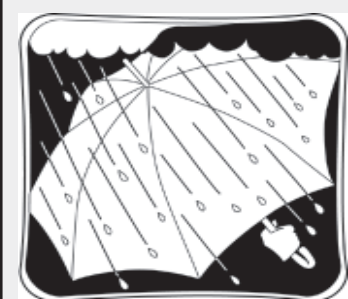


Weather Corner



Warmer and clear

The forecast

Tonight — Mostly clear with a low around 65. Breezy with a south wind between 15 and 20 mph. **Tuesday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 96. South wind between 10 and 15 mph. **Tuesday night** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy with a low around 64. South wind 10 to 15 mph becoming northwest. **Independence Day** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy with a high near 89. North wind between 10 and 15 mph. **Wednesday night** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy with a low around 61. **Thursday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 89.

Temperatures
Sunday's high, 84
Low this morning, 57
Records for this date, 104 in 1973, 43 in 1924
Precipitation last 24 hours, 0.00
July's precipitation, 0.00

Water Use Report

June 29-July 1
• 2,841,000 gallons per day, average
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 460-8367.

Businesses card minors for tobacco

As part of the Reward and Reminder program, a team of five youth and one adult visited tobacco retailers in Cheyenne, Logan, Rawlins, Sherman, Thomas and Wallace county.

"The Reward and Reminder program is a scientifically proven strategy that reduces illegal sales of tobacco to youth," said Lindy Kvasnicka from the Regional Prevention Center.

Each visit included an attempt by a youth to purchase tobacco, and if the clerk refused to sell to the minor, the clerk was presented with a reward card and \$5 for "doing the right thing." Clerks who were going to sell to the minors received a reminder card and the adult explained the laws and seriousness of allowing youth to purchase tobacco.

Also, every retailer received training information on how to check I.D.'s and more about the Reward and Reminder program.

Cheyenne was 33 percent compliant; Logan, 100 percent; Rawlins, 80 percent; Sherman, 77 percent; Thomas, 83 percent and Wallace was 100 percent compliant.

NOW SHOWING

June 29th - July 5th
EVAN ALMIGHTY
PG 1 hour, 40 min.
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

LIVE FREE OR DIE HARD
PG-13 2 hours, 10 min.
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:25
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

Showing Next Week
"Transformers"
PG-13 2 hours, 25 min.
July 6th - 12th

Colby Cinema
1935 S. Range • 785-460-9600
www.colbycinema.com

Briefly

Change in sanitation schedule

The City of Colby Sanitation Department will not be operating Wednesday, said Chris Bieker, director of public utilities. In order to accommodate the holiday schedule, Wednesday and Thursday trash pickup will be collected on Thursday. For questions, call 460-4420.

No newspaper Wednesday

The *Colby Free Press* office will not be open Wednesday and no newspaper will be published so that employees may celebrate the Fourth of July with family and friends. The office will reopen at 8 a.m., Thursday. For questions about advertising deadlines, call 462-3963.

County offices close for holiday

Thomas County's courthouse, landfill, health department and the complex at 350 S. Range Ave. will be closed Wednesday in observance of Independence Day. All offices will reopen at 8 a.m., Thursday. For questions, call (785) 460-4500.

Community fireworks display set

The annual Kiwanis Club fireworks display will start at approximately 10:15 p.m. Wednesday at the Thomas County Fairgrounds. The display will be visible from a large area.

In case of inclement weather, the display will be held Thursday, July 5. The club is also still accepting donations to help pay for the fireworks show. If anyone wants to contribute, they may send donations to the Kiwanis Club, P.O. Box 501, Colby, Kan., 67701.

Business to sponsor carnival

Colby's Wal-Mart, 115 W. Willow, will celebrate July 4 starting at 1 p.m. with a carnival in the store's parking lot. Other organizations will be also assisting in the festivities.

Lions holding July 4 celebration

The High Plains Lions are preparing for the second annual Fourth of July celebration. The event will start at 4 p.m. at the Thomas County 4-H building before the Kiwanis firework display. The club is planning to provide another free hot dog cook out. Games and contests are starting to take shape. The club wants this celebration to be a community involved event. For questions, call 462-5405.

Modeling clinic scheduled

The Thomas County Extension Office will be hosting America's Next Top Model — Thomas County-style in Colby for ages 7-16. The event will be held from 9 a.m. to noon, Friday, July 13, at the United Methodist Church, 950 S.

Franklin Ave., Colby. The clinic will include six 30-minute sessions covering color coordination, facial care, grooming and make-up, modeling 101, dressing different body shapes and sensible buying. Reservations can be made by calling the Thomas County Extension Office by noon, Friday, July 6. A small registration fee is required and payable at the Extension Office, 350 S. Range Ave., or at the door.

Lunch 'N Learn Thursday

The Thomas County Master Gardener July Lunch N Learn will be held at noon, Thursday at the Thomas County 4-H Building. The group will be sharing how to "Prepare your Horticulture Exhibits for the Fair" Organizers ask that participants bring a lunch.

Oakley hosts traveling exhibit

Fick Fossil and History Museum, 700 W. Third St., Oakley is hosting "Between Fences," a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., through Sunday, Aug. 5. America's fascination with fences is seen along highways, county road and city streets, she said, and the history of barbed wire fences, white picket, post rock, split rail, electric wire and patio privacy fences will be illustrated, said Janet Bean, museum director. For questions, call (785) 672-4839. The exhibit was made possible by the Kansas Humanities Council and the museum.

Rural residents combine house with barn, horses

HUTCHINSON (AP) — On the outside it's an ordinary metal farm shed — gray with crimson trim and a large barn door on the side.

Step inside the half house, half barn building Troy Gaston and Kyla Krull call home and it's clear why they call it "the perfect combo."

"It's a lifestyle," Krull said. A lifestyle that includes a 24-foot-by-30-foot Western-themed great room and kitchen windows that provide a fantastic view of the family's pony, Socks, eating from the hay bin.

"I just open the window and call when dinner's ready," she said.

Gaston and Krull hired builders to erect the shed but completed the finish work themselves.

They painted the Sheetrock, finished the cupboards, laid the hardwood floor in the living room and plumbed the bathrooms.

"It's what we always wanted, a new home and a place to train horses," Gaston said. "The only way to finance it was to put the two together."

Gaston estimated their 120-foot-by-140-foot shed cost about half the price of a traditional home.

They had some trouble financing the project because the banks were "leery" about the resale appeal, Gaston said.

Down the road, Sandy and Randy Rank call their 40-foot-by-70-foot metal shed, with its 16-foot side-walls and 19-foot-high living room

cathedral ceiling, their "retirement home."

They chose a metal building because they thought it would be less expensive and quicker to finish than a stick-built place, Sandy Rank said. It was quicker, she said, but not less expensive.

"It's cost as much if not more, but that's because we did everything better than it needed to be done," she said, citing their choice of building on 16-inch instead of 24-inch center roof trusses.

At Star Lumber Co., Ed Hook, in project sales, has watched the "new" trend and seen some beautiful homes built inside metal barns.

"They're interesting, attractive. You don't even know they're in a

pole building or a big shed," he said.

Hook listed durability and a 30-year warranty on the exterior color as advantages over a traditional frame house, with its shingled roof.

A bad hailstorm might ding the metal sheeting, but the paint shouldn't come off, he said.

The extra space can be converted into an array of uses, from an indoor playground for the children to vehicle storage or a hobby shop — and in the case of Gaston and Krull, an indoor horse-training and riding arena.

Looking back, Sandy Rank said they might have chosen a smaller building and limited it to a single level rather than their second floor with a loft family

room. But they love the rural setting.

"Probably we enjoy it most in the early evening and morning when we hear the quail and pheasants talking and watch the deer heading for our pond," she said.

Gaston and Krull, along with Tegan, 4, enjoy the convenience of their house and horse stalls being under one roof instead of making a 30- to 40-minute drive into the country where he previously trained horses.

"It all came together," she said. "We have a beautiful home to live in, and our horses are in the barn so we don't have to go outside to ride them."

Churches seek to ban alcohol sales

WICHITA (AP) — Residents fighting to keep alcohol from being sold on Sunday are turning to churches for support, which they feel will go a long way toward forcing a vote on the issue.

Pastor Wade Moore, who is leading the petition, said a strong weekend push should bring more than the 6,701 valid Wichita voter signatures needed.

The deadline for a petition to be turned in is the end of the business day on Monday.

"We're supposed to be a Christian nation," Moore said.

"And I believe that Sundays should be set aside for worship to Almighty God. Banks are closed on Sundays, businesses are closed on Sunday. It's supposed to be a day of rest."

In Kansas, cities and counties have been allowed to approve Sunday alcohol sales since 2005, but the issue can be pushed to a public vote if opponents gather enough signatures.

More than 50 cities approved full-week sales by 2006.

However, the serious discussion about the issue didn't surface in Wichita until last fall.

In late April, the City Council approved Sunday sales. Liquor stores and retailers would be able to sell packaged alcoholic beverages from noon to 8 p.m. on Sundays.

Alcohol sales still would not be allowed on Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

If the petition falls short, the Sunday alcohol sales will start July 8.

"To me, and with all respect to

people who want to vote, we're surrounded by people daily from other cities that have already approved Sunday sales," said Ron Groves, who owns Groves Discount Wine & Liquor in Wichita.

Groves hopes the petition fails, and he said he'll display the letters on his store marquee to read "Free at least" if that happens.

The store owner also said he will drop his prices to celebrate its failing.

Groves believes people should have a choice as to whether or not they want to buy a drink on Sunday.

"If they want to go to church on Sunday and go home that's great," Groves said.

"But if they want to buy a bottle of wine and have the neighbors over for a barbecue, that's fine too."

Tiller case a legal test for attorney general

TOPEKA (AP) — The alleged crime's name was the same, unlawful late-term abortion, a misdemeanor. The punishment for each count also was identical, up to a year in jail and a fine of up to \$2,500.

Yet abortion opponents said last week that Attorney General Paul Morrison had filed less serious charges than his predecessor, Phill Kline, had in December against Dr. George Tiller, the Wichita abortion provider who is among the few U.S. physicians performing late-term procedures.

Morrison, an abortion rights Democrat, unseated their champion, Kline, a Republican, in last year's election. Morrison filed 19 misdemeanors while Kline filed 30,

and the two men focused on different aspects of Tiller's late-term abortions.

But there's a bigger reason for abortion foes to be disappointed and frustrated with Morrison rather than celebrating his case, even if it threatens to put Tiller in jail.

Kline based half of his charges on a reading of the late-term abortion law that he expected Tiller's attorney to challenge in court because, he said, "They'll litigate on all is-

sues."

A court challenge spawns appeals, and appeals open a road to a U.S. Supreme Court made more conservative by President Bush's two appointments. A case before the nation's highest court is a chance to shape American law.

For an abortion opponent, it's a goal worth pursuing. For an abortion rights supporter, it's why Kline was feared and his re-election fought.

R & R Fireworks

Located at Th. Co. Fairgrounds in Colby!

June 27--July 3
10 a.m.-10 p.m.

July 4
8 a.m.-10 p.m.

A portion of the profits will be donated to the four local schools

Thurs., June 28: Puddle Duck/Colby Public Schools
Mon., July 2: Heartland Christian/Sacred Heart

FARM MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT AUCTION NOTICE

For Lynette & the Late Rick Brown

DATE: Saturday, August 18th, 2007

August 18, 2007, farm machinery and equipment for Lynette and the late Rick Brown will be sold at the farm site NE of Brewster Kansas. Consignments of quality farm equipment welcome. Call TNT Auction, LLC, Tom Harrison at (785)443-0136 or Tom Simpson at (785)443-1153.

Terms of Sale: Driver License required. Complete payment is due the day of the auction by cash or certified check. Personal or company checks are accepted if accompanied by bank letter guaranteeing the funds. Nothing removed until settled for. Not responsible for injury, accident or theft. All items sell to the highest bidder "as is, where is". Information and descriptions are believed to be accurate but not guaranteed. Announcements sale day take precedence over printed material. TNT Auction, LLC are agents only.

Tom Harrison, Auctioneer-Broker (785) 443-0136 Cell
Bob Jones, Auctioneer - (785) 443-0138 Cell
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