

**weather
report****80°****noon Thursday****Today**

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 5:24 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 77 degrees
- Humidity 31 percent
- Sky clear and sunny
- Winds variable 8-18 mph.
- Barometer 30.10 inches and falling

- Record High today 106° (1990)
- Record Low today 44° (1959)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday 91°

Low Wednesday 61°

Precipitation none

This month 2.62

Year to date 8.27

Normal 10.23

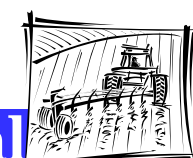
The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 11 a.m., high near 88, low near 60, winds south 8-30 mph. Saturday: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, high around 95, low around 61, winds southwest 8-30 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms at night, high around 93, low around 58. Fourth of July: mostly sunny.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings compiled at midnight.

**local
markets****Noon**

Wheat — \$2.89 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.92
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$1.84 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.87
Loan deficiency pmt. — 7¢
Milo — \$1.47 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.69 bushel
Posted county price — \$6.10
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$5 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.70 cwt.
NuSun — \$1.79 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Confection — Ask
Pinto beans — \$25
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

**inside
today**

More local
news and
views from
your
Goodland
Star-News

**Swim meet
here Saturday**

Tanner O'Harah took a deep breath before heading back across the pool doing the breaststroke at practice for the Goodland swim team at Steever Water Park on Tuesday. The swim team is preparing for a regional tournament from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. More photos on Page 10a.

Governor plans visit

Goodland will get a visit from Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius next week. While she isn't making any public appearances, she will make several stops in town.

At 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sebelius will be at the farm of Ken Palmgren, on the southwest corner of Edson between old U.S. 24 and I-70. Sebelius visited the farm last year as part of a wheat harvest tour.

"The Palmgrens were so gracious when I visited before that I thought a visit to catch up and see how things have been going on the farm may be a good idea," the governor said.

Virginia Palmgren said she expects Sebelius to take a spin on a combine.

**Sebelius**

"Getting out of Topeka and jumping in a combine for a bit sounds like a great change of pace," the governor said in a press release.

From 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, the Governor will attend a barbecue at the Ennis-Handy House.

At 7 a.m. on Wednesday, July 6, Sebelius plans to tour the site of the archaeological dig last month near Kanorado. Dr. Rolfe Mandel, a Kansas Geological Survey official who worked at the dig with the University of Kansas, will guide the governor through the three dig sites.

At 8 a.m., Sebelius plans a tour of the Goodland Regional Medical Center.

The release said her tour is part of efforts for a healthy Kansas. It said she has been working for access to lower-cost, safe prescription drugs. She is trying to expand health care in rural regions and help small business create health insurance options for employees, the release said.

The governor will be joined in Goodland by Christie Brandau, state librarian; Deb Miller, secretary of transportation; Tracy Streeter, director of the Kansas water office; Lee Allison, governor's energy advisor.

Before heading here Tuesday, Sebelius planned stops in Norton, Oberlin, Oakley, Atwood and Colby. After her time here on Wednesday, she will be visiting Sharon Springs, Lakin, Ulysses and Syracuse.



Paul Daybell, who is working this month for The Maize, used orange-red paint to mark places in Bryce and Jessica Cole's corn field to "cut" a maze.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Sunflower-shaped maze growing in corn field

By Sharon Corcoran*The Goodland Star-News*

The sun beat down. It was a hot, dry day.

A man wandered in the southeast corner of a corn field spraying orange-red paint here and there. Another was doing the same in the northwest corner. A third was in the middle of the field.

You might wonder what they were marking and why. And whose idea was it to be out on a day like this?

But Logan Bench, Braden Bair, and Paul Daybell, employees of The Maize, a company that "cuts" mazes in corn fields, saw perfect conditions for cutting, limited time to do it and computer-generated plans in hand to create a work of art that would serve as a game and a tourist attraction.

The maze, a picture of the Van Gogh sunflower painting that is one of Goodland's main attractions, is in a field east of town owned by Cole Family Farms.

Bryce and Jessica Cole said they chose the field for the attraction for its location and facilities. It is on the east edge of Goodland and has a large farm building, city utilities and space for a pumpkin garden. And it has a same-sized field of soybeans right next to it that can be used for rotating crops while keeping the maze close to town.

The Maize has graphic designers,

Busy summer for 'cutting'

What do a 34-year-old occupational therapist, a 17-year-old wrestler and a 22-year-old college student have in common?

Their summer jobs involve turning cornfields into art. Braden Bair, 17; Logan Bench, 22; and Paul Daybell, 34, work for The Maize, a company that designs and "cuts" corn mazes.

The company was founded in American Fork, Utah, by Brett Herbst in 1996, and since has cut

over 840 mazes, says the company's web site.

Herbst, a Brigham Young University agribusiness graduate, launched his first corn maze that year, the company's web site says, drawing on knowledge he gained while growing up on an Idaho farm.

He had read about a similar venture in a farming magazine and

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Bench said, who draw up what the customer wants. The men carried printouts of the design and used paint to mark their route to spray. They said the maze would be visible from the air in three weeks, but they didn't want to say how spraying creates a maze.

"It's kind of a secret how it works," Bench said. "It keeps people on their toes."

The Coles had perfect conditions that day in mid-June to cut the maze, Daybell said; the corn was just the right height, and it had been planted in "boxes," a grid pattern that makes it easier to measure where the marks need to be.

The corn in planted in rows that are 30 inches apart, Bryce Cole said, with north and south rows and east

and west rows, creating 30 by 30 boxes.

The "cutters" said it usually takes about five hours to do each maze, and they tend to just hurry up and get the work done and go to the next site, though they do take time for fun when they can.

Daybell said the company has 100 mazes planned this summer, and he will probably help with 30 mazes in 30 states in the month he is working. They cut one near Omaha, he said, and then came to Goodland for the next day, staying overnight at Hays. Kansas was second in his 30-states-in-30-days plan.

The Coles' maze is scheduled to open Saturday, Aug. 20, and will be

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Celebrating freedom!



Lukas Wolak from the city crew put out the welcome flags Thursday morning, getting ready for the Fourth of July Freedom Fest weekend. Main Street is lined on both sides with the red, white and blue flags printed with the word "Welcome" in black.

Photo by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News

Freedom Fest schedule

Goodland's Fourth of July Freedom Fest weekend will run from today through Sunday. Monday is reserved as a rain date for the fireworks.

Today — 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.: Sizzlin' Summer Sales.

Saturday — 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.: Sizzlin' Summer Sales.

8 a.m.: Citywide garage sales.

9 a.m.: First National Bank mud volleyball tournament at the old highway department building, 1201 West U.S. 24.

10 a.m.: Freedom Pageant at Gulick Park for ages 2-7.

4 p.m.: Vendors set up at Sherman County fairgrounds.

5 p.m.: Gates open for Tracy Lawrence concert at fairgrounds.

8 p.m.: Lawrence takes the stage.

Sunday — 3 p.m.: Parade on Main from 17th Street to the fairgrounds.

4 p.m.: Carnival rides will be open at the fairground, 50 cents each.

6 to 9 p.m.: Chamber Freedom Fest dinner and entertainment.

Dusk: Fireworks display.

Offices closed for holiday

Among those closed Monday for the Fourth of July holiday will be:

- ✓ City and county offices.
- ✓ The post office and all federal offices.
- ✓ The Sherman County landfill
- ✓ City trash service. Dumpsters regularly scheduled to be picked up on Monday will be picked up on Tuesday.
- ✓ Banks and most private offices and businesses. *The Goodland Star-News* will be closed on Monday. The holiday will delay the paper by one day; it will be printed on Tuesday, and delivered in the mail on Wednesday.

Commission plans four more interviews

By Tom Betz*The Goodland Star-News*

The Goodland City Commission interviewed three city manager applicants Saturday and Monday, and plans to interview four more on Thursday and Saturday.

The special meetings Saturday and Monday were held behind closed doors, said City Clerk Mary Volk.

The commission is scheduling the interviews to last an hour, and then holds a separate closed session to discuss each interview. Commissioners interviewed two applicants Saturday and one Monday evening.

The first interview Saturday was followed by a 30-minute closed session before the second interview. The second interview was followed by a 15-minute closed session.

Following the one-hour interview and 20-minute closed session on Monday, the commission held a second closed session for 15 minutes to discuss holding additional interviews.

The additional interviews will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday and 9:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Because of the July 4 holiday on Monday, the regular commission meeting will be held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

Volk said Lloyd Holbrook of the

Sherman County Historical Society will be present to ask the commission to continue providing an allowance for utilities at the historic Handy House.

Matt Rohr will ask the commission for permission to erect a flag pole at Pioneer Park as his Eagle Scout project.

Art Nelson of the Goodland Shrine Club present a proclamation honoring Goodland High graduate Brock Lohr, who will be participating in the Kansas All-Star Shrine Bowl game in July.

Lohr was named to the Shrine Bowl west team in January, and will be attending Pittsburg State University on a football scholarship in the fall. The Kansas Shrine Bowl will be played on Monday, Aug. 1, at the Kansas State University football stadium in Manhattan.

Representatives from the Kemp Sugar Co. will be at the meeting to discuss a petition for annexation, and reveal development plans for the property west of the city. The petition was signed by John Golden, owner of the land which is east of County Road 14 and south of County Road 65 (Eighth Street).

The commission will consider passing a resolution to annex the

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