

Weather Corner



National Weather Service
Tonight: A chance of freezing drizzle after 9 p.m. Cloudy, with a low around 14. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south-east.

Friday: A slight chance of freezing drizzle. Cloudy, with a high near 22. East wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday Night: A chance of snow and freezing drizzle before midnight, then a chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 9. East wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of snow before noon. Cloudy, with a high near 34. East wind around 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 17.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 42.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy and windy, with a low around 20.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 48.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 23.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 53.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 21.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 53.

Wednesday: High, 55; Low 23
 Precip: Wednesday none
 Month: 0.19 inches
 Year: 0.41 inches
 Normal: 0.45 inches
 (K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
 Friday 7:23 a.m. 6:32 p.m.
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

Now, check this out



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Community College

2011 Student Leadership Thomas County students (from left) Jeni Wood, Lauren Bell, Dustin Reed and Alex Juenemann participated in an activity during their final session Wednesday on the Colby Community College campus. Nineteen high school sophomores from Colby High, Heartland, Brewster and Golden Plains attended the class led by Leilani Thomas, Colby Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and Cindy Black, business owner and chair of the college board. College criminal justice students also participated.

Candidate thinks change key

From "McMAHAN," Page 1

ple encouraged her to run for the board, and since the candidates' names were announced in the *Colby Free Press*, she said she's gotten a lot of interest both inside and outside the county.

The college is important to Colby and the county for many reasons, she said. It is one of the largest employers here, and can be a major draw for new people. With affordable classes and tuition, it should be flourishing.

McMahan said the school has seen some poor choices by administrators in the past, but she prefers to focus on the future. The board should help direct the college's leadership, she said.

"They should help the administrators make sustainable decisions," McMahan said. "We need a team that's going to go in and find a way to help the college succeed and grow."

Finances will always be a problem, she said, and the board needs to create long-term solutions rather than look for a quick fix.

She said she would like to see

all the academic departments be self-sustaining and help with their own recruitment. One department, criminal justice, already actively pursues new students, she said, by putting on programs at area high schools. McMahan said she has experience in reaching out to prospective students, as she has to recruit people to attend her Homeland Security classes, such as one last year on livestock disease outbreaks.

The college needs to keep adding programs that will help people get jobs around here, she said. It needs to keep up with industries coming to Thomas County five or 10 years down the road, such as wind power.

One thing the college does well is putting on community events such as sports and concerts. It advertises well, she said, pointing to radio advertisements she has heard all along I-70. McMahan praised the members of sports teams and student groups who volunteer around town.

McMahan said her husband encountered a student who was choosing between Colby and Fort Hays State.

"You might think it would be no competition," she said, "but we have a lot to offer. Kids get more support. You don't get lost in the crowd."

McMahan has held her county post for four years. She also runs the Local Emergency Planning Committee, which helps companies that use hazardous materials plan for emergencies. She said she sometimes speaks at the college.

"My job makes me community oriented," she said. "I have relationships all over the county, especially in schools."

McMahan's husband, John, is a trooper with the Kansas Highway Patrol. He had been stationed in Ford County, she said, and when the opportunity came to move to Thomas County 11 years ago, they took it. They were closer to relatives in Colorado, and since McMahan's brother had a good experience at the college, she knew she could get her own degree there. With evening and weekend classes, John could also work on a degree - his second - in animal

science.

Their daughter Jennifer is a 2008 graduate. Their older son Orin is on his second deployment with the Kansas Army National Guard and their youngest son, Andrew, is 7 years old and a big Trojans fan, she said.

School board buys new activity bus

From "BOARD," Page 1

Midwest also bid another 2012 Thomas bus at \$153,323, but that would take about 180 days to build and deliver. A third bid from Kansas Truck Equipment of Wichita for a Blue Bird bus at \$149,741 would have also taken about 180 days. A bid from Masters Transportation did not meet the contract specifications, since the mileage on its bus - about 220,000 - was too high, Wade said.

The district's current activity buses are also Thomas models.

"It's a much nice upgrade than what we have," the director said.

The district will have some work done here, such as painting the school colors and Eagle logo and installing video players. Wade said the work will be cheaper if done here.

An activity bus was included in the district's five-year capitol outlay plan. Superintendent Terrel Harrison said the district budgeted \$150,000. She said the district could look into coach-type buses again when it comes time to buy another vehicle.

In other business, the board:

- Heard Trish Starbuck, grade school art teacher, make a pre-

sentation about the district's web site. Any teacher can post material with photos, stories and even video, she said. Starbuck, the site manager; can edit their work and has final approval. Starbuck said the system is easy to use. Many teachers post articles themselves while some send them to her.

Starbuck said she tries to upload new stories and pictures to the site every week about events or activities at the school. Some stay up for a month and others remain up permanently. She said she also posts feature articles to the site's main page. That page provides links to staff directories, district information and Power School, an online homework and grade service used by the district.

- Approved early graduation for senior Mariah Boyer. Harrison said Boyer had wanted to graduate with her class, but will be moving out of town before graduation.

- Approved the resignation of food service employee Brenda Odle.

- Approved hiring Steve Hansen as a special education assistant. Ross said Hansen will be helping with individual education plans and might be interested in driving the new activity bus.

LOCAL TV LISTINGS

sponsored by the




Saturday Evening		February 26, 2011									
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
KAKE/ABC	Pursuit-Happy						Local				
KBSL/CBS	Hawaii Five-0		The Mentalist		48 Hours Mystery		Local				
KSNK/NBC	Harry's Law		Law-Order L.A.		Law & Order: SVU		Local	Saturday Night Live			
KSAS/FOX	Cops	Cops	Amer. Most Wanted		Local		Fringe		Fame	Local	
Cable Channels											
A & E	Heavy	Heavy		Heavy		Heavy		Heavy		Heavy	
AMC	Terminator 2						Terminator 2				
ANIM	Must Love Cats	Cats 101		Pit Boss		Cats 101		Pit Boss			
BRAVO	House			House			House				
CMT	The Dukes of Hazzard	Dukes-Hazzard					The Dukes of Hazzard	Hazzard			
CNN	Pictures Don't Lie	Piers Morgan Tonight	Newsroom				Pictures Don't Lie	Piers Morgan Tonight			
COMEDY	Good Luck Chuck	My Best Friend					Dane Cook		Chappelle		
DISC	Hogs Gone Wild	Hogs Gone Wild	Hogs Gone Wild	Hogs Gone Wild	Hogs Gone Wild	Hogs Gone Wild	Hogs Gone Wild	Hogs Gone Wild	Hogs Gone Wild	Hogs Gone Wild	
DISN	Wizards	Wizards	Wizards-Place	Good Luck	Hannah		Deck	Deck	Wizards		
E!	When Harry Met Sally			E! News			The Soup	Chelsea	Kourtney	Kourtney	
ESPN	College GameDay	College Basketball					SportsCenter		Final	NBA	
ESPN2	College Basketball			PBA Bowling			NHRA Drag Racing				
FAM	Billy Madison	Happy Gilmore					O Brother, Where Art				
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Unwrapped		The Best	The Best	Iron Chef America	Unwrapped			
FX	Death Race	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Archer	Rules of Engagement				
HGTV	Genevieve	Cash & Ca	Secrets	Antonio	House	House	Hunters	Hunters	Secrets	Antonio	

American Profile

We Celebrate Hometown Life

Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.

HIST	LIFE	MTV	NICK	SCI	SPIKE	TBS	TCM	TLC	TNT	TOON	TRAV	TV LAND	USA	VH1	WGN
It's Good To	The Other Woman	Hustle & Flow	Big Time Rush	Star Trek: Nemesis	A Bronx Tale	Diary-Bleak	It Happened	Dateline Myst.	Air Force One	Space Jam	Ghost Adventures	Retired a	Law & Order: SVU	Cut Off	NBA Basketball
Reagan	Amanda Knox	I Was 17	Victoria	Area 51	Days of Thunder	Family-Preys	One Flew Over	Dateline: Real Life	The Guardian	King/Hill	Ghost Adventures	Retired a	Law & Order: SVU	Basketball Wives	What's Love
It's Good To	Beyond the Headlines	Jersey Shore	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	Silence	Dateline: Real Life	The Postman	God Devil	Ghost Adventures	Raymond	Law & Order: SVU	Holly's W	News/Nine
Kids	Kids	Jersey Shore	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	Why Did I Get Married?		Dateline: Real Life		Fam. Guy	Ghost Adventures	Raymond	Law & Order: SVU	Fashion	How I Met
True Life	True Life	Jersey Shore	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny			Dateline: Real Life		Boondocks	Ghost Adventures	Raymond	Law & Order: SVU	Chelsea	South Pk
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