

Weather

Plum Island hard to auction

From "ISLAND," Page 1

600-acre conservation zone on Plum Island. The move would keep the eastern part of the island — once used as a U.S. Army post during the Spanish American War — as a nature preserve. Some environmentalists envision allowing bird-watchers and others to visit the island under such a scenario.

The remainder, where animal disease research has been done since the 1950s, would be zoned for a research facility. The town's actions would preclude an ambitious developer from trying to build residential housing, or even some sort of exclusive resort, but would leave open the possibility that a university or other entity could utilize the existing lab.

A vote is expected in June; until now, there were no zoning requirements for the federally-owned property.

"It doesn't make fiscal sense," Russell said of development. "You're talking about an isolated island where you have to travel a two-lane country road to get to a ferry that has limited service. Realistically, it's not practical."

Besides the mention in "Silence of the Lambs," author Nelson De Mille wrote a 1997 book "Plum Island," featuring a fictional detective investigating the murders of island biologists. Plum Island scientists research pathogens like foot-and-mouth disease, which is highly contagious to livestock and could cause catastrophic economic losses and imperil the nation's food supply.

Security on the island consists of armed patrols, checkpoints, cameras, radar, locks and fences; it is operated under the auspices of the Department of Homeland Security, which is expected to remain there until the property is sold.

Congress voted in 2009 to close the aging lab and move operations to Kansas State University. Although a scientific study has questioned the wisdom of moving animal disease research to the so-called Beef Belt, President Barack Obama's latest budget includes \$714 million for the project. Kansas officials also are selling bonds to

pay for the new lab.

The General Services Administration, which is overseeing the sale, has not done any studies to determine what effect the proposed zoning would have on the purchase price, a spokesman said this week. The GSA anticipates a formal sale date will be announced once a construction schedule for the Kansas lab is finalized. The latest estimate has the Kansas facility opening is 2018, although the project has been fraught with delays.

A final environmental impact statement, required for the Plum Island sale, is expected from the GSA within 60 days. Environmental groups in both New York and Connecticut have lobbied for several years to keep the island as a nature preserve should it be sold. They are ecstatic over the Southold town's plans to restrict development.

"Plum Island is one of the last great coastal places of our region, replete with miles of beaches, hundreds of acres of open space, endangered animal species and rare plant life," said Leah Schmalz, director of legislative and legal affairs for New Haven, Conn.-based Save the Sound.

"By protecting a research/commercial use in the lab's current footprint and by preserving the vast majority of the island as a wildlife sanctuary ... we all benefit from the special resources of this island for generations to come," added Bill Toedter, president of the North Fork Environmental Council.

Despite speculation about what goes on there, scientists insist the island is safe. In recent years, hundreds of tons of medical waste, contaminated soil and other refuse has been shipped off the island. Other island sites have been cleaned in compliance with federal regulations. And the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined in 2006 that no munitions or ordnance remain from the Army base. As late as 2007, New York government inspection reports said there is no environmental threat on the island.

In recent years, lab operators have been more open about what they do, and have held tours and informational meetings for journalists and community groups.

Need a new friend?



KATHRYN BALLARD/Colby Free Press
This little female chihuahua-min pin, about 3 or 4 years old, is up for adoption at the Colby Animal Clinic. A clinic employee said she is really sweet and good with kids. If you are interested, call 460-8621 or stop by 810 E. Fourth St.

Trustees raise levy for college

From "COLLEGE," Page 1

Vacik pointed out that even with a six-mill increase, the college might need to raise taxes again next year. He pointed out that the tax base is decreasing around Colby, and Waites pointed out there will not be as much state money for the college as in past years.

Some trustees thought the tax hike could be larger. Board President Arlen Leiker said the increase should be at least 6 mills, or perhaps up to 9. The trustees even discussed raising it 10 mills.

Trustee Bill Shields said people should not have their taxes raised without understanding why. He and Trustee Cindy

Black said there should be some education to go along with the tax increase.

The trustees had a similar discussion on the budget April 29, but decided to have another meeting instead of taking any action.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a contract for Dr. Michael Samuels as an anatomy and physiology instructor.
- Approved an agreement between the board and a student over a grievance. The board spent 15 minutes in closed session to discuss nonelected personnel and another ten-minutes in closed session to protect the rights of a student before making the decision.

Kansas lawmakers stalemated on how to settle tax issue

TOPEKA (AP) — Senate negotiators have rejected the latest offer from House counterparts on a deal to adjust Kansas tax rates and end the annual session.

The top two Republicans at the negotiating table expressed disappointment over where

talks were headed. More meetings were likely later today.

Republican Gov. Sam Brownback and most members of the GOP-dominated Legislature want to cut income taxes further following massive reductions last year.

Brownback argues the state must raise revenue to prevent budget problems.

The 6.3 percent sales tax is set by law to fall to 5.7 percent in July. GOP lawmakers can't agree on how much of the decrease to cancel.

Briefly

The deadline for Briefly is noon the day before. Items submitted in the morning will be set up for the next edition. The deadline for Monday's paper is noon Friday.

Red Cross plans blood drives here

The American Red Cross blood drive will continue from 7:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday at the Colby Community Building. The drive is sponsored by the Kansas Pork Association, which will provide pulled-pork sandwiches. Walk-in donors are welcome, but appointments are available by calling (800) RED CROSS.

Scholarship open to women in county

The Colby Branch of the American Association of University Women is accepting applications for a two-year scholarship for Thomas County women who will be juniors or seniors in college this fall. Application deadline is Saturday, June 1. Pick up a form at the Pioneer Memorial Library or by contacting Patricia Erickson at perickson@st-tel.net or 462-3890.

Selden Tractor Show coming up June 2

The 20th Annual Selden Antique Tractor and Classic Car Show will be Sunday, June 2, on Main Street in Selden, including tractors, cars, classic motorcycles and small engines. Bring your own lawn chairs. There are no admission or entry fees. For information, call Judy Rogers at (785) 386-8033.

Berean Church plans Vacation Bible School

Colossal Coaster World will be the theme for a Vacation Bible School from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, June 2 to 6, at the Colby Berean Church, 1000 S. Franklin Ave. Children from age 4 through seventh grade are invited. For information, call Tammy Higerd at the church, 460-2763, or go to www.colbyberean.com.

Community garden needs volunteers

Anyone interested in working on this year's community garden should contact Denise Singer at 465-9103 or ssnwks@st-tel.net. Group gardening days are Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings throughout the season.

County to offer classes on life-saving

Thomas County Emergency Medical Services will offer cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid classes from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays through the summer and fall. Classes for health-care providers will be Aug. 14 or Nov. 6. Heartsaver first aid and CPR with automated external defibrillator training will be June 19, Sept. 18 or Dec. 18. Online classes are available. Sign up for these courses at www.heart.org or by calling Candy Bryant at 460-4585.



Saturday Evening May 25, 2013

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Bet on Your Baby	Ultimate BBQ Cookout	Body of Proof	Local						
KBSL/CBS	The Mentalist	48 Hours	48 Hours	Local						
KSNK/NBC	NHL Hockey			Local	Saturday Night Live					
KSAS/FOX	MLB Baseball		Local		Hell's Kitchen	Ben-Kate	Local			
Cable Channels										
A & E	Longmire	Longmire	Longmire	Longmire	Longmire	Longmire				
AMC	Con Air		Con Air							
ANIM	Super Croc	Animal Attacks	Super Squid	Animal Attacks	Super Squid					
BRAVO	What Happens	How to Lose			How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days					
CMT	Reba	Reba	Reba	Dog and Beth	Dog and Beth	Dog and Beth				
CNN	Anderson Cooper	Something Wrong		Anderson Cooper	Something Wrong					
COMEDY	Get Him to the Greek		Amy Sch.	Amy Sch.	Amy Sch.	Amy Sch.	Tosh.0	Tosh.0		
DISC	Deadliest Catch	Deadliest Catch	Deadliest Catch	Deadliest Catch						
DISN	Good Luck	Good Luck	Good Luck	Good Luck	Dog	Shake It	ANT Farm	Good Luck	Austin	Good Luck
E!	Knocked Up		Knocked Up							
ESPN	NBA Countdown	NBA Basketball					SportsCenter			
ESPN2	College Softball		College Softball				Baseball Tonight			
FAM	Bugs Life	The Incredibles			Paul Blart: Mall Cop					
FOOD	Restaurant: Im.	Restaurant: Im.	Restaurant: Im.	Restaurant: Im.	Iron Chef America	Restaurant: Im.				
FX	UFC 160: Velasquez v		Iron Man							
HGTV	Love It or List It	Love It or List It	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Love It or List It			

We Celebrate Hometown Life
Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.

HIST	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn
LIFE	Taken Back			Trust				Taken Back		
MTV	8 Mile			How High				Wild/Out	Wild/Out	
NICK	Sanjay	SpongeBob	Big Time	Wendell	The Nanny	The Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	Defiance		Defiance		Defiance		Defiance			
SPIKE	Star Wars-Phantom		Star Wars Ep 2							Rescue
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Men-Work	Laugh	Killers		
TCM	Friendly Persuasion				Sergeant York					
TLC	Undercover Boss	Undercover Boss	Undercover Boss	Undercover Boss	Undercover Boss			Undercover Boss		
TNT	The Dark Knight				Daredevil					
TOON	Madagascar	Home Mov.	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Cleveland	Dynamite	Boondocks	Bleach	Naruto	
TRAV	Monumental Mysteries	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		
TV LAND	Cleveland	Cleveland	Raymond	Raymond	King	King		The King of Queens		
USA	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		
VH1	Love & Hip Hop	Love & Hip Hop	Love & Hip Hop	Love & Hip Hop	Love & Hip Hop	Love & Hip Hop		Love & Hip Hop		
WGN	Funniest Home Videos	Funniest Home Videos	WGN News at Nine	Bones				Bones		
Premium Channels										
HBO	Magic Mike			Boxing	REAL Sports Gumbel	Thrones				
MAX	Cowboys & Aliens			Deep Impact		Jump Off	Erotic			
SHOW	Our Idiot	People Like Us			Man on a Ledge					

LOCAL TV Listings

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Sunday Evening May 26, 2013

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Wipeout		Motive		Rookie Blue		Local			
KBSL/CBS	NCIS: Los Angeles		The Good Wife		The Mentalist		Local			
KSNK/NBC	The Voice		Smash				Local		Dateline NBC	
KSAS/FOX	NASCAR Racing						Local			
Cable Channels										
A & E	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Duck D.	Duck D.
AMC	Mad Men		Mad Men		Mad Men		Mad Men		Mad Men	
ANIM	Mermaids-Body		Mermaids: New		Mermaids: New		Mermaids: New		Mermaids-Body	
BRAVO	Married to Medicine		Married to Medicine		The Kand Factory		Married to Medicine		Married to Medicine	
CMT	Dog and Beth		Dog and Beth		Dog and Beth		Dog and Beth		Dog and Beth	
CNN	Anthony Bourd.		Anthony Bourd.		Anthony Bourd.		Anthony Bourd.		Anthony Bourd.	
COMEDY	Futurama	Futurama	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	
DISC	Last Frontier		North America		D-Day in 3D		North America		D-Day in 3D	
DISN	Dog	Dog	Dog	Dog	Austin	Good Luck	Shake It	ANT Farm	Wizards	Wizards
E!	The Back-up Plan		Jonas	What-Ryan	Jonas	What-Ryan	Chelsea	Chelsea	The Soup	
ESPN	MLB Baseball						SportsCenter		SportCtr	
ESPN2	College Softball		CrossFit	CrossFit	MLS Soccer					
FAM	The Incredibles		Paul Blart: Mall Cop		Funniest Home Videos	J. Osteen	K. Shook			
FOOD	Cupcake Wars		Iron Chef America		Restaurant: Im.		Restaurant: Im.		Iron Chef America	
FX	Battle: Los Angeles				Battle: Los Angeles					
HGTV	Extreme Homes		You Live in What?		Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunters	Hunt Intl	You Live in What?	
HIST	Hatfields & McCoy's		Hatfields & McCoy's		Hatfields & McCoy's		Hatfields & McCoy's		Hatfields & McCoy's	
LIFE	Obsessed		Sleep-Enemy		Obsessed		Obsessed		Obsessed	
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NICK	See Dad	Wendell	Clueless		Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	Paranormal Witness		Paranormal Witness		Paranormal Witness		Paranormal Witness		Paranormal Witness	
SPIKE	Star Wars Ep 2		Star Wars: Ep. III						Kick-Ass	
TBS	Bruce Almighty				Bruce Almighty				You, Me and Dupree	
TCM	Battleground				Battle of the Bulge					
TLC	Long Isla	Long Isla	Medium	Medium	Breaking Amish: Brav	Medium	Medium	Medium	Breaking Amish: Brav	
TNT	Tip-Off	NBA Basketball			Inside the NBA		Falling Skies			
TOON	Teen	Looney	Squid	King/Hill	King/Hill	Cleveland	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Loiter	Metal
TRAV	Mega RV C	Waterprks	Rock-RV	Rock-RV	Extreme RVs		Extreme RVs		Rock-RV	Rock-RV
TV LAND	Golden	Golden	Golden	Golden	Golden	Golden	Golden	King	King	King
USA	NCIS		NCIS		NCIS		Suits		NCIS	
VH1	Love & Hip Hop		Love & Hip Hop		Love & Hip Hop		Love, Hip Hop		Love, Hip Hop	
WGN	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	News/Nine	Replay	Swordfish			
Premium Channels										
HBO	Magic Mike		Candelabra				Candelabra			
MAX	Five Engage				Project X			Jump Off	Jump Off	Jump Off
SHOW	Borgias	Nurse	Nurse	Nurse	The Borgias		The Borgias	Nurse	Nurse	The Big C