

Weather



National Weather Service Tonight: Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Mostly clear; low around 72. Breezy, with a south wind 15 to 20 mph decreasing to 10 to 15 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent. Tuesday: Isolated showers and thunderstorms after 4 p.m. Sunny and hot; a high near 104. Breezy, with a southwest wind 10 to 20 mph becoming north in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent. Tuesday Night: Isolated showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent. Wednesday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 89. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph becoming southeast in the afternoon. Wednesday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy; low around 66. Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 94. Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 73. Friday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 100. Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 76. Saturday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 100. Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny; a high near 93. Precip: Friday None Saturday None Sunday 0.03 inches Month: 0.03 inches Year: 6.05 inches Normal: 13.61 inches (K-State Experiment Station) Sunrise and Sunset Tuesday 6:26 a.m. 9:13 p.m. Moon: waxing, 2 percent Wednesday 6:26 a.m. 9:13 p.m. Moon: waxing, 5 percent (U.S. Naval Observatory) Colby Water Use Friday to Sunday 2,856,000 gal. (average) (Colby Public Works)

Farmers worry about labor

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The industry insists its chronic labor shortage isn't a matter of low pay, but too few Americans willing to deal with the long hours, hot weather and other hardships of farm labor.

"The truth is, not even farm workers are raising their children to be farm workers," Nassif said.

The Senate bill would enable experienced farm workers to obtain "blue cards" making them eligible for year-round residency. Applicants who entered the U.S. illegally would have to pay a fine, catch up on taxes and pass a background check. Another new program would allow farmers to hire foreign "guest workers" who would be issued three-year visas.

But such policies might be a hard sell with House conservatives who deride the idea as "amnesty."

Rep. Justin Amash, whose western Michigan district includes the city of Grand Rapids and outlying farm country, is typical of Republicans feeling pressure from both sides.

Home-state farmers visited his Washington office twice last week. Mark Youngquist, an apple grower from Amash's district, later gave one of his aides an orchard tour. During a town-hall meeting the same day, the second-term Republican described the farm labor shortage as "a problem we should deal with" and called for compromise on immigration.

But Amash's comment that deportation wasn't a realistic

way to deal with all 11 million people believed to be in the country illegally drew angry shouts. "They're criminals," one man protested.

Youngquist, 53, a staunch Republican, said he wished his fellow conservatives were more sympathetic toward immigrants who fill jobs that no one else will take. The more intense border enforcement appears to be taking its toll, he said. His migrant labor housing that is usually half-full for the approaching apple harvest is now "at zero," he said. "We're sitting on a beautiful crop of apples. Unless things change, none of it is going to get picked."

Associated Press writer David Egger contributed to this report from Cedar Springs, Mich.

Sentence given for not registering

TOPEKA (AP) — A defense lawyer said the 22-year prison sentence his client received for failing to register as a sex offender is excessive, but the Shawnee County prosecutor said the sentence stems from a law aimed at keeping people safe.

Richard David Honn was sentenced to 22 years and eight months for failing to register every three months as a violent offender in Shawnee County. Honn was charged twice in Shawnee County for offender registration counts, the first time in 2011 and again this year, The Topeka Capital-Journal reported (bit.ly/157hSK6).

"This penalty is exponentially greater than the actual penalty he received for the sex crimes," Honn's lawyer David McDonald said Monday. "That's the stupid part."

McDonald also said Honn's failure to register in 2013 stemmed from his move from one apartment to another in the same complex and then not updating that information in the registry. McDonald sought a sentence of three years of probation for Honn or an alternative prison term of two years and eight months.

Sentences being given to people in Kansas for failing to register "have just gone way too far," McDonald said. "It's gone incredibly too far."

McDonald said Honn had two sex offense convictions. The first, for attempted indecent liberties with a juvenile, was adjudicated in 1997 when Honn was juvenile. The second was in Johnson County when he was an adult in 2002. In the adult offense, Honn was 21 in 2002 when he made an indecent solicitation to a child between 14 and 16.

Shawnee County District Attorney Chad Taylor said the sentence given Honn on May 10 stems from a "powerful tool the Legislature has provided to us to keep our community safe." The Kansas statute Taylor was referring to makes failure to register as an offender a person felony.

Taylor also said Honn was a "serial noncompliant, nonregistering kind of guy," and that when filing a charge, a prosecutor has discretion on what to file, and if the defendant hasn't been a problem, the prosecutor could file attempted failure to register, which carries probation as a penalty. Failure to register carries a presumptive prison sentence, he said.

If offenders "aren't compliant, prison awaits," Taylor said. "It's a good tool so people know who lives next door."

Public colleges still seek minorities

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Some major public colleges in Missouri and Kansas say a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling on affirmative action won't affect their efforts to recruit minority students because race already is not a factor in admission standards.

However, increasing diversity on campus by recruiting more minorities remains an important goal, according to officials at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, the University of Missouri-Columbia, the University of Kansas and Kansas State University.

The Supreme Court ruling in June didn't forbid considering race in admission but said schools must prove there are "no race-neutral alternatives" to achieve diversity on campus.

"I think that any public re-

search institution that is using race as a factor in admissions needs to go back and review what they are doing," said Mel Tyler, vice chancellor of student affairs at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. "There are plenty of qualified minority students out there.... Race should not be a factor."

Generally, students who meet basic criteria for admission at the schools will get in, The Kansas City Star reported (bit.ly/12PYPFv).

In Kansas, the requirements are at least a 2.0 grade point average, a 21 ACT score or rank in the top third of a graduating class. In Missouri, residents who graduate in the top 10 percent of their class and meet the 17 core curriculum requirements can get in regardless of standardized test score. But the lower

the class rank, the higher the test score needed for admission.

The schools generally encourage minority students to apply and then allow all applicants who meet the criteria to enroll. Changing demographics make those efforts important. By 2030, Missouri and Kansas students now considered a minority will make up 50 percent of the population, Tyler said.

Pat Bosco, vice president for student life and dean of students at Kansas State University, said the Manhattan school concentrates on recruitment, rather than selection. The university recruits students in areas with large populations of first-generation and minority students, then offers them financial assistance and academic support to help them graduate.

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.

Jump Start program to enroll students

Enrollment for the Colby Grade School After School Program's summer Jump Start will be from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the school's activity room. The program will be from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday for two weeks, July 22 to Aug. 1. Enrollment forms are available at www.colbyeagles.org or at the Colby Schools administration building. Contact Kathy Vaughn, program director, at 460-5160.

Seniors plan potluck at Presbyterian Church

The group More Fun Together plans a potluck for people 50 or older who are alone, widowed, divorced, separated or have partner in a nursing home at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church. Bring a dish to share; table service and beverages will be provided. For information, call 462-6342.

Patch the Pirate Club to meet in Mingo

Children are invited to join the "Patch the Pirate Music and Drama Club" from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Aug. 7 at the Mingo Bible Church. The program, based on music by Ron and Shelly Hamilton, includes songs, Bible lessons, stories, skits, music lessons, devotions and performances. For information, call Daniel and Lois O'Brien at (785) 460-7530.

Pets ready for adoption at animal clinic

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has three lab-mix puppies 6 to 7 weeks old, a female husky mix about 10 months, six kittens and Dexter a gray neutered cat about 2 years old. 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.

Vacation Bible School at Methodist church

The Colby United Methodist Church's Vacation Bible School, "Cosossal Coastal World," will run from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday this week. Call Kim Barnett at the church office, 460-2761, to register or for information.

Poultry tests to be given at fairgrounds

Free poultry blood tests will be conducted at 9 a.m. Thursday at the livestock arena at the Thomas County Fairgrounds. Owners of all poultry except waterfowl, both open class and 4-H, must show proof that birds are free of pullorum-typhoid to exhibit at any fair in Kansas. For information, call the Thomas County Extension office at 460-4582.

Volunteers needed for carnival rides

Volunteers are again needed for the carnival at the Thomas County Fair on Tuesday through Saturday, July 30 to Aug. 3. Shifts can be two or four hours. For information or to volunteer, call Kerry Wark, 443-6174; Damon Glover, 443-3254; or Tina Harris, 462-8008.

Childbirth classes to begin in July

Citizens Medical Center will offer a four-week series of childbirth education classes at 7 p.m. Thursdays from this week through Aug. 1 in the hospital conference room for women who are due to deliver before November. The labor support partner, who will be with the mother in labor, should attend also. The next series of classes is scheduled for October. For information or to register, call Jeanene Brown at (785) 460-4850.

Seminar to teach basics of open government

The Kansas attorney general's office will conduct a free seminar on the Kansas Open Meetings and Open Records acts from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, July 23, at the Student Union, Room 108, at Colby Community College. The seminar is designed for elected officials, reporters and the public, providing information on the basics of Kansas' open-government laws. Space is limited and registration is first come, first served. Go to www.ag.ks.gov or call (785) 296-2215.

Fair books available at Extension office now

2013 fair books are ready at the Thomas County Extension office, 350 S. Range Ave., Suite 16, from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For information, call Jodie McCain at 460-4582.

Box fans available at Health Department

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

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS



Wednesday Evening July 10, 2013

Table with 12 columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) listing various TV programs like KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, KSNK/NBC, etc.

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

Tuesday Evening July 9, 2013

Table with 12 columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) listing various TV programs like KAKE/ABC, HIST, LIFE, etc.