

Weather

National Weather Service  
**Tonight:** Snow with areas of blowing snow. The snow could be heavy at times. Low around 17. Breezy, with a southeast wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100 percent. New snow accumulation of 4 to 6 inches possible.

**Thursday:** Snow with areas of blowing snow. The snow could be heavy at times. High near 18. Blustery, with a east wind 20 to 25 mph becoming north in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 100 percent. New snow accumulation of 3 to 7 inches possible.

**Thursday Night:** A 30 percent chance of snow before 9 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 1. Wind chill values as low as -12. North wind 10 to 15 mph becoming west after midnight.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 25. West wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 13.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 33.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 20.

**Sunday:** A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 32. Breezy.

**Sunday Night:** Patchy blowing snow and a chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 20. Windy. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Monday:	High, 46; Low 11
Tuesday:	High, 42; Low 13
Precip:	Monday None
	Tuesday Trace
Month:	0.31 inches
Year:	0.47 inches
Normal:	0.51 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)	
<b>Sunrise and Sunset</b>	
Thursday	7:28 a.m. 6:28 p.m.
Moon: waxing, 84 percent (U.S. Naval Observatory)	

Storm could drop 14 inches here

From “STORM,” Page 1

before going on the road,” Brands said.

She said they have crews on standby to start plowing the roads, as well as big snowblower.

Brands said they are sending some plows to other districts that are low on equipment. The department coordinates with Colorado and Nebraska on road closures, she said, and keeps in close contact with the Highway Patrol and county Emergency Management directors, who can tell them about some of the bigger accidents and hotel conditions. She said accommodations factor in with deciding on whether to close parts of I-70. When the hotels in one town fill up, the closure point typically moves east.

School has already canceled classes for Thursday because of the storm.

“We’re closing at 12:30 p.m., and no school Thursday,” said Colby Public Schools Superintendent Terrel Harrison. “We just decided that after a webinar with the Weather Bureau. (Other schools) are closing, too, so we’re right in line with everybody.”

At Sacred Heart Catholic School in Colby, secretary Kathy Elliott said the school will do the same thing as the public schools.

Heartland School in Colby

first to close, calling the station around 6:05 a.m.

Mary Ellen Welshon, superintendent of schools at Golden Plains, said the school would close at 12:30 today. The buses

Superintendent Janci Mills indicated she will be in contact with the transportation director later today to decide what to do for Thursday.

Triplains Superintendent Lamar Bergsten said the district had classes from 8 to 10 a.m. this morning.

“Our decision has to be made at 6 in the morning because that’s when the first bus leaves and we thought we were OK. Now, it’s snowing and blowing hard. Just started maybe half an hour ago,” Bergsten said at about 10 a.m.

Colby Community College had no plans as of this morning to close, since many students live on campus, said Public Information Director Debbie Schwanke.

“We will have lunch today,” Director Kaila DeBoer of the Senior Progress Center in Colby said. “Tomorrow we won’t be open if the school’s closed.”

Schools also canceled games and others canceled some events; for a list, see the box on Page 2.

*This story was compiled by Kayla Cornett, Sam Dieter and Marian Ballard of the Colby Free Press and assembled by Dieter.*

Storm postpones events, activities

Several events and activities have been postponed due to the expected blizzard:

- The Colby High School wrestling team left at 9 a.m. for the state tournament in Salina, a day earlier than scheduled, hoping to beat the storm.
- Colby Community College basketball games scheduled for tonight were postponed to 5 and 7 p.m. Sunday at the Community Building.
- The college wrestlers left early for the national tournament in Des Moines.
- A Food for Thought program featuring Angela Bates set for noon Thursday at the Prairie Museum of Art and History has been put off to noon Friday, March 1.
- A Colby High FFA breakfast set for 6:30 to 8 a.m. Thursday has been postponed a week until Thursday, Feb. 28.

closed at noon Wednesday and canceled school Thursday, Secretary Deena Bandy said.

According to KXXX radio, the Oakley schools were the

would run then, she said, and there will be no school Thursday.

Brewster Public Schools dismissed school at 10 a.m. today.

Four sent to hospital after car crashes

From “CRASHES,” Page 1

had to swerve into the median to avoid a semi rig that suddenly changed lanes.

Gove County Sheriff Allen Weber said Deputy Shawn Ray Mesch, 36, Quinter, was on his way to help the Highway Patrol with a felony warrant arrest, Weber said, when the trucker pulled in front of him, unaware of how fast the deputy he was going.

The patrol, which worked the accident, reported that it happened 6:12 p.m. Thursday. Mesch was driving a 2010 Ford Expedition westbound and swerved to avoid the truck at mile post 100.1, about a mile east of the town of Park. His truck went into the

median, hit a concrete crossover and went airborne, coming to rest in the median. Mesch was taken to the Gove County Medical Center, and Weber said he was released Friday. The patrol said he had been wearing a seat belt.

He said Tuesday morning that Mesch’s dog, a German shepherd named Kilo, was “probably in surgery right now” for a dislocated hip. Weber said troopers caught up with the trucker, Angel T. Villicana, 59, Albuquerque, at Mitten’s Travel Center in Oakley. He said Villicana told the patrol he thought he had time to pull out and did not get a ticket.

In another crash which the Highway Pa-

trol worked on Sunday, a Nebraska woman went to the hospital along with her passenger, apparently a relative, after she rolled her car off the road just south of Oakley on U.S. 83. Marilyn B. Brown, 59, Sidney, missed a turn and was driving a 2002 Chevrolet southbound about 6:20 p.m. Sunday. She was a tenth of a mile south of U.S. 40 when her truck went out control and rolled once before coming to rest in the west ditch.

Brown and her passenger, 23-year-old Carter A. Brown of Chadron, Neb., were taken to the Logan County Hospital. No one at the hospital would comment on their condition by Wednesday. Both were wearing seat belts, the patrol said.

Grocery store here will collect food for the needy

From “FOOD,” Page 1

“What we’re really hoping is that we can put our name out there,” she said, “and folks will donate knowing the food is going to stay local.”

She added that five items es-

pecially sought after during food drives are peanut butter, cereal, soup, canned fruit and canned meat, such as tuna or chicken.

She added that the latest Census data showed that 11 percent of people in Thomas County are “food insecure,” meaning they

either do not have the money to buy food or do not know where their next meal is coming from.

“It may mean that they’ve had to make the choice to pay the electric bill or put food on the table,” Kreutzman said.

The Kansas Food Bank has

never done a drive like this one in Thomas County, she said, but there have been similar, successful drives in Wichita, where the bank is based. Statewide, the agency hopes to get 50,000 meals, or 1.2 pounds of food, out of the drive.

The bank operates distributes food to over 500 partners – including food pantries, soup kitchens, home shelters, domestic violence shelters and schools – in 85 Kansas counties. It distributed 12 million pounds of food to 137,300 Kansans last year.

Music competition will hold last show in Colby in April

From “COMPETITION,” Page 1

but no more than 10 can enter at any one place. A panel will pick the top 10 acts if there are more entries. Judges at each competition will include two festival representatives and music professionals chosen by each station. Entry fee is \$20 for

each group.

Salina Arts and Humanities says the showcase will be open to any act of up to seven people. Acts can perform any type of music that matches the family-friendly atmosphere of the festival. No medleys, recordings or soundtracks to accompany a group are permitted. Groups have up to

eight minutes to play, and points will be taken away if a band goes over the limit.

The first-place band will get a 45-minute slot to play at 1 p.m. Sunday, June 9, the last day of the festival, which starts Thursday, June 6.

The group will also get \$500 per day and two hotel rooms to offset the cost.

First- to third-place acts will get prize packages worth \$150 or more.

For information or to get a registration form, go to the Rocking M site [www.todayinkansas.com](http://www.todayinkansas.com) and click on the High Plains Showcase button on the lower right.

LOCAL

TV Listings

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COLBY FREE PRESS

Thursday Evening February 21, 2013										
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Zero Hour		Grey's Anatomy		Scandal		Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Nightline	
KBSL/CBS	Big Bang	Two Men	Person of Interest		Elementary		Local	Late Show Letterman	Ferguson	
KSNK/NBC	Community	Parks and Recreation	1600 Penn		Law & Order: SVU		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	J. Fallon	
KSAS/FOX	American Idol				Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	The First 48		The First 48		After the First 48			The First 48		
AMC	The Walking Dead		Comic Men	Freakshow	Immortal	Comic Men	Freakshow	Immortal	Comic Men	Freakshow
ANIM	Glory Hounds				North Woods Law		Glory Hounds			
BRAVO	Shahs of Sunset		Shahs of Sunset		Kathy		Housewives/Atl.		Shahs of Sunset	
CMT	Reba	Reba	Blazing Saddles				Beer for My Horses			
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	Sunny	Sunny		Tosh.0	Sunny	Sunny	Daily	Colbert		Tosh.0
DISC	Auction	Auction	Auction Kings		Property Wars		Auction Kings		Property Wars	
DISN	Toy Story 2		Dog		Good Luck	Good Luck	ANT Farm	Jessie	Wizards	Wizards
E!	The Soup	E! Special	E! Special		Kourtney-Kim		Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea	
ESPN	College Basketball		College Basketball				SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	College Basketball		College Basketball				College Basketball			
FAM	Drumline	Remember the Titans					The 700 Club		Prince	Prince
FOOD	Chopped		Chopped		Anne Burrell		Worst Cooks		Chopped	
FX	Step Brothers	Anger	Anger		Archer	Legit	Biased	BrandX With		Archer
HGTV	West End	West End	Rehab	Rehab	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hawaii	Hawaii	Rehab	Rehab
HIST	Swamp People		Swamp People		Big Rig Bounty		Larry the Cable Guy		Swamp People	
LIFE	Project Runway		Project Runway			Double	Double	Double		Project Runway
MTV	Ridic.	Failosoph	Top 10	Ridic.	Ridic.	Failosoph	Ridic.	Failosoph		True Life
NICK	Odd Parents		Full H'se	Full H'se	The Nanny	The Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	The Omen		My Soul to Take				House of Bones			
SPIKE	iMPACT Wrestling				Bellator MMA Live				Bellator 360	
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang		King of the Nerds	Conan		King of the Nerds	
TCM	Double Indemnity				A Place in the Sun				Alfie	
TLC	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	What Not to Wear		Say Yes	Say Yes	What Not to Wear	
TNT	NBA Basketball					NBA Basketball				
TOON	Incredibl	Regular	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Newsread	Delocated
TRAV	Mysteries-Museum		Mysteries-Museum		Mysteries-Museum		Mysteries-Museum		Mysteries-Museum	
TV LAND	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Cleveland	Cleveland	King	King	King	King
USA	NCIS		NCIS		Suits		Necessary Roughness		Law & Order: SVU	
VH1	Black Ink Crew		Black Ink Crew		Black Ink Crew		Behind the Music		Behind the Music	
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	BattleShip				Girls	Enlighten	Taxicab Confessions		REAL Sports Gumbel	
MAX	Red Tails				Chronicles-Ridd				Co-Ed	
SHOW	Lara Croft-Life				Tim Minchin Live		Gigolos	Gigolos	House of Lies	

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
LIFE	Hoarders	Hoarders	Hoarders	Project Runway	Hoarders
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Jackass 3.5	Failosoph
NICK	Turtles	Turtles	Full H'se	See Dad	The Nanny
SCI	WWE SmackDown!				Merlin
SPIKE	Underworld				Red Dragon
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Old School		Are We Th
TCM	Here Comes			You-Lovelier	All the King's Men
TLC	Four Weddings	Say Yes	Say Yes	Borrowed	Say Yes
TNT	300			Dallas	Monday Mornings
TOON	Cartoon Planet	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy
TRAV	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	The Dead Files		Ghost Adventures
TV LAND	Raymond	Raymond	Cleveland	Cleveland	King
USA	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU		CSI: Crime Scene
VH1	Liar Liar			Best Week Jenny	La La
WGN	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	WGN News at Nine
Premium Channels					
HBO	X-Men: First Class			Real Time/Bill Maher	Girls
MAX	Die Hard-Veng.			Banshee	Emmanuel
SHOW	Red			Bill Bellamy's Ladies Night	Boxing

Briefly

Weather Service to hold storm spotter class

The National Weather Service in Goodland and Thomas County Emergency Management will hold a free storm spotter class at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, downstairs at the Community Building, 285 E. Fifth St. It's open to anyone with an interest in weather. For information, call the Goodland weather office at (785) 899-7119.

Gem Lions Club plans annual winter soup day

The Gem Lions Club will have its annual winter soup day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 2. Your donations and recycled eyeglasses and hearing aids go to help people in need. Serving homemade veggie, chili or potato soup and good conversation. For information, call Ken Poland at 462-7809.

Genesis-Thomas County meeting set

The annual meeting of Genesis-Thomas County Inc. will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, in the meeting room of the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range in Colby. The public is invited. For information, call Wynn Duffey at 462-6342.

Sacred Heart carnival set for this weekend

The Sacred Heart School carnival will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday at the school in Colby. Come for bierocks, games, fellowship and to enter a drawing for many prizes. For information, call Principal Laura Krejci at the school, 460-2813.

Seminar offers help on starting own business

Thinking of starting your own business? Come to a free Business Startup Workshop, facilitated by the Kansas Small Business Development Center and sponsored by Thomas County Economic Development, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, at the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range Ave., Colby. Call Christy Rocca at 460-4511 to register.

Head Start here looking for kids to fill classes

Head Start, a tuition-free preschool, is looking for a few good kids. Services include education, nutrition, health, disability services and family support. The school accepts applications all year long for children 3 and 4, but they must be 3 by Aug. 31. For information or to get an application, call Janell Griffin at 460-6067.

Program needs volunteer for tax help

The American Association of Retired Persons program to provide free tax help in Colby needs a volunteer who understands basic taxes and is willing to commit about four hours a week to help senior citizens. Volunteers work in the Pioneer Memorial Library meeting room on scheduled days. For information or to volunteer, call Eddleman at (785) 821-1827.