

Weather

Sun comes out after storm



A tractor which had been used to plow snow was driven along Range Avenue on Tuesday afternoon, when the sun came out after the storm on New Year's Eve.

SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press



National Weather Service
Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 7. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 23. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Thursday Night: Clear, with a low around 1. West wind 5 to 10 mph.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 33. West wind 5 to 10 mph.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 12.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 36.
Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 15.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 40.
Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 18.
Monday: Sunny, with a high near 43.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 19.
Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 46.

Friday: High, 24; Low 0
 Saturday: High, 38; Low 12
 Sunday: High, 34; Low 18
 Monday: High, 23; Low 6
 Tuesday: High, 29; Low 4
 Precip: Friday None
 Saturday None
 Sunday None
 Monday 0.10 inches
 Tuesday None
 December: 0.53 inches
 January: 0.10 inches
 2012: 12.27 inches
 Normal year: 20.65 inches
 (K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
 Thursday 8:04 a.m. 5:33 p.m.
 Moon: waxing, 73 percent
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

Car chase tops list of headlines

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land, said there was no explosion, just a structural failure. Contractors and railroad crews built a "sho-fly" detour around the corn and got trains running the same week.

3 About five months before the 2012 election and after legislators failed to pass any bills to adjust congressional, legislative or state Board of Education districts to account for population shifts over the past decade, three federal judges in Kansas City imposed new voting-district lines.

Their maps for legislative districts, particularly for the state House, were jaw-droppers that reset the state's political landscape, pairing dozens of legislators for incumbent-versus-incumbent contests and making a swarm of new faces likely at the Statehouse.

The maps, drawn in early June, left the state House and Senate districts covering the northwest corner of Kansas with two incumbents, and sending the House district that once served Goodland and Colby to Olathe.

Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer, a long-time incumbent Republican from Grinnell, and Sen. Allen Schmidt, a Hays Democrat, were thrown together in Ostmeyer's 40th District, which

shrank from 17 counties to 13 1/2 but now takes in Democratic-leaning Hays.

The 121st House District shifted to Johnson County, where population continues to grow. The 120th, which had run from Cheyenne to Phillips counties along the Nebraska line, took in Goodland, Colby and Sharon Springs, throwing Republican representatives Rick Billinger of Goodland and Ward Cassidy of St. Francis into a primary race.

Cassidy won the primary and now represents Colby in the House. In the general election in November, Ostmeyer easily defeated Schmidt, who had been the only Democrat to hold a Senate seat in Western Kansas.

4 After months of talks, the Colby Post Office will stop processing mail next month as the U.S. Postal Service implemented plans to consolidate sorting operations. All mail from Colby and surrounding towns will be shipped overnight to North Platte, Neb., for sorting.

The mail processing is scheduled to move on Feb. 26, said Brian Sperry, a regional spokesman for the service based in Denver. North Platte is about 120 miles north of Colby on U.S. 83.

Sperry said all basic postal

services will stay in place, and people can still mail letters from Colby. Most letters will take the same time to deliver, he said, because the post office maintains a standard of being able to deliver a letter anywhere in the country in one to three days.

There will, however, be two fewer employees working at the Colby office after the consolidation process. In Colby, Postmaster Jean Johnson said the post office might already be down to the number of employees who should be working after the consolidations. The service tries to reduce the its workforce through attrition — retirements and resignations — and not layoffs, Johnson said, which means there is no set date for the number of employees dropping.

5 During a dry summer, four separate fires ripped through Decatur County, destroying fields, barns and farm machinery, starting after lunch June 24 and continuing into June 25.

The wind-driven fire, which raced through an estimated 7,000 acres of field, pasture and crops, sent six people to the Decatur County Hospital.

The first and largest of the fires was started when a driver had car trouble and pulled over to the side of U.S. 36 into grass about seven miles west of town.

The fire instantly jumped to a nearby field north of the highway.

A second fire was called in later in the afternoon south of town. A third, reported that evening, was a mile and a half north of the first fire and at 4:30 a.m. June 25, another fire was reported at a farmstead southwest of town.

All fire stations from Decatur County responded as well as those from Rawlins County, Sheridan County, Red Willow County, Neb., Culbertson, Neb., and Beaver Valley, Neb., said Decatur County Fire Chief Bill Cathcart.

Almost 24 hours after the first call came in, the Decatur County firefighters were still in the field dealing with hot spots from the blaze. More fires over the following weekend had crews back on the line for a couple of days.

Information for this article came from stories by Steve Haynes, Kayla Cornett, Christina Beringer, Sam Dieter and Vera Sloan of the Colby Free Press, Stephanie DeCamp of the Oberlin Herald, Kevin Bottrell of the Goodland Star-News and Associated Press political writer John Hanna.

Briefly

Seniors plan potluck at Presbyterian Church

The group More Fun Together plans a potluck for people 50 or older who are alone, widowed, divorced, separated or who have partners in nursing homes at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church. The group will also get together on Tuesday, Feb. 12. Bring a dish to share; table service and beverage will be provided. For information, call 462-6342.

Hospital plans classes for expectant mothers

Citizens Medical Center will offer four weeks of childbirth classes from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursdays starting Jan. 10. Women due to deliver before May should attend with their labor support partner. The next classes won't begin until April. For information or to register, call Jeanene Brown at the hospital's Education Department, 460-4850.

Free adult classes to begin next week

The Adult Education Department at Colby Community College is offering free General Educational Development classes for anyone who needs to finish a high-school degree beginning Monday in the lower level of the library on campus. The department also will provide an "academic bridge" to prepare those who want to enroll in health-care programs. For information or to enroll, call Director Nance Munderloh at 460-4663.

College offers two beginning craft classes

Colby Community College plans two introductory craft classes beginning Monday, Jan. 14. A three-credit-hour class in stained glass, taught by Rod Rodenbeck, will meet from 6 to 9 p.m. Mondays in Room 502 of Ferguson Hall. From 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays, a variety craft class will include print making and assemblage sculpture taught by Rebel Jay, Chris Thummel, teaching acrylic and collage, and Donna Roberts, teaching paper making and book binding. Enrollment is limited to 10; there will be a \$30 charge for materials. For information, call Jay at (785) 269-7065 or Troy Bielser at 462-3984.

Volunteers needed to deliver home meals

The Colby Nutrition Site at the Senior Progress Center needs volunteers to deliver meals to homes from 10:30 a.m. to noon Tuesdays or Thursdays. Call Kaila DeBoer at 460-2901 for information.

Group needs 'bigs' to work with children

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Thomas County is looking for people able to volunteer one to two hours a week as mentors for kids who need a "big." You could make a difference in a child's life, working with the largest mentoring organization in Kansas. For questions, call Orvella Romine at 460-9125.

LOCAL TV Listings

Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS



Thursday Evening January 3, 2013

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Nashville		Scandal		Scandal		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	Big Bang	Two Men	Person of Interest		Elementary		Local	Late Show Letterman	Ferguson	
KSNK/NBC	30 Rock	All Night	Office	Parks	Rock Center		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	J. Fallon	
KSAS/FOX	Mobbed		Mobbed		Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	The First 48	The First 48		Beyond Scared Straig	Teen Trouble		The First 48			
AMC	The Karate Kid			Karate Kid II						
ANIM	North Woods	North Woods	North Woods	North Woods	North Woods	North Woods				
BRAVO	Real Housewives	Real Housewives	Kathy Griffin		Real Housewives	Kathy Griffin				
CMT	Reba	Reba	Beer for My Horses			Starsky & Hutch				Stripes
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Piers Morgan Tonight	Anderson Cooper 360	E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight				
COMEDY	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	The Comedy Central Roast		Futurama	Futurama			
DISC	Moonshiners	Moonshiners	Property	Property	Moonshiners	Property	Property			
DISN	Good Luck	Jessie	ANT Farm	Austin	Jessie	Good Luck	Austin	Jessie	Austin	Austin
E!	The Soup	Love You	She's Out		Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea	Chelsea
ESPN	Pregame	Fiesta Bowl								SportsCenter
ESPN2	College Basketball	Audibles		NFL Live			SportsCenter	NFL Live		
FAM	Lot Like	How to Lose			The 700 Club	Prince	Prince			
FOOD	Chopped	Chopped		Sweet Genius	Chopped					
FX	The Waterboy			The Waterboy		Underworld: Ev				
HGTV	Salvage	Salvage	Rehab	Rehab	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Rehab	Rehab
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	Bamazon		Ax Men	Cajun Pwn	Cajun Pwn	Pawn	Pawn	
LIFE	Project Runway	Project Runway	Project Runway	Dance Moms		Double	Project Runway			
MTV	Catfish: The TV Show	Catfish: The TV Show	BUCKWILD		BUCKWILD		Catfish: The TV Show			
NICK	House of Anubis	Full H'se	Full H'se	The Nanny	The Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	Outlander	Repo Men				Outlander				
SPIKE	iMPACT Wrestling			Bellator 360		Bellator 360		Crank: High Voltage		
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan	The Office		
TCM	The Littlest Rebel		Captain January			Stowaway		IllBeSee		
TLC	Sister Wives: Secret	Four Weddings	What Not to Wear		Four Weddings	What Not to Wear				
TNT	The Mentalist	The Mentalist	The Mentalist		CSI: NY	CSI: NY				
TOON	MAD	Regular	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Childrens	Delocated
TRAV	Mysteries-Museum	Mysteries-Museum	Mysteries-Museum		Mysteries-Museum		Mysteries-Museum			
TV LAND	Cosby	Cosby	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	The King of Queens			
USA	NCIS	NCIS	NCIS		CSI: Crime Scene	Law & Order: SVU				
VH1	100 Greatest	100 Greatest	100 Greatest		100 Greatest	Fools Rush In				
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	REAL Sports Gumbel	New Year's Eve			The Best Sex: Retro.	Win Win				
MAX	The Parent Trap			Cadillac Man		Sexy Assassins				
SHOW	War Horse			The Pianist						Next Stop

Friday Evening January 4, 2013

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Last Man	Malibu	Shark Tank		20/20		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	Undercover Boss		CSI: NY		Blue Bloods		Local	Late Show Letterman	Ferguson	
KSNK/NBC	Go On	Go On	Dateline NBC				Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	J. Fallon	
KSAS/FOX	College Football									Local
Cable Channels										
A & E	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Duck D.	Duck D.
AMC	Enter the Dragon						Shanghai Noon			
ANIM	Infested!		Infested!		Infested!		Infested!		Infested!	
BRAVO	Sleepless in Seattle						Sleepless in Seattle			
CMT	Reba	Reba	Starsky & Hutch							Stripes
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Piers Morgan Tonight	Anderson Cooper 360	E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight				
COMEDY	Dunham	Jeff Dunham: Minding	Jeff Dunham: Controlled Chaos		Jeff Dunham: Minding	Year One				
DISC	Gold Rush	Gold Rush	Gold Rush	Bering Sea Gold		Bering Sea Gold				
DISN	Tangled			Dog	Good Luck	Austin	Jessie	Austin	Austin	
E!	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	Sex-City	E Special	Love You	Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea	Chelsea
ESPN	NBA Basketball					NBA Basketball				
ESPN2	College Basketball				Boxing					SportsCenter
FAM	How Lose	Hope Floats					The 700 Club	Prince	Prince	
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Mystery D	Mystery D	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
FX	Country Strong					Country Strong				
HGTV	Spelling Manor		Castles on Camera	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunt Intl	Hunt Intl	Hunt Intl	Castles on Camera	
American Profile										
We Celebrate Hometown Life										
Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.										
HIST	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers	American Pickers				
LIFE	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	Teen Trouble		To Be Announced					
MTV	Catfish: The TV Show	BUCKWILD			Gridiron Gang					
NICK	Marvin	Marvin	Full H'se	Full H'se	The Nanny	The Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	WWE SmackDown!		Merlin		Merlin		Being Human		Merlin	
SPIKE	Raiders of the Lost Ark		Indiana Jones							Cinderell
TBS	Payne	Payne	Worse	Worse	Failure to Launch			Are We Th	Are We Th	Are We Th
TCM	Creature From the Black Lagoon	Tarantula					The Incredible Shrinking Man		It-Space	
TLC	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Randy	Randy	Say Yes	Say Yes	Randy	Randy
TNT	Law Abiding Citizen				Law Abiding Citizen				Talented-Ripley	
TOON	Cartoon Planet	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen	
TRAV	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	The Dead Files		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures	
TV LAND	Cosby	Cosby	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	The King of Queens			
USA	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Over/Under				CSI: Crime Scene			
VH1	T.I.-Tiny	T.I.-Tiny	40 Funniest Fails 2	40 Funniest Fails 2	40 Funniest Fails	40 Funniest Fails	40 Funniest Fails		40 Funniest Fails	
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	The Dilemma		Unknown				3000 Miles			
MAX	Fast Five	Forrest Gump					Co-Ed	Erotic Karma		
SHOW	Californ.	Californ.	Californ.	Californ.	Californ.	Californ.	Californ.	Californ.	Californ.	Californ.