

Weather Corner



Water Watch hits Day #2

Tonight — A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1 a.m. Partly cloudy with a low around 67. East wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 p.m. Partly cloudy with a high near 86. Northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Friday night — Mostly clear with a low around 63. North wind between 5 and 10 mph becoming calm.

Saturday — Mostly sunny with a high near 87. North wind around 5 mph.

Saturday night — Mostly clear with a low around 61.

Sunday — Mostly sunny with a high near 92.

Sunday night — Mostly clear with a low around 65.

Monday — Mostly sunny with a high near 94.

Temperatures
Wednesday's high, 104
Low this morning, 72
Records for this date, 108 in 1934, 43 in 1900

Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00

July's precipitation, 1.35

Water Use Report
Wednesday, July 19

• 3,644,500

3.5 million = Water Watch.

4 million = Water Warning

4.5 million = Water Emergency

Briefly

Book sale begins July 29

Pioneer Memorial Library, 375 W. Fourth St., Colby, is planning its annual book sale beginning Saturday, July 29 through Saturday, Aug. 5. The sale starts at 9 a.m., July 29 and during the week and 1 p.m., Sunday. For questions, call 460-4470.

TopHogs to be featured

TopHogs will perform at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, July 29 at the Sacred Heart School gymnasium, 1150 W. Sixth St., Colby, as part of the summer reading program at Pioneer Memorial Library. John and Lynne Vincent will share some of their menagerie with birds kicking off the festivities, followed by pigs Porkchop and Mudslinger. For information, call the library at 460-4470.

Volunteers needed to work rides

The Thomas County Free Fair scheduled from Aug. 1-5, is quickly approaching. The Amusement Association needs

volunteers to work games during the fair, said Holly Stephens, executive director of the Thomas County/Colby Chamber of Commerce. The Amusement Association said today they still need volunteers for the Ball of Chance, shooting gallery and bell ringer. Each game requires two people per shift. Help is needed Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 6:45 to 9 p.m. and 9 p.m. to 11:15 p.m. For those interested in volunteering, call Stephens at (785) 460-3401.

Extension office closes during fair

The Thomas County Extension Office, 350 S. Range Ave., will be closed from Monday, July 31 through Friday, Aug. 4.

Queen, princess deadline Tuesday

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 Tuesday. For entry forms or questions, call Skolout at (785) 586-2228.

CPR classes scheduled

The Thomas County Red Cross will be teaching First Aid and Adult CPR from 6 to 10 p.m., Wednesday. In addition, Infant and Child CPR will be taught at the same times 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.

Demolition derby forms available

Entries are being taken for the Roofmasters Demolition Derby scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 3. Entry forms are available at the Thomas County Extension office, or by calling fair board member Nancy Rundel at 586-2210.

Two Colbyites charged with battery; out on bond

By Jan Katz Ackerman
Colby Free Press

Two Colby men have been charged with breaking into another man's house with the intent of hurting someone who was there.

James B. Peptis, 24, has been charged with one count each of aggravated battery, aggravated burglary, criminal trespass and disorderly conduct for an incident alleged on July 12 at the residence of Steve Albers in the 2100 block of E. 4th in Colby.

According to court documents,

Peptis is alleged to have entered into the "locked, fenced or otherwise enclosed or shut or secured" area to gain access to where Wade Weaver, spending the night at Albers' residence.

Count one of a complaint filed in Thomas County District Court says Peptis was "rude, insulting or angry" and allegedly tried to harm, disfigure or kill Weaver.

The resident, Steve Albers, was reported to have been inside the home at the time of the incident.

Aggravated battery is a level seven person felony and carries a

possible penalty of 11 to 34 months in prison and or a fine up to \$100,000.

Count two of the same complaint states Peptis was charged with aggravated burglary for entering and remaining inside Albers' residence where he allegedly committed the battery.

The charge of aggravated burglary carries a penalty of 31 to 136 months in prison and or a fine up to \$300,000.

The criminal trespass charge is a Class B nonperson misdemeanor carrying a penalty of six months in

the county jail and a fine up to \$1,000, and the disorderly conduct charge is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by one month in the county jail and a fine up to \$500.

According to the Thomas County Sheriff's Office, Peptis was arrested at 1:45 a.m. July 12. Colby attorney Bruce Flipse will represent Peptis at a hearing scheduled Friday at the Thomas County courthouse.

Charged in the same incident is Justin Helus, 26 of Colby.

Court documents allege Helus committed battery against Albers while he and Peptis were inside his

home. Battery is a Class B person misdemeanor punishable by six months in the county jail and a fine of \$1,000.

Helus is also charged with criminal trespass and disorderly conduct, those charges carry the same penalty as those filed against Peptis. Helus was arrested at 2:38 a.m. July 12.

Justin Barrett of Colby will represent Helus at a hearing scheduled Friday in Colby.

Both Peptis and Helus are free on bond from the Thomas County Jail.

Overland Park council approves ban on pit bull dogs

OVERLAND PARK (AP) — Pit bulls are no longer welcome in Overland Park.

The City Council voted to prohibit people from bringing any more pit bills into this Kansas City suburb after hearing more than 2 1/2 hours of debate and public testimony Monday.

Animal welfare advocates said the breed should not be singled out from other dogs, but the City Council thought otherwise, voting 8-4 in favor of the ban, which takes effect July 27. It does not affect pit bulls already registered in the city.

"We know these dogs are vicious. We know their bites are brutal," said

Councilman Dan Stock. "I don't think they have any place in our community."

This measure updates a law on dangerous animals passed in 1987. It requires that pit bulls be registered, and when outside a pen, the dogs are required to wear a muzzle and must be on a leash no longer than 4 feet. Owners are also required to post warning signs.

Under the old law, pit bull owners had to have \$50,000 in liability insurance. Now they are required to have at least \$300,000 in coverage.

There are about 20 pit bulls now registered in Overland Park. Under

the new ordinance, if one of the dogs gives birth, her puppies will have to be removed from the city in six weeks.

Leaders in another Kansas City suburb also addressed put bills during a meeting Monday.

The Independence, Mo., City Council voted unanimously to toughen its dangerous-dog ordinance, including language to regulate the confinement and restraint of dangerous dogs. Under the new restrictions, dangerous dogs can no longer be transported in open truck beds.

A first offense could mean a fine of at least \$350 and up to 90 days in

" I don't think they have any place in our community."
Dan Stock,
Overland Park

jail. Second-time offenders would get a \$500 fine and up to 180 days in jail.

The council also debated a pit bull ban but decided to conduct more studies before voting on the issue.

The most recent pit bull attack in Independence was Saturday, when a 7-year-old girl suffered face and chest injuries.

Information from: The Kansas City Star, <http://www.kcstar.com>

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