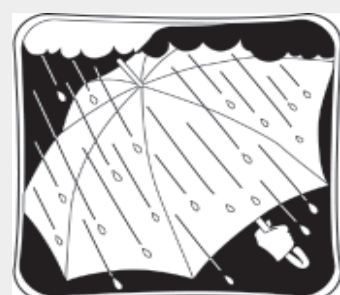


Weather Corner



Water usage remains steady

Despite the hot weather last weekend, water usage remained below the *Water Watch*, which is the first of three levels that could lead to the city taking action by restricting usage. (See totals below)

Tonight — Partly cloudy with a low around 73. Breezy with a south wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 5 and 10 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Tuesday — A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. partly cloudy with a high near 95. Breezy with a south wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Tuesday night — Showers and thunderstorms likely.

Mostly cloudy with a low around 64. Breezy with a south wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

Wednesday — A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy with a high near 82. Breezy with a north wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Wednesday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 62.

Thursday — partly cloudy with a high near 86.

Temperatures
Sunday's high, 99
Low this morning, 72
Records for this date, 108 in 1935, 43 in 1971
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00

July's precipitation, 1.68
Water Use Report
Average Friday, Saturday and Sunday
•3,018,000 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.

Colby woman honored

A Colby woman recently attained membership in the Club of the National Library Service and in the Kansas Century Club of the Kansas Talking Book Service.

Lula Thieler said she spends many hours of her day listening to books provided by the Western Kansas Talking Books program. In recognition for her lifelong reading, Thieler received a certificate and pin from the National Library Service and a pillow from the Kansas Talking Book Service.

Briefly

Budget hearing Tuesday

The Colby City Council meets at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, in council chambers, 585 N. Franklin.

In addition to two presentations — the recreation commission and Pioneer Memorial Library budgets, council will also have its public hearing on the proposed 2007 budget. Other items include approval of the five-year capital improvement plan from 2007-2011 and 2007 budgets.

The council is expected to award bid from H-Frame replacement project and the application for geometric improvement project to the Kansas Department of Transportation.

For an agenda, call 460-4410, or stop by city hall, 585 N. Franklin.

Enrollment for Colby students nears

Enrollment for students returning to Colby Public Schools is scheduled from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 10, in the Colby High School commons area. Enrollment for new

students will be from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Friday, Aug. 11, in the respective buildings. The first day of classes for students in the Colby School District is Thursday, Aug. 24, said Kirk Nielsen, superintendent.

For questions, call 460-5000 or the grade school, 460-5100; middle school, 460-5200 or high school, 460-5300.

Library book sale continues

Pioneer Memorial Library, 375 W. Fourth St., Colby, is continuing its book through Saturday. For questions, call 460-4470.

Volunteers still needed

The Thomas County Free Fair scheduled from Tuesday, through Saturday and the Amusement Association needs volunteers to work games during the fair, said Holly Stephens, executive director of the Thomas County/Colby Chamber of Commerce.

Volunteers are needed for the Ball of Chance, shooting

gallery and bell ringer. Each game requires two people per shift. Help is needed all five days of the fair 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 closed

The Thomas County Extension Office, 350 S. Range Ave., will be closed today through Friday so the staff can be on the fairgrounds during the fair, said Jan Poore, office manager.

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 "Bill Gaither Remembers the Homecoming Heroes."

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

And they're off



A group of runners took off from the starting line Saturday in the first leg of the 11th annual Nine Run Run event. The run that started from Fike Park benefits Thomas County Emergency Medical Services.

JOHN VAN NOSTRAND/Colby Free Press

Age limit hurting some grandparents

TOPEKA (AP) — Some people who are rearing their grandchildren will not be eligible for a new state program designed to help them because the Legislature said they must be at least 50 years old to qualify.

Cathy Moyle of Topeka, who is 47, said the age limit for the Grandparents as Caregivers assistance program has hampered her ability to care for three granddaughters.

Under the program, which begins Jan. 1, grandparent caregivers would receive \$200 per grandchild each month for up to three children. But one of the qualifications is that the grandparents have to be 50 years old.

Moyle has had sporadic custody of Emetria, 13, Stephanie, 11, and Kelanna, 8, since they were born. She receives \$359 a month through a federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families grant. She also receives \$87 in food stamps, medical insurance for the girls and child care reimbursement.

But she was laid off in January from a job that paid twice as much

“You try to make do with what you have, but there are times when you just try as hard as you can and something happens and you really need the help.”

Cathy Moyle

as her current job in Rossville, which also requires her to commute to south Topeka. The car recently broke down, so she is leasing one for now.

“I’ve never asked for anything I didn’t really need,” Moyle said. “You try to make do with what you have, but there are times when you just try as hard as you can, and something happens and you really need the help.”

Sunflower insurance program disputed

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The federal government is trying to do away with a little-used sunflower insurance program rather than heeding advice to fix it, farmers say.

The Agriculture Department's Risk Management Agency says it is proposing a change in the interest of simplifying the overall crop insurance program, and is welcoming public comments.

“Every time we meet with them, we’ve tried to discuss (a fix). We’ve even offered a couple of suggestions on ways they could look at it,” said John Sandbakken, international marketing director for the National Sunflower Association. “But it’s just an issue that hasn’t moved. I’m at a loss as to why.”

Brent Doane and Shirley Pugh, spokespeople for the RMA, said the agency is limited in what it can say because the proposed rule is in a public comment period that ends Sept. 12.

“We’re seeking comments from the public, and those comments could include ways to preserve the revenue assurance protection for sunflowers,” Doane said.

The revenue assurance coverage differs from traditional crop insurance in that it protects farmers from low prices, low yields or a combination of the two. But the formula used to calculate a base price that farmers are guaranteed for their sunflower crops is not working, said Wimbledon farmer Mike Clemens, who testified on the matter before Congress last spring.

Faced with a Drinking Problem?
Perhaps
Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help
Meetings are Open to the Public
City Hall Basement
Mondays & Thursdays - 8:30 p.m.

Internet
Unlimited Hours, No Contracts!
\$9.95 (mo. + Credit Card Required!)
• FREE 24/7 Technical Support
• Instant Messaging - keep your buddy list!
• 10 e-mail addresses with Webmail!
• Custom Start Page - news, weather & more!
EXPRESS
Surf up to **6X faster!** (just \$3 more)
Sign Up Online! www.LocalNet.com
Call Today & Save!
LocalNet 462-2147
Reliable Internet Access Since 1994

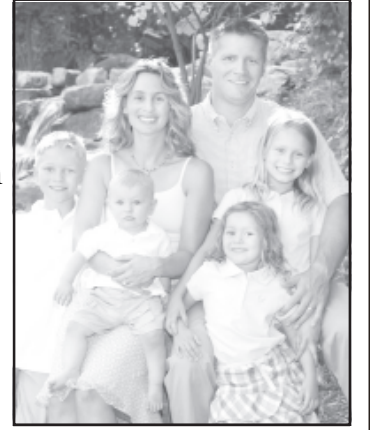
Make a Difference
RECYCLE

RE-ELECT
~ RON EVANS ~
Thomas County
Commissioner District #1
REPUBLICAN
I would appreciate your vote on August 1st.
Advertisement paid for by campaign to Re-Elect Ron Evans - Ron Evans, Treasurer.

ERIC CARTER
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Kansas is facing an insurance crisis

Health insurance premiums have increased by 30% in the past 3 years. One health insurance company dominates two-thirds of its market. Kansas homeowner insurance rates rank 6th highest in the nation.



WE NEED CHANGE

Eric Carter has a plan to help Kansas consumers. Eric Carter will bring increased competition to the Kansas insurance market to compete for Kansans' business and will streamline the bureaucracy at the Kansas Insurance Department.

On August 1st, vote for **CHANGE** -- vote for

ERIC CARTER FOR INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Paid for by Eric Carter for Insurance Commissioner, Cheryl Mitchell, Treasurer

Don't Miss the:

FARMERS & MERCHANT'S Bank Night!!

Tuesday, August 1st ~ 6:00 PM

- FREE WATERMELON!
- 1/2 PRICE WRISTBANDS (1ST 100 KIDS)!!
- FIVE FREE TICKETS FOR THE NEXT 300 (BUY 20, GET 5 FREE)!!

Maverick Kids Club Members.... Don't forget your coupons on Tuesday for free tickets!

FARMERS & MERCHANT'S BANK OF COLBY
Together... Making a Difference.

240 W. 4th, Colby • 460-3321 MEMBER FDIC

Welcome to the **FAIR** Thomas County
August 1 - August 5
Tues. & Wed., August 1st & 2nd ~ 8:00 p.m.
P.R.C.A. RODEO
MUTIN BUSTIN Both Nights of the Rodeo
Sponsored by: Orscheln Farm Supply
Wed., August 2nd ~ 4:00 p.m. Registration
PEDAL TRACTOR PULL *Sponsored by: Th. Co. Farm Bureau Assn.*
Wed., August 2nd ~ 5:30 p.m.
FREE BBQ *Sponsored by: Dillons & Cornerstone Ag, LLC Taylor Motors, KQLS, Road Runner Mfg., City of Rexford*