

Weather



National Weather Service

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 17. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 38. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 17. Northwest wind around 10 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 36. Breezy, with a northwest wind 10 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 18.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 44.

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

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 51.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 29.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 50. Breezy.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 26. Blustery.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 45. Breezy.

Monday: High, 34; Low 8

Tuesday: High, 36; Low 10

Precip: Monday None

Tuesday None

Month: 0.64 inches

Year: 0.80 inches

Normal: 0.51 inches

(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset

Thursday 7:18 a.m. 6:36 p.m.

Moon: waning, 90 percent

(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Postal Service has moved mail sorting to Nebraska

From "MAIL," Page 1

transportation hub and a retail post office.

In an effort to stem billions of dollars in losses, the Postal Service is closing more than 100 processing facilities by July.

The service had been looking at consolidating North Platte to Cheyenne, Wyo., but that study was halted last February when officials found there was no room at the Wyoming plant.

The service instead decided to send mail from Alliance, Neb., and Colby to North Platte.

The processing changes will save about \$1.2 billion a year,

Sperry said, and the service has its eye on several other changes that may require action by Congress.

The service announced earlier in February that it plans to stop delivering and collecting letters, including first-class mail, on Saturdays beginning Aug. 5.

Packages will be delivered, however. Post offices that are currently open Saturdays will remain open, and mail to post office boxes will be delivered.

That change is expected to save the service \$2 billion a year.

The service has been asking for several years to get rid of

Saturday delivery. Since 2006, it has been required by law to prepay retiree health benefits, which cost about \$5.5 billion a year.

"We are asking Congress to resolve that," Sperry said. "We will still pay retiree benefits, but we're asking Congress to make it more manageable."

Though the service plans to go ahead and cut Saturday delivery, Congress has yet to act on either issue, he noted. A postal reform bill died in the last Congress and no action has been taken this year to get the effort going.

Suspect pleads not guilty to murder, arson and burglary

From "SUSPECT," Page 1

Judge Glenn D. Schiffner ordered that recording devices not be used in the courtroom, telling people to take their cellphones and turn them off.

Assistant Attorney General Nicole Romine of Goodland offered to draw up a document stating the type of attire that will be allowed for the remainder of this case and Schiffner took her up on the offer.

Shank's court-appointed lawyer, Jerry Fair-

banks of Goodland, made a motion that his client be allowed to appear in civilian clothing for the rest of the proceedings.

Fairbanks also made a motion for discovery, but asked that Romine have more time to review the motion before it was granted because he had given it to her just that morning.

Sports Editor Kayla Cornett contributed to this story.

FFA chapter to hold breakfast

From "FFA," Page 1

it was "Drive Your Tractor to School Day, and she got a ride to school in the one tractor that was seen in the parking lot that morning.

discouraged them from driving them to school.

Despite the incoming snow last Wednesday, Tom Rundel, ag teacher at the high school and FFA sponsor, said the kids still participated in Farmer Dress-up Day.

other event scheduled for the week.

The national group said the week is sponsored by Tractor Supply Co. through the National FFA Foundation.

Thirty-seven Colby High School students are in the orga-

Obama, lawmakers will discuss budget cuts

From "OBAMA," Page 1

next looming fiscal showdown: A March 27 deadline to continue government operations or force a government shutdown.

White House spokesman Jay Carney said the White House talks, arranged Tuesday, are designed to be a "constructive discussion" about how to keep the cuts from having harmful consequences.

The White House has warned that the \$85 billion in cuts could affect everything from commercial flights to classrooms and meat inspections.

and defense spending, leading to forced unpaid days off for hundreds of thousands of government workers.

The impact won't be immediate. Federal workers would be notified next week that they will have to take up to a day every week off without pay, but the furloughs won't start for a month due to notification requirements.

The Senate planned to vote on a Democratic stop gap measure on Thursday that would avert the cuts with smaller reductions and tax increases on millionaires.

such opposition would mean the cuts, known as a sequester in budget terms, would be the responsibility of Republicans.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell said Friday's session will focus on ways to reduce government spending, but he also said he will not back down on his opposition to any new revenues.

Carney said Obama also spoke briefly with congressional leaders today ahead of a ceremony in the Capitol to unveil a statue of civil rights heroine Rosa Parks.

Briefly

First graders will perform 'Lemonade'

The Colby Grade School first graders will be presenting the musical "Lemonade" at 2 p.m and 7 p.m. Thursday in the school auditorium.

Genesis annual meeting set for Thursday

The annual meeting of Genesis-Thomas County Inc. will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the meeting room of the Thomas County Office Complex.

World Day of Prayer luncheon planned

"I was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me" is the theme for the World Day of Prayer luncheon and worship service at noon Friday at the Colby United Methodist Church.

Library to put on murder mystery Saturday

You are invited "To Wake the Dead" at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Friends of Pioneer Memorial Library Murder Mystery performance at the library.

Group plans dance at American Legion

A singles and couples dance is planned for 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday at the Colby American Legion Hall.

Gem Lions Club plans annual soup day

The Gem Lions Club will have its annual winter soup day from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday at the Gem Community Building.

Gem 4-H Club will have bake sale Saturday

The Gem 4-H Club will have a bake sale Saturday at the same time as the Gem Lions Club's annual soup day.

Veteran's commission will help with benefits

Veterans can get help obtaining benefits from the federal government when the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs Mobile Office will be at the Orscheln parking lot in Colby from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday.

National Weather Service to hold storm 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 downstairs at the Community Building.

High Plains Lions plan ham and bean feed

Colby High Plains Lions invite everyone to a ham and bean feed from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 9, at Orscheln Farm and Home in Colby.

Girl Scouts will sell cookies through March 10

Colby Girl Scouts are out selling cookies through Sunday, March 10. This year is the first the girls will have the cookies as they sell.

'Kids a Cookin' classes continue in March

Spring sessions of Kids-a-Cookin,' a hands-on food preparation and nutrition class for third through fifth graders, continue Thursdays March 21 and April 11.

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Table with columns for Thursday Evening (Feb 28, 2013) and Friday Evening (March 1, 2013). Rows include channels like KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, KSNK/NBC, etc., and programs like Zero Hour, Scandal, Jimmy Kimmel Live, etc.

American Profile: We Celebrate Hometown Life. Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper. Includes a grid of featured stories and a list of programs.