

Weather  
Corner

Highs near 37

**Tonight** — Cloudy, then gradual clearing toward day-break, with a low around 14. North wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. **Thursday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 37. North wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Thursday night** — Clear with a low around 21. Southwest wind around 10 mph. **Friday** — Sunny with a high near 59. Southwest wind around 10 mph. **Friday night** — Clear with a low around 25.

**Temperatures**  
Monday's high, 66  
Low this morning, 21  
Records for this date, 82 in 1939, -14 in 1972  
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00  
December's precipitation, 0.00

A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-8367.

Briefly

**Square dancers plan potluck**  
The Golden Buckle Square Dance Club is sponsoring a potluck dinner and dance at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, at the Colby Community Building, 285 E. Fifth St. Those attending should plan to bring a side dish. Drinks and tableware will be supplied. For questions, call Elaine Hurtt, 462-2895.

**College vocal concert Thursday**  
Colby Community College is sponsoring its Winter Vocal Concert at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, in Frahm Theater of the Cultural Arts Center. The vocalists are under the direction of Dr. Phillip Shuman, director of choral activities. The event is free. For questions, call 462-3984.

**Benefit soup supper Friday**  
College Drive Assembly and Levant Community Church are sponsoring a Benefit Soup Supper Friday in the Colby High School Commons Area from 5 to 8 p.m. Proceeds will go to Brandon and Andrea Shepard to help pay medical expenses. Andrea is the daughter of Steve and Barb Alwin in

Colby. The supper will include chicken and noodle soup, chili, pies and desserts.

**Gaither video Sunday**  
Colby Wesleyan Church, 320 W. Pine, is sponsoring a Gaither video concert at 6 p.m., Sunday. The featured concert on the big screen television, "Christmas Homecoming from South Africa," is free and open to the public.

**'Diamonds' to perform in Colby**  
The Western Plains Arts Association will present the Diamonds at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 14 in the Colby High School auditorium. Their first major hit recording, "Little Darlin,'" is sometimes referred to as "the National Anthem of Rock and Roll". Admission is with season pass or at the door: \$15 adults; \$8 children.

**Medical fund established in Oakley**  
A fund was established at Farmers State Bank of Oakley,

100 Center Ave., to benefit Richard and Gloria Pabst of Colby. All donations will be used to help with medical expenses while Richard receives help from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and Hays. For questions, call Megan Stephenson at Farmers State Bank, (785) 672-4400.

**Cookie sale Dec. 17**  
Kappa Upsilon is sponsoring a holiday cookie sale from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17 at Puddle Duck Preschool. Proceeds will go to community projects.

**Santa Workshop opens Saturday**  
The Thomas County Community Foundation will sponsor a Santa's Workshop Christmas Gift Sale from 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday at Pioneer Memorial Library, 375 West Fourth, for children ages 3 to fourth grade. Each gift is \$4, with a limit of four per family. All proceeds go to benefit Thomas County non-profit organizations. For questions, call (785) 460-9152 or E-mail: tccf@st-tel.net

Tips offered on avoiding scams, energy bill costs

How many times in the past month have you received information about scams? I received 13 through the e-mail.

Not just about scams, but scams themselves. I received several from the United Kingdom, one from Nigeria, several concerning social security and the list goes on. You would think those people would give up. But some people fall for them and that keeps the "hounds" going.

Be on your toes, if you are unsure if what you receive is a scam, ask some one to check it out for you.

On other topics, how are you doing with your current Medicare D card?

If you are satisfied with the insur-



Rosalie Seeman, secretary NW Kansas Agency on Aging

• Chat with Rosalie

ance company you are with you do not have to do anything.

If you are not happy you will have to change pretty soon. Check everything over very carefully before you do anything. The Homestead refund has changed a little bit for those qualifying for a 2006 refund on your property taxes. The income was raised a little bit. You cannot file for this until after the first of January

2007, and one-half of your 2006 property taxes has to be paid and you cannot owe any back taxes on your home.

The Food Sales Tax Refund has changed for those that qualify also. The refund amount has been raised a few dollars.

I will again set up a date to assist persons with the Food Sales Tax refund, Homestead and LIEAP after the first of the year. Hopefully, I can set one day aside to assist those that need help.

The Homestead and Food Sales Refunds must be applied for by April 15, 2007. There will be no exceptions from this rule.

The Kansas Silver Haired legislature has committed to try and get the dollar amount a qualifying person can receive as a refund from the Homestead program raised.

This may take a while, as it will require a larger dollar commitment from the state general fund. Time will tell if we are successful.

Need help with your housework? You can call the Area Agency on Aging; they will set up an assessment to see if you qualify.

If you do and there are still funds available to assist you, you may receive help on a sliding fees schedule, it could cost you or if your income is very low it could be free of cost to you.

This question needs repeating:

Q. It's getting colder, is there anything you would recommend to help cut the utility costs?

A. Getting your air ducts cleaned will help your heating units operate more efficiently.

Thus reducing your utility costs. Make certain you are using a quality air filter and changing it as recommended.

To reduce airborne illnesses this winter, make certain your air ducts are cleaned and sanitized, using a product that kills mold and bacteria. Also make certain you hire an experienced air system cleaner.

I just read a long article about the refunds on phone taxes being available.

The application process appears to be quite simple if you are not required to file a federal tax form. There is a Web site listed. I will call and get any available in-

formation and have more on this topic in my next article. There could also be information coming with your telephone statements, but I am no sure about this.

Until next time, stay safe and Merry Christmas and a Very Happy Healthy New Year.

Editor's note: As a way to inform older readers about ongoing and changing topics, Rosalie Seeman, secretary of the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging, will answer questions or provide information about the agency on a monthly basis.

Readers may submit questions by writing Seemann at: Chat with Rosalie c/o Rosalie Seemann, 426 Hale, Levant, Kan. 67743, or by emailing: rseemann@st-tel.net.

The Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging is part of a national network of agencies created in 1973 by the Older Americans Act. It is a private, nonprofit organization with the responsibility of administering Older American Act programs in the 18 counties of northwest Kansas.

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 the towns of Colby and Oakley and Logan and Thomas counties.

**Colby Police Department Thursday, Nov. 23**

• **Noise complaint:** The manager of Country Club Drive Motel, 460 N. Country Club Drive, called police at 12:54 a.m. advising of an intoxicated man yelling in the parking lot and getting ready to leave in this vehicle.

• **911 disconnect:** A 911 disconnect was received at 4:39 a.m. from a cell phone showing an address on North Nashville Street.

When police called back, the line was busy.

• **Criminal damage to property:** A resident called at 12:09 p.m. to report damage to her vehicle in the 1100 block of South Franklin.

• **Theft:** Police were called at 2:40 p.m. regarding someone's daughter taking items from a residence in the 1100 block of South Franklin.

• **Criminal damage to property:** A call at 4:50 p.m. advised police of damage to a retaining wall and trees behind a house in the 800 block of West Seventh Street.

• **Criminal damage to property:** A call at 11 p.m. alerted police of a car vandalized in the 200 block of North School.

• **Suspicious incident:** Police were called at 11:50 p.m. about people putting objects in a car in the 100 block of Siggins Street.

**Friday, Nov. 24**

• **Open door:** A police officer at 1:15 a.m. advised that outside freezer units were unlocked in the 1000 block of Golf Club Road.

• **Suspicious incident:** Police were called at 2:08 a.m. about someone placing a beer can on a front porch and then knocking on the door.

• **Service rendered:** Someone called police at 1:58 p.m. about a foster child expected to return home Saturday, but the caller said she didn't want the child back.

• **Burglary, theft:** An individual went to the law enforcement center at 3:29 p.m. reporting a purse stolen from a parked car at the U.S. Post Office, 535 N. Court Ave.

• **Suspicious persons:** An individual called at 3:59 p.m. advising of a man and woman trying to earn money by cleaning houses near Flint and Arrowhead Streets.

**Saturday, Nov. 25**

• **Suspicious vehicle:** An officer called dispatch at 1:32 a.m. advising of a vehicle running behind Inlow Interiors, 455 N. Franklin Ave. The vehicle's owner was inside the store.

• **Theft:** A person went to the law enforcement center at 11:13 a.m.

advising that medications were taken from an apartment in the 600 block of South Mission.

• **Service rendered:** Police were advised at 5:34 p.m. of an intoxicated man outside of Gavon's Electronics, 1870 S. Range Ave.

The man was taken to McDonald's, 2000 S. Range Ave.

• **Criminal damage to property:** Police were called at 5:36 p.m. regarding vandalism in the 500 block of North Sterling.

• **Traffic complaint:** Someone called police at 10:10 p.m. about a possible DUI at Dillons parking lot.

**Sunday, Nov. 26**

• **Suspicious incident:** An officer called dispatch at 1:38 a.m. reporting a box of broken dishes was dumped on Golden Avenue.

• **Protective custody:** A 911 call received at 6:49 p.m. advised of a suicidal man at Pizza Hut. High Plains Mental Health was called.

**Thomas County Sheriff Thursday, Nov. 23**

• **Battery, disorderly:** Jason Kelly Hemmingson, 27, of Austin, Texas, and Courtney Paige Hemmingson, of Levant, were both arrested by a Thomas County Sheriff's deputy at 10:27 p.m. in the 400 block of Hovey in Levant. Charges pending for both included domestic battery and disorderly conduct.

**Friday, Nov. 24**

• **Juvenile complaint:** Authorities were advised at 12:35 p.m. of juveniles playing near the archery range and Midwest Energy pole lot in the 1200 block of North Franklin.

• **Service rendered:** At 2:23 p.m. a deputy spoke with individuals hunting alongside railroad tracks at County Road 25 and County Road

U.

**Saturday, Nov. 25**

• **Traffic complaint:** A Decatur County commissioner advised officials at 7:53 p.m. of a vehicle driving recklessly at U.S. Highways 83 and 24.

**Sunday, Nov. 26**

• **Failure to appear:** Robert Lee Jensen, 52 of Oberlin, was arrested at 9:49 p.m. by the Thomas County Sheriff's office in Decatur County. The charge pending was failure to appear on a child support issue.

• **Failure to appear:** Tyler Scott Knapp, 21, of Colby, was arrested at 9:35 p.m. by the Thomas County Sheriff's office in the 200 block of North Court.

The charge was failing to appear on giving worthless check.

Knapp plead guilty and was placed on six-month probation and ordered to pay restitution, assessed court costs, fines, probation fees.

• **Giving worthless check:** Michael Alan Smith, 41, of Salt Lake City, Utah, was arrested on Interstate 70 at 9:33 a.m. by the Kansas Highway Patrol.

The charge pending was giving a worthless check.

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