

Weather Corner



National Weather Service
Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 a.m.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. East wind around 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. East southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 99. Calm wind becoming east between 5 and 10 mph.

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

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 94.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 63.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 97.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 63.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 91.

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

Thursday: High, 89; Low 57. Precip: Thursday 0.00 inches.

Month: 2.73 inches. Year: 10.29 inches. Normal: 9.94 inches.

(K-State Experiment Station) Sunrise and Sunset
Saturday 6:17 a.m. 9:14 p.m.
Sunday 6:17 a.m. 9:14 p.m.
Monday 6:17 a.m. 9:15 p.m.

(U.S. Naval Observatory) Colby Water Use
Thursday 2,147,000 gal. (Colby Public Works)

Commissioners hear prairie dog problem

From "PRAIRIE DOGS," Page 1

infestation. In the case of a local infestation, township representatives are allowed to enter any infested land for the purpose of getting rid of the pests.

County Attorney Bruce Flipse told the commissioners that the county's tax sale has been published three times now, and that 41 days after the first publication it is ready for the judge's signature on the journal entry.

At the commissioners' request, Rhonda Fernandez with Professional Insurance consultants with met with them again on Monday to answer questions after they'd had a week to study her company's services.

She told them she had worked with Gove County since 2003, and they were within \$10,000 today of the figure for county health benefits they had then.

"Our big thing is customer service," Fernandez said, "and we

can do a lot behind the scenes. We also take care of the COBRA insurance for you, which can keep you out of jail, because they get pretty complicated when it's hard to determine which form to use."

She said her company does several onsite visits the first year to meet with employees, and make sure everyone understands their insurance and new wellness programs, to make sure they get the best benefit package for money they spend.

The commissioners moved to contract with the firm for \$9,300 a year.

In other business, commissioners:

• Got a report from Milco Environmental Service regarding a soil sampling taken at the landfill, saying the soil samples were well within state requirements.

• Approved a letter to go to the attorney general's office regarding assessment of farm land values, to inform him what the method of assessment is doing by lowering the valuation of the counties and that the northwest area of the state has lost over 35 percent of its valuation.

• Learned the county had been added to the list of participants in the Federal Surplus Property Program, where it can buy used equipment.

• Approved final payment to Computer Information Concepts for \$72,025 for the new software for the county offices.

Next year's state budget dependant on stimulus

By John Hanna Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA (AP) - A congressional impasse over a new economic stimulus package threatens to punch a \$130 million hole in Kansas' budget, only weeks after state legislators raised taxes to keep it balanced.

The impasse also bubbled as a political issue Thursday. Kansas' Sam Brownback has joined fellow Republicans in the U.S. Senate in opposing legislation backed by President Barack Obama and other Democrats. Brownback is the leading GOP candidate for governor, and presumed Democratic nominee Tom Holland criticized him.

Obama's plan for a new economic stimulus includes extra Medicaid funds for states for the first half of 2011. Kansas' \$13.7 billion budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1 assumes that the state receives an additional \$130 million.

If the money doesn't arrive, Kansas will face cutting social

services and aid to public schools again, as it did in 2009. A desire to avoid such reductions this year led Democratic Gov. Mark Parkinson and the Republican-controlled Legislature to boost the state's 5.3 percent sales tax to 6.3 percent, starting July 1.

"We may well have to make more cuts," said Jay Emler, a Lindsborg Republican who is chairman of the state Senate Ways and Means Committee.

Brownback, like U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, another Kansas Republican, has opposed Obama's efforts because they will add to the federal budget deficit.

"We are all in agreement that Medicaid funding is vital to Kansas," Brownback said in a statement. "With our debt out of control, we need to be fiscally responsible."

In pushing for a state sales tax hike, Parkinson argued that additional spending cuts would cripple schools and state programs. The tax increase is expected to raise \$314 million for the next fiscal year.

City may tighten junk car rules

From "RULES," Page 1

adding that the planning commission had decided to re-evaluate the guidelines for business in the industrial and commercial districts. Stephens attended the meeting.

Building inspector Rick Dickman presented a slide show of industrial district businesses at the council meeting. He said industrial zoning doesn't require fencing, and that may be part of the problem.

Many members thought Stephens' lot looked like a salvage yard.

"Most citizens wouldn't want a salvage yard inside city limits of Colby," said Councilman Fred Taylor.

"What's going to keep someone from moving next door and doing the same thing?" Councilman Tim Hutfles asked.

Member Pat Mallory said he didn't like the deal either, but if Stephens is selling the antique cars, then it isn't a salvage yard. Mayor Ken Bieber said the council should give the commission some direction on the guidelines, but the group never really came up with a decision.

In other business, the council: • Approved a \$300 donation to the Colby Kiwanis Club for the Fourth of July fireworks.

• Approved an agreement with the county to pay the city \$20,000 a year over a three-year period for hazardous materials response services. City Manager Carolyn Armstrong this money pays for when the city fire department responds to incidents outside city limits.

• Decided to approve a "no smoking" policy that prohibits all city employees from smoking in enclosed buildings.

• Heard Councilman Dave Voss and Hutfles recommend the city provide the Western Child Advocacy Center with \$1,500 from the general fund.

• Heard Kerry Wark, promoter of Thomas County Speedway racing, ask if he could build a float for the suction tubes in the detention pond on the east end of the infield at the speedway. He said he hopes this will suck the water out of the top of the pond, while leaving the mud at the bottom.

Wark said a county pump is being used to suck up the water right now. Armstrong said the pump is thrown in the bottom of the pond and the mud at the bottom is being pumped out with the water. He said the muddy water ends up being discharged on the east side of Range Avenue and some people have complained.

Couple ties knot at Home Depot

LAKE FOREST, Calif. (AP) - The bride wore white. The guests wore orange smocks.

A southern California couple were married Saturday in front of more than 100 guests at the Home Depot store where they work.

The wedding party for 56-year-old Carolyn Weatherly and Audwin Mosby, 55, marched down an aisle

of light bulbs, grills and paint to the outdoor garden section, where a wedding arbor and stage had been built from the store's lumber and supplies.

The bride says the store in Lake Forest is like a second home and her colleagues are like family.

A regional manager says it's only the second wedding in a Home Depot.

Man calls 911 while pinned by buffalo head

ISLAMADORA, Fla. (AP) - Most people would only worry about being crushed by a buffalo out in the wild. It turns out the animals can be dangerous when they're mounted on walls, too.

Monroe County Sheriff's deputies say a man in the Florida Keys had to call 911 when a stuffed water buffalo's head mounted on a wall fell on him and pinned him as he slept in a reclining chair.

The man apparently woke up when the buffalo head fell on his lap. The head was too heavy for him to lift, but the man was able to reach for his cell phone and call for help. He was taken to a hospital.

LOCAL TV LISTINGS sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Monday Evening June 21, 2010. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and various TV programs like The Bachelorette, CSI: Miami, and Intervention.

RAWLINS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER

RAWLINS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

707 Grant Atwood, KS 67730 (785) 626-3211

Bringing Specialized Healthcare To Your Community

June 2010

Calendar grid for June 2010. Includes dates 1 through 30. Specific appointments for Dr. Rubinowitz Oncology, Dr. Frankum Surgery, Dr. Curtis Cardiology, Dr. Saba Orthopedics, Dr. Reeves Podiatry, and Dr. Miller Cardiology.



TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH A VISITING PHYSICIAN, PLEASE CALL (785) 626-3211 Cheryl Banister, RN Specialty Clinic Director

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