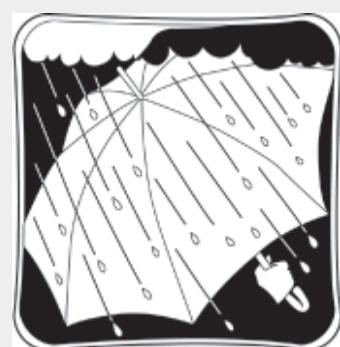


Weather Corner



More rain?

Tonight — The forecast is calling for a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy with a low around 69. South wind between 10 and 15 mph. **Thursday** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 p.m. Sunny and hot with a high near 99. South wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Thursday night** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy, then gradually becoming clear with a low around 68. South wind around 5 mph becoming west. **Friday** — Sunny and hot, with a high near 101. Calm wind becoming southeast between 10 and 15 mph. **Friday night** — Clear with a low around 68. **Saturday** — Sunny and hot with a high near 101. Saturday night — Mostly clear with a low around 68. **Sunday** — Mostly sunny and hot with a high near 102.

Temperatures
 Tuesday's high, 89
 Low this morning, 63
 Records for this date, 106 in 1954, 47 in 1975
 Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
 July's precipitation, 1.35

Water Use Report
Average Friday, Saturday and Sunday (July 7, 8 and 9)
 • 2,401,000 gallons
Monday's water use (July 10)
 • 1,633,300 gallons
Tuesday's water use (July 11)
 • 1,996,400 gallons

The City of Colby monitors water usage and could consider special instructions if the usage goes over the following gallons for three consecutive days.
 3.5 million = Water Watch.
 4 million = Water Warning
 4.5 million = Water Emergency
 A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

Briefly

Gaither concert Sunday

Colby Wesleyan Church, 320 W. Pine, is hosting another Gaither video concert, starting at 6 p.m., Sunday. This week's concert will feature the video "Something Beautiful."

Everyone is welcome and the event is free of charge. Organizers encourage people to enjoy "great gospel music on the big screen."

College board meets Monday

The regular meeting of the Colby Community College board of trustees will be held at 5 p.m., Monday, in the board room of Thomas Hall on campus. Agenda items include approval of employment contracts; resolutions; election of 2006-07 officers and representatives to the Kansas Association of Community Colleges and Endowment Association. The board will also hear reports from President Lynn Kreider and administrators. For questions, call 462-3984.

CPR classes scheduled

The Thomas County Red Cross will be teaching First Aid and Adult CPR from 6 to 10 p.m., Wednesday, July 26. In addition, infant and child CPR will be taught at the same time

Thursday, July 27. Both will be held at the Thomas County Red Cross office, 350 S. Range Ave., Colby. For reservations or questions, call 462-7161.

Queen, princess contestants wanted

The Thomas County Rodeo Queen and Princess Pageant is looking for contestants for the 2006 contest, said Marie Skolout, coordinator. Girls ages 8-11 are eligible for the junior princess; 12-15 for princess and 16-23 for the queen contest. Contestants are judged on horsemanship, interview, speech and modeling. A trophy saddle is awarded to the queen along with other great prizes for the princess and junior princess. This year's contest will be on Friday, July 28, with entries due July 26. For entry forms or questions, call Skolout at (785) 586-2228.

Heartland Share sign-up this week

Heartland Share, a program designed to promote community involvement, will continue sign-up for the month of July until noon Saturday at State Farm Insurance office, 905 E. Fourth St. This month's delivery begins at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, July 29 at Sacred Heart School gym, 1150 W. Sixth St. For information, call 460-3579. The program is not fed-

erally funded and is open to anyone who would like to volunteer two hours community service and save money on a variety of groceries.

Fair Board to meet Thursday

The Thomas County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. Thursday at the 4-H Building on the Thomas County Fairgrounds. Items on the agenda include: extension agent report; bills and financial report; committee reports on the buildings and grounds, carnival, rodeo, parade, demolition derby, races, fair book, advertising expenses and income; a discussion on the fair barbecue; display cases for open class; Colby Community College rodeo contract and the Pickin' on the Plains Bluegrass Festival. The meeting is open to the public.

Girl Scouts holding book drive

Junior Girl Scout Troop 218 and Brownie Girl Scout Troop 228 are hosting a book drive from 4:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Pioneer Memorial Library. Children's or young adult books are needed so the Scouts can build a library to donate back to the community. Depending on the number of books provided, the books will be distributed to preschools, daycare providers, the Red Cross or church nursery classes.

Thomas County Sheriff provides caseload update

By Mike Baughn
 Thomas County Sheriff

I thought it would be of interest to the citizens of Thomas County for me to report on the activities of my office for the past six months.

Your Sheriff's Office is composed of myself, Undersheriff Jason Moses, three deputies assigned to road patrol: Ken Patton, Brian Diercks and Allen Marcum; two assigned to criminal interdiction and K-9: Marc Finley and Rod Taylor; Deputy C. D. Hopper, assigned

to investigations; five assigned to jail operations: Chief Detention Deputy Patrick Dooley, Tashia Kuper, Tanya Christensen, Reid Rogers and Brent Mariman; and two deputies assigned to Records: Jane McDougal and Sheri Lee.

June 30, 2006 was the end of our training year and all certified officers have received the required 40 hours of annual training. We have seven officers who are certified as full-time law enforcement officers through the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center and two who

are certified as part-time LEOs. All members of the Sheriff's Office, however, received training necessary to perform their assigned duties.

During the past six months, my Office has served 881 pieces of civil process and logged 251 cases from 2279 log entries. 312 persons were booked into the Thomas County Jail and 318 processed out of jail.

A break-down of the 251 cases worked shows:

- One Rape
- Two Assaults
- Five Batteries
- Six Domestic Batteries
- One Criminal Threat
- Three Children in Need of Care
- One Child abuse
- Five Driving while under the Influence
- 15 Narcotics violations
- Three Telephone harassment's
- 37 Warrant arrests
- 24 Criminal Summons
- 26 Non-Injury accidents
- Four Injury accidents
- One Aggravated Burglary
- 12 Burglaries
- 20 Thefts
- 21 Criminal damages
- 64 miscellaneous crimes or incidents

Officers also rendered service for 334 incidents, responded to 91 traffic complaints and 51 animal complaints, to name a few.

I am extremely proud of my deputies and I trust that we are providing the service and protection that you expect of us. Since I came on-board with the Sheriff's Office some twenty-one and a half-years ago, much has changed.

We receive many more calls for service, there have been major technological advances in the equipment that we utilize, and my duties, as Sheriff, require much more time with "paper-work" than I would like. The statutes keep expanding with every legislative session requiring us to keep up with the changes and new initiatives in order

to effectively perform our duties.

The past few months I have been working with the Regional Prevention Center regarding alcohol abuse by those under 21 years of age. Alcohol abuse continues to be a major concern in the county and we all need to work together in making sure our youth understand the possible negative consequences of choosing to drink.

I would encourage anyone with suggestions, or criticisms, of our operations to visit with me so that my Office can serve you in the best way possible.

Our effectiveness in preventing criminal activity, solving crimes and keeping our county as safe as possible lies in open communication with you.

Deaths (More on page 4)

Ralph Roopchan

Ralph Roopchan, 62, of Colby, died Wednesday, July 5, 2006, in Denver, Colo. Mr. Roopchan was born Aug. 1, 1943 in Cunupia, Trinidad and Tobago.

He was an area resident six months and a carpenter.

Mr. Roopchan is survived by a son, Rodney Roopchan of Trinidad; a daughter, Crissey Roopchan of Trinidad; three brothers, Leroy Roopchan of New York, Humphrey Roopchan of Trinidad and Joseph

Roopchan of Colby; four sisters, Elizabeth Deane of Florida, Jasmin Sadhadath of Trinidad, Veronica Roopchan, Lena Roopchan and Pearl Roopchan, all of Colby.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at First Presbyterian Church, 515 W. Fourth St., Colby.

Burial will be at Beulah Cemetery in Colby.

Visitation will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Friday at Harrison Chapel, 190 S. Franklin, Ave., Colby.

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Fike Park

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