

weather report



89°

10:30 a.m.
Monday

Today

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Wednesday

• Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:17 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 73 degrees
- Humidity 18 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds west 8 mph
- Barometer 29.68 inches and rising
- Record High today 104° (1936)
- Record Low today 42° (1912)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	97°
Low Sunday	61°
Precipitation	none
This month	0.90
Year to date	5.32
Below normal	3.03 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny and hot with a high near 97, winds out of the north at 5 to 10 mph and a low around 64. Wednesday: Sunny with a high near 84, winds breezy out of the east at 15 to 30 mph and a low around 62.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 90 and a low around 67. Friday: Sunny and breezy with a high near 95 and a low around 70. Saturday: Sunny and hot with a high near 98 and a low around 67.

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

Wheat harvest underway



The combines are in the fields – such as this one in northern Sherman County – and the grain trucks are on the roads, hauling in the first of this summer's wheat crop. Harvest has been underway in Kansas for several weeks, with some areas getting better-than-expected yields and test weights. Drivers should be watchful for farm machinery and trucks on the roads, especially at night.
Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Congressman talks debt, regulations

By Kevin Bottrell

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The small crowd that turned out to talk to U.S. Rep Tim Huelskamp on Friday at the Sherman County Courthouse questioned him on regulations, national debt and conflicts between the Legislative and Executive branches of the federal government.

Huelskamp has been representing the 1st District for about 18 months and has recently filed for re-election.

He gave a quick rundown on the current happenings in his congressional committees. Huelskamp serves on the House Agriculture,

Veterans Affairs and Budget committees.

In the Agriculture Committee, the farm bill debate has been ongoing. Huelskamp said that if it wasn't for agriculture, the trade deficit would be a lot worse. However, as one of only 20 farmers in congress, he said he often has an uphill battle to convey to his colleagues how important agriculture is.

In the Veterans Affairs Committee, Huelskamp said he has been working on getting local health care options for veterans who live in rural areas.

"People say we don't spend enough on veterans health care," he said. "Well \$57

billion for veterans health care works pretty well, if you live next to the VA, but not if you live out here."

Huelskamp said the state of veterans health care is troubling, and there have been serious mistakes and even deaths because of substandard care.

His work in the Budget Committee often has to do with the national debt and federal spending.

"That's where I get these depressing charts that say the nation is broke and getting broke," he said.

Those charts, he said, hadn't changed

because nothing in the federal budget has changed. Entitlement costs and national debt are still rising, he said, and if left unchecked, Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security will take up the whole budget within a few years.

One citizen asked why the government can't get rid of its debt.

"It will stop when these countries stop loaning to us," Huelskamp said, pointing to a chart showing how much of the national debt is owned by foreign countries.

Huelskamp said to pay down that debt the

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local markets



10:30 a.m.

Wheat — \$5.97 bushel	Posted county price — \$5.77
Corn — \$6.03 bushel	Posted county price — \$6.15
Milo — \$5.68 bushel	
Soybeans — \$12.67 bushel	Posted county price — \$13.22
Millet — \$12 hundredweight	
Sunflowers	
Oil current crop — \$25.15 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

Weather Service plays host for annual Flag Day service

A small crowd of about 25 gathered on the grass outside the National Weather Service Goodland office Thursday morning for the Elks Flag Day service.

The ceremony was opened by Elks Americanism Chairman Grady Bonsall. Danny Mangus sang the "Star Spangled Banner" and provided other patriotic music.

Elks officers Exalted Ruler Brian Rippe, Leading Knight Robin Deeds, Loyal Knight Chuck Boehme and Esquire Burton Pianalto presented the Elks Flag Day Service. National Elks Trustee Walt Linthacum presented the Elks salute to the flag.

Ella Ihrig, who won the fifth and sixth grade local and district essay contest "Why I am proud to pledge allegiance to our flag," read her essay. The other winner was Journey Lee of Saint Francis who won in the seventh and eighth grade division. Lee won the local,

district and state contest in her division. She was not able to attend the service on Thursday and Ihrig read Lee's winning essay.

Police Chief Cliff Couch was the special speaker and spoke about why we have such a reverent feeling for the flag. He said the flag is more than a piece of cloth as it represents all the history and people who helped found the country and who have defended their country over the more than 230 years since the flag was adopted by the Continental Congress.

Meteorologist Dave Floyd accepted a flag from the Elks that had been flown over the U.S. Capitol. Bonsall said the Elks present a flag to the host of the Flag Day ceremony each year.

Each person who attended was given a small American flag to take home.



National Weather Service Meteorologist Dave Floyd accepted a flag that had been flown over the U.S. Capitol Building as thanks for being the host for Thursday's Flag Day service.
Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Walking through history: Thailand's 'Death Railway'

By Tom Betz

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Memorial weekend brings out many war movies, and the past holiday had a good number of older movies and some not so old with familiar themes. Two of those dealt with using prisoners of war as forced labor in Southeast Asia during World War II.

On a recent trip to Kanchanaburi, Thailand, I walked on the famous "Bridge on the River Kwai." It was a thrill to walk across the bridge and my sister-in-law and I started whistling the "Colonel Bogey March" as we walked. We were accompanied by a Thai fiddler who set up on the west side of the bridge. We dropped some money in his case, and wondered how many times a day he heard the movie theme from visitors.

The bridge was a key point on the 260 mile stretch of railroad the Japanese built 70 years ago to tie Bangkok, Thailand, with Rangoon, Burma.

The Thai-Burma railway became known as the "Death Railway" for the more than 97,000 prisoners of war and Asian conscripts who died



The Bridge on the River Kwai near Kanchanaburi, Thailand, originally built during World War II by British, Australian and Dutch prisoners of war. This bridge was bombed by British and American planes and two sections were destroyed.
Photo by Barbara Heinign/The Goodland Star-News

building the railway. Beginning in November 1942 and completing the project in October 1943, the Japa-

nese used thousands of Prisoners of War English (30,131), Australian (13,004), Dutch (17,990), a small

number of American (686) and more than 177,000 Malay, Burmese, Javanese and Chinese conscripts to

build the railway.

The second movie we saw over the Memorial weekend was the 1957 British film "Bridge on the River Kwai" starring Alec Guinness and William Holden. We remember this movie from our youth, and it was one of our favorites especially the movie theme the Colonel Bogey March.

This movie is a fictional account of the building of a bridge on the Japanese Thailand-Burma railroad between November 1942 and October 1943. It was a British production, and took a lot of liberties with what actually happened in the prisoner of war camps in Thailand and Burma.

The movie won seven academy awards including best picture, best actor and best screenplay. The movie was loosely based on a book by French author Pierre Boulle wrote about the building of a bridge on the railway and a British colonel who feels his men should take pride in their work, and with his guidance the prisoners build a wonderful bridge for the Japanese. At the end

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Golf tourney draws crowd

Sixty teams competed in the Sweet Swingers men's golf tournament at Sugar Hills Golf Course on June 9.

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