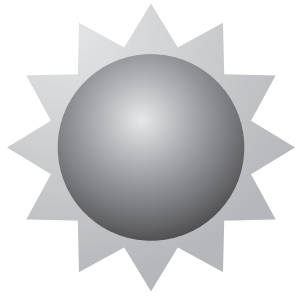


## Weather Corner



**National Weather Service**  
**Tonight:** Mostly clear in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Lows around 14. Southwest winds around 10 mph.

**New Years Day:** Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 30s. Light winds becoming north around 10 mph in the afternoon.

**Friday Night:** Mostly cloudy. Patchy freezing fog through the night. Lows around 9. East winds around 10 mph.

**Saturday:** Mostly cloudy. A slight chance of light snow and patchy light freezing drizzle in the morning, then a chance of light snow in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 20s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation 30 percent.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of light snow and patchy light freezing drizzle. Lows around 13. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.

**Sunday:** Mostly cloudy in the morning then becoming partly sunny. Highs around 30.

**Sunday Night Through Monday Night:** Partly cloudy. Lows around 11. Highs in the upper 20s.

**Tuesday Through Wednesday:** Mostly cloudy. Highs around 30. Lows around 11.

Precip: Year: 26.19 inches  
 Normal: 20.34 inches  
 (K-State Experiment Station)

**Sunrise and Sunset**  
 Friday 8:04 a.m. 5:32 p.m.  
 Saturday 8:04 a.m. 5:32 p.m.  
 Sunday 8:04 a.m. 5:33 p.m.

## Library, college get gifts from Gem farmer's trust

From "TRUST," Page 1

Humane Society of the High Plains in Hays, received a check for more than \$247,000.

"We say thank you to all the work that went into this, and we do appreciate it," said Phillips, "and we invite you to stop by the facility east of Hays."

Maxine Houston Higerd Neville spent her entire life in Thomas County, living near Gem and in Colby, said Kathy Higerd, wife of trustee Larry Higerd, and became a pioneer among women farmers in an era when a woman's place wasn't on a tractor.

She graduated from the Gem Consolidated School in 1932. In 1939, she married the love of her life, Carl "Dutch" Higerd. They lived in Gem until World War II began. Then he said farewell to his wife and went off to serve in England and France.

During his absence, she worked at the war rationing office in Colby. After his return, the couple continued to live near Gem.

With the help of his brother, the young couple got into farming. Dutch died in 1961, and though it wasn't socially acceptable at the time for a woman to farm, Kathy said, she took over, tilling her own land.

In the fall of 1961, when it was time to plant wheat, her nephew Larry was ready to head off to college. She asked him to plant her wheat before he left, and that was the beginning of a working relationship that lasted for 48 years.

In the 1960s, it was not unusual to see her in the field working summer fallow on a tractor with no cab. She would drive while Larry ate his lunch because if the sun was shining, and there were weeds in the field, then the tractor could not stop!

Maxine understood the hard work involved in making a living on the farm. She worked hard

herself and was frugal in all of her business and management decisions. She loved sitting at the side of the field to watch as the combines harvested her wheat, Kathy said.

In 1963, she married Dwight Neville, a widower who had been a pastor in Gem. They lived in Gem until his death in 1966, but she kept working on the farm.

One day in 1998, at the age of 84, she was seen driving a big four-wheel-drive tractor, and the next day she fell and broke her hip. That brought an end to her tractor-driving days.

Maxine was the youngest of six children, Kathy said, and family was a strong element in her life. Being the youngest, she promised her oldest sister Twila that on her death, she would take Twila's invalid son, Bob Harrison, into her home. She cared for him for eight years.

Even at the age of 94, she enjoyed a ride into the country to look at her wheat crop, Kathy said. She died Sept. 8, 2008.

"She lived only seven months after the death of her nephew," Kathy said, "and I think she was just tired and worn out."

Kathy remembers many times when Maxine would talk about the early days of hardships, and the times when she and Dutch were young and "didn't have two nickels to rub together." She talked about living through the Depression, and how they saved because they didn't know what tomorrow would bring.

"Because of the way she lived her life through the years, taking care of family and living comfortably, but not extravagantly, these institutions are now receiving the benefits of her hard work and frugality," Kathy Higerd said. "Therefore, Larry and I exhort you to be wise as you accept and manage that which has been given to you."

## New pool highlights 2009

From "TOP STORIES," Page 1

mals moved. The tigers were sent to the Carnivore Preservation Trust in Pittsboro, N.C., and the lions were sent to the Detroit Zoo, where they have reportedly been doing just fine.

### 5 County celebrates 125th Anniversary

Thomas County's 125th birthday isn't until next October, but that didn't stop county residents from starting the party.

The anniversary committee held a theme and logo contest. The winning theme, "The Spirit of the Prairie Lives On," was submitted by Mark Thomas, and the winning logo was drawn by Pat Turrell. Both were announced at a kickoff event at the Prairie Museum of Art and History in October.

Because it is not a 100th or 150th anniversary, the committee decided to incorporate the theme into many existing events, such as the annual Christmas parade, which this year reflected, "The Spirit of Christmas on the Plains."

A series of such events is planned for 2010, plus the museum will host the last Kansas Chataqua and a Smithsonian Museum traveling exhibit.

### 6 Swine flu grips nation, county

2009 introduced the world to the H1N1, or swine flu, virus. The new strain, mutated from several different animal flu viruses, cause numerous deaths, including some in Kansas.

The new bug reached Kansas in late April and Thomas County in July. Three confirmed cases were reported on July 9, and the number rose to 10 by August.

Later in the year, the first vaccines were delivered, but in such low amounts that only health-care workers, especially those in direct contact with patients, were able to get the shot. In December, more vaccine was made available, and the Thomas County Health Department held clinics for the public and for area schools.

Health officials were predicting the H1N1 virus will become one of the many seasonal strains that pops up every flu season.

### 7 New, expanding businesses in town

2009 was a good year for businesses. Several prominent businesses shifted to new and bigger locations by I-70, including



Colby resident Pat Turrell designed this logo for Thomas County's 125th Anniversary celebration.

Colby Ag Center, Colby Implement, Beringer Hardware and J and B Meat Market.

Taylor Motors celebrated 10 years in Colby with a name change to Colby Dodge, a new parts store and a big open house in October.

The town also got several new businesses. The Thunder Chord guitar shop opened at Southwest Plaza in October. A Budweiser distributor decided to close its Norton and Goodland locations to set up shop in Colby. A new sandwich shop opened in downtown, started by a 19-year-old Golden Plains High School graduate.

Two new hotels are under construction near the freeway, a Hampton Inn and a Sleep Inn, both set to be completed next year.

### 8 New fire station completed

The new Colby Fire Station, which began construction last year, threw open its doors in 2009.

In 2006, a heavy snow collapsed the roof of the old fire station, which had been attached to City Hall, forcing the department to find temporary quarters in the National Guard Armory.

The department moved into their new station in Country Club Drive in April. The 17,000-square-foot structure cost about \$2.5 million, but it could last for as long as 75 years with room to grow. Fire Chief Bob McLemore said the new location gives better access to I-70, where many of the department's emergency calls come from.

The city is working to refurbish the old truck bays at city hall for

### 9 Colby couple gets license plates OK'd

Two Colby citizens, Francis and Geri Landry, were instrumental in getting a bill through the Legislature that allows people to buy Kansas license plates with "In God We Trust" on them.

The state House of Representatives passed the bill in 2008, but it wasn't until this year that it made its way to the Senate. Senators passed the bill in March. Both Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer and Rep. Jim Morrison supported the bill.

Francis and John Bremenkamp designed the new tag, which became available in July.

### 10 New officials elected

Colby voters elected four City Council members in April. Raymond "Omar" Weber won a close race against incumbent Phil DeYoung, who had decided to retire, then changed his mind, in Ward 1.

Councilmen Mark Beringer and Tim Huttles were re-elected from Wards 3 and 4. New member Dave Voss was elected in Ward 2. All three were running unopposed.

Voters also re-elected Kenton Krehbiel and Cindy Black and selected newcomer Bill Shields to the Colby Community College board.

First-time candidate Susan McLemore won a seat on the Colby School Board, joining returning candidates Tracy Rogers and Janice Frahm. Ed Geishler was later selected by the board to fill a vacancy.

# LOCAL TV LISTINGS

sponsored by the

Saturday Evening											January 2, 2010	
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30		
KAKE/ABC	Desperate Housewives	Desperate Housewives	Desperate Housewives	Castle	Local							
KBSL/CBS	I Get That a Lot	Criminal Minds	48 Hours Mystery	Local								
KSNK/NBC	Mercy	Law & Order	Law & Order: SVU	Local	Saturday Night Live							
KSAS/FOX	Cops	Cops	Amer. Most Wanted	Local	The Wanda Sykes Show	Sit Down	Local					
Cable Channels												
A & E	CSI: Miami	CSI: Miami	CSI: Miami	CSI: Miami	CSI: Miami	CSI: Miami						
AMC	Behind Enemy Lines	True Lies										
ANIM	Underdog-Wonderdog	It's Me or the Dog	Pet Psychic	Underdog-Wonderdog	Pet Psychic							
BRAVO	House	House	House	House	House							
CMT	Strictest Parents	Strict Parents	Strictest Parents	Strict Parents	Strict Parents							
CNN	Campbell Brown	Larry King Live	Newsroom	Campbell Brown	Larry King Live							
COMEDY	Beefest	Borat: Cultural	Tenacious D									
DISC	Dirty Jobs	Dirty Jobs	Dirty Jobs	Dirty Jobs	Dirty Jobs							
DISN	Princess	Hatching Pete	Montana	Wizards	The Suite	The Suite	So Raven					
E!	Miss Congeniality	Kendra: Baby										
ESPN	College Football	College Football										
ESPN2	College Basketball	SportsCenter Special	SportsCenter	Final	Fastbreak							
FAM	Matilda	Home Alone 2										
FOOD	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	The Best	The Best	The Best	The Best	Iron Chef America	The Best	The Best			
FX	XXX	The Marine										
HGTV	Divine	Sarah	Outdoor	Block	Design Interns	House	House	Outdoor	Block			
<p><b>NEW YEAR</b> <b>NEW YOU</b> <b>NEW YEAR</b> <b>NEW YOU</b> <b>NEW YEAR</b> <b>NEW YOU</b> <b>NEW YEAR</b> <b>NEW YOU</b> <b>NEW YEAR</b> <b>NEW YOU</b> <b>NEW YEAR</b> <b>NEW YOU</b></p> <p>SUNDAY JAN 3 AT 9PM: Hoarders: Buried Alive                  MONDAY JAN 4 AT 9PM: I Was Dead                  TUESDAY JAN 5 AT 9PM: Half-Ton Teen                  WEDNESDAY JAN 6 AT 9PM: Confessions of a Reality Show Loser                  THURSDAY JAN 7 AT 9PM: Ultimate Dr. Oz</p> <p><b>STARTING SUNDAY JANUARY 3, IT'S TIME TO LIVE BETTER!</b></p>												
HIST	Hooked: Illegal	The History of Sex	The History of Sex	The History of Sex	Hooked: Illegal							
LIFE	Taken in Broad	Held Hostage										
MTV	Drumline	Hatin'	Styl'd	The Real World	Jersey							
NICK	iCarly	Jackson	The Troop	iCarly	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez			
SCI	Splinter	Meat Train	See No Evil									
SPIKE	UFC Unleashed	UFC 108: Preliminary	Outlaw Josey									
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Austin Powers	Blue Streak								
TCM	Lolita	Husbands										
TLC	48 Hr-Evidence	48 Hr-Evidence	48 Hr-Evidence	48 Hr-Evidence	48 Hr-Evidence							
TNT	Lord of the Rings											
TOON	Tn-Titans	Batman	Saturdays	Justice	King-Hill	King-Hill	The PJs	Boondocks	Boondocks	Bleach		
TRAV	Queen Mary 2	ResidentSea	Forbes Luxe 11	Forbes Luxe 11	Forbes Luxe 11	Queen Mary 2						
TV LAND	Married	Married	Married	Married	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne			
USA	NCIS	NCIS	NCIS	NCIS	NCIS	NCIS						
VH1	Grease	Grease 2										
WGN	NBA Basketball	WGN News	Scrubs	Scrubs	Pie in the Sky							
Premium Channels												
HBO	The Soloist	Hellboy-Army	The Soloist									
MAX	Fatal Attraction	Marley & Me	Life Top	Alien Sex								
SHOW	Forbidden King	Bangkok Dangerous	Bangkok Dangerous									

Sunday Evening											January 3, 2010	
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30		
KAKE/ABC	Extreme Makeover	Desperate Housewives	Brothers & Sisters	Local								
KBSL/CBS	NCIS	Cold Case	Cold Case	Local								
KSNK/NBC	Football	NFL Football										
KSAS/FOX	Simpsons	Cleveland	Fam. Guy	Amer. Dad	Local							
Cable Channels												
A & E	Criminal Minds	Criminal Minds	Jackson Family	Jackson Family	Criminal Minds							
AMC	League-Gentle.	League-Gentle.										
ANIM	I'm Alive	I'm Alive	I'm Alive	I'm Alive	I'm Alive							
BRAVO	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI							
CMT	Trading Spouses	Trading Spouses	Trading Spouses	Trading Spouses	Nanny 911							
CNN	Campbell Brown	Larry King Live	Newsroom	State of the Union	Larry King Live							
COMEDY	Idiocracy	Borat: Cultural	RENO 911! Miami									
DISC	Impaled!	Blood for the Gods	Blood for the Gods	Impaled!	Blood for the Gods							
DISN	Hannah Montana	Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus	Montana	Wizards	Montana	The Suite	So Raven					
E!	Kardashian	Kardash	Kardashian	Giuliana	Chelsea	Kardashian						
ESPN	SportsCtr	SportsCenter Special	SportsCenter Special	SportsCenter	SportsCenter							
ESPN2	Wm. Basketball	World Series	World Series	World Series	Fastbreak	Poker						
FAM	Secret-Teen	Secret-Teen	Secret-Teen	Secret-Teen	J. Osteen	Feed						
FOOD	Iron Chef America	Worst Cooks	Play	Play	Iron Chef America							
FX	The Transporter	The Transporter 2										
HGTV	Outdoor	Block	House	House	Holmes on Homes	For Rent	Income	House	House			
HIST	Decoding the Past	Apocalypse Island	To Be Announced	Decoding the Past								
LIFE	Speak	Panic Room	Panic Room									
MTV	The Real World	Jersey Shore	Jersey Shore	Hatin'	Teen Mom	Teen Mom						
NICK	Malcolm	Malcolm	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez			
SCI	Swamp Devil	Sea Beast	Eye of the Beast									
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn							
TBS	Talladega Nights:	Talladega Nights:	Nacho Libre									
TCM	It's a Gift	Never-Sucker	If I Had a Million	The Freshman								
TLC	Emergency Level One	My Shocking Story	Super Face Surgeries	Emergency Level One	My Shocking Story							
TNT	Lord of the Rings	Minority										
TOON	Scoby-Doo!	Johnny T	Johnny T	King-Hill	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Titan Maximum					
TRAV	Pizza Wars	Food Wars: Barbecue	101 Chowdown	101 Chowdown	Pizza Wars							
TV LAND	Griffith	Griffith	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne			
USA	House	House	House	House								
VH1	Frank, Ent.	Tough Love	Aspen	Frank, Ent.	Aspen	Tough Love						
WGN	New											