



Dakota ran up and over a ramp as owner Sydney Winston put the dog through a practice session at the expanded dog agility course located to the west of the livestock building last week at the Sherman County Fairgrounds. Dana Belshe said the course had to be moved and would be outside the Agriculture Building because the

added jumps required more room. He said the showmanship and obedience competition at the fair will be held inside the Agriculture building to take advantage of the air conditioning.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Dog show kicks off fair Saturday

By Tom Betz
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The Northwest Kansas District Free Fair pre-fair week events begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday with the dog show at the Sherman County fairgrounds.

This year, the dog agility course has been moved outside to the west of the Agriculture Building. The showmanship and obedience competitions will be held inside the Ag building.

Dana Belshe, county agent for the Sunflower Extension District, said the indoor arena was not large enough to give the larger dogs the room needed for added jumps on the agility course.

He said the agility competition will be the first event, and there will be bleachers outside for people to watch the competition. He said seating will be available inside the Ag building for the showmanship and obedience competitions to take advantage of the air conditioning.

4-H hand pets and cats will be judged at 1 p.m. on Monday at the

Good Samaritan Center. Aquarium and home environment judging begins at 8:30 a.m. that morning, with judges coming to the 4-Hers home.

The constructed clothing, knitting, crocheting and needle work will be judged on Tuesday at the 4-H building.

The public Style Revue will be at 6 p.m. on Thursday at the Sherman Theater. Style revenue judging begins at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, at the First United Methodist Church.

The horse show begins at 9 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 1, at the fairgrounds arena.

Official fair-week events start with a parade on Main at 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, with a parade on Main Avenue, and the Kiwanis Demolition Derby at 7 p.m.

The home-owned carnival will open at 7 p.m. that Saturday, and run from Monday through Friday, Aug. 4 to 8. Wrist-band nights will be Tuesday and Friday, costing \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids rides only. Prices on the other nights of the fair will be 50¢ per ticket.

Monday, Aug. 4, events begin at 8 a.m. with entries for 4-H food and arts and crafts. Judging and the food sale will be in the afternoon.

A Kids Pedal Tractor Pull will be at 5 p.m. in the grandstand. At 6 p.m. is the KLOE/KKCI/KWGB and Eagle Cable free hot dog feed, and at 7:30 p.m. a free concert with the Tropical Shores Steel Drum Band.

On Tuesday morning, entries for 4-H and Open Class will be taken from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., with judging to follow at 1 p.m.

The afternoon gets started at 2 p.m. with the goat show, at 3 p.m. the rabbit show and at 4:30 p.m. the sheep lead and sheep show.

Entertainment for the evening begins at 7 p.m. with the band Streetside, sponsored by the Sherman County Farm Bureau and the county fair board. Adult and youth tickets will be \$5 each.

Wednesday morning begins at 8 a.m. with the swine show. At 1 p.m. is the llama show.

The Pro Bull Riders Western Plains Chute-Out begins at 6:30

p.m., and the grandstand will open at 4:30 p.m. for ticket holders.

Tickets for the bull riding event are available online at www.nwks-fair.com or by calling (785) 899-5888.

Thursday at 8 a.m. will be the beef show, and the round-robin showmanship will begin half an hour after that. Family Fun Night and the Howdy Rowdy Rodeo begin at 6 p.m. that evening.

Friday morning, livestock registration opens at 8:30 a.m. and at 9 a.m. the judging begins. The 4-H Appreciation barbecue will be at 4:30 p.m., and at 5:30 p.m. is the livestock sale. At 7 p.m., the modified tractor pull will be held at the grandstand.

Saturday morning at 8 a.m., all projects will be released, and entries will be taken for the Tri-State Royal. At 1 p.m., the Tri-State Royal of Champions will begin in the arena.

The Tri-State Royal brings champions from surrounding counties in Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska to compete.

Student wins national office

By Sharon Corcoran
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A Goodland High student was elected national president of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America at the group's national meeting last week in Orlando, Fla.

Senior Brennen Clouse was one of four Goodland students among the 5,500 attending the meeting July 13-17. He had to prepare a three-minute speech and go through several interviews as part of his campaign for office.

Clouse will work with the National Executive Council to promote the group across the nation and motivate members to achieve the organization's motto, the "ultimate leadership experience," said advisor Sarah Short, who teaches family and consumer science at the high school.

Goodland's Michael Smith served as national president two years ago, and Short said it's nice to see another student from Goodland in the office. It is unusual to have two national presidents in three years come not just from Kansas, she said, but from a small school such as Goodland.

Having that kind of student in the club helps all the members to excel, Short said; the kids see what can be done and go for it, and the leadership trickles down.

Seniors Julica Bonsall and Shelbi Hall and sophomore Michael Pettibone of Goodland also attended the meeting. Hall represented the Kansas State Executive Council as state first vice president. She and Short attended national training events as well as USA training for state officers. Hall and the other state officers conducted two state

delegation meetings.

She did an excellent job as state vice president, Short said.

Bonsall was a voting delegate, and her duties included interviewing candidates and listening to their speeches. She also attended the final phase of USA Training, which she started last year as a state officer.

Pettibone went as District President and STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) evaluator. He attended district presidents' training and brainstormed with other presidents from across the state on how to get members motivated about youth leadership. He also helped judge a STAR Event on parliamentary procedure.

This year's student-devised subject for the meeting was "Excellence Electrified," and throughout the five-day convention, Short said, participants examined and discussed several issues, including family, school and community violence prevention, physical and financial fitness, future careers and countless community service projects.

Other issues, such as the changing roles of men and women in the home and workplace, traffic safety and cancer awareness were explored through presentations, workshops and youth sessions.

Other highlights were the STAR Events, competitions that build proficiency and achievement in leadership and job-related skills; Spotlight on Projects, where representatives from states share successful national, state and chapter projects; and a Feed the Children event, where attendees raise awareness of American youths living in poverty and forced to deal with hunger every day.

Beer garden planned at fair

By Tom Betz
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Sherman County commissioners approved a beer garden, to be run by the Flatlanders Fall Festival committee at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair for the Pro Bull Rider event on Wednesday, Aug. 6.

The request for a special-event license had been approved by city commissioners at their meeting on Monday, contingent on inspection of the location by the fire chief and building inspector.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said the issue came to him on Monday, and he brought it up at an Economic Development Council meeting on Tuesday because Commissioner Chuck Thomas was present, constituting a quorum of the commissioners. County commissioners held a special meeting Thursday morning to approve the license.

Rasure said Bill Stoick of the Super 8 Motel and a Flatlander committee member, had asked about holding a beer garden during

the bull riding. Thomas said he wanted to wait until Commissioner Mitch Tiede could be present, so the special meeting was scheduled for 8 a.m. Thursday morning.

At the meeting, Tiede said Stoick had talked to him about the beer garden idea a couple of months ago and he told Stoick to come to a commissioners' meeting. Stoick apologized for not coming in earlier.

Rasure said the area being suggested is south of the grandstands and north of the Kiwanis Snack Shack, where a beer garden was held at a Freedom Fest Fourth of July celebration four years ago.

Stoick said it would be enclosed, and that no one would be allowed to take beer out of the area. He said the Flatlander committee plans to share the proceeds with the bull rider committee and hopes this becomes an annual event.

Tiede said he had talked to Steve Duell, fair board chairman, and said Duell has no problem with the beer

garden, but the fair board does not want anything to do with it.

Thomas and Rasure both said they had talked to Duell and he had told them the same thing.

Thomas asked what hours the beer garden would be open.

Stoick said he thought the plan was to open about noon and close when things slowed down later that night, after the bull riding.

Tiede said he did not see a problem as long as the area was cleaned up and the committee had control and would not let anyone get out with a beer.

Stoick said he would have helpers to keep the area cleaned up and police those entering to be sure they were of age and not allow anyone to leave with a beer.

He said the beer garden would be serving Budweiser in cans, and that the empties would be donated to the Relay for Life program.

Thomas made the motion to approve the location and Tiede seconded. It passed unanimously.

Federal minimum wage raised

The federal minimum wage will jump to \$6.55 per hour effective Thursday, and in Kansas, officials say, that covers nearly all workers except about 19,000 in service or agriculture jobs not under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

The increase is the second part of a law increasing the minimum wage from \$5.35 to \$5.85 per hour last year, to \$6.55 this year and \$7.25 next July 24.

Kansas Congressman Jerry Moran (R-Hays) was one of 82 Republicans who joined 233 Democrats approving the minimum wage increase in January.

"With the increasing cost of gas, improving wages is even more important to Kansas families," Moran said Thursday. "We must

make sure all Kansans are better able to keep up with the rising cost of living."

Many states have separate minimum wage laws, with Kansas at \$2.65 per hour, the lowest in the nation, the U.S. Department of Labor says. In cases where an employee is subject to both state and federal minimum-wage laws, the department says, the employee is entitled to the higher wage based on the federal law.

The Kansas Legislature rejected an attempt this year to increase the state minimum wage. Another attempt to remove any state minimum wage also went down.

Twenty-eight states have state minimum wage rates higher than the federal minimum, the Labor

Department says. Sixteen states have set their state rate at the federal wage and five have no minimum — Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Of those with a state minimum, only Kansas' is lower than the federal wage. Kansas hasn't increased its minimum wage since 1988, the government says.

The act establishes minimum wage and rules for overtime pay, record keeping and child labor standards affecting employees in the private sector and in federal, state, and local governments. Employers must display a poster outlining the requirements of the law, including the minimum wage.

Classified ads work! Call 899-2338.

Cheyenne County Fair Presents:

"Another Day in Paradise"

August 6th - 9th

Thursday, Aug. 7th
Team Sorting & Team Roping
Team Sorting Teams of 3
For more information contact Ryan McAtee 785-332-5492.

Friday, Aug. 8th
Lawn Mower Races
4-Wheeler Races
Farm 4-Wheeler Races
For more information/lawnmower rules contact Jared Douthit 785-332-0124.

Saturday, Aug. 9th
Demolition Derby
Hobo Class; First place \$1,000 guaranteed
Super Weld Class; First Place \$1,000 guaranteed
Lawn Mower Tractor Pull
For more information and Derby rules contact Clay Zimbelman 785-332-5122. For Derby Tech questions contact Ron Neitzel 785-332-2015.
For General questions contact Dick Bursch 785-821-0492.
Watch the *Saint Francis Herald* for the complete fair schedule.

"We Are So Grateful!"

"My family and I thank you for the kindness you have shown us this summer while we have campaigned for District Judge. Whether it is through helping us get out signs or visiting with us in your homes, churches and businesses, I am truly humbled by your graciousness and support. I look forward to the opportunity to serve you. I would appreciate your vote August 5, 2008." - Andrea Wyrick, Republican Candidate for District Judge, Division 2.

www.wyrick4judge.com

To serve the people honestly, truthfully and humbly with integrity, equality and respect-Exodus 18:21

Paid for by Wyrick for District Judge-Jerry Vincent, Treasurer

We Welcome Back Bob's Meat Block!

The Goodland Star-News, The Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce and The Goodland Ambassadors would like to congratulate Bob Gittinger on the re-opening of Bob's Meat Block!

As many who have lived in Goodland for a long time know, Bob Gittinger owned a meat store, known as Bob's Meat Block, on Main Ave. north of Crazy R's.

When the space became available recently, several people contacted Gittinger and asked and encouraged him to re-open his store.

Gittinger started as a meat cutter at Safeway in 1980 when Safeway was in Goodland and has done it ever since.

Smiling, Gittinger said, "I love people and enjoy the work and I just thought... why not?" He continued with, "Besides... Goodland needs more businesses on Main."

At the moment, Bob's daughter, Jamie, will be lending a hand as his main employee in addition to her cheerleading, school and summer activities.

In August when school starts, though, Bob is quick to say that he will be looking for more help.

Bob's Meat Block offers choice meats, T-bones, Tenderloins (or Top Loins as he calls them), KC Strips, Sirloins, Ribeyes, etc., and fresh ground beef prepared daily.

Patties are available in both 1/3 and 1/4 pounds per burger. Deli meats and cheeses are available and all that goes with a good hamburger, such as bread, ketchup, mustard and canned goods to make an awesome spaghetti dinner. Milk is also available.

Visit Bob at Bob's Meat Block at 1614 Main Street or call him at (785) 890-7777. Bob's Meat Block's hours are 8:20 a.m. to 5:40 p.m. Monday through Friday.