

**Weather Corner**



Tonight: Mostly clear. Cool. Lows in the upper 40s. Light and variable winds.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s. Light and variable winds early in the morning becoming northeast around 10 mph in the late morning and afternoon.

Tuesday night: Clear. Lows in the upper 40s. Light and variable winds.

Wednesday: Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s. Light and variable winds in the morning becoming northeast around 10 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday night: Clear. Lows in the lower 50s.

The extended forecast is calling for:

Thursday: Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s.

Thursday night: Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 50s.

Friday and Friday night: Mostly clear. Highs around 80. Lows in the mid 50s.

Saturday and Saturday night: Mostly clear. Highs around 80. Lows in the mid 50s.

Sunday: Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s.

Friday: Cloudy. Rain showers likely and isolated thunderstorms in the evening...Then chance of rain showers and isolated thunderstorms after midnight. Lows in the upper 50s. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 70 percent.

Sunday's high: 68, low, 37. (Source: K-State University Northwest Research-Extension Center in Colby)

iCurrent temperatures are available by calling (785) 460-8367.

# Hurricane blamed for 13 deaths in Midwest

MUNSTER, Ind. (AP) — The remnants of Hurricane Ike swept into the Midwest Sunday with powerful winds and flooding that were being blamed for at least 13 deaths. Thousands have been evacuated and more than a million homes and businesses lost electrical power.

Cook County in Illinois was placed under a state of emergency as thigh-high water prompted dozens of boat rescues in Chicago.

The death toll from Ike rose to 28 people in eight states extending from the hurricane-pounded Gulf Coast to the storm-battered Midwest.

Four people died in floodwaters and high winds in Indiana. A teacher and his father were sucked into a culvert and drowned Sunday morning while trying to rescue a 10-year-old boy from a flooded ditch in Chesterton in northwest Indiana, the state Department of Natural Resources said. Falling trees were blamed for two deaths in southern Indiana.

Three people died in Missouri, including a 21-year-old woman who was likely swept away by rising floodwaters while trying to

**“It’s going to be quite extensive. Over 90 percent of our customers are without service.”**

Kathy Meinke, Duke Energy spokesperson

help another man, authorities said. Two died in the St. Louis area — a woman struck by a tree limb and an elderly man found dead in a residence’s flooded backyard. Authorities suspect the man drowned.

In Tennessee, two men sitting in a golf cart on the 16th hole of a Nashville golf course were killed when a tree fell over on them Sunday morning, fire department spokesman Ricky Taylor said.

Strong winds were blamed for three deaths in Ohio. Two motorcyclists were killed Sunday when a tree toppled onto them at a state park in southwest Ohio, said state Department of Natural Resources spokesman Jason Fallon. and a woman was killed when a tree crashed into her home in Hamilton County, just north of Cincinnati.

One death was reported in Arkansas, where a 29-year-old man was killed when a tree fell on a mobile home as he was preparing to leave, authorities said.

The remnants of Ike dumped as much as 6 to 8 inches of rain in parts of Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, spawned a tornado Arkansas that damaged several buildings, and delivered hurricane-force winds to Ohio, forcing Cincinnati’s main airport to temporarily shut down.

Flooding in Missouri closed the street in front of St. Louis’ famed Gateway Arch.

About 40 Indiana National Guard troops were activated Sunday afternoon to assist with the evacuation of up to 5,000 residents and to help safeguard property in the northwest town of Munster,

Staff Sgt. Jeff Lowry said in a news release.

Power outages darkened more than a million homes and businesses in Ohio and Kentucky.

More than 680,000 Duke Energy customers were without power Sunday night in southwest Ohio and northern Kentucky in the biggest outage in the company’s history, said Duke Energy spokeswoman Kathy Meinke.

“It’s going to be quite extensive,” Meinke said. “Over 90 percent of our customers are without service.”

More than 354,000 customers were without power in central Ohio, said American Electric Power spokesman Jeff Rennie. About 310,000 Ohio Edison customers were in the dark in northeast Ohio, said spokeswoman Robin Patton.

In Chicago, Saturday’s rainfall of 6.64 inches at O’Hare International Airport set a record for a single day.

The previous record was 6.49 inches, recorded on Aug. 14, 1987.

Cook County Board President Todd Stroger declared a county-wide state of emergency Sunday,

and officials said they would ask Gov. Rod Blagojevich to issue a disaster declaration for Chicago and Cook County.

In Missouri, winds as high as 60 mph and torrential rains of up to 7 inches raised new concerns about swelling rivers.

Major flooding was expected along the Mississippi from Ste. Genevieve to Cape Girardeau by late this week, the National Weather Service said.

Strong winds prompted the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport to evacuate its control tower and cancel about 40 flights before resuming air traffic, airport spokesman Ted Bushelman said.

Strong gusts ripped off part of the roof from a Delta Airlines hangar and damaged another airport building, Bushelman said. He said winds were up to 74 mph.

In Middletown, Ohio, gusts knocked down a tree, which landed on a nearby house and suspended a truck about 8 feet in the air, resident Barbara Ray said.

Warren County emergency officials said their 911 center was shut down, likely due to wind damage.

## Seeding planned to stop erosion

By Tom Betz

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Recent rains have caused some erosion along the shoulders of the newly paved County Road 65 west of town, and Tuesday commissioners approved seeding the shoulders with grass to preserve the grading.

Curt Way, public works manager, said the seeding on the road, also known as Eighth Street, west of K-27 to County Road 16 would cost about \$19,000.

He said the contractor plans to do the seeding about the first of November, which, he said, is when the state Department of Transportation recommends.

“We don’t necessarily conform to the weather for the rest of the state,” Commissioner Kevin Rasure said.

“That is the state’s recommendation,” Way said.

“They want the seed is down to catch the winter moisture.”

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said the worst erosion is west of County Road 17.

Way said a contractor who is coming back to seed a mile on County Road 16 can do the seeding on Road 65.

“We need to do the edges and seeding, or the road is going to fall apart,” Rasure said.

Way said the seeding will cost \$19,000 on Road 65 and \$7,000 for Road 16.

Tiede made the motion to do the seeding on Road 65, and Commissioner Chuck Thomas seconded.

The motion passed unanimously, and Way said he will let the commissioners know by Tuesday if the seeding is covered in the contract on Road 16.

## Suicide Prevention Week begins

The American Association of Suicidology has proclaimed the week of Thursday, Sept. 7 to Wednesday, Sept. 13, as National Suicide Prevention Week, with the goal of increasing public awareness of this topic.

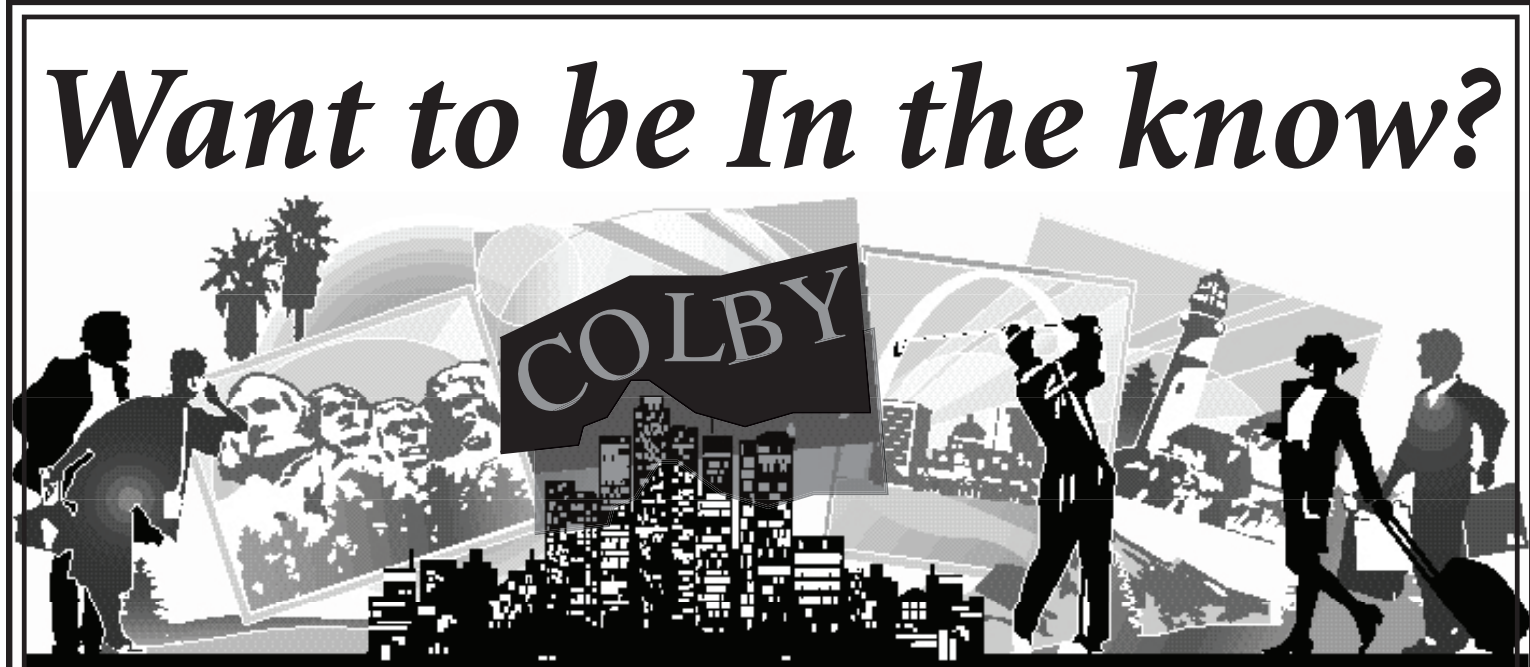
Suicide is the eleventh leading cause of death in the U.S., with over 30,000 people dying by suicide each year. There are almost twice as many suicides as homicides each year. It is the third leading cause of death among young people between the ages of 15 and 24. In the elderly, the rate of suicide of people age 65 and older is higher than any other age group and the suicide rate in the Army is currently at a 26-year high.

The stigma associated with mental health treatment is one of the primary reasons why people do not seek help, which is unfortunate because treatment does work. Most suicidal individuals really don’t want to die. They want to live, but are unable to deal with the emotional pain they are feeling and are unable to see alternatives or solutions to their problems.

Warning signs include depression, hopelessness, feelings of worthlessness and guilt, withdrawal from friends, family and usual social activities and/or dramatic mood changes.

Someone who is thinking about suicide may also experience symptoms associated with depression including sleep disturbance, appetite changes, increased anxiety or irritability, indecisiveness and an inability to think or concentrate. The use of alcohol or drugs will contribute to the problem.

Contributed by Karen Schueler, MS, LCPC, Manager PEO - Prevention, Education and Outreach Department of High Plains Mental Health Center. The views expressed here are those of the individual writer and should not be considered a replacement for seeking professional help.



# Want to be In the know?

## Part-time society editor

The Colby Free Press is looking for a part-time society editor to do social notes, weddings, engagements, obituaries, church and club items, features and other news of interest to the community. This is a great way to be in touch with the pulse of your town and get to know a lot of people. It requires accuracy, speed and attention to detail. Work week would be 20-30 hours. Pay commensurate with experience and ability. Send a letter or e-mail to Steve Haynes, publisher, at 155 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kansas., 67701, s.haynes@nwkansas.com. This could be the job you’ve been looking for. eoe m/f/h



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