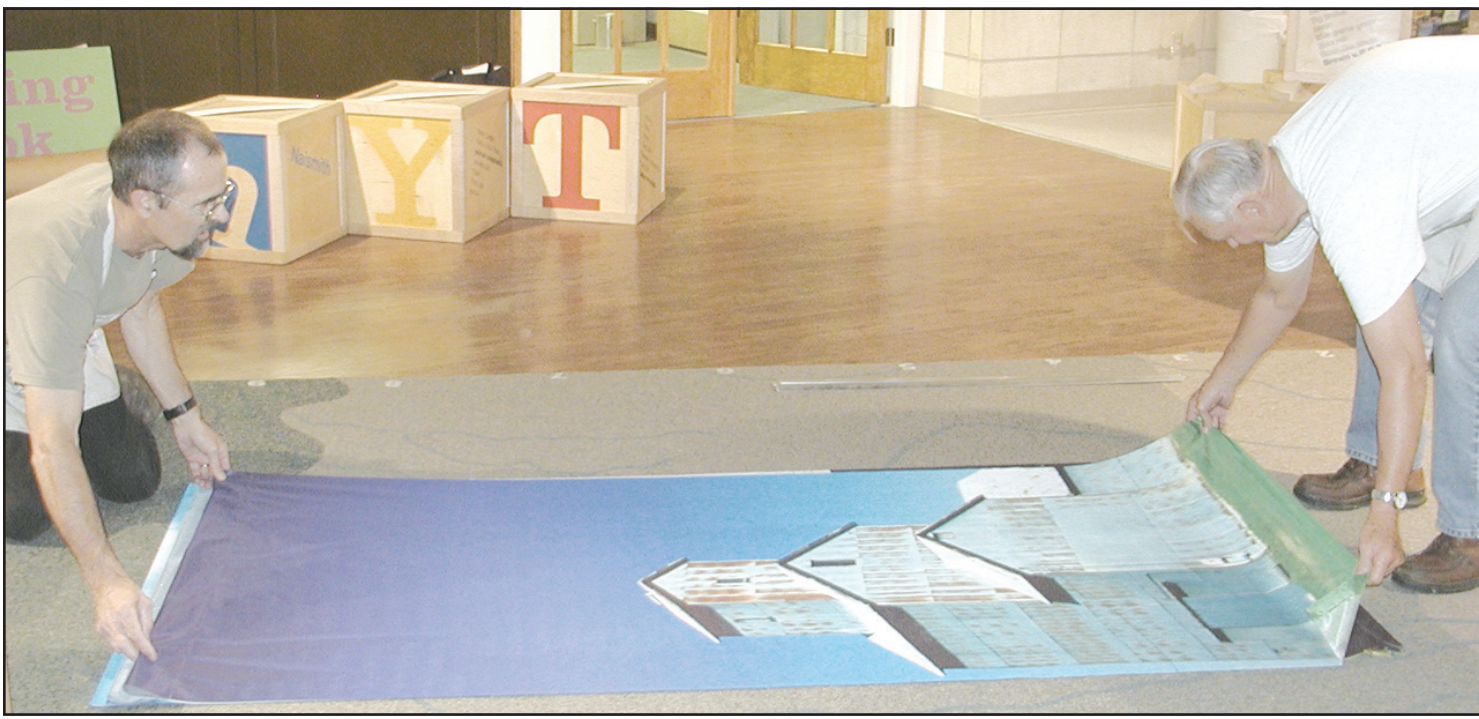
He said, that if someone finds a baby rabbit, bird or deer alone chances are they are not abandoned by the mother. The parents are usually watching so please don't touch or move them. It's best to leave wildlife alone.

Also this is the time of the year when people notice skunks in town. Hopper said, if you see a skunk don't automatically assume that it is rabid. If the animal is sick, disoriented and falling over then people should call the game warden at (785) 342-7382 or call dispatch at 899-4575.

Hopper said he has had some calls about skunks in town. The breeding season for skunks is from January to March 1. In April, May and June they have their litters of kittens. If you find a hole in a foundation wait to plug the hole a couple of hours after dark so an animal is not trapped.

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Taking down the old exhibit



Workers from the Kauffman Museum in North Newton were at the High Plains Museum Monday afternoon taking down the traveling exhibit that has been on display for several months. Karen Anderson, director of the High Plains Museum, said the new exhibit will be up in about two weeks. That exhibit will be from their collections not on display. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

First class of 10 to graduate from nursing program

The first class of 10 practical nursing students will be graduating next month from the Colby Community College program in Goodland.

The program, located in the former Armory building, began offering classes in June. It is a collaborative effort between Colby and Northwest Kansas Technical College. Students who will graduate include Cassandra Aguirre (Goodland), Jessica Gittinger (Goodland), Jobeth Hawkins (Vona, Colo.), Victoria Hererra (Bur-

lington, Colo.), Yolanda Ledesma (Kanorado), Shannon Miller (Burlington, Colo.), Rebecca O'Neal (Goodland), Erica Palmer (Goodland), Ashley Stickley (St. Francis) and Anita Ward (Topeka).

Classroom lecture and labs for the nursing program are located in the Armory. Clinicals for students are conducted at the Good Samaritan Center and Goodland Regional Medical Center.

Registered Nurse Cheryl Traub is the director of the Goodland program.

"Our students have assisted with a local blood drive, the Sherman County flu vaccine drive, the Flatlander Festival and offered free blood pressure clinics," said Traub. "We are pleased that eight of the 10 students will be continuing their studies by enrolling in the associate degree

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inside today

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News




Boys win one of two

The Cowboys baseball team split two makeup games with Hugoton at home Tuesday. The girls won both their games against Garden City.

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