

## Weather Corner



Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. Northwest winds around 10 mph.  
 Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 80s. North winds 10 to 20 mph. Gusts up to 30 mph in the afternoon.  
 Sunday...Mostly clear. Lows around 50. North winds 10 to 15 mph in the evening becoming light.  
 Monday...Sunny. Highs around 90. Light winds becoming southwest around 10 mph in the afternoon.  
 Tuesday...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 50s.  
 Wednesday...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 50s. Highs in the upper 70s.  
 Thursday...Mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 50s. Highs in the upper 70s.

# Wheat State Whirlwind tour to stop in Edson

By Sharon Corcoran  
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Forty University of Kansas staff members tour of Kansas will include a dinner with alumni Tuesday, at the Prairie Castle/Kuhr Ranch in Edson.

The dinner is part of the university's 11th annual whirlwind tour of Kansas that covers more than 1,000 miles in five days, and will include professors, deans and other staff members, many of whom are new to the state, from the Lawrence campus, KU Medical Center in Kansas City, KU School of Medicine in Wichita and the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center, a division of KU Continuing Education.

Hosted with help from the KU Alumni Association, the dinner will be a chance for alumni in the area to meet with tour participants.

Faculty associated with the KU Medical Center and KU Cancer Center will give an update on the university's work to support and improve health care in rural Kan-

sas and efforts to achieve National Cancer Institute designation, through the Midwest Cancer Alliance, which includes Goodland Regional Medical Center.

The Northwest Chapter of the KU Alumni Association is led by Jeff Mason, a Goodland attorney with two degrees from KU, a Bachelor of Arts in political science in 1980 and a Juris Doctorate in 1983.

On past tours, similar alumni dinners have been in Liberal, Hutchinson, Concordia, Dodge City and Colby.

There is a cost for the dinner, Mason said, and reservations have to be made through Sarah Blaney at (785) 864-9767.

The Wheat State Whirlwind Tour will hit the road Monday, visiting more than 20 communities and passing through 30 counties while covering in excess of 1,000 miles of roadway. Stops include Topeka, Barnes, Marysville, Concordia, Lucas, Palco, Goodland, Oakley, Ness City, Hudson, Dodge City, Spearville, Hutchinson, Inman, Yoder and Cottonwood Falls.

Chancellor Robert Hemenway, who started the Wheat State Whirlwind Tour, said the annual trip is an invaluable experience for the participants.

"Year after year, the tour has proven to be an outstanding way for KU faculty and staff to get out and learn firsthand what makes this great state tick," he said. "They not only learn about its history, landscape and economy, they get a better understanding of where KU's students come from and meet some great people along the way."

It was organized several years ago, Mason said, to acquaint the professors and associate professors with where their students come from and what those towns are like, and they try to get to all four corners of the state each year.

Margey Frederick, director of special events and visitor services, said the tour is an opportunity for KU employees to discover Kansas' hidden treasures and enhance their knowledge while having fun.

"Anyone who has gotten off the beaten path and really explored Kansas can tell you there is enough beauty and history in this state to supply a lifetime of traveling," she said.

"On this week-long tour, our participants get a taste of what Kansas has to offer and at the same time learn new ways they can give back to the state that gives so much to KU."

The third day of the trip will begin from Goodland and head to the bronze buffalo in Oakley. The larger-than-life statue, on west Second St. near the U.S. Highway 83 bypass, was created by artist Charlie Norton of Leoti. It depicts Buffalo Bill Cody atop his horse pursuing a bull buffalo.

Later that morning, the faculty and staff will get an up-close view of real buffalo when they visit a Duff Ranch pasture in Logan

County. Richard Duff of Scott City and a crew will take participants into the buffalo pastures aboard flatbed trucks.

Duff, the owner of Beef Belt Feeders of Scott City, raises about 200 head of buffalo, plus cattle, on the ranch near U.S. Highway 83.

Between the buffalo stops, the bus will wander off Highway 83 to give riders a look at the Monument Rocks in Gove County. Recently named one of the Eight Wonders of Kansas, the rocks were the first natural formation chosen by the Department of the Interior as a National Natural Landmark.

To view daily itineraries, maps of this year's route and photos of previous tours, visit [www.wheat-state.ku.edu](http://www.wheat-state.ku.edu). During the tour, visit [www.ku.edu](http://www.ku.edu) for a blog detailing the experiences of this year's tour participants, photos from stops and updates on the tour.

## Derby car owners ask for the driveway

By Tom Betz  
 ntbetz@nwkansas.com

Two demolition-derby car owners asked Goodland city commissioners Monday to consider giving them from May to August to work on the cars in their driveways, leaving with a promise that the city would study the request.

J.J. Howard and Neal Thornburg asked the commissioners to consider the time before the county fair to allow them to build and work on their cars in their driveway, which is presently against the city ordinance.

Mayor Rick Billinger said he could understand both sides of the issue, and asked city staff, including City Manager Wayne Hill and Steve Criswell, city building inspector, to look at the issue.

Billinger said the commission had added a provision a few years ago requiring stock-car drivers to put their racers behind a fence.

Howard said he brings his car out on the driveway to work on it. He said he has been able to weld on it before each race and uses the same car in several derbies.

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said she had received a call about the derby cars, adding that she felt the ordinances were passed to keep the city clean.

She asked Howard if with all the empty buildings in town, it would not make sense for everyone to have a place to work on the cars inside?

"Not everyone gets along," Howard replied, "and there would be some sabotage."

Commissioner Dave Daniels asked about having a cover to put over the car when the owner is not working on it.

Howard said the stacks sticking out of the hood would give away the fact it was a derby car, and that after the first derby the winds could rip a cover up.

Howard said owners put a lot of money goes into a derby car. Young people who might be interested in the sport do not have any place to work except out in front of their houses.

"We want to support you," Commissioner John Garcia said, "but at the same time we cannot allow the (old-car) problem to

grow."

Howard said that was why he suggested allowing the cars out only from May 1 to Aug. 31.

"I can see both sides of it," Commissioner Josh Dechant said, "and that being a Kiwanis fund raiser (at the fair), it is important. I know our derby car numbers were down last year, and I know we need to clean up the city."

Thornburg said he gets his car early in the year and works on it, and when the season is over, he takes everything off and sells it for scrap iron.

"I am not sure there is an easy fix to handle this," he said. "I know you are trying to get the town cleaned up. I know some cars have been sitting around for years, and I can see getting them cleaned up. These cars have a purpose and are not junk."

"I appreciate you coming in and being proactive," Billinger said.

"I think we ought to come up with some kind of solution and work with Wayne and Steve to see what we can come up with. We did it with the stock-car people."

## New hospital approved in Fort Riley

TOPEKA (AP) — The U.S. House approved a supplemental appropriations bill Thursday that includes \$404 million for new medical facilities at Fort Riley.


Funding still must be approved by the Senate and signed by President Bush. The funding was part of a bill that also includes expansion of the GI Bill and extending unemployment benefits.

The bill was approved after the House rejected the president's request for additional funds to fight the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. The administration is vowing a veto of the bill absent the additional war funds.

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The USD 315 Board of Education and administration of Colby Public Schools cordially invite you to a retirement reception honoring:

**Carol Campbell**  
 CGS Teacher  
 retiring with 10 years of service

**Sonja Kough**  
 CGS Teacher  
 retiring with 14 years of service

**John Miles**  
 CHS Teacher  
 retiring with 33 years of service

**Kirk Nielsen**  
 Superintendent of Schools  
 retiring with 23 years of service

Thursday, May 22, 2008 ~ 5:30 P.M.  
 Colby High School Commons Area  
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Cards and wishes may be mailed to: Retiree's Name, c/o Reception Committee, 600 West Third, Colby, KS 67701

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