

Weather



National Weather Service

Tonight: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 70.

Friday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 99.

Friday Night: Showers and thunderstorms likely, mainly before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 67.

Saturday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 95.

Saturday Night: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Sunday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny; high near 91.

Sunday Night: A chance of thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Monday: 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny; high near 87.

Monday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Tuesday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 89.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 66.

Wednesday: High, 94; Low 56

Precip: Wednesday None

Month: 1.24 inches

Year: 4.63 inches

Normal: 9.84 inches

(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset

Friday 6:17 a.m. 9:13 p.m.

Moon: waxing, 30 percent

(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Colby Water Use

Wednesday 2,593,000 gal.

(Colby Public Works)

Legislator says results mixed

From "LEGISLATOR," Page

out before the change can be fully implemented. He said the differences in concealed carry requirements across the various states are not any danger to Kansans.

• Money was added to the Kansas Highway Patrol and Stockton Prison budgets, though cuts in the corrections department remain a concern.

• The Kansas Department of Transportation, whose budget is often diverted to other departments, largely escaped intact this year.

"They were going to take away money," Cassidy said. "We fought to get it back. Some of it was still swept out to pay for buses for schools."

• Liquor laws did not change this year, despite a renewed push for allowing hard liquor sale at grocery stores. Cassidy said

someday that will happen, and advised small liquor stores to prepare for a change. He said he had asked several liquor stores in Nebraska about their law. The owners said they make as much or more money today, but only after the adjustment period.

• Care for developmentally disabled people will be under KanCare starting Jan. 1. Cassidy said he was wanting to wait another year for KanCare to establish itself, but after meeting with the three managed care companies which run the state's new system, he is confident that any problems that arise can be addressed.

• Also passed this year was a law allowing for drug testing of anyone receiving a government check. Cassidy said this includes everyone from legislators and the governor to those receiving welfare checks.

"The goal was to help the un-

employed or those on welfare not to go down a bad path," he said.

• Judicial selection for the Kansas Court of Appeals was changed this year. Appeals judges will be appointed by the governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate, similar to the federal model. Cassidy said he voted in favor of the change, adding that there was discussion of expanding it to include the Kansas Supreme Court, but that was not done this year.

• In education this year was a new program: "Innovative School Districts." Cassidy said 10 school districts will be chosen to participate, which will free them up from a lot of state regulations. Cassidy said it gives administrators more freedom to be creative in how they provide an education. The things they come up with might be shared with other districts.

Wildfire destroys 360 homes

From "WILDFIRE," Page 1

ther side of the gorge were destroyed, and the tram cable fell into the gorge. An incline railway descending 1,500 feet to the canyon floor was damaged.

Another fire sparked by lightning Monday in Rocky Mountain National Park has grown to an estimated 600 acres in area with trees killed by pine beetles.

Gov. John Hickenlooper has declared disaster emergencies for the Black Forest and Royal Gorge fires and a 60-acre fire in rural Huerfano County, authorizing a combined \$10.15 mil-

lion to help pay for firefighting and other costs.

At a Wal-Mart and Home Depot parking lot, evacuees Greg and Sharon Rambo set up camp. They had been living in a modular home in Black Forest as they waited to close on a larger house nearby.

Commissioners choose new appraiser

From "APPRAISER," Page 1

medical advisor for the county's Emergency Medical Service effective July 1. Dygett assumes the role vacated by Dr. Brewster Kellogg.

• Discussed which holidays to designate as county-observed holidays for 2014 and tabled a decision on the matter until their meeting Monday.

• Asked County Attorney Kevin Berens to review the county's Family and Medical Leave Act policy to meet recommendations from Susan Lang, a U.S. Department of Labor auditor.

• Signed lease-purchase agreements from Foley Equipment to lease three motor graders at a cost of \$33,758 per year for five years. The commissioners previously approved this lease amount after a sealed bid process.

"It's pretty expensive equipment," said Steele, "but we want our people to have the best."

• Discussed leasing space at Berens' private downtown office to house the county attorney's office, since the court services office needs more office space in the courthouse. Steele proposed a rent amount of \$250 per month for 516 square feet of space in Berens' office, comparable to the amount the county charges for space in the Thomas County Office Complex. Berens said he did not want payment for his own office since he will use it for his private practice in addition to his public duties. No action was taken.

• Abated personal property taxes for Jean Sellery, who said she sold a bus, justifying a prorated \$147.78 reduction in 2012 taxes.

• Approved accounts payable of \$91,071, not including noxious weed or road and bridge department expenses, which are presented at the end of the month.

• Continued the county's contract for website hosting and support. Thompson Reuters, the website developer, provides these services for \$4,148 per year, more than \$1,000 cheaper than a proposal the county received from Computer Information Concepts Inc.

• Received 2014 budget proposals from the county appraiser's office, Northwest Kansas Regional Recycling Organization, the Thomas County Fair Board, the county attorney's office, the road and bridge and noxious weed departments and the Brewster Senior Center.

• Received a 2014 budget request from Sheriff Rod Taylor, including increases in the amounts spent for office supplies, fuel, ammunition, salaries and tires. These requests totaled \$23,707, not including a suggested 8 percent pay increase.

• Received the Thomas County Conservation District's proposed budget for 2014 requesting \$30,000 from the county, the same amount the county gave in previous years. Baughn thanked the board members who attended the meeting for their work.

"It takes a dedicated group of people to keep a handle on all these issues," he said.

• Received the District Court Clerk's 2014 budget proposal. Court Clerk Kim Shwarz requested an increase for just one area, indigent services, from \$29,404 in budget year 2013 to \$43,754. She said this category includes fees for court-appointed defense attorneys. The actual expenses for indigent services in 2012 were \$43,755.

"Active prosecution requires more defense attorneys," Berens said.

The commissioners did not take action on any budget proposals, but took them under advisement for discussion at upcoming budget sessions.

Briefly

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

Pets ready for adoption at animal clinic

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a neutered male gray cat about 2 years old and a female black-and-white stray kitten. Lost or strayed animals are often brought to the clinic. Call or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have current shots, and costs are minimal. For questions, call 460-8621.

Box fans available at Health Department

The Salvation Army has box fans available at the Thomas County Health Department. Call 460-4596 with questions.

Sign up for 'Night at the Museum' tours

The Night at the Museum historical performance camp at the Prairie Museum of Art and History in Colby will conclude Friday with an evening of guided tours and short skits. To watch the free performances, audience members must contact museum Education Director Ann Miner and sign up for a time slot at 460-4590 or museumed@st-tel.net.

Commodities to be given out here Monday

U.S. Department of Agriculture commodities will be distributed from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program office in the Senior Progress Center at Fike Park. Distribution is first come, first served, but you may send a signed permission slip with another person. Bring a sack or box. Expected commodities include orange juice, peanut butter, peaches, cereal, mixed fruit, cranberry sauce and kidney and northern beans. Income guidelines have increased. For questions, call the office at 462-6744.

Wheat-plot tour will be held on Tuesday

Farmers, agribusiness people and anyone else who's interested are invited to the Thomas County wheat-plot tour at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Solomon Creek Farm, five miles south of the Levant interchange on Interstate 70. Meet at the shop on the east side of the road. Speakers will be Jim Shroyer and Dan O'Brien, Kansas State University Extension specialists. Guests may bring wheat samples to be examined. For information, call Jody McCain at 460-4582.

Picnic in the Park will be Wednesday

Picnic in the Park begins at noon Wednesdays at Fike Park. The entertainment for next week will be Margie Schoenfeld. The series is sponsored by the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce, the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Colby Free Press. In case of bad weather, check KXXX/KRDQ Radio. For information, call the Chamber office at 460-3401.

Legion Riders to hold Drag Main Night

The Colby American Legion Riders will hold a Drag Main Night on Friday, June 21. Come and go from 6 to 8 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 1850 W. Fourth St.. All cars, pickups, horses and bikes are welcome. Burgers, hotdogs and fries will be served, and L.J. the deejay will be spinning the vinyl. For information call Doug Ketchum at 460-2470.

Rolling Hills animals coming to Colby library

Animal visitors from the Rolling Hills Zoo near Brookville will be in the basement of the Pioneer Memorial Library at 1:30 p.m. Monday. For information, call the library at 460-4470.

County to offer classes on life saving

Thomas County Emergency Medical Services will offer heartsaver first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) with automated external defibrillator training will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday. Online classes are available for the health-care provider and first aid classes. Sign up at www.heart.org or by calling Candy Bryant at 460-4585.

Relay for Life to be Friday, June 21

Thomas County Relay for Life will be held from 7 p.m. Friday, June 21, to 7 a.m. Saturday, June 22, at Dennen Field in Colby to raise money for the American Cancer Society. For information, contact Christy Gugelman at (308) 362-7122.

College offers class for concealed carry

Colby Community College will offer a concealed-carry handgun class from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 29, in the Student Union. Graduates may apply for Kansas concealed-carry certification. Cost is \$125, and class size is limited. For information, call Barry Kaaz at (785) 460-5429.



LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Saturday Evening June 15, 2013

Table listing TV programs for Saturday Evening, June 15, 2013, with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and channel names (KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, etc.).

Sunday Evening June 16, 2013

Table listing TV programs for Sunday Evening, June 16, 2013, with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and channel names (KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, 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 program listings for various channels like HIST, LIFE, MTV, NICK, etc.

Premium Channels. A grid listing premium channel offerings such as HBO (Dark Knight), MAX (I, Robot), and SHOW (Borgias) with associated times and descriptions.