

Weather



National Weather Service
Tonight: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms...

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 75...

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 56. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming light and variable after midnight.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. Light and variable wind becoming southeast 10 to 15 mph in the morning.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 63.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 89.

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

Monday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 85.

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

Tuesday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 83.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 86.

Wednesday: High, 81; Low 62
Precip: Wednesday 0.50 inches
Month: 0.59 inches
Year: 9.08 inches
Normal: 16.36 inches

Senator speaks on Congress

From "SENATOR," Page 1

governments who rely on interest income.

Moran said interest rates are low in part because the federal reserve has been buying up government debts, but also because business owners and individuals are hesitant to expand with an unknown future looming ahead.

"The uncertainty is what the next regulation is going to be," he said.

Frahm said that sentiment was echoed by a hospital administrator with whom she spoke recently. The administrator told her that, for the first time in his long career, he did not know how to plan for his hospital's future.

Moran also addressed the Affordable Care Act, saying it is one of the things that makes the

future of businesses unpredictable.

He said he recently spoke to a small-town grocery store owner who told Moran he wanted to expand by buying a struggling store in another town. But, said the owner, he could not expand because expansion would require his business to have more than 50 employees, triggering regulations from the Affordable Care Act.

At the close of the discussion, Moran brought up the current farm bill. He said the farm bill and supplemental nutrition programs had been separated into two bills, delaying progress on each.

"There are so many more people in D.C. that care about food stamps than farm progress," he said. A farm bill will be passed

when food stamps and farm programs are put back into the same bill, he said.

The most pressing issues he sees in farm programs, he said, are crop insurance and livestock disaster programs.

Farm programs currently operate under an extension of the previous farm bill that will expire Sept. 30. While this extension did continue crop insurance programs, he said, it did not extend livestock disaster programs. He would like to see the next farm bill regenerate these programs.

While in northwest Kansas, Moran toured the ethanol plant at Campus and attended the county fair in Goodland before returning to his home in Manhattan.

Drought leads to tight seed supply

By Catherine Tsai

Associated Press

DENVER (AP) - Exceptional drought conditions and untimely freezes that have left some southeast Colorado winter wheat fields with nothing to harvest also have limited the certified seed supply for next season.

The Colorado Wheat Research Foundation works with certified seed growers of varieties developed by Colorado State University and predicts there should be enough seed available if farmers get in touch with dealers early.

"It's going to be very tight," said Darrell Hanavan, the foundation's executive director.

Certified seed is sold by growers authorized to raise new varieties that have patent-like protections. Customers usually are allowed to save some seed after the harvest to replant, but it's illegal for them to resell the seed to others.

This year, some farmers didn't have enough of a harvest for grain, let alone seeds.

Certified seed growers in northeast Colorado, which got a little more moisture than southeast Colorado this season, have been fielding calls from southeast Colorado, western Kansas, and the panhandles of Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas to see if they have surplus certified seeds they can sell.

Dan Anderson, a certified grower near Haxtum, said his supply is already about 70 percent sold.

"We'll still have some to sell, but most of the

time, we've never been this far sold out this early," he said. "Most of it has gone to local customers. They know the problems further south of here, so they're speaking for seed earlier this year."

Kansas, the nation's top winter wheat producer, dealt with exceptional drought on the state's western side. However growers in the central part of the state fared better and should be able to supply their counterparts in western Kansas with seeds, said Eric Fabrizius, associate director of the Kansas Crop Improvement Association.

About 43 percent of Colorado winter wheat is grown from certified seed, while the rest is from seed that farmers saved from previous harvests, Hanavan said.

There are about 40 certified growers statewide, Hanavan said.

Burl Scherler of Sheridan Lake is among the few in southeast Colorado. Scherler estimates he harvested about 20 percent of his total acres this summer, but only about half was good enough for seed he could sell. Those acres yielded about one-third of the normal, he estimated. "We ended up with probably less than 6 to 7 percent of what we sold last year," he said.

He is working to secure seed from northern Colorado for his customers, but it could be 20 to 30 percent more expensive than usual to cover expenses. There won't be nearly enough for everyone either.

"I've got enough for 25 percent of what I need," Scherler said.

Improved electrical grid needed

LAWRENCE (AP) - A federal regulator says states like Kansas must take the lead in improving regional transmission systems to increase the movement of electricity from renewable resources such as wind.

The Lawrence Journal-World reports (bit.ly/1731CdZ) that Federal Energy Regulatory Commission member David Moeller was visiting the Kansas community Tuesday. Moeller was invited by state Rep. Tom Sloan of Lawrence to meet with officials from other states and energy companies to discuss improving transmission systems.

Moeller and Sloan said the

goal is to improve transmission grids so that wind power from rural areas like western Kansas can move to places where the need for energy is greater.

But Moeller said FERC

doesn't have the legal authority to regulate transmission grids, requiring states to work together to improve them.

City passes budget

From "BUDGET," Page 1

in 2015, \$351,000 in 2016, \$328,500 in 2017 and \$363,500 in 2018.

The electric transmission and distribution department will spend \$178,500 this year, and is thinking of spending \$231,000

in 2015, \$244,500 in 2016, \$564,500 in 2017 and \$587,000 in 2018.

In the solid waste landfill department, \$232,700 has been budgeted this year, and the plan calls for \$238,000 in 2015, \$244,800 in 2016, \$251,600 in 2017 and \$258,400 in 2018.

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.

Fair premium checks now available

4-H and Open Class 2013 Thomas County Fair premium checks are ready for pick up at the Thomas County Extension Office, 350 South Range. Hours are 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. For information call Jody McCain at 460-4582.

Dance Team to hold car wash

The Colby High School Dance Team will hold its final car wash of the summer from 1 to 5 p.m. Friday in the Dillons parking lot. All money earned will help towards purchasing new team jackets. For information call Coach Denita Rodgers at 269-7908.

Health care center offers sports physicals

Family Center for Health Care in Colby is offering free sports physicals to all Thomas County Schools from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15, at 310 E. College Drive. In-town students will be seen from 4 to 5:30 p.m. and out of town students from 5:30 to 7 p.m. For information contact the clinic at 462-6184.

Reception to be farewell to doctor

Citizens Medical Center and Family Center for Health Care invite the public to a farewell reception for Dr. Brewster Kellogg from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, in the Citizens Medical Center Cafeteria at 100 E College Drive. For information call Tama Unger at 462-6184.

Volunteers needed for carnival cleanup

Volunteers are needed to help pack away this year's carnival equipment at the fairgrounds beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday. Contact Kerry Wark at 443-6174 for information.

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 a partner in a nursing home at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church. Bring a dish to share; table service and beverage will be provided. For information, call 462-6342.

Vendors to raise money for foundation

From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, in the conference room of Citizens Medical Center and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Aug. 19, in the chapel of the Prairie Senior Living Complex, vendors for Nana's Comfort Foods, Norwex and Clever Containers will be selling their products, with a percentage of sales to go to the Citizens Foundation Employee Giving Fund, which is used to purchase equipment and services. For information call Bev Vaughn at 443-1467.

Outdoors Skills Day coming for kids

Youth Outdoor Skills Day, sponsored by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and the Hunting Heritage Group for ages 6 and up, will be from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17. The free event includes an elk burger lunch, and will be six miles north and two miles east of Colby on the Pat Jones property. Outdoor activities include shotgunning and muzzleloading, archery, fur harvesting and compass and map reading. For information call Wildlife and Parks at 462-3367.

County to offer classes on life saving

Thomas County Emergency Medical Services will offer cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid classes from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday for health-care providers. 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.

Brewster planning party for 125th birthday

Brewster will celebrate its 125th anniversary on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 24 and 25, with "From Horses to Horse Power." Events include a 5K run and a one-mile color run and walk for all ages, an antique car, tractor and motorcycle show, a parade and street dance, a community church service and potluck. For a schedule or to sign up, go to leanabc.wix.com/brewster125-2 or call LeAnne Carney at (785) 694-2542.

Senior center needs drivers for meals

The Senior Progress Center needs one volunteer to deliver meals from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays. For information, call Director Kaila DeBoer at 460-2901.



LOCAL TV Listings

Saturday Evening August 10, 2013

Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels and programs like KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, KSNK/NBC, etc.

We Celebrate Hometown Life

A large table listing various TV programs and channels, including American Pickers, Madea's Family, Ridic., Friends, and many others.

Sunday Evening August 11, 2013

Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels and programs like KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, KSNK/NBC, etc.