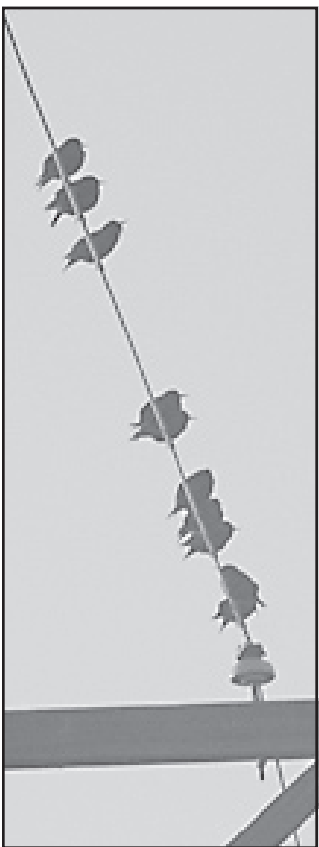


Weather



National Weather Service
Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 19. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph becoming southwest after midnight.
Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 57. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph decreasing to 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 23. Calm wind becoming southwest around 5 mph after midnight.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 60. South wind 5 to 10 mph.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 25.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 60.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 30.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 61.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 34.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 62.
Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 35.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 63.

Wednesday: High, 74; Low 32
Thursday: High, 61; Low 22
Friday: High, 50; Low 22
Saturday: High, 77; Low 18
Sunday: High, 55; Low 25
Precip: Wednesday None
Thursday None
Friday None
Saturday None
Sunday None
Month: 0.05 inches
Year: 11.74 inches
Normal: 20.03inches
(K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
Tuesday 7:42 a.m. 5:22 p.m.
Moon: waxing, 99 percent
Wednesday 7:43 a.m. 5:22 p.m.
Full moon at 8:46 a.m.
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

City Council holds off on contract

From “COUNCIL,” Page 1

McGreer suggested changing part of Wildflower’s proposed contract to say the company may, rather than will, attach its utility lines to city poles. Council members said they did not want taxpayers to foot the bill for attaching any lines to the utility poles, and Friesen said he would be willing to add a clause to the contract giving the firm responsibility for attaching the lines.

Council Member Pat Mallory, manager of the S&T Communications office in Colby, sat in the audience for this part of the meeting to any avoid conflict of interest. He told the other council members that he could not

remember whose idea it was for S&T to bury its lines.

The council approved a motion to upgrade the city’s SCA-DA, or Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition, system for about \$150,000 from MicroComm, a company based in Kansas City. McGreer described this as the city’s “heart system,” since it controls the water system, monitors the sewer system for equipment failure and provides security for city property.

“If that system goes down,” he said, “were essentially hand-pumping everything.”

Technology Director Mike Albers said that the software for the system was upgraded about three years ago, and this upgrade is for hardware, which

will be replaced with the newest components available in spring or early summer.

The new hardware components will be able function to without help from the system’s central controller, Albers said, which is better for a variety of reasons, including the fact that it allows more flexibility.

In other business, the council:

- Approved a bid on a new mower for the parks department for \$14,464 from Lang Diesel.
- Public Works Director Omar Weber said the mower is a replacement.
- Tabled a decision to add a 3 percent increase to the hangar lease fees at the city airport after some discussion about the way the lease was written. The annu-

Norton prison needs more mentors

From “PRISON,” Page 1

bark on their new life.

“When you’re in prison, all of your decisions have been made for you,” she said.

As a result, she said, even the simplest life choices are often daunting for former inmates. Inability to make a living legally can lead them to fall back into old habits.

Twenty years ago, for instance, a woman named Helen spent 15 years in prison for writing bad checks. After being released, she stood outside the women’s prison in Topeka and begged to be let back in. She had a mental illness and had lost her family connections while in prison. Several years later, Thornton said, she died alone and homeless on the streets of Wichita.

Mentors are asked to give offenders the help that Helen did not have. This includes both moral support and also coaching for basic life skills, lending advice on everything

from job interviews to making a budget to grocery shopping.

“The reason these people have gotten themselves into this situation beforehand is they couldn’t think things through,” Thornton said. “We’re just teaching them, we’re improving their life skills.”

In contrast to Helen’s story, a young man – who went to prison after he fired a shot into a crowd that killed someone – successfully participated in the mentoring program. Now he’s married, going to school for graphic design at Fort Hays State University and has a 4.0 grade average.

“If they can make it six months on their own in the community,” she said, “they’re going to make it a long time.”

Offenders have to apply to be in the program, Thornton added. They are interviewed beforehand to determine if they will likely make a successful re-entry into society. They take cognitive thinking classes to

help prepare them to leave prison.

Thornton said she trains her mentors, too, teaching them how to work professionally around offenders and not to do everything for them. Mentors must be at least 21, have no drug or alcohol problems and pass a background check. They need to be non-judgmental, nurturing and consistent, she said, and able to maintain professional boundaries. Each mentor and offender are pre-screened to make sure that they will be a good match.

Mentors might help offenders out with small things, or help them find social activities at churches or in community groups outside the crowd they were with before they got into trouble.

“It’s amazing that people will take the time to help out,” Thornton said.

To become a mentor, contact Thornton at (785) 871-7190 or lisa.thornton@doc.ks.gov.

School board discusses building improvements

From “SCHOOL,” Page 1

fund by three mills if it will be used to pay for the projects. She said she felt that the fund would need to be raised to its limit. It is used to raise money for equipment and major maintenance projects

DeYoung said the board set the levy for the fund at 5 mills from 2010 to 2015. The district is allowed by law to take as much as 8 mills, she said, but the board would have to pass a resolution to raise the tax. The extra 3 mills would add about \$200,000 a year to the fund, al-

though that depends on property valuation in the district, which could rise or fall.

Board members voiced concerns about possible budget cuts by the state. Member Omar Weber, who works for the city, said at a meeting of the Kansas Municipal Energy Association, where he heard that the state might have to cut its budget \$1.2 billion over the next few years, starting with \$400 to \$700 million next year.

Member Angie Gaede, who works for the county Health Department, said she had heard the same figure. Gaede and

Harrison both reported hearing of a possible 10 percent cut to all programs as well. Harrison said she had heard that the state promised not to make the cut to school budgets, but did not think that promise could be kept.

“I don’t know,” she said, “but I just don’t think they can do it.”

The other way to pay for the improvements would be to issue bonds and borrow the money, Gaede said.

“Knowing all that, I think that the bond (issue) is our safest route,” she said.

Harrison said that it might be

Department plots teacher evaluation course

TOPEKA (AP) – Kansas teachers and administrators are working with the state Department of Education to develop an evaluation system to measure their performance.

The *Topeka Capital-Journal* reports (bit.ly/UnCvyA) that the Kansas Education Evaluation Protocol is a pilot program in place in about two dozen districts.

It is part of the state’s efforts to comply

with the requirements of a federal waiver it received under the No Child Left Behind Act.

All school districts will have to implement some system of evaluation by the 2014-15 school year. Some may use the KEEP system, while other districts could use programs already in place.

State officials say the next step will be

linking the evaluation system with student performance. A commission of teachers and administrators are working on that transition.

Brian Jordan, director of leadership services at the Kansas Association of School Boards, said the commission is wrestling with questions that no school district or state has definitively resolved.

Briefly

Holiday shopping event planned at 4-H building

The 10th Annual “Harvest of Holidays” Extension program, “Simply RED,” and the Women of K-State’s second annual fund raiser for Genesis-Thomas County food bank will be Tuesday at the 4-H Building on West Olive Street in Colby. Participants will enjoy a three-part program with food and decoration ideas for the holidays. Admission is \$5 to cover costs. Call 460-4582 to register. The Women of K-State event will run from 5 to 9 p.m. to give everyone time to take in both. Bring nonperishable food items for Genesis and the Food 4 Kids backpack program – and some money for shopping.

Storyteller to recreate Ellis Island at the library

Actress and storyteller Pippa White will present “Voices of Ellis Island” at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Pioneer Memorial Library. Admission is free. For information, call Melany Wilks at 460-4470.

KanCare meeting coming to Colby

Seating is limited for a Kansas Pharmaceutical Association’s KanCare roadshow meeting in Colby. Representatives from the association and state Medicaid staff will be at the Holiday Inn Express at 4 p.m. Saturday to discuss changes that KanCare will cause for the pharmacy industry. Registration is free for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Go to the association website or call (785) 228-2327.

Christmas Light Parade set for this weekend

Starting at 5:45 p.m. Sunday, downtown Colby will be all lit up for the annual Christmas Light Parade, with the theme “A Merry Little Christmas From A to Z.” Santa will lead the way from the corner of Second Street and Franklin Avenue to Santa City. The deadline to register a float is Friday. Forms are available at the Chamber office, 350 S. Range, Suite 10. Contact the Chamber for questions at 460-3401 or at colby-chamber@thomascounty.com.

Holiday homes will be open for tour this week

The Holiday Home Tours will be from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children at the Colby United Methodist Church, 950 S. Franklin; Horlacher Jewelers, 442 N. Franklin Ave.; at any of the homes during the event; or from any of the Methodist women. On the tour are the homes of Evan and Regina Barnum, 770 N. School; Dr. Stephen and Candace Vacik, 540 Woofter; and Mike and Jeanene Brown, 1070 W. Third St. For questions, call Kathy Calliham at 462-2081.

Kappa Upsilon sorority to sell baked goodies

Kappa Upsilon sorority members will be selling baked goods from noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday at the Colby United Methodist Church. Goodies are \$7 per pound. Contact Pam Augustine for questions at 443-1806 or 460-2924.

LOCAL

TV Listings

Sponsored by the

COLBY FREE PRESS

Tuesday Evening							November 27, 2012			
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Grinch	Shrek	Dancing/Stars				Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	NCIS		NCIS: Los Angeles		Vegas		Local	Late Show Letterman		Ferguson
KSNK/NBC	The Voice		Go On	Normal	Parenthood		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno		J. Fallon
KSAS/FOX	Raising	Ben-Kate	New Girl	Mindy	Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage
AMC	Rambo				Constantine		Airplane!			
ANIM	Frontier Earth		Blue Planet: Seas		Blue Planet: Seas		Frontier Earth		Blue Planet: Seas	
BRAVO	Real Housewives		Flipping Out		Decorators		Happens	Flipping Out	Million D	
CMT	Reba	Reba	Gridiron Gang						Unforgiven	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	Work.	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Brickie.	Daily	Colbert	Tosh.0	Mash Up
DISC	Last Frontier		Last Frontier		Buying AI	Buying AI	Last Frontier		Buying AI	Buying AI
DISN	Jessie	Wizards-Waver				Phineas	ANT Farm	Good Luck	Wizards	Wizards
E!	The Soup		The Soup		Nicki Min	Nicki Min	When Teens Kill	Chelsea	El News	Chelsea
ESPN	College Basketball			College Basketball			SportsCenter			
ESPN2	College Basketball			College Basketball			NBA Coast to Coast			Best/NFL
FAM	WALL-E		Up				The 700 Club		Pixar Short Films	
FOOD	Chopped		Chopped			Chopped		Chopped		Chopped
FX	Mr. & Mrs. Smith					Sons of Anarchy		Sons of Anarchy		
HGTV	Love It or List It		Property	Property	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Million Dollar Rooms		Property	Property
HIST	Mankind The Story		Mankind The Story					American	American	Mankind The Story
LIFE	Abby's Dance		Abby's Dance			Betty	Betty	Betty	Betty	Abby's Dance
MTV	Catfish	Teen Mom 2	Teen Mom		Underemployed		Jersey Shore		Catfish: The TV Show	
NICK	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	The Nanny	The Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	The Mist		Total		Scare		Scare		Carny	
SPIKE	Ink Master		Ink Master			Ink Master		Tattoo	Tattoo	Ink Master
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan		Office	Office
TCM	Tail Spin			Wild Bill Hickok Rides			Two-Faced Woman			
TLC	Little People Big Wo		Little People Big Wo		Extreme C	Extreme C	Little People Big Wo		Extreme C	Extreme C
TNT	Rizzoli & Isles		Rizzoli & Isles			Leverage		Rizzoli & Isles		Leverage
TOON	Level Up	Adventure	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua
TRAV	Dangerous Grounds		Dangerous Grounds			Bizarre Foods		Bizarre Foods		Dangerous Grounds
TV LAND	Cosby	Cosby	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	The King of Queens	
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU			Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU
VH1	Couples Therapy		8 Mile					T.I.-Tiny		T.I.-Tiny
WGN	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	WGN News at Nine		Funniest Home Videos		Rules	Rules
Premium Channels										
HBO	Red Tails			24/7		Treme		Boardwalk Empire		Witness
MAX	In & Out	Philly Kid				Road House				Hunted
SHOW	Hugh Hef		Faster			Homeland		Dexter		Bruno

American Profile

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

HIST	Pawn	Pawn	American	American	Invention	Invention	Cajun Pwn	Cajun Pwn	Pawn	Pawn
LIFE	Houstons	Houstons	Houstons	Houstons	My Life, Movie		My Life, Movie		Houstons	Houstons
MTV	Pranked	Top 10	The Challenge		The Challenge		Teen Mom 2		Teen Mom	Catfish
NICK	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	The Nanny	The Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters		Dark Side	Dark Side	Ghost Hunters		Dark Side	Dark Side
SPIKE	S.W.A.T.		S.W.A.T.				Tenants		Tenants	
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan		Office	Office
TCM	The Time Machine		The Andromeda Strain				Solaris			
TLC	Cake Boss: Next Great Baker		Cake Boss		Extreme Cougar Wives		Cake Boss: Next Great Baker		Cake Boss	
TNT	Castle		Castle				Perception		Southland	
TOON	Dragons	Ben 10	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua
TRAV	Baggage B	Baggage B	Toy Hntr	Toy Hntr	Toy Hntr	Toy Hntr	Man, Food	Man, Food	Toy Hntr	Toy Hntr
TV LAND	Cosby	Cosby	Raymond	Raymond	Cleveland	Divorced	Cleveland	Divorced	King	King
USA	NCIS		NCIS				NCIS		NCIS	
VH1	8 Mile		Couples Therapy		Couples Therapy		Couples Therapy		Green Day: Quatro	
WGN	Rules	Rules	Rules	Rules	WGN News at Nine		Funniest Home Videos		Rules	Rules
Premium Channels										
HBO	X2	Final Destination 5			Boardwalk Empire		Treme		Descndnts	
MAX	Hunted		Very Harold & Kumar 3D		This Means War				Skin-Max	Busty
SHOW	Homeland		Inside the NFL		Jim Rome on Showtime		Inside the NFL		Jim Rome on Showtime	

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