

## weather report



**90°**  
10:30 a.m.  
Monday

### Today

- Sunset, 8:06 p.m.
- Wednesday**
- Sunrise, 5:41 a.m.
- Sunset, 8:05 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 76 degrees
- Humidity 29 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds south 13 mph
- Barometer 30.11 inches and falling
- Record High today 110° (1940)
- Record Low today 53° (2004)

### Last 24 Hours\*

|               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| High Sunday   | 103°        |
| Low Sunday    | 70°         |
| Precipitation | none        |
| This month    | 1.22        |
| Year to date  | 6.63        |
| Below normal  | 5.56 inches |

### The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny and hot with a high near 104, a 20 percent chance of isolated showers and thunderstorms, winds south at 5 to 10mph and a low around 68. Wednesday: Mostly sunny with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon, a high near 94, winds out of the southwest at 5 to 10 mph and a low around 64.

### Extended Forecast

Thursday: Sunny with a high near 94 and a low around 69. Friday: Sunny and hot with a high near 97 and a low around 71. Saturday: Sunny and hot with a high near 97.

(National Weather Service)

## local markets



### 10:30 a.m.

- Wheat — \$8.60 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$8.42
  - Corn — \$8.23 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$7.72
  - Milo — \$7.74 bushel
  - Soybeans — \$16.17 bushel
  - Posted county price — \$15.86
  - Millet — \$14 hundredweight
  - Sunflowers
  - Oil current crop — \$25.20 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



## Legion ball started Sunday

The Goodland American Legion baseball team, the Outlaws, won their first two games, 9-5 and 8-6, on Sunday at the Division AA Zone Tournament at Goodland. More pictures on Page 8.

# City approves electric rate increase

By Kevin Bottrell

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The Goodland City Commission approved an electric utility rate increase that will raise the rates for all city users at their meeting July 16.

For residential users, the consumption charge will change from \$0.112 per kilowatt hour to \$0.127 and the meter charge will change from \$3.75 to \$15.

For commercial users, the non-demand consumption charge will change from \$0.0986 per kilowatt hour to \$0.1086. The non-demand meter charge will go from \$19.73 to \$25. The demand meter charge will

change from \$6.58 to \$15. The demand charge for Northwest Tech and Sherman County will change from \$6.44 to \$6.58 and their meter charge will change from \$6.58 to \$15. The rate for storage will change from \$7.50 to \$15.

For the library, the meter charge will change from \$15.78 to \$25. The consumption charge will change from \$0.0855 per kilowatt hour to \$0.0955.

For industrial the meter charge will change from \$15.78 to \$25. The consumption charge will change from \$0.0855 per kilowatt hour to \$0.0955.

For the city, the consumption charge will change from \$0.0855 per kilowatt hour to

\$0.0955.

The increases are estimated to bring in \$896,675.

The city staff presented two options for rate increases to the commission. City Manager Doug Gerber said the commissioners could pass one of the two options or come up with a third option. Option Two, the higher increase, ended up passing, but not without a lot of debate among the commissioners.

Gerber said it had been six years since the city had increase rates, and it would have to play catchup for normal yearly cost increases, as well as putting in more to cover the increased cost in power under the new

contract with Sunflower Electric. How the commission chooses to raise those rates, he said, would depend on their philosophy.

"It all comes down to who do you want to put the burden on?" he said.

The city also traditionally transfers money from the electric fund to pay for other things, and sets money aside for maintenance and upgrades.

Both options presented to the commission raised rates the same amount for residential customers. Option One raised rates for commercial and industrial by smaller amounts

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## Attorney general talks case work with Rotarians

By Kevin Bottrell

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Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt paid a visit to the Goodland Rotary Club at their weekly meeting on July 13.

Schmidt has spent 18 months in the job, after being elected in 2010. He said in that time he's been trying to balance being in the office with getting out and visiting with people across the state.

Schmidt said the attorney general traditionally does an "AG's Call," a big meeting of the various county attorneys. Rather than have one big meeting, Schmidt has chosen to split up those meetings by region. On Friday he had been coming from two of these regional attorney meetings in Scott City and Oberlin on his way to a vacation in Colorado.

Schmidt said he wanted to give the club a sense of the big picture of what his office is dealing with.

Criminal justice isn't a large portion of what the Attorney General's Office does, he said, and the office is doing things that don't really make headlines.

The office is a "partnership agency," from which local law enforcement or county attorneys can request help. Most of the requests come from mid- to small-size jurisdictions, he said, because they sometimes don't have the resources to go after a case.

Schmidt said the fastest-growing area that his office is asked to handle is child sex crimes. Right now there are eight trials pending under Jessica's law, which imposes harsher penalties for sex offenders if the



Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt spoke to a group of Goodland Rotarians at their meeting on July 13.

Photo by Kevin Bottrell  
The Goodland Star-News

victim is a minor.

The office is also frequently called in for drug prosecutions, homicides and public misconduct.

To make sure the office is able to deploy its resources well, Schmidt station an attorney from his office — Nicole Romine — in Goodland to act regionally.

"Nicole is a terrific prosecutor," he said. "She's great at what she does."

This has worked out so well, he said, that he is going to station an attorney in the southeast.

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## Painting back up



The repainted giant Van Gogh sunflower painting was raised back onto the easel about 9:30 a.m. on Monday to the cheers of a crowd of about 50 people who came out for breakfast and to watch the relaunch of the painting. The painting was taken down on July 11, and Canadian artist Cameron Cross began cleaning, repairing and repainting the giant image. He completed the process by rolling a clear coat on the painting on Sunday morning. Bryant Nemecek used a lift to guide the painting back onto the easel being lifted by a crane from Woofter operated by Kyle Gilbert.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

## KU cancer center designation means more resources available

By Kevin Bottrell

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The University of Kansas Cancer Center has been designated as a National Cancer Institute, which means more resources for clinical trials and other programs for Goodland Regional Medical Center.

A group of Northwest Kansas Area Medical Foundation members, cancer survivors and hospital employees met with Dr. Roy Jensen, director of the KU Cancer Center, last week to talk about what the designation means.

Patients will have access to clinical trials that are only available to National Cancer Institutes. It also allows KU to apply for more federal research grants.

At the local level, Jensen said, the designation means the hospital will have grant opportunities for infrastructure, control and prevention studies, cancer education, tobacco cessation and more.

Jensen said KU has been working on the designation for the better part of a decade, and there was a lot of excitement when the announcement came in two weeks ago.

"Four years ago we were no-



Dr. Roy Jensen, director of the University of Kansas Cancer Center on Kansas City, traveled to Goodland on Thursday to talk about the center's new designation as a National Cancer Institute.

Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

where on the radar screen of the top cancer centers," he said. "Then three years ago we were 51st, and two years ago we were 44th, and then 37th this year, which uses last year's numbers

so it doesn't take into account the designation. It's been like a rocket ride going up."

The Midwest Cancer Alliance

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## Red Cross planning blood drive Thursday

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday at the Methodist Church at 12th Street and Sherman Avenue.

With extreme heat keeping some donors at home and severe storms forcing the cancellation of dozens of blood drives earlier in the month, the Red Cross continues to have an emergency need for donors of all blood types. If at least two additional donors give at each blood drive through the end of July — above what the American Red Cross already expects to collect — the blood supply would be sufficient to meet patient needs.

Red Cross blood donations are at the lowest they have been in 15 years. Public support from the organization's late-June appeal helped temporarily stop a decline in the blood supply. However, the mid-week Independence Day and extreme summer weather have contributed to a decrease in donations.

"We cannot say 'thank you' enough to the blood donors who have already rolled up a sleeve this summer," said Terri Dunaway, CEO of the Central Plains Blood Services Region. "We appreciate the support from we've received from donors throughout Kansas and Northern Oklahoma. We're encouraging all

eligible donors who didn't have a chance to give yet to step up and help patients by making an appointment, as well as those who gave earlier in the spring and are now again eligible."

Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. As the nation's single largest supplier of blood and blood products, the Red Cross is dedicated to ensuring that every patient who needs a lifesaving transfusion is able to receive one. In fact, the Red Cross must collect more than 17,000 pints of blood each day to meet the needs of patients at more than 3,000 hospitals and transfusion centers across the country.

To donate, call (800) 733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license, or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 in Kansas with completed Parental Consent Form), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.