

Weather Corner



National Weather Service
Tonight: Scattered thunderstorms. Patchy fog after 4 a.m. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 66. North wind 10 to 15 mph becoming east. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Saturday: Isolated thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Patchy fog before 10 a.m. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 90. East wind between 5 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Saturday Night: Scattered thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 66. East wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Sunday: Scattered thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 92. Calm wind becoming east between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Sunday Night: Isolated thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 67. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Monday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 97.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 93.

Thursday: High, 86; Low 68
 Precip: Thursday Trace

Month: 1.31 inches
 Year: 15.15 inches
 Normal: 13.76 inches
 (K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset
 Saturday 6:27 a.m. 9:12 p.m.
 Sunday 6:28 a.m. 9:13 p.m.
 Monday 6:28 a.m. 9:11 p.m.
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

Colby water use
 Thursday 2,088,000 gal.
 (Colby Public Works)

City Council to help struggling recycle group

From "RECYCLE," Page 1

the e-waste program. Councilmen Tim Huffles and David Voss said they had gone to the Recreation Board and asked for a new water fountain to be installed at the Colby Recreation Complex. They said that when the two grills by the concession stands are being used, the water fountain there has to be turned off for safety reasons.

Recreation Director Stacey Lee said the fountain is right next to the grill and the department was worried that children could be burned while trying to get a drink.

Huffles and Voss, both coaches of recreation league teams, said they were worried their kids would not be able to get water while playing games in the hot summer weather.

Lee said the grills had been moved three feet east from the fountain, so now people

will be able to use it all the time. She said she is hoping to have two new water fountains installed by city workers at the end of the summer.

In other news, the council:
 • Approved establishing a limited loading and unloading zone on the east side of North Cleveland Ave. between Webster and Second. The zone will give students at the Colby Elementary and Middle schools a safe place to be dropped off and picked up. The restriction will be in effect from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and from 3 to 4 p.m. on school days.
 • Authorized Mayor Ken Bieber to sign documents to receive a \$70,500 loan from the state to pay for the wastewater treatment plant effluent irrigation system that will be used to water the ballfields at the recreation complex.

The federal government chose Colby to receive stimulus money to pay for the project under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The city will only have to pay back half of the loan, \$35,250, said Armstrong. The money will be paid to the Kansas Revolving Loan Fund run by the state Department of Health and Environment.

• Approved donating \$1,000 to help sponsor the Kansas League of Municipalities 100th annual anniversary.
 • Agreed to have Bieber sign a deed to Citizens Medical Center to allow the hospital to build a records facility just south of the ambulance barn, which is being financed by Farmers & Merchants Bank. The loan will be secured with a mortgage on the .66-acre tract. In order for this to happen, said City Manager Carolyn Armstrong, the city had to subordinate its interest in the land.

• Decided to hire the Young Brothers to repair the north wall of the old fire bay at City Hall, at an hourly rate of \$45 per person. The city crew will finish demolition of the wall under Young Brothers' guidance, said Armstrong.
 "The plan is to replace the top two or three courses of block, move the temporary support wall clear to the north as additional support for the roof, and add five new 3.5-inch-diameter steel columns for support in the middle of the bay," she said.
 • Approved hiring Efm Consulting, a private contractor out of Lawrence, to fill out a Hazard Mitigation Plan for Colby. The state has given the city a grant to pay the contractor.
 Fire Chief Bob McLemore said the federal government requires each city to draw up a plan that seeks to identify and prepare for potential dangers. This could include storms, power outages, hazardous materials spill or even terrorism.

Rodeo royalty contest begins early Saturday

From "ROYALTY," Page 1

High. Vying for the spot of Thomas County Rodeo Princess are:

- Kortney Bredemeier, 13, daughter of Carrie and Mark Bredemeier, Colby.
- Brittany Plummer, 13, daughter of Shawn and Shelly Plummer of Winona.
- Alexi Regier, 14, daughter of Randy and Melissa Plummer of Winona.
- Faith Edwards, 12, daughter of Cameron and Rebecca Ed-

wards, ALSO of Winona. Contestants for Junior Rodeo Princess are:

- Abbey Schmeiser, 9, daughter of Mike and Renee Schmeiser of Colby.
- Madisyn Haggard, 10, daughter of Jared and Karla Haggard of Gem.
- Jamie Nemecheck, 10, daughter of Jerry and Penny Nemecheck of Goodland.
- Layne Marie Goodwin, 9, daughter of Dave and Melanie Goodwin of Goodland.

Water use may rise in July heat

From "WATER," Page 1

back in operation soon. When water usage starts to reach higher levels, the city has watches and warnings that it can put in place, taking different supply-side conservation actions and enforcing demand reduction from residents. In his three years with the department, Bieker said, the city has not had to implement these restrictions.

Bieker said that if water use exceeds 3.5 million gallons for three consecutive days, the city is put under a water watch. The city crew will stop flushing hydrants and cleaning streets. They also will start cleaning and flushing the wells to make sure they are running efficiently.

During a water watch, the city will ask the public to stop some outdoor water use and conserve water indoors by washing only full loads of laundry, taking shorter showers and making sure faucets don't run.

If water usage exceeds four million gallons a day for three days, the city is put under a water warning. The city will stop washing vehicles and watering green areas. It will also reduce pumping at the wells to help maintain water levels and prepare standby wells for use.

For residents, the city will impose an odd/even lawn watering system, with odd-numbered addresses would be allowed to water lawns on odd-numbered day, while even-numbered addresses would be allowed to water lawns on even-numbered days. Watering and car washing would be allowed only before 10 a.m. and after 7 p.m. The city could start charging for excess water use.

If water usage exceeds 4.5 million a day for three days, the city is put under a water emergency. In this case, the city would seek emergency water supplies from

other towns, the state or the federal government. For residents, outdoor water use would be banned.

There are several other conditions that can trigger watches and warnings, such as several wells going out of service, depletion of the city's water storage or falling groundwater levels.

Bieker said one of the first steps he takes when water use gets high is to call the school district and Colby Community College and have them reduce watering. Both have large grass areas and are the city's largest water users.

Dole in for leg surgery

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former GOP presidential candidate Bob Dole is recovering from leg surgery performed after he sought medical treatment for heart problems.

The 85-year-old Dole has been hospitalized in Washington since last week when he experienced an elevated heart rate in the middle of the night.

His law firm Alston & Bird says in a statement that Dole's heart is

fine, but Walter Reed Army Medical Center surgeons operated on his left leg that had open sores. A skin graft is planned for Monday.

Dole says he hopes to leave the hospital in time for his birthday on July 22.

Dole served as Senate majority leader, a vice presidential candidate in 1976, presidential candidate in 1988, and the GOP presidential nominee in 1996.

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