

Weather



National Weather Service
Tonight: Clear, with a low around 66. South wind 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 99. Southwest wind 5 to 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 66. South wind around 10 mph.

Sunday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 97. Breezy, with a south wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 67.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 94.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 67.

Tuesday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 88.

Tuesday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 85.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 60.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 86.

Thursday: High, 101; Low 61
Precip: Thursday None
Month: 0.01 inches
Year: 9.04 inches
Normal: 17.78 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset
Saturday 7:18 a.m. 8:05 p.m.

Moon: waxing, 5 percent
Sunday 7:19 a.m. 8:03 p.m.

Moon: waxing, 11 percent
Monday 7:20 a.m. 8:02 p.m.

Moon: waxing, 19 percent
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Colby Water Use
Thursday 3,032,000 gal.
(Colby Public Works)

Aquaponics on for field day

From "AQUAPONICS," Page 1

use the word "floriferousness" to describe some of the appealing characteristics of annual flowers as he shows the results of this year's "Prairie Star Annual Flower Trials." This is a chance to see what flower varieties do well in our region.

In addition to the flower trial gardens, the public is encouraged to view the additional flower beds scattered throughout the grounds.

"All of the flowers on the station, with the exception of the Prairie Star annuals, are grown by me over the winter months," Zimmerman said. "I use a combination of cuttings and seed collection from past installations of the Prairie Star trials. Charlene Kaus of Moonlight Gardens (and a former center groundskeeper) donated flowers for one of the beds this year as well."

This year, Zimmerman has included in the station landscape several plants from his home collection that are not typically seen growing in

northwest Kansas. "Visitors can see pomegranate, pineapple, figs, Thai ginger, passion fruit, oranges, lemons, limes and other edible tropical plants throughout the grounds. Those with a keen eye will also be able to identify 'houseplants' like Ficus trees, Jade plants and Sansevieria here and there."

Thomas County master gardeners will also be on hand to help out. Members of the public are encouraged to bring along gardening questions, problems and even samples of weeds, insects or plant disease about which they would like information and advice; the evening's specialists and master gardeners will do their best to provide answers.

Refreshments will be provided by Vernon Hurd, Farm Bureau Financial Services agent, Golden Plains Garden Center and Moonlight Gardens Greenhouse.

For information about this free event, call the center at 462-6281.

'Hard 50' law to be tested

From "HARD 50," Page 1

be applied in first-degree murder cases where prosecutors seek the extended prison sentence, the goal was to keep it an option for 29 cases that have yet to be decided at trial and 16 others in the appeals process.

"I've said more than once that we're going to be in litigation for years surrounding all of this," Schmidt said. "All of these cases caught in the period of uncertainty have to be answered by the court. But at least the Legislature has narrowed the universe of cases that it applies to."

In Kansas, the only penalties tougher than the Hard 50 are capital punishment and life without parole, with the latter being an alternative to death in a capital case and a sentence also possible for some habitual sex offenders. The new provisions of the law will require juries to weigh aggravating and mitigating circumstances in deciding whether defendants serve a minimum of 25 years in prison

or the harsher 50-year term. Jessica Glendening, a Lawrence attorney who testified during the special session, said the Kansas Supreme Court has rejected a legislative fix to a criminal law in recent months. The justices ruled in a Montgomery County case that a 2012 change in the law regarding the consideration of lesser included crimes when trying felony cases went beyond a procedural change. The court said it was a substantive change in law and couldn't be applied retroactively, sending the case back for re-sentencing.

"It's actually fairly similar," Glendening said.

If the court rules the changes can't be applied retroactive, the Hard 50 sentences would be reduced to 25 years to life.

Cases on appeal that could be set aside in the coming months include the case of Dana Chandler, a Duncan, Okla., woman convicted last year in the 2002 shootings of her ex-husband and his fiancée as they slept in their Topeka home. There's also

the case of Charles Christopher Logsdon, imprisoned over the shooting of a Hutchinson mother in her home while her 5-year-old son watched the Disney Channel in another room.

Another case is Scott Roeder's appeal before the state Supreme Court. Roeder was convicted of the May 2009 shooting death of Dr. George Tiller, who was among a few U.S. physicians known to perform abortions in the last weeks of pregnancy. Tiller was gunned down in the foyer of a Wichita church he attended.

Schmidt said the changes to the Hard 50 law should be viewed in the context of all state criminal laws and what occurs in courtrooms each day.

"Every day, attorneys argue that Kansas criminal laws are unconstitutional. That's part of our judicial process," he said. "The vast majority of the times they are rejected, but there are some cases where they hit the mark and changes have to be made."

Ex-firefighter pleads guilty to three arsons

HUTCHINSON (AP) — A former volunteer firefighter in Reno County pleaded guilty to setting three grass fires after prosecutors agreed to drop 11 other charges.

Nineteen-year-old Cody Knox, of Arlington, was a volunteer for Reno County Fire District No. 4, which covers Arlington, Langdon, Plevna and Abbyville.

The Hutchinson News reports (bit.ly/17E6KqQ) Reno County District Attorney Keith Schroeder previously said Knox used a cigarette lighter to set the fires, all of which occurred near Arlington last October and November.

At the time of the fires, Knox was studying fire science at Hutchinson Community College.

Wichita's bid for rail line grant rejected

WICHITA (AP) — Wichita lost its first bid for a federal grant to help bring an Amtrak line to downtown but city officials say they'll try again.

The city had sought a \$12.7 million grant to complete the planning for a possible extension of Amtrak's Heartland Flyer line to Wichita and Newton.

The Wichita Eagle reports (bit.ly/17E6TXG) the plan would connect the Heartland Flyer with the Southwest Chief line to close a rail line gap between Wichita and Oklahoma City.

Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx on Thursday announced 52 grants in 37 states from the Transportation Invest-

ment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER, program.

Wichita Vice Mayor Pete Meitzner says the city will work with Kansas Department of Transportation to improve its grant application for the future.

Briefly

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

Sacred Heart to have open house Sunday

Sacred Heart School is having an open house from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday. The Home and School organization provides hot dogs, drinks and tableware; everyone else brings a side item or dessert to share for a potluck. Everyone is welcome! For information call the school at 460-2813.

Orchestra to start new season's rehearsals

The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra will begin rehearsals on Monday at the band room in the Cultural Arts Center at Colby Community College. There will be a "Meet and Greet" at 7 p.m., with a rehearsal to follow at 7:30. New musicians are welcome. For information, go to the website at www.prairieorchestra.com, or the Facebook page "Pride of the Prairie Orchestra." For questions, call Mary Shoaff at 462-2159 or Janet Hopson at 462-5102.

Chronic disease workshop offered

A chronic disease self-management workshop will be offered at Citizens Medical Center from 3 to 5:30 p.m. beginning Monday for six weeks in the hospital's conference room. The classes are free. To register, contact Jeanene Brown in the education department at 460-4850.

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.

Corrections board meeting open to public

The governing board of Northwest Kansas Juvenile Services and Northwest Kansas Community Corrections will meet at 4 p.m. next Thursday at the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center, 703 West Second in Oakley. This meeting is open to the public. For information call Brenda Ulery at (785) 475-8113.

Library book festival to showcase authors

The Pioneer Memorial Library will have a book festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14. Meet local Kansas authors and buy their books. There will be author presentations every hour. For information call Melanie Wilks at 460-4770 or go to www.colbylibrary.com.

Flu clinics coming in county's towns

The Thomas County Preparedness Trailer will be hitting the road for flu clinics in Brewster and Rexford, from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, at the Brewster School and 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 23, at the Rexford School. The last session will be from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25, at the Thomas County Health Department, 350 S. Range in Colby. Cost is \$30. Consent forms must be presented. For forms, go to www.thomascountysks.com. Computers will be available before clinic days at the Health Department, the Pioneer Memorial Library, the Thomas County Clerk's office and the Brewster School library. For information call the flu information line at 460-4599 or the health department at 460-4596.

Ex-gun lobbyist to give 'Max' lecture

Former gun lobbyist Richard Feldman will speak at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center near the southeast corner of the Colby Community College campus. The free lecture is part of the Dr. Max Pickerill series. For information, call Dr. Linda Davis-Stephens at 460-5528.

Floats needed for Homecoming parade

The Colby High School Student Council is organizing the annual homecoming parade at 2:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20. Local businesses are asked to show their spirit by entering a float in this year's parade. If you would like to enter a float in the parade, e-mail k.munk@colbyeagles.org or call Michael Schiferl at 443-3741. Deadline for entries is Wednesday, Sept. 18.

Donations needed to pay for county's map

The Kansas Association of Counties needs donations for Thomas County's share of a marble map to be placed on the floor of the new visitors' center at the Kansas statehouse. To donate, contact County Commissioner Mike Baughn at (785) 694-2278, 460-9061 or prairielawman@yahoo.com or send donations to Box 159, Brewster, Kan., 67732. Checks should be made payable to the Thomas County Community Foundation with a memo for the Kansas Statehouse Thomas County Map Fund.

2013 TCCF Grants as of June 30, 2013

City of Colby Tree Board \$1,250.00

- \$750.00 was granted from the Sharon Steele Memorial.
- \$500.00 was granted from the Vern Hazlett Memorial for evergreen trees by the Colby Walking Trail.

Colby Bluegrass Committee \$1,300.00

- TCCF provided funds through the Frahm Farmland Employee Advised Fund as well as the Directors Fund (as recommended by Paul Steele) for the Pickin' on the Plains Bluegrass & Folk Festival.

Colby Community College \$5,714.76

- \$1,674.76 was granted for piano repairs for the Music Department at CCC as recommended by several donors.
- Whitney Schultz received a scholarship this semester of \$750.00 from the Health Science Retention Fund.
- Chase Berg received a scholarship of \$1,140.00 this semester from the Cory Wang Memorial Scholarship Fund.
- Konnor Kriss received a scholarship of \$1,000.00 this semester from the Terry Strutt Memorial Scholarship Fund sponsored by the Darwin and Tammi Strutt Family.
- Grace Hankin received a scholarship of \$1,000.00 this semester from the Terry Strutt Memorial Scholarship Fund sponsored by the Darwin and Tammi Strutt Family.
- Julia Huttles received a scholarship of \$150.00 this semester from the Coplin and Pickerill Academic Excellence Scholarship Fund.

Colby Public Schools \$3,184.00

- \$2,884.00 was granted for the Colby After School Program from the Pete Henry General Public Health Fund, Afterschool Program Fund and the Patricia A. Embree Trust Fund.
- \$300.00 was granted to the English Department at Colby High School in honor of outstanding teacher, Linda Jones, from the USD #315 Outstanding Teacher Fund.

Friends of Pioneer Memorial Library \$1,000.00

- TCCF provided a grant to the Pioneer Memorial Library from the Patricia A. Embree Trust Fund for the 2013 Summer Reading Program.

High Plain Art Club and Heartland Christian School \$567.00

- TCCF granted these funds from the TCCF Director's Fund to provide art display units.

Kansas State University \$250.00

- Rachel Juennemann received a scholarship this semester from the Chuck Dempewoff Community Service Scholarship Fund.

Leadership Thomas County \$1,996.45

- \$1,187.90 was granted for the Youth Leadership Thomas County Class project to provide new physical education equipment to all Thomas County Schools.
- \$808.55 was granted for the Adult Leadership Thomas County Class recycling project for 3rd grade classrooms in Thomas County Schools.

NW KS Council on Substance Abuse \$94,447.50

- TCCF provided \$30,000.00 in funds through the Colby Walking Trail Fund to pay for the expenses incurred thus far for the Colby Walking Trail.
- In addition, TCCF provided \$64,447.50 from the Pool Park Project Fund for the Poolside Park.

NW KS Foundation for Hope \$200.00

- This grant was disbursed from the Frahm Farmland Employee Advised Fund.

Prairie Rose Sweet Adeline Singers \$750.00

- This grant was disbursed from the Sharon Steele Memorial.

Pride of the Prairie Orchestra \$750.00

- This grant was given from the Sharon Steele Memorial.

RSVP \$100.00

- TCCF provided funds through the TCCF Director's Fund as a surprise grant to thank RSVP for volunteering at our annual Santa's Workshop this past December.

Smoky Hills Public TV \$536.00

- This grant was disbursed from the Patricia A. Embree Trust Fund to promote literacy leadership for children in Thomas County.

Thomas County Extension \$750.00

- This grant was given for the Master Gardeners from the Sharon Steele Memorial.

Western Plains Arts Association \$ 800.00

- TCCF provided funds through the Patricia A. Embree Trust Fund and the TCCF Director's Fund for the Marvelous Wonderettes performance.

TCCF has granted \$113,595.71 to Thomas County so far in 2013 thanks to the generosity of citizens and friends like you!

"Endowing Funds to Improve the Quality of Life for all Citizens of Thomas County"



Monday Evening											September 9, 2013			
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30				
KAKE/ABC	Shark Tank		Missresses		Castle		Local		Jimmy Kimmel Live	Nightline				
KBSL/CBS	How I Met	Two Men	2 Broke G	Big Bang	Under the Dome		Local		Late Show Letterman	Ferguson				
KSNK/NBC	Million Second		Ninja Warrior		Siberia		Local		Tonight Show w/Leno	J. Fallon				
KSAS/FOX	Bones				Local									
Cable Channels														
A & E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage				
AMC	Lord of the Rings													
ANIM	Wildman	Wildman	Gator Boys		Gator Boys		Wildman	Wildman	Gator Boys					
BRAVO	Tamra's O.C. Wedding	Real Housewives			Below Deck		Happens	Tamra's O.C. Wedding	Miami					
CMT	League-Own								Cops Rel.	Amazing Videos				
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Piers Morgan Live			Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Live					
COMEDY	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	South Pk	Brickie.	South Pk	Daily	Colbert	South Pk	South Pk				
DISC	To Be Announced	Fast N' Loud			To Be Announced		Fast N' Loud		To Be Announced					
DISN	Camp Rock				Jessie	Good Luck	Austin	Jessie	Good Luck	Good Luck				
E!	E! News	Hello	13 Going on 30				Chelsea	E! News		Chelsea				
ESPN	NFL Football						NFL Football							
ESPN2	World Series		World Series		Baseball Tonight		SportsCenter		Olbemann					
FAM	The Siste	The Princess Diaries					The 700 Club		Prince	Prince				
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Busba-Q	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners				
FX	Kung Fu Panda						Kung Fu Panda							
HGTV	Love It or List It	Love It or List It	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Love It or List It					
HIST	American Pickers	American Pickers	God, Guns	God, Guns	Fugawis	Fugawis	Fugawis		American Pickers					
LIFE	A Walk to Remember				Nights in Rodanthe		A Walk to Remember							
MTV	Teen Mom 3		Teen Mom 3		Teen Mom 3		Teen Mom 3							
NICK	Awesome	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	The Nanny	The Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends				
SCI	The Bourne Ultimatum						Quantum of Solace							
SPIKE	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Jail				
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan			Office	Conan				
TCM	One Week	The Three Ages			The Story of Film: An Odyssey		The General							
TLC	Extreme Cougar Wives	Extreme Cougar Wives	Extreme Cougar Wives	Extreme Cougar Wives	Extreme Cougar Wives		Extreme Cougar Wives		Extreme Cougar Wives					
TNT	Castle		Castle	Rizzoli & Isles			CSI: NY		CSI: NY					
TOON	Uncle Gra	MAD	King/Hill	King/Hill	Burgers	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen				
TRAV	Bizarre Foods	Bizarre Foods	Bizarre Foods	Hotel Impossible			Hotel Impossible		Bizarre Foods					
TV LAND	Boston Legal		Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	The King of Queens					
USA	WWF Monday Night RAW						Law & Order: SVU		Royal Pains					
VH1	Basketball Wives	T.I.-Tiny	Marry	Marry	Basketball Wives	T.I.-Tiny	Marry	Marry	Marry	Marry				
WGN	Parks	Parks	Parks	Parks	Parks	Parks	How I Met	Rules	Rules	Parks				
Premium Channels														
HBO	Life of Pi				Killer Joe				Hard Knocks					