

## Briefly

### 4-H Dog Show Saturday

The first event in conjunction with the Thomas County Free Fair will be the 4-H Dog Show at 9 a.m. Saturday at the National Guard Armory, 470 S. Range. The dog show is the kick-off for the fair, and the public is invited. There is no admission fee.

### City upgrades website

The advanced version of the City of Colby's Web site is now up and running, according to Mike Albers, technology director. For the last four weeks, Albers and Civics Plus of Manhattan have been upgrading the site. To view the changes and improvements, go to: [www.cityofcolby.com](http://www.cityofcolby.com)

### 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 jun-

ior 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.

### 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 need at fair

The Thomas County Free Fair scheduled from Aug. 1 through Aug. 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. The reason for closing the main office is so the staff can be on the fairgrounds during the fair.

### 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.

## Weather Corner



## 'Watch Watch' doesn't make it to day three

**Tonight** — Mostly clear with low around 58. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south-west.

**Saturday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 86. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east.

**Saturday night** — Mostly clear with a low around 61. East wind around 5 mph becoming south.

**Sunday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 93. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Sunday night** — Mostly clear with a low around 66.

**Monday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 94.

**Monday night** — Mostly clear with a low around 68.

**Tuesday** — Partly cloudy with a high near 96.

**Temperatures**  
Wednesday's high, 100  
Low this morning, 63  
Records for this date, 106 in 1943, 45 in 1894

Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.13

July's precipitation, 1.48

**Water Use Report**  
**Thursday, July 20**  
• 3,412,200 gallons

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.

# Grants kicks off program to combat nursing shortage

TOPEKA (AP) — Kicking off a 10-year program for providing Kansas with more nurses, the state Board of Regents awarded grants to help universities and colleges buy equipment, hire staff and offer scholarships.

The grants totaled \$3.4 million and are the first installment in what the regents and the Kansas State Nurses Association hope will be \$30 million in aid to expand nursing programs so that they can turn

out 25 percent more graduates.

The grants are aimed at programs that train nurses, officials said, because there are plenty of qualified candidates but not enough room for them in programs. For every candidate who enters a Kansas nursing program, two or three typically are qualified but can't get in, said Terri Roberts, executive director of the nurses' association.

"You either wait it out, or you seek another discipline to pursue,"

she said. "It's a problem nationwide — it's not like they have recourse to go across the state line into Missouri and get into their schools."

The largest amount, \$502,244, was awarded to Pittsburg State University, which plans to use the money to hire four full-time and two-part time staff, create a learning center for the nursing program and offer scholarships.

Nineteen other institutions also received grants, including 12 com-

munity colleges and two technical colleges.

"These grants represent an existing first step in a 10-year commitment to addressing the critical nursing shortage facing the state of Kansas," said Reggie Robinson, the regents' chief executive officer.

The Department of Labor has estimated that Kansas will need nearly 6,900 new nurses by 2010 and that it will have to replace nearly 4,500 retiring nurses by then

as well. A report compiled by the regents last year said an average of 1,331 students per year were admitted to nursing programs from 2001 through 2004, when the number should have been almost twice that to meet demand.

The report was a response to legislators' concerns about the nursing shortage. This year, legislators appropriated the \$3.4 million for grants in approving the state budget.

The regents report attributed an increased demand for nurses — and future increases — to an aging population. Also, it said, that need will arise just as a significant number of nurses and nurse educators are retiring.

"A lot of nursing educators are in their 50s — or older," Roberts said.

Salaries also are an issue, Roberts said. Nurses with a doctorate can earn \$72,000 working for a private employer, significantly more than they can earn training new nurse-educators, she said.

## For the Record

The following arrests or incidents have been provided by either the Thomas County Sheriff's office or the Colby Police Department. All suspects were booked into the county jail and are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

The Thomas County Jail is used by Colby, Oakley, Logan and Thomas counties.

### Thomas County Sheriff Wednesday, July 19

• **No license, insurance, seatbelt:** Amanda K. Smoker, 28, of Weightsville, Penn., was arrested at 1:26 p.m. in the eastbound lane of Interstate 70 at milepost marker 62 by the Kansas Highway Patrol.

She was charged with having no drivers license, no seatbelt, and no proof of insurance. Smoker was released two hours later with notice to appear in court Aug. 23 on all three citations.

### Thursday, July 20

• **Battery:** Adam Lawrence Peterson, 27, of Belaire, was arrested at 3:06 a.m. in the 1900 block of South Range Avenue by Colby police officers for battery. He was released with a notice to appear in court on Aug. 1.

• **False impersonation:** John Frederick Gray, 32, of Larned, was arrested at 4:01 a.m. at the law enforcement center by Colby police for false impersonation. He was

given a citation and is expected to appear in court Aug. 15.

• **Worthless check:** Ryan Scott Moss, 24, of Breton, was arrested on a criminal summons by a Thomas County Sheriff's deputy. He is being charged with two counts of giving worthless checks.

He pled guilty, paid restitution, fines, court costs and probation fees. Moss will also be on a six-month probation.

• **Worthless check:** Kendra Lorene Manis, 25, of Norton, was arrested at 1 p.m. after answering a criminal summons by the Thomas County Sheriff's office. She pled guilty to the charge of giving a worthless check and ordered to pay

restitution, court costs, fines and probation fees. Manis was also placed on six months probation.

• **Worthless check:** Heather Ann Moravec, 22, of Colby, was served a criminal summons by the Thomas County Sheriff's office at 1:18 p.m. She pled guilty, paid restitution, fines, court costs and probation fees and placed on six-month probation.

# Officials mad about corps taking water from reservoirs

LAWRENCE (AP) — Hoping to support barge traffic, federal officials are taking enough water from three Kansas reservoirs that they could drop 3 feet this summer, a situation the state doesn't like.

Sluice gates at Perry Lake in Jefferson County opened Wednes-

day at the direction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to send water down the Kansas River to the Missouri River so it will rise to support barge travel.

The flow of water from Perry; Milford Lake, west of Fort Riley; and Tuttle Creek Lake, northeast of

Manhattan, will continue to increase until as much as 4,000 cubic feet of water per second is flowing. The Kansas River puts out only 200 cubic feet of water per second in the dry summer.

For the fourth year in a row, the navigation season on the Missouri

River will be cut short due to drought and below-average water levels. The corps said the season — which begins April 1 and normally ends Dec. 1 — will be shortened by 44 days.

The corps began tapping the Kansas reservoirs two weeks ago.

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(sales tax will be added at 6.55%)  
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single basic golf	now \$367.50
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senior golf (70 and older)	now \$288.75
new golf social only	now \$288.75
	now \$34.13

## VOTE, August 1

Republican

## BYRON SOWERS

Seeking position of District 1, Thomas County Commissioner

Born and raised in Thomas County. Married 33 years, raised 7 children and shows an interest in the functions of Thomas County.

Paid advertisement by Byron Sowers, Byron Sowers, Treasurer.



Byron Sowers, Farmer, Rancher

## SCHC

The Road to Wellness in Northwest Kansas  
SHERIDAN COUNTY HEALTH COMPLEX

## Attention Northwest Kansas Diabetes Patients:

Please Join Us  
On Friday, October 20th, 2006  
8a-4:30p

## All Day Diabetes Education Program

Taught by Certified Diabetes Educators:  
Debbie Hinnen ARNP, CDE  
Susan Martin RD, CDE

## Mid America Diabetes Associates Wichita, KS

Lunch Provided  
Insurance will be billed for the charges

Care Partners welcome  
(Lunch \$5)

Location: Catholic Church  
Hoxie, KS

## Sponsored by the Hoxie Medical Clinic

Please call to reserve your spot,  
(Space is limited)  
888-878-5101 (ask for Loretta)

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Birthplace of the Legend "Buffalo Bill" Cody

## Oakley Business Directory

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Give Jasmine Crotinger a call TODAY!!

## Northwest furniture in Oakley Ks. Has MOVED to our NEW location at: 326 CENTER, OAKLEY

Order's Welcome • 6 mo 0% Interest WAC  
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## Northwest Furniture, L.L.C.

Hours: 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Mon-Fri.  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Sat.

## Come see our "GREEN" greens at Oakley Municipal Golf Course

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