

Weather Corner



Chance for snow tonight

The forecast
Tonight — A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy with a low around 16. East wind around 5 mph becoming calm.
Thursday — Partly cloudy with a high around 34. North wind around 10 mph.

Thursday night — Partly cloudy with a low near 17. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Friday — Partly cloudy with a high near 40. West wind around 5 mph becoming south.
Friday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 26.
Saturday — Partly cloudy with a high around 52.

Temperatures
 Tuesday's high, 29
 Low this morning, 15
 Records for this date, 87 in 1910, 2 in 1898
 Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
 March's precipitation, 12.7
 A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

Colby man charged with break-in

By Jan Katz Ackerman
 Colby Free Press

A Colby man has been charged with an early March break-in at Sunflower Apartments.

Brian J. Shaughnessy, 29, has been charged in Thomas County District Court with aggravated assault and criminal damage to property for forced entry of an apartment on March 1.

According to Colby Police Detective Sergeant Gary Shull a complaint was called in to the law enforcement center at 3:51 a.m. that morning.

Shull said Shaughnessy is alleged to have forcibly entered one of the apartments at 1:30 a.m. while it was occupied by Wendy L. Jackson, 24, and Douglas E. Bennett, 23, both of Colby.

"Shaughnessy was a former resident of that apartment and had just recently moved out," Shull said. "According to the two occupants, Shaughnessy pulled a knife and threatened to kill Bennett."

Shaughnessy was arrested at the scene and taken to the Thomas County Jail. He has since bonded out of jail and been released.

Should Shaughnessy be convicted of the two charges, and depending on a presentence investigation, he faces between seven and 23 months in prison and a fine up to \$100,000 for the assault charge.

For the criminal damage to property charge, Shaughnessy faces up to six months in the county jail and a fine up to \$1,000 should he be convicted of damage to the door lock and frame of the apartment.

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Briefly

Library event rescheduled

The "Dance Dance Revolution" event for students in sixth through eighth grade to be held at Pioneer Memorial Library has been rescheduled. It will be from 3:45-5:15 p.m. Thursday at the library. Snacks and prizes will be part of the activities.

Square dance planned Saturday

Bob Tucker of Wichita will call the square dance for the Golden Buckle Club beginning at 8 p.m. Saturday. It will be held at Colby Middle School, 750 W. Third. St.. Visitors are welcome.

Eighth grade meeting Monday

Enrollment information night for eighth grade students and their parents will be held at 7 p.m. Monday in the Colby Middle School cafeteria. Counselor Joni Clark-Leiker and Principal Robb Ross will present enrollment information for the 2006-2007 school year.

Historic currency exhibit here

Farmers and Merchants Bank, 320 W. 4th St., is hosting an exhibit on the history of the U.S. currency, featuring historic notes and coins on loan from the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. The exhibit will be displayed from now until April 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The display traces currency from the Colonial period through current day, focusing on currency of major historical significance, including state bank notes, fractional notes and gold certificates, bank officials said. This exhibit is made possible by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City with branches in Denver, Oklahoma City and Omaha. The bank serves the Tenth Federal Reserve District to include Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Wyoming, northern New Mexico and the western third of Missouri.

School Board special meeting set

The Colby School Board is holding a special meeting at 7 a.m. Friday, in the board room of the Administration Building.

The agenda includes personnel issues, including resignations and nonrenewal of a tenured teacher's contract. The meeting is open to the public.

Workshop planned March 31

A two-day workshop, "Real Deal Building Local and Regional Business in Entrepreneurial Agriculture," will be held March 31 and April 1 in Atwood. The purpose of the workshop is to inspire producers in the tri-state region to seek new markets through entrepreneurial agriculture, direct sales and agri-tourism. Workshop fees and questions can be directed to Chris Sramek, Rawlins County Economic Development director, (785) 626-3640.

Preschool open house scheduled

Heartland Christian School is having its preschool open house March 31, 2006 from 8:15 a.m. to noon. All preschool age children and their parents are invited to come and visit and participate in the activities, school officials said. If you would like to attend this open house, call 460-6419.

Church volunteers to help with new Sappa Valley Youth Ranch

By JAN KATZ ACKERMAN
 Colby Free Press

A Hoxie church is gearing up to return to mission work at the boys' ranch in Oberlin when it reopens under new management.

Rev. Dan Rohm of Living Word Fellowship said the church membership welcomes the opportunity to once again minister at the ranch formerly operated by Kelly Detention Services of Topeka. Kelly ended its management of Sappa Valley Youth Ranch last month citing financial losses.

"Absolutely," Rohm said when asked whether Living Word members would return to the ranch. "We hope we would have more liberty to pray for the boys."

Rohm and members of the church have traveled to the boys' ranch for nearly three years to minister to the teens housed at the barrier-free detention center. He said he has an appointment with Rep. Dick Kelsey (R-Goddard) who is reopening the facility next month as Kings Camp. That meeting is scheduled March 27 to

begin talks about the church's input at the boys' ranch.

Kelsey said he welcomes not only Living Word to minister at the ranch, but "area churches as well." Having owned and operated Kings Camp, Inc. in Goddard since 1998, the organization includes Kings Achievement Center and King's Alcohol and Drug Treatment Centers.

Kelsey, a minister, motivational speaker and restaurant owner, is excited about the northwestern Kansas boys' ranch.

Oberlin City Council approved a contact with Kelsey to take over the ranch April 1, and he plans to have 21 teens placed by April 17. That number will jump to as high as 37 teens when the ranch is fully operational.

"We will have a strong faith based emphasis at the ranch," Kelsey said. "The first thing we plan to do is build a chapel. Since our faith factor is a strong emphasis, I'll be hiring a half-time chaplain as well."

Kelsey plans to return the staff to its previous number of 40, and according to policy this will allow "visual on the kids at all

times." He said the increased number of staff will help reduce the chance of a teen leaving the ranch voluntarily as was the case in February when a Colby teen stole a car in Oberlin and was later arrested.

Kings Camp is owned by the city of Oberlin and Kelsey will pay rent. Starting at \$2,000 per month in May and June, by September the rent will increase to \$3,600. Utilities will be shared the first year then Kings Camp will be responsible for them.

Kelsey will speak during a motivational seminar at 7 p.m. April 11 at the Gateway in Oberlin.

Topics Kelsey will cover include developing a winning attitude, setting goals that work and rowing through the rough waters of life.

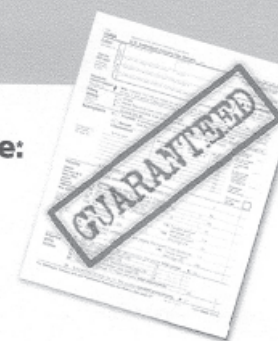
The first-come-first-serve tickets are available at the Oberlin school district superintendent's office or the Oberlin city office. A suggested \$10 minimum donation for each ticket will be taken at the end of the seminar. All proceeds from the reopening of the Sappa Valley Youth Ranch.

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TUES: Italian Buffet
WED: American Buffet
THUR: Steak Dinner (USDA Choice 10 oz Strip with baked potato, salad, and roll) No Hot Buffet available.
FRI: Seafood Buffet
SAT: BBQ Buffet

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