

Weather



National Weather Service
Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 27. West wind 5 to 15 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 55. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 22. North wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 39. Windy, with a southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north 20 to 30 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 16. Blustery.

Martin Luther King Day: Sunny, with a high near 41.

Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 23.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 53.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 23.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 55.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 29.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 49. Breezy.

Thursday: High, 55; Low 21
Precip: Thursday None

Month: 0.10 inches
Year: 0.10 inches
Normal: 0.42 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset
Saturday 8:01 a.m. 5:50 p.m.
Moon: waxing, 57 percent

Sunday 8:00 a.m. 5:51 p.m.
Moon: waxing, 66 percent

Monday 8:00 a.m. 5:52 p.m.
Moon: waxing, 75 percent
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Making a pizza



Gracie Griffin spread the sauce for a cheese pizza with the help of her mother, Emily, Sunday afternoon in the 4-H building. About 28 members of the Colby Kids Wrestling Club and their siblings made a total of 504 pizzas Sunday for a team fund raiser.

County commissioners oppose ferret releases

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return from medical leave last year.

"The agreement has not yet been funded, but funding could come from monies already appropriated," the e-mail said, "but it's likely that additional funds will have to be approved by Congress....

"This agreement would supersede state statutes by protecting prairie dogs in the 'Safe Harbors' areas where the ferrets would be released, making control of prairie dogs the responsibility of the state and federal entities, and restricting local government from controlling prairie dogs.

"Individual landowners would voluntarily sign an agreement with state and federal entities. The draft seems to suggest several drawbacks and limit the landowners' options, i.e. no oil, gas or wind production. The implementation of the act would jeopardize decades of work and thousands if not millions of tax dollars spent trying to control prairie dogs."

The e-mail, signed by Mike J. Friesen, was addressed mostly to county weed-control directors, highway supervisors and others. It urged commissioners to object to the agreement by writing Kansas senators and Congressman Huelskamp. Reached later, Friesen said he is the Meade County weed control supervisor and public relations chair for the County Weed Control Directors Association of Kansas.

As a farmer and property owner in the county, Linda Sowers expressed concerns with the agreement.

"They want to introduce the black-footed ferret in Midwest areas," she said, "but then we couldn't use poison, the most effective way to get rid of

prairie dogs. And, it would also restrict landowners' rights to have oil wells or wind mills on their property.

"We already have enough trouble with prairie dogs, don't we, Byron?" asked Schrock.

"Pretty soon we'll have to take up a collection jar to pay for (the extermination of prairie dogs)," added Linda Sowers. "It already costs us about \$5,000 to control them."

"This is an unfunded federal mandate that restricts personal rights," said Commissioner Mike Baughn. "I just can't go for something like that."

The e-mail said others wishing to express an opinion should e-mail the service at ferretsha@fws.gov and by contacting Sen. Pat Roberts, Sen. Jerry Moran or Rep. Tim Huelskamp.

In other business, commissioners:

Opened two sealed bids for a four-wheeler for the Road and Bridge Department. Commissioners approved a proposal from Colby Ag Center to trade a 2009 Yamaha Grizzly 550 EPS valued at \$6,075 for a 2013 Yamaha Grizzly 550 worth \$8,950. The department will pay the \$2,875 difference.

The other bid was submitted by the Great Outdoors of Atwood, which priced the county's trade-in at \$2,900. The company gave two options. The remaining balance to be paid after trading for a 2013 Bombardier Outlander 650 DPS at \$6,699 or a \$5,799 payment after trading for a 2013 Bombardier Outlander 500 DPS.

Gave Health Department Director Kasiah Rothchild permission to sell two file cabinets, a four-drawer unit for \$30 and a five-drawer unit for \$35.

Accepted the resignation of Shawn Fromholtz as clerk of Morgan Township.

Flu eases in areas of U.S.

By Marilynn Marchione
AP Chief Medical Writer

Nine more children or teens have died of the flu, bringing the nation's total this flu season to 29, health officials reported today.

In a typical season, about 100 children die of the flu, so it is not known whether this year will be better or worse than usual.

So far, half of confirmed flu cases are in people 65 and older, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported.

This year's season is earlier than normal and the dominant flu strain is one that tends to make people sicker. The flu is widespread in all states but Tennessee and Hawaii and is starting to ease in some areas, the CDC said.

Health officials say it's not too late to get a flu shot to help protect against the flu. Vaccinations are recommended for anyone 6 months or older.

Last week, the CDC said the flu again surpassed an "epidemic" threshold, based on monitoring of deaths from flu and a frequent complication, pneumonia. The flu epidemic happens every year and officials say this year's vaccine is a good match for strains that are going around.

The government doesn't keep a running tally of adult deaths from the flu, but estimates that it kills about 24,000 people most years.

Jared Pete Gile
APPEARING LIVE

Saturday, Jan. 19th
9:00 p.m.

Meadow Lake Golf Course

Going out of Business Sale

C & M Gun • January 16th - 19th

All Bass Pro, Fishing Products, Hunting Accessories, Knives, Belt Buckles - 50% OFF

Leather Conchos, Snaps, Sewing and Lacing Supplies, Conditioners and Dyes, Instruction Books - 50% OFF

Some Ammo Still Available In Store

785-465-2257 or 785-462-5598

ATTENTION: F&M Insurance Store Customers

We will be closed Friday, January 25th to relocate our office to 1675 W. 4th St., Colby

If you need service, please stop by our 370 N. Franklin location (formerly Cersovsky Ins) or we can be reached at 785-462-6779

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Briefly

Alaskan archaeology topic of presentation

Dr. Linda Davis-Stephens will give a presentation on Alaskan archaeology for the High Plains Chapter of the Kansas Anthropological Association at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the Prairie Museum of Art and History in Colby.

College auditioning acts for talent show

The Student Government Association at Colby Community College plans a community talent show at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, at the Cultural Arts Center on campus as part of Homecoming Week.

Rotary cooking soup at ball games Tuesday

The Colby Rotary Club plans a soup supper from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday during the Colby-Goodland basketball games at the Community Building.

Extension offering free class on fungicide

Thomas County Extension plans a free fungicide school at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday at the 4-H Building in Colby. K-State disease pathologists Doug Jardine and Erick DeWolf will discuss fungicide use on corn and wheat.

Pets ready for adoption at Animal Clinic

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has two dogs available for adoption: a 7-month-old female purebred red heeler and a 4-year-old female blue heeler.

Soup fellowship to raise money for treatment

A soup-and-dessert fellowship will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27, at the Brewster United Methodist Church, 202 Nebraska Ave.

Community Foundation to serve pulled pork

The Thomas County Community Foundation will be having a pulled-pork meal starting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, at the Colby Community Building in conjunction with the Colby High-Ulysses basketball games.

Fifth graders to give musical at school

The Colby Grade School fifth graders will present a free musical, "Destination America," featuring songs from different American genres and "Give Us a Home," commissioned for the Colby Public Schools.

Red Cross plans blood drive here this month

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, and 7:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, at the National Guard Armory, 470 S. Range Ave.

Conservation District to hold annual meeting

The Thomas County Conservation District will hold its annual meeting at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 13, at the Colby Country Club. Chili and chicken noodle soup and cinnamon rolls will be served in a "come as you are" appreciation lunch.

LOCAL TV Listings
Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Monday Evening January 21, 2013
Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, etc.) and channels (KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, etc.).

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