

Weather Corner



Tonight...Windy. Mostly cloudy. Chance of thunderstorms..Lows in the upper 40s. West winds 20 to 30 mph shifting to the northwest 15 to 25 mph after midnight. Gusts up to 40 mph after midnight. Chance of rain 40 percent.

Thursday...Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. North winds 10 to 20 mph.

Thursday night...Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 40s. East winds 10 to 15 mph. **Friday...**Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. North winds 5 to 15 mph with gusts to 30 mph.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the 70s.

The numbers
Tuesday's high, 92 (ties record set in 1967)
Low this morning, 53
Records for this date, 92 in 1967 and 26 in 1979
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
Precipitation for month to date: 0.22
Soil temperature, 68

The sources:
A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

Local Items

Phi Theta Kappa has new people

Phi Theta Kappa welcomed 33 new members to the Colby Community College organization this semester. All inductees demonstrated the four ideals of the organization which are scholarship, leadership, fellowship and service.

Phi Theta Kappa is the honor society for students attending community and two-year colleges. Membership is based on high grade point averages and other criteria, with members focusing on scholastic achievement and service to community and campus.

New members of the Colby chapter are: Kathy Albers (Colby), Wendy Baier (Rose Hill), Amanda Breese (Colby), Kevin Brooks (Healy), Lacy Brown (Colby), Andrea Burmaster (Oberlin), Lorane Burns (Kimball, Neb.), Melissa Chambers (Oberlin), Joshua Davis (Jennings), Candace Dietrich (Milford), Christopher Gordon (Colby), Michele Goscha (Selden), Crystal Herschberger (Colby), Justine Horinek (Atwood), Joshua Houtz (Colby), Darren Howard (Colby), Brooke Inlow (Oakley), Valerie Jackson (Logan), Sadie Kenney (Seward, Neb.), Camilla LeFlore (Cheyenne Wells, Colo.), Cherokee LeFlore (Cheyenne Wells, Colo.), LeAnn Manhart (Grainfield), Jared Nighswonger (Torrington, Wyo.), Michelle Phillips (Colby), Amber Reynolds-Lorentz (Oberlin), Julie Saur (Gillette, Wyo.), Jordan Shay (Healy), Travis Siebert (Colby), Andrea Sis (Atwood), Curtis Snodgrass (Atwood), DeAnne Wedermyer (WaKeeney), Katie Wieser (Kirk, Colo.) and Maria Zimmerman (Grinnell).

Phi Theta Kappa participates in several community service projects during the year. The Colby chapter is sponsored by math instructor John Olson.

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Briefly

Reception planned at college

A public reception honoring seven long-time Colby Community College employees who will be retiring at the end of the spring semester will be held on Friday beginning at 3 p.m. in the Student Union, room 108. The honorees include Gracemary Melvin, Dr. Harlan Thyfault, Vernon Wranosky, Doris Anderson, Wanda Davis, Fred Miller and Tommy Dean.

Scout troops to dispose of old flags

Colby Girl Scout Troops 165 and 132 are again collecting old, faded, torn, or otherwise out of repair U.S. flags for proper disposal, said Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer, project coordinator.

Flags can be dropped off until Friday at the Colby Municipal Airport or at the collection box in the lobby of Pioneer Memorial Library, 375 W. 4th St. "U.S. Flag etiquette calls for the flag to be flown in good order," she said. Flags that are torn can be repaired, however the flag should remain rectangular in appearance, Ostmeyer said. "Flags that are torn beyond repair and flags that are faded to an extent that the colors do not appear red, white, and blue should be properly disposed of," she said.

Annual carrier food drive Saturday

Letter carriers at the Colby Post Office will be collecting food Saturday as part of their annual letter carrier food drive.

They will be collecting non-perishable food items which can be left in mail boxes or where it can be picked up. For more information, call 460-7904.

Chamber luncheon Friday

The Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce will hold its last luncheon until the fall at noon, Friday. The program is entitled, "Yesterday and Today," with Danielle Freeman, director of the Thomas County Foundation, the guest speaker. The luncheon will be held at the Prairie Rose Restaurant at Quality Inn and is open to all chamber members, employees and their guests. For questions, call 460-3401.

Who is the oldest living 4-H member?

The Thomas County Fair Board is looking for the oldest living 4-H member in Thomas County to serve as the grand marshal at this year's parade, said Audrey Hines, board secretary. The search for the oldest 4-H member is in conjunction with a recent contest held in Thomas County schools to choose a theme for the parade. The winning entry, "Celebrating 100 years of 4-H" came from the Brewster fifth grade class, she said. Hines is encouraging people to call her at 462-2388 or Stan Strange at 462-8331 with names of possibly the oldest living 4-H members.

Fair board to meet Thursday

The Thomas County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. Thurs-

day at the 4-H Building at the fairgrounds. Items on the agenda include Thomas County extension agent report; financial report and bills; committee reports on the buildings and grounds, carnival, rodeo, parade, demolition derby, races, fair book and advertising; Colby Community College rodeo contract and the Thomas County Community Foundation fair breakfast. The meeting is open to the public.

Farm bureau accepting applications

Kansas Farm Bureau will once again honor Century Farms in Kansas. Applicants must be members of Farm Bureau. The land must have been in the family for 100 years by Dec. 31, 2005. At least 80 acres of the original Kansas farm must still be in the family. Applications are due in to the Thomas County Farm Bureau office by Friday. Please call the office for an application or find them online at <http://www.kfb.org>. Call 460-6332 with any questions.

Vendors wanted for annual Rod Run

The 12th annual "Cruise to the Past" Rod Run will be held in Colby on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 10, 11, and 12. The weekend activities will kick off on Friday with the Cruise-In at Sonic Drive-In and Montana Mike's from 5 to 9 p.m. The Saturday and Sunday events will take place in and around Fike Park. Any individual or organization interested in being a food vendor is welcome for a minimal space rental fee. For questions or other information, call 460-2311.

Sheridan County to keep development board alive

By Jan Katz Ackerman

Colby Free Press

HOXIE — Development board members learned Monday the Sheridan County Development Corporation will continue and they can hire another director.

Jacque Boultinghouse and Rick Leiker listened as Sheridan County Commissioners Ron Schamberger, Keith Kennedy and David Zimmerman agreed the county needed to continue its efforts with economic development and promotion of the county.

After the current development director Bert Mosier resigned last month, Boultinghouse said she wasn't sure whether the county would continue funding the corporation. She and Leiker represented other board members, Rick Moss, Angie Pope, Lori Horesky, Leanna Sloan and Shane Jones, at the commission meeting.

"I feel economic development is too important in the community to do away with it," Leiker told the commissioners.

Schamberger agreed.

Polling the other two commissioners, Schamberger told Boultinghouse and Leiker the county would continue with its budget allocation for the development corporation and they should proceed with hiring Mosier's replacement.

Of the money the development corporation receives, \$30,000 of it comes from the county, \$15,500 comes from the city of Hoxie, and the city of Selden contributes 25 percent of its monthly sales tax income.

Of that money, Mosier's salary this year was set at \$37,500, plus paid vacation and health insurance.

Mosier, who also attended the commission meeting Monday, said he and the development corporation board have been "frugal" with the money.

"As of May 5th, we've got \$2,228.51 in the checking account, \$16,969.30 in a money market account, and \$16,000 in a savings account at the State Bank. We've got another \$3,702.38 in another checking account at Peoples State Bank," he said.

When the Hoxie-based development corporation was started about five years ago, a gift of \$16,000 helped make it happen.

Mosier said the gifted money came from the sale of a downtown building Jon Pope had given to the city.

When the building was sold to Bob and Patty Mullins for a restaurant, the deal was contingent on the development company getting the proceeds of the sale.

Boultinghouse on Monday said Selden will continue with its contribution toward the development corporation. Hoxie Mayor Lori Horesky, also a member of the development board, said Tuesday morning the city will also continue to fund the corporation.

Mosier's last day with the Sheridan County Development Corporation will be May 27.

He announced his resignation last month, saying he was moving from the county.

At a county commission meeting on Monday, Mosier said two development corporation board members have given him notice they were leaving the board by the end of May. Those two are Shane Jones and Angie Pope. While Jones is a resident of the county, Pope has moved to Thomas County.

On Tuesday morning, Jones said he was leaving the board to "minimize his duties" in the community. Pope said her move and schedule make it "difficult to attend meetings."

Mosier said that according to the bylaws of the development corporation, county commissioners retain the right to have one of those two seats. In the past, county commissioners have not sat on the board, but received written reports from Mosier on a monthly basis.

This procedure will change.

Commissioners Keith Kennedy and Ron Schamberger, chairman, both stated at Monday's meeting they believe it important for county commissioners to take an active role in the development board.

One of the upcoming vacancies on the development board will be filled by one of the county commissioners.

While it was not decided who, Kennedy, Schamberger or David Zimmerman, will assume the seat on the development board, that decision will be made at an upcoming commission meeting.



JAN KATZ ACKERMAN/Colby Free Press

During a reception to welcome Paul Hammeke, left, as the new administrator at Sheridan County Health Complex in Hoxie on Monday, Janice McCart and Kevan Trenkel, officials at Citizens Medical Center in Colby, discussed areas of health care which the hospital in Colby can partner with the hospital in Hoxie. The three officials are overseeing National Health Care Week at their facilities this week.

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