

# Weather



**National Weather Service**  
**Tonight:** Patchy fog after 4 a.m. Otherwise, partly cloudy, with a low around 33. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Thursday:** Patchy fog before 10 a.m. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 53. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southeast in the afternoon.

**Thursday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 34. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Friday:** Sunny, with a high near 65. Breezy, with a south wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

**Friday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 39.

**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 65.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 37.

**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 71.

**Sunday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 39.

**Monday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 60.

**Monday Night:** A chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 31. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

**Tuesday:** A slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 44. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Monday: High, 62; Low 30  
 Tuesday: High, 70; Low 33  
 Precip: Monday None  
 Tuesday None  
 Month: 0.94 inches  
 Year: 14.06 inches  
 Normal: 19.29 inches  
 (K-State Experiment Station)  
**Sunrise and Sunset**  
 Thursday 8:04 a.m. 6:52 p.m.  
 Moon: waning, 71 percent  
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

# County decides on mowers

From "MOWERS," Page 1

Mike Baughn said he helped the department in Brewster and was impressed with their operations.

- Received a letter from the state division of property valuation indicating the county appraiser's office is in "substantial compliance" with state rules and regulations.

- Discussed concealed carry policies for the county transportation van. The county must establish a written policy addressing concealed carry, according to the state department of transportation.

Driver Jim Harms voiced his preference for having concealed weapons banned on the bus. Currently, the bus has signs posted prohibiting concealed carry.

The commissioners decided to ask County Attorney Kevin Berens to help draft a county policy.

- Received a report from the Thomas County Economic Development Alliance. Commissioner Paul Steele gave an oral report from the agency since he is on the board.

Steele said the board gave authority to the agency's director to work with attorney John Gatz to sell the old Smoffee's building downtown. The agency foreclosed on the building and has arranged for cleanup of its interior damage.

- Renewed Autumn Aramsmith's appointment to the regional homeland security council for 2014 to 2016.

- Declined to set a date for the county's transportation van

to be stored in road and bridge or noxious weed department facilities. Previously, the commissioners had decided the van could be parked inside a county garage for the winter, beginning in October.

Driver Jim Harms asked the commissioners to set a date in October when he could begin parking the van inside since it takes the van a while to warm up when it is parked outside, leading to a cold ride for passengers.

Schrock said it is difficult for his departments to set a date since they spray for bindweed in the fall and must park the sprayer inside to avoid freezing.

No commissioner made a motion on the issue, so no decision was made.

# Tallgrass preserve conducts first roundup of bison herd

By Chad Lawhorn  
 Lawrence Journal-World

**COTTONWOOD FALLS** (AP) — As Flint Hills cowboy Gene Matile operates the high-tech squeeze chute and scale, one observation becomes obvious: 1,500 pounds on a bison sure looks a lot different than 1,500 pounds on a beef cow.

"More intimidating, for some reason," Matile says with a laugh.

Of course, Matile already knew that. He was part of a group that traveled to Wind Cave National Park in South Dakota in 2009 to take possession of a herd of 13 bison to bring back to the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve in Chase County, the *Lawrence Journal-World* (is.gd/BThCfM) reports.

While at that South Dakota roundup, Matile was just a few feet away from a squeeze chute — a mechanical device meant to hold the animal in place while it is inspected — when the bison escaped out the side and headed right for him. Matile scrambled up a set of stairs of a nearby observation tower to get out of the way of the charging animal, and got a quick lesson in the difference in speed, power and temperament between cattle and bison.

Now, four years later, Matile and about a dozen other workers are running their first bison roundup at the tallgrass preserve. It has been four years worth of learning about these animals that once were the king of the Flint Hills.

"We're happy with how the project has gone so far," said Kristen Hase, chief of natural resources at the tallgrass pre-

serve. "There is a sense of accomplishment here."

The original herd of 13 has now grown to 25 as the bison cows have had several successful calving seasons. Officials with The Nature Conservancy, the not-for-profit group that owns the herd, are heading back to South Dakota next month to take possession of another 12 bison from the Wind Cave herd, said Paula Matile, the conservation specialist who oversees the bison herd for The Nature Conservancy.

The fact that bison are becoming more bountiful in the Flint Hills is a success story in itself for The Nature Conservancy. In the early 1900s, conservationists estimated that you could count the number of bison left on the Great Plains by the dozens. The species was almost extinct.

Bison have made a great comeback, but there is still one category of bison that remains in relatively small supply: bison that are completely free of cattle DNA. The Wind Cave herd fits that category, but the national park is running out of land to properly grow the herd. The herd at the tallgrass preserve became one of the first "satellite herds" dedicated to maintaining a herd free of cattle DNA.

Hase said that portion of the project has been a success too. The herd roams on about 1,100 acres of the 11,000 acres that make up the tallgrass preserve. Cattle are in nearby pastures, but only stocker steers, incapable of breeding, Hase said.

Plans call for the herd to ultimately grow to 75 to 100 animals. As it grows, officials with the National Park Service and with The Nature Conservancy

will be watching to see how the prairie changes as the dominant native species of the plains is re-introduced to the grasslands.

Paula Matile said that already they are noticing how the bison treat the prairie differently than cattle do. For example, they sleep in a different area than they graze, they eat more of the nongrass species of the prairie than cattle do, they wallow and leave depressions in the pastures, and they don't congregate around water as much as cattle.

In time, those grazing habits are expected to create interesting changes in prairie ecosystems for biologists and others to study, Matile said.

There were no helicopters at this bison roundup in the Flint Hills. That's different from the roundups held in South Dakota. There, a helicopter flies low to the ground in an attempt to steer the bison toward the corrals.

Here, cowboy Gene uses an old pickup truck, a siren and a mechanical feeder to try to bait the bison toward the roundup area. He also has one other tool: a pair of crossed fingers. More than anything, bison workers mainly have to hope that the bison are in a mood to be moved. Organizers had an alternate date set for the roundup in case the bison simply didn't cooperate. "You don't push them like you do cattle," said Tom Jernigan, a Council Grove veterinarian who has worked with bison off and on in the last 34 years. "They either come in, or they don't."

The bison were in the mood on this day, and they were brought into about a half dozen corrals, separated by size and temperament.

# 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.

## Housing Authority plans open house Friday

The Colby Housing Authority will hold an open house from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Friday at 600 S. Mission Ridge Ave. Come for refreshments and meet the board members and staff. For information, call 460-6763.

## Spooktacular Book Sale is this week

Come haunt the Spooktacular Book Sale Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Pioneer Memorial Library, from opening until 15 minutes before closing time. For information call the library at 460-4470.

## Haunted house coming soooooon

The American Youth Soccer Organization haunted house will be open beginning at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and Halloween, Thursday, Oct. 31, at the Thomas County Fairgrounds. Adults are \$10 a person. Children under 12 can attend for \$6 from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday. An item for Genesis-Thomas County Food Bank will take \$1 off. For information, call Emily Griffin at 443-5884.

## Tryouts Sunday for college talent night

Tryouts for the Community Talent Show sponsored by Colby Community College will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Sunday in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center. Everyone is invited to try out. The show will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5, with prizes for the top performers. For information, contact Brittney Squire at 460-5495.

## Pets ready for adoption at Animal Clinic

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a dog available for adoption. Call 460-8621 or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have current shots, and costs are minimal.

## Red Cross schedules blood drive here

The American Red Cross' next blood drive in Thomas County will be from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, and 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, at the Colby Community Building. Tuesday will be the Battle of the Walmarts with Goodland. Ham and beans will be served; Halloween costumes Wednesday are optional. Call (800) RED-CROSS or go to www.redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome.

## Everyone invited to reception for inspector

The public is invited to attend a retirement reception for city building official Rick Dickman from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, in the council chambers at City Hall. Dickman is retiring after 27 years, 10 months. For information, call Jo Strange at 460-4410.

## Adoptive, foster families focus of service

Adoptive and foster families and children are invited to participate in Orphan Sunday on Nov. 3 at the Colby Wesleyan Church. The church will honor these families at its 10:45 a.m. service, with a "kid-friendly" lunch to follow. Contact Joy Rothfuss at 462-8391.

## Museum's open house next weekend

Prairie Museum of Art and History will hold a photography exhibit opening and Christmas open house beginning at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2. At 2 p.m., photographer and videographer Audrey Kalivoda will give a presentation on her film "Kansas: The Center of it All." Guests receive discounts in the gift shop until 5 p.m. Contact Ann Miner at 460-4590 or go to www.prairiemuseum.org.

## Veterans honored with Hometown Gospel

Mark your calendar for a Hometown Gospel Show tribute to veterans, presented by Pickin' on the Plains at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10, in the Frahm Theatre at Colby Community College. Performers include the McLemores, Gary Wiggins, the Jeff Wagoner Family, the Bugbee Sisters, Lisa Schroeder and Family Leon Wofter, Pat Ziegelmeier, Jay Stewart and Friends, Perry and Terry Baird and Prairie Rose Harmony. Tickets are \$10 at the door only, children under 12 free with adult. For information, call the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau at 460-7643.

## 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 fall. Classes for health-care providers will be Nov. 6. Online classes are available for the health-care provider and first-aid classes. Sign up for these courses at www.heart.org or by calling Candy Bryant at 460-4585.

Thursday Evening											October 24, 2013											
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
KAKE/ABC	Once Wonderland	Grey's Anatomy	Scandal	Local	Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Nightline															
KBSL/CBS	Big Bang	Millers	Crazy	Two Men	Elementary	Local	Late Show Letterman	Ferguson														
KSNK/NBC	Parks	Welcome	Sean Save	Fox Show	Parenthood	Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	J. Fallon														
KSAS/FOX	2013 World Series					Local																
<b>Cable Channels</b>																						
A & E	The First 48	The First 48	Beyond Scared Straig	Beyond Scared Straig	The First 48																	
AMC	Seed of Chucky		Bride of Chucky		Child's Play 2																	
ANIM	Alaska Gold Diggers	North Woods Law	North Woods Law	Alaska Gold Diggers	North Woods Law																	
BRAVO	World	Quantum of Solace	Happens	Top Chef	Quantum																	
CMT	League-Own		Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.																
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Blackfish	E. B. OutFront	Blackfish																		
COMEDY	At Midnig	Key	Sunny	Sunny	Tosh.0	South Pk	Daily	Colbert	At Midnig	Adam D.												
DISC	Fast N' Loud	Fast N' Loud	Fast N' Loud	Fast N' Loud	Fast N' Loud																	
DISN	Wolfblood	Wolfblood	Fish Hook	Jessie	Austin	Dog	Good Luck	Good Luck														
EI	Secret Societies of		Hollywood Death Trip	Chelsea	EI News	Chelsea																
ESPN	College Football		SportsCenter		SportsCenter																	
ESPN2	X Games	Wm. Volleyball	Olbermann	Olbermann																		
FAM	Men in Black	Men in Black	The 700 Club	Teen Wolf																		
FOOD	Anne Burrell	Chopped	Restaurant Divided	Chopped																		
FX	Salt	Anger	Salt	The Sixth Sense																		
HGTV	Cousins Undercover	Income Property	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Income Property															
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	American	American	Pawn	Pawn														
LIFE	Project Runway	Project Runway	Million Dollar	Million Dollar	Project Runway																	
MTV	Teen Mom 3	Teen Mom 3	Scrubbing In	Scrubbing In	Snooki	Awkward.																
NICK	Deadtime	Deadtime	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Friends	Friends	Chris	Chris												
SCI	Underworld: Ev		Red: Werewolf Hunter																			
SPIKE	Cops	Cops	IMPACT Wrestling	Rampage	Cops	Pitch Black																
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan	Office	Conan															
TCM	House of Wax		The Mad Magician	House of Usher	Diary Mad																	
TLC	48 Hours: Hard Evid.	48 Hours: Hard Evid.	48 Hours: Hard Evid.	48 Hours: Hard Evid.	48 Hours: Hard Evid.																	
TNT	NBA Basketball		Hawaii Five-0	Hawaii Five-0	Preview																	
TOON	NinjaGo	Teen	King/Hill	Cleveland	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Childrens	The Eric												
TRAV	Mysteries-Museum	Mysteries-Museum	Mysteries-Museum	Kind. City	Kind. City	Mysteries-Museum																
TV LAND	Griffith	Griffith	Raymond	Raymond	Friends	Friends	King	King	The King of Queens													
USA	Law & Order: SVU	White Collar	Covert Affairs	Law & Order: SVU	White Collar																	
VH1	Love & Hip Hop	Love & Hip Hop	Miami Monkey	Miami Monkey	Love & Hip Hop																	
WGN	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	WGN News at Nine	How I Met	Rules	Rules	Parks													
<b>Premium Channels</b>																						
HBO	This War	Muhammad Ali	Hello	Orgasm: Real Sex	Legendary Nights																	
MAX	Night-Roxbury	Strike Back	Warm Bodies	Co-Ed Confidential	Lethal																	
SHOW	Knife Fight		Unhung Hero	Gigolos	Masters of Sex	Polyamory																

Friday Evening											October 25, 2013										
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Last Man	Neighbors	Shark Tank		20/20		Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live													