


weather report



86°
10:30 a.m.
Monday

Today

- Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Wednesday

- Sunrise, 5:26 a.m.
- Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 77 degrees
- Humidity 34 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds south 10 mph
- Barometer 29.95 inches and steady
- Record High today 107° (1969)
- Record Low today 45° (1924)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	96°
Low Sunday	65°
Precipitation	trace
This month	trace
Year to date	5.41
Below normal	4.42 inches

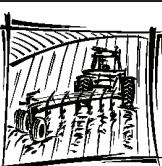
The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny and hot with a high near 100, a 20 percent chance of isolated showers and thunderstorms at night, winds out of the south at 10 to 15 mph and a low around 70. Wednesday: Sunny and hot with a high near 100, winds out of the south at 10 to 15 mph, a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms at night and a low around 70.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Sunny, hot and breezy with a high near 99 and a low around 70. Friday: Sunny and hot with a high near 100 and a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms at night.
(National Weather Service)

local markets



10:30 a.m.

Wheat	— \$6.98 bushel
Posted county price	— \$6.90
Corn	— \$6.95 bushel
Posted county price	— \$6.66
Milo	— \$6.60 bushel
Soybeans	— \$14.10 bushel
Posted county price	— \$14.19
Millet	— \$11 hundredweight
Sunflowers	
Oil current crop	— \$24.45 cwt.
Confection	— no bid
Pinto beans	— \$28

(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



June 16 race results

The hobbies, stock and econos were out in full force on June 16 at the Sherman County Speedway

For full results, see Page 10



More small fires flare up over weekend

By Kevin Bottrell and Stephanie DeCamp
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Sherman County lucked out this weekend when a small field fire near Kanorado was put out by some of the only rain the county has seen in months.

Kanorado firefighters were paged to the fire Saturday night as a storm was moving through the county. Radio traffic indicated the fire had been mostly put out by the rain. The landowner also had his own fire truck on scene.

The storm that rolled in Saturday evening

dropped .22 inches of rain in the western part of the county. Other areas of the county received anywhere from one to three hundredths on an inch.

Firefighters also received a report of a possible fire Friday night near Kanorado during a similar storm, but they were unable to locate it. That storm may have dropped as much as .45 inches of rain in the northwest part of the county.

Whether or not those storms put down enough rain for local governments to lift burn and fireworks bans remains to be seen. The Goodland City Commission had planned to

revisit their fireworks ban at the regular Monday meeting. The Sherman County Commissioners said they would hold a special meeting to lift their ban if the area received significant rainfall. As of Monday morning, no meeting had been announced.

Visit the Goodland Star-News Facebook page for updates.

Elsewhere in Northwest Kansas, more fires flared up over the weekend. Two fires broke out southwest of Oberlin on Saturday, but they were quickly contained. Other fires cropped up in various places including Rooks, Russell and Ellis Counties

The biggest of the wildfires that ripped through Decatur County last week was finally put down for good on Thursday, said Fire Chief Bill Cathcart.

"We had to go back out last night (Thursday) and did pretty well," he said, "and we've had a few embers here and there.

The last fire volunteers went to actually was in Rawlins County, he said. Since Decatur and its neighboring counties always give mutual aid, especially this last week, those who could went out to put the flames out.

See FIRES, Page 5

Looking for new opportunities



John Pearsall signed in at the Goodland Energy Center job fair on Thursday at the Armory. Patti Purvis, employment specialist with Kansas WorkforceONE, helped put on the job fair, which was seeking applications for the new ethanol plant being completed west of Goodland. Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

Celebrate 4th of July with food, fireworks

The annual Fourth of July Freedom Festival is coming up Wednesday at the Sherman County Fairgrounds.

Celebrate Independence Day with a watermelon feed by the Goodland Rotary Club and concessions by the Goodland Kiwanis Club starting at 6 p.m.

Sherman County Community Services will fire up the carnival rides. Admission is \$10.

At 7 p.m. there will be live entertainment by the Chasynn Canaan Band.

The fireworks show will commence about 9:30 p.m. Gates to the grandstands open at 8:30 p.m.

As of Monday morning, the fireworks display is still scheduled. The Goodland City Commission put a fireworks ban in place at a special meeting last week, but decided to allow the professional fireworks display on the recommendation of the city fire chief.

They planned to revisit the ban at the Monday regular meeting.

Senate candidate thrown into new district

By Kevin Bottrell
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As a virtual unknown in the 40th Senate District, incumbent Democrat Allen Schmidt of Hays has an uphill battle to win re-election.

Schmidt was elected in 2010 in the 36th District, which included Hays and the rural counties to the north of the city. He was thrown into the 40th District when the U.S. District Court redrew the lines in June. The only territory he retains from his old district is Ellis County.

Schmidt will face the winner of the Republican primary contest between fellow incumbent Ralph Ostmeyer of Grinnell and challenger John Miller of Norton.

Hays is a little different from the surrounding counties, Schmidt said, but outside of that, Ellis County is like the rest of its new district. Schmidt is a native of rural Ellis County. He grew up on a third generation dairy farm. After graduating from the University of Kansas, Schmidt got his masters in psychology at Fort Hays State University. While in school he was a member of the Reserve Officer Training Corps, and after getting his masters he went into the Army and was stationed at Fort Richardson near Anchorage, Ala. He also holds a masters degree in strategic studies from the United States Army War College.

Schmidt moved back to Ellis County and ran the family dairy for 13 years, serving in the Army Reserves. He went back to active duty in 1994, serving as Deputy Commander for Readiness in the Army Reserve Medical Command. He retired a full colonel. Schmidt currently works as a senior business development manager for the Columbia Group.

He has nine children and four grandchildren. Two are currently attending Thomas More Prep-Marian in Hays.

Election 2012

Schmidt served on the Senate Education Committee during the last session. He said he wanted to

put more money back into education since the state has surplus revenues now, but his plan never got much traction. The committee ended up putting \$40 million back into the education budget.

While base state aid was increased by \$59 per student, it is not as high as it was in 2008. Schmidt said it is a step in the right direction. It is important to keep schools

open, he said, since they are one of the largest providers of jobs in northwest Kansas.

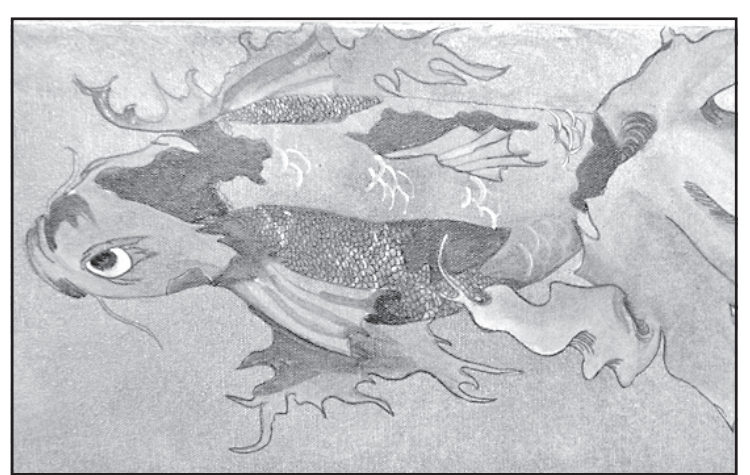
During the committee's discussions, he said, one of things at risk were the formulas that figure transportation costs for low enrollment districts. Some of the urban legislators didn't understand how

See CANDIDATE, Page 5

Relay for Life plans event for survivors

Calling all cancer survivors and their spouses to a Survivor ice cream and cake event at 6 p.m. on Sunday at the Goodland Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 12th and Sherman, Goodland.

To reserve your spot call (785) 899-2338.



Jacquelyn Fisher's (above) multi-media fish is one of her works on display at the Carnegie Arts Center. Josiah and Kendra Akers (left) provided music for the opening. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Violin duo help open art center's July exhibit

By Pat Schiefen
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Lively and spirited violin music by Kendra and Josiah Akers entertained around 30 for the Sunday afternoon gallery opening of Jacquelyn Fisher's art work at the Carnegie Arts Center.

The Akers played hymns, traditional American folk and celtic music on violin as well as singing.

Fisher currently lives and works in Lindsborg where she has works on display at the White Peacock and the Swedish Crown Inn.

Color has always been the most difficult part of her works and may take her several days focusing on the background color of a work. Using watercolors poured and dripped to form the foundation.

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