

## weather report

**46°**

**10:30 a.m.  
Thursday**

### Today

- Sunset, 6:03 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 7:01 a.m.
- Sunset, 6:01 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 49 degrees
- Humidity 27 percent
- Sunny
- Winds northwest 28-43 mph
- Barometer 30.03 inches and steady
- Record High today 90° (2003)
- Record Low today 22° (1981/96)

### Last 24 Hours\*

High Wednesday	63°
Low Wednesday	29°
Precipitation	0.00
This month	0.33
Year to date	8.94
Below normal	8.98 inches

### The Topside Forecast

Today: Clear with a high of 72. Winds from the west north west at 10 to 15 mph. Tonight: Clear with a low of 39. Winds from the south at 5 to 10 mph.

### Extended Forecast

Saturday: Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. High of 79. Winds from the west north west at 10 to 15 mph. Clear in the evening, then partly cloudy. Low of 43. Winds from the south at 10 to 15 mph. Sunday: Partly cloudy then clearing. High of 72 and winds less than 5 mph. Evening will be partly cloudy with fog. Low of 37.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

## local markets

### 10:30 a.m.

Wheat — \$8.46 bushel  
Posted county price — \$8.15  
Corn — \$7.49 bushel  
Posted county price — \$7.35  
Milo — \$7.17 bushel  
Soybeans — \$14.49 bushel  
Posted county price — \$14.37  
Millet — \$7.17 hundredweight  
Sunflowers  
Oil current crop — \$27.35 cwt.  
Confection — no bid  
Pinto beans — \$28 (new crop)  
(Markets by Scoular 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



## Kids team undefeated

The Junior Cowboys third and fourth grade team is undefeated this season. They will play in the first round of the state tournament this weekend.

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# Gas pipe leak forces evacuation

About six blocks of central Goodland were evacuated Wednesday afternoon due to a ruptured gas line in the alley behind First National Bank.

Emergency Management Director Ryan Murray said the call came in about 3 p.m. of a major gas leak. A work crew using a boring machine had struck a gas line. First National and the post office were immediately evacuated along with homes on the other side of the alley.

Fire Chief Brian James set up a command post at 11th Street and Broadway Avenue. The Sherman County Sheriff's Office provided their mobile command center, which was parked at the post office.

Crews from Black Hills Energy worked to reduce the danger from the leak, including installation of a pipe to divert the gas higher into the air. The strong winds aided emergency personnel by helping to disperse the gas.

The Fire Department evacuated about six blocks, from 10th to 12th Streets between Main and Caldwell Avenues. Evacuees were sent to United Methodist Church. Several residents were escorted to and from their homes for emergency needs.

Emergency responders also blocked off the roads one block south of the evacuation area. Central Elementary School was not evacuated, but school administrators were told to make sure children didn't enter the area when they were released at the end of the school day.

The Sherman County Rural Fire Department was paged out to help at 3:13 p.m. The Police Department assisted in providing traffic control and an ambulance was put on standby at the church. Also assisting were the Goodland Public Works Department, Sherman County Emergency Management, the Sherman County Health department and the National Weather Service.

The American Red Cross sent an emergency response vehicle with food as well as four volunteers from Hays.

Black Hills Energy continued



Firefighters were on scene while Black Hills Energy installed a vertical pipe over the gas leak near First National Bank on Wednesday. Workers from many different agencies and companies helped in determining the extent of the leak and making sure nearby homes were safe.

Photos by Pat Schiefen  
and Kevin Bottrell  
The Goodland Star-News

to work on the leak into the night. Lights were set up to allow them to continue working after dark.

Residents in the block south of First National Bank, from 11th to 12th from Broadway to Caldwell, were allowed to return home at 5 p.m., but homes on the 10th to 11th Street remained evacuated due to the plume from the gas line. The all clear was given at 7:45 p.m.



## County landfill inspected

**By Kevin Bottrell**

*kbottrell@nwkansan.com*

Landfill Supervisor Mark Felzien told the Sherman County Commissioners on Tuesday that a complaint had been sent to the state during the Goodland Clean-Up Week resulting in an inspection during the landfill's most disorganized week.

Felzien said it was unknown who made the complaint, but it was an individual complaint. Several things were found not to be in compliance, but Felzien said they were fixed within a day of the inspection. One thing that was found, he said, was that the landfill had insufficient dust mitigation

on its roads, however, since the county has been in a severe drought, the landfill personnel had not been giving dust control a high priority.

The commissioners said they were not upset about the inspection as all the deficiencies were fixed, and the disorganization at the landfill was temporary and always happens during clean-up week. Commissioner Cynthia Strnad said some changes may have to be made, including no longer allowing tires and requesting that trash be sorted before it gets to the landfill.

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## I-70 westbound lanes open

One phase of construction on I-70 west of Goodland has wrapped, with both westbound lanes now open to normal traffic.

The project — from the Colorado-Kansas state line east to the Caruso Interchange (Exit 12) — necessitated the closure of the I-70 westbound lanes on April 2. Workers removed 12 miles of pavement before re-working the base and placing 11.5 inches of new concrete.

Several interchanges, including the westbound safety and rest area near Ruleton, were closed during construction. They are now open to regular traffic.

"Although this year's work on the roadway is complete, several operations adjacent to the interstate will continue into the winter

months," said Travis Scott, a construction engineer with the Kansas Department of Transportation. "We re-built the westbound lanes and shoulders this construction season; and will do the very same scope of work to the eastbound lanes next year."

In the spring, traffic will be placed in a head-to-head configuration on the new westbound lanes. The port of entry and weigh station located at the state line will be relocated to the eastbound rest area location near Colby, for about 75 days next year.

Koss Construction of Topeka is in charge of this \$48 million project funded by T-WORKS, the transportation program passed by the Kansas Legislature in May of 2010.

## Museum's police exhibit features interactive elements



Goodland information technology specialist Jordan Casale and High Plains Museum Director Karen Anderson examined the newest exhibit at the museum, which has information and interactive displays about the Goodland Police Department.

Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

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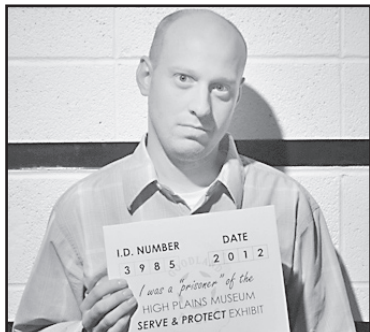
Get to know Goodland's finest with a new exhibit at the High Plains Museum. The exhibit details the history of the Goodland Police Department and has some interactive activities as well as displays.

Museum Director Karen Anderson said the department, particularly Bill Fulcher, was very helpful in putting together the exhibit.

The exhibit begins with early Sherman County homesteaders who had no law enforcement and had to band together for protection. It details some of the things they did to protect cattle herds, such as branding and fences. There is a cow cutout for kids to make their own brands using chalk.

One display has information about Goodland city marshals, early law enforcement officers appointed by the city. Another display has information about the responsibilities of the current police department as well as all the organizations they collaborate with.

The exhibit contains items loaned from officers such as badges, firearms and non-lethal equipment. There is even a meter maid badge. Anderson said Goodland only briefly had parking meters, and the policy wasn't popular. On the wall



Jordan Casale posed for a mock mug shot at the High Plains Museum.

behind the equipment are biographies of all of Goodland's police officers.

Another interactive part of the exhibit has information on police training and challenges viewers to try and pass some of the qualifications. People can also have a mock mug shot taken.

Anderson said the museum plans to incorporate some more fun things for kids such as activity packets and will also be holding a police social.

The exhibit will be up through Dec. 3, when it will make way for the traveling Smithsonian exhibit, "The Way We Worked." Anderson said some of the police displays may stay up, as police officer is an important profession.