

weather report



60°
noon
Thursday

Today

- Sunset, 7:46 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 5:41 a.m.
- Sunset, 7:47 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 52 degrees
- Humidity 38 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds northwest 10-15 mph
- Barometer 30.26 inches and rising
- Record High today 95° (1934)
- Record Low today 28° (1917)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Wednesday 71°
- Low Wednesday 38°
- Precipitation trace
- This month trace
- Year to date 3.86
- Below normal 0.07 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with the winds out of the south at 10 to 15 mph and switching to the north, a high near 78 and a low around 45. Saturday: Mostly sunny with winds out of the west at 5 to 10 mph switching to the south, a high near 78 and a low around 30.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Sunny with a high near 85 and a low around 53. Monday: Mostly sunny with a high near 83 and a low around 48. Tuesday: Mostly sunny with a high near 77 and a low around 44.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

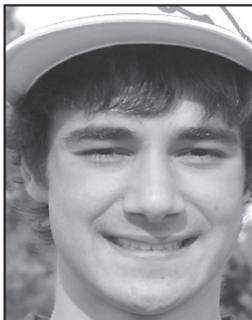
local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$7.52 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$7.87
 - Corn — \$6.35 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$7.08
 - Milo — \$6.19 bushel
 - Soybeans — \$11.90 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$13
 - Millet — \$5 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$31.90 cwt.
 - Confection — no bid
 - Pinto beans — \$28 (new crop)
- (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



Cowboys win tourneys

Cowboys golf team took first at Atwood on Saturday and at Thomas More Prep on Monday. Cowboy George Bellani was the top individual golfer at both tournaments with a 68 and 75. See photo, story on Page 11.

Museum director introduced

By Tom Betz

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City commissioners met the new High Plains Museum director on Monday who was hired last week and had her first day on the job Monday.

City Manager Doug Gerber introduced Karen Anderson who was hired last week to be the High Plains Museum director.

He said she is anxious to get going and has some great ideas. He said she impressed the interview panel and Monday was her first day of work.

He said Anderson grew up in Nebraska and went to the University of Nebraska and then to a college in Texas for her masters degree.

Anderson said she was excited to be in Goodland, and was looking forward to working with the museum.

Mayor John Garcia welcomed Anderson and said he was pleased to see her enthusiasm.

Gerber said Anderson was working on being a property owner.

Anderson said she was taking the plunge to buy a house.

In other business the commissioners:

- Read a proclamation to "Paint the Town Purple" in support of the annual Relay for Life program to help raise money during the month of May to support the American Cancer Society for research, education, advocacy and patient services.

Ron Barkley, A Relay for Life Hero of Hope, thanked the city commissioners for their support and the proclamation about Paint

Grass height cut to eight inches

By Tom Betz

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Citizens who let their grass and weeds grow without cutting will be getting letters when the grass and weeds reach eight inches or more city commissioners decided on Monday.

The commissioners had discussed the change in the weed ordinance at the meeting on April 18, and agreed to reduce the height down to eight inches from the current 12 inches.

Mayor John Garcia said the commissioners had talked about changing the ordinance and had a consensus to drop it from 12 inches to eight.

"I feel this is an appropriate move," Garcia said. "It might make more work for Brian (James), city building inspector and fire chief, but feel it is a good move forward."

James said he felt eight inches was the best way to go. He said if they continue to let the weeds get to 12 inches the people have 10 days, and if they don't mow it

then it is almost 18 inches by the time we get it mowed.

City Manager Doug Gerber said he felt it was a step in the right direction and that it might help get some more of the lawns mowed and cleaned up. He said both he and James take a lot of heat on the weeds, but felt lowering the height to eight inches would be a help, and did not feel it would add that much to the work James is having to do now.

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said she thought eight inches was a good answer and made the motion to approve the ordinance amendment. Commissioner Chris Zimmerman said he agreed and seconded the motion.

Garcia asked if the city could anticipate any change in cost for the weed program.

Gerber said he did not feel there would be any real change, and expects many of the names on the list to be people who have been on the mowing list in past years.

The commissioners voted 5-0 to approve the ordinance amendment.

the Town Purple.

He said he was looking for the purple stripe down Main the city had agreed to do this month. The annual Relay for Life overnight

event will be held at the high school track on Friday, June 3.

- Read a proclamation for Arbor Day to be held on Thursday. The City was planning a

special Arbor Day tree planting to be held at the Van Gogh Park area Thursday afternoon to celebrate the city's 32 years as a Tree City USA.

Fourth graders from Central Elementary were to participate in the tree planting ceremony and to prepare a time capsule to be buried with the trees. The trees are being donated by Black Hills Energy.

- Received a refund check for about \$8,000 from the Kansas Municipal Utilities safety program. Gerber said the city gains points on insurance for holding ongoing safety training programs. He said it costs the city about \$10,000 and this is the second year they have received a nice refund. He said the safety program helps on the cost of the works compensation insurance rates.

- Announced work would begin on Caldwell next week with edge replacement, and Gerber said the week after the contractor McCormick Construction of Stratton, Colo. will be handling the mill and overlay for about two blocks from the south edge of the concrete at Eighth to the south side of 10th Street intersection.

- Gave an update on the water treatment plant saying the target date has been moved back to Monday at the earliest. Gerber said the electrical was done on Monday, but it is a matter of getting everyone scheduled to get the final details worked out. He said Mike Miller has a punch list to work on, and Jodi Miller said the other punch list has been done.

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Celebrating Cinco de Mayo

Sixth graders from Grant were at Max Jones Fieldhouse Wednesday afternoon to attend Cinco de Mayo activities put on by the Spanish II, Spanish III and Spanish IV students from Goodland High School.

The Mexican holiday celebrates the day when 4,000 Mexican soldiers smashed the French and traitor Mexican army of 8,000 at Puebla, Mexico, 100 miles east of Mexico City on May 5, 1862.

Students got lunch and got to break a pinata at the end. They also participated in sessions

given by the high schoolers in decorating pinata bags and paper flowers, singing, Cinco de Mayo history and Mexican flag, Loteria and Serpientes games, Bolero and top games, making Ojo de Dios and dancing.

Those pictured making paper flowers are Margaux Thompson (from left), Noriela Ordonez-Castillo, Tate Withington and Kinsey Volk with their high school student. Among the students trying their luck getting the wooden barrel onto the stick are Maria Aguirre (center left) and Rebecca Farrow.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Commissioners hear economic development update

By Tom Betz

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Work on Bella's Market should begin later this month city commissioners were told on Monday as part of the monthly economic development update.

Michael Solomon said he had a good visit with Sam Mancini in Denver in April, and was told by Mancini he had hired a new construction company to begin the work.

Solomon said the new contractor has been in contact with the city and expects to begin work this month. He said it was good to see the sign in the parking lot as a first step, and feels the project is moving forward.

He said the company that has a facility and is looking at a possible expansion is working with the Kansas Department of Transportation on a grant program that could help with a rail spur. He said the paperwork for the grant is being completed.

Another company has decided to expand their existing building with a 9,600 square foot addition. He said they are looking at what the job growth would be to see if the company qualify for any state incentives.

Solomon said the two men from



A sign has been up for a few weeks at the site of Sam Mancini's Bella's Market on the corner of Center and 10th Street. Work is expected to begin this month to get the building ready to open as a grocery store later in the summer.

Photo by Josh Harenberg/The Goodland Star-News

the asphalt and concrete recycling business are talking about what kind of operation they want to have. He said currently the operation is being done on a mobile basis, and has been thinking about having a base in Goodland where they could sell landscape stones, mulches and other

products to the public. This would bring about five jobs to start. He said the company is filling out information to see if they could qualify for any state incentives.

He said the Apple iPad documentary at Northwest Tech has been delayed until the fall, but

expects Apple to have a preliminary visit possibly this month to see how they want to set up the shooting. He said part of the delay was because the college year is nearly over. He said it might be better for Apple if Northwest Tech is handing out iPad2s to the students in August.

He said he has been talking to a small out of state company about moving their manufacturing operation to Sherman County. He said this is the type of company that would be a great fit for the area. He said it would bring about five jobs into the county.

City Manager Doug Gerber said he had an economic development related issue to discuss with the commissioners.

He said Solomon had someone from the community approach him about making a donation to a community event.

"The answer given was No," Gerber said. "It is fair to say our philosophy is that economic development is not a place to come for community event donations. The economic development money is to help people with business development programs."

"If you (city commissioners) feel that is wrong we need to adopt a different philosophy. We need to let the community know what we are doing."

Commissioner Josh Dechant said he felt that was the right philosophy because the money was coming from the same pot.

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said she agreed it was the right philosophy.

Mayor John Garcia said he agreed it would be best to channel these requests through the commission and not duplicate any donations.

Commissioners Bill Finley and Chris Zimmerman said they agreed with not using economic development money for community event donations.

Gerber said that is what he and Michael will tell people if they ask about something that might have been done in the past, but it will not be done in the future.

