

Weather Corner



Swimmer's forecast

Tonight...Partly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s. Southeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

Friday...Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 80s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph with gusts to 30 mph.

Friday night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms...Clearing later. Lows in the lower 60s. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph.

Saturday...90s. **Sunday...**90s. **Monday...**90s.

The numbers
Wednesday's high, 91
Low this morning, 54
Records for this date, 107 in 1946 and 40 in 1981
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, trace
Month's precipitation, 2.59
Soil temperature, 72
Water Use June 15 = 1,761,500 gallons

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

State Items

Gov. Sebelius sees no need for tax increase

TOPEKA (AP)— Gov. Kathleen Sebelius said Wednesday that school funding can be accomplished without further burdening taxpayers.

Instead, Sebelius told reporters during a news conference that a Kansas Supreme Court mandate to provide additional money to schools can be met with anticipated growth in state revenues and expanded gambling.

"We can strengthen Kansas schools, and we can do it without new taxes," Sebelius said.

The court ruling prompted Sebelius to call the Legislature's first special session in more than 15 years.

The Democratic governor urged legislators to pass a gambling bill during the session. The Supreme Court ordered legislators to increase school spending by an additional \$143 million by July 1. That amount would be in addition to the \$142 million legislators approved during the 2005 regular session that ended in May. But some Republicans, particularly conservatives, have talked of defying the court, arguing it doesn't have authority.

State Board of Education members made the same point in a resolution adopted on a 6-4 vote Wednesday. "Only the Kansas Legislature has the constitutional authority to appropriate funds and levy taxes in order to fund Kansas education," the resolution said.

College Notes

Classes to start

Students have the opportunity to earn eight credit hours in just three weeks during Colby Community College's summer session beginning June 27.

Courses include English Composition, Fundamentals of Nursing, Current Political Issues, Developmental Psychology, World Religions and Fundamentals of Oral Communication.

To enroll, call the admissions office at 460-4690.

Pool hours

Summer hours at the Colby Community College swimming pool will be as follows:

• Lap swimming will be Monday-Friday from 5-7 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

• Open swimming will be held Monday-Friday from 4-6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1-3 p.m.

Briefly

Party planned for retiring pastor

The congregation of the Colby Berean Church invites everyone to join them in recognition of the retirement of Pastor Fran and Joan Harwerth. They will be honored at 10:30 a.m. Sunday during the morning worship service, followed by an open house reception from 2-5 p.m. in the afternoon at the Colby Berean Church, 1000 S. Franklin. The Harwerths came to Colby to be the first pastor of the newly organized Berean Church in September of 1961. They will retire on July 1 after serving the church and community for 43 1/2 years, organizers of the event said.

Waste facility to accept items

The Thomas County Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 190 W. 4th, Colby, will be open on Saturday, June 25, from 8 a.m. to noon. The facility offers residents in Thomas County a safe alternative for disposing of items such as old paints, thinners, stains, varnish, automotive products, swimming pool chemicals and batteries, said Sandy Swob, director. This is a free service to Thomas County residents only, no business wastes will be accepted. Used motor oil should

be taken to the county landfill. For questions or to obtain a complete list of acceptable items for collection, call Sowb at 460-4526.

Archeology activities planned

During the next few days, the Kansas Anthropological Association will be offering various activities for area people interested. On Friday, starting at 7 p.m., Chris Widga, with the program, will talk on "More About the Claussen Site," which was the 2003 Kansas Archaeological Training Program excavation site. On Saturday, also at 7 p.m., an ice-cream social, along with archaeologists summarizing the excavation, and a silent auction will be held. Everyone is invited to come meet and greet the professional and amateur archaeologists participating in the dig. All events will be held at the Goodland High School cafeteria. For questions about these programs or the digs in progress, call 462-0933.

Mosquito spraying underway

The City of Colby has started fogging for mosquitoes. City officials said spraying will be done in the area south of

Webster Street on Mondays or Tuesdays with areas north of Webster Street on Thursdays or Fridays. There will be no call list again this year and the spray schedule will depend on weather conditions. For questions, call Jenni at 460-4420.

Birthday party set for instructor

Everyone is invited to a birthday celebration for Dr. Max Pickerill on Sunday, June 26, starting at 2:30 p.m. in the Robert Burnett Memorial Student Union. Pickerill, long-time chemistry instructor at Colby Community College, will be celebrating his 80th birthday. Former students, co-workers and others are encouraged to attend and bring a short "Max Story" to share with him. Pickerill will begin his 31st year as an instructor at the college when classes begin in August. He has been a teacher for 56 years.

Red Cross blood drive nears

The Thomas County American Red Cross is sponsoring a blood drive from noon to 6 p.m., Tuesday, June 21, at the Colby Community Building. For questions or to make an appointment, call toll-free 800-448-3533 (GIVE LIFE) or Jo Cheney, one of the local coordinators at 462-2082.

Making it smooth

TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

New blacktop was laid earlier this week on the Colby I-70 exit at Country Club Drive. Work to repave I-70 and the on- and off-ramps here has been going on for several weeks. Also, I-70 to Mingo is being repaved and uneven lane caution signs have been put up.



Work continues on Oakley pharmacy

By Jan Katz Ackerman

Colby Free Press

OAKLEY — Efforts to open a pharmacy in Oakley continue with the purchase and remodeling of a downtown building.

Susan Bloom, executive director of the Logan County Healthcare Foundation, on Wednesday said the building located at 103 Center Ave. will be home to a new pharmacy. An extensive remodeling project is underway, but no date for the opening has been set.

"We are in the process of removing some mold which was found during the remodeling," Bloom said.

Jess Hubbs, owner of Disaster Home Restoration in Hays, said he was in the process of doing mold remediation and hoped to finish the work "very soon."

Hubbs removed portions of plaster, drywall, ceiling tile and insulation to expose mold which had developed over the years. Using a filtration system which cleaned and moved air during the process, Hubbs exposed and cleared the walls, flooring and even framing of any mold he'd detected.

Logan County Healthcare Foundation hopes to attract a pharmacist to Oakley to operate the business. Bloom said the search for a pharmacist is underway and while not yet successful, she hopes the foundation will find someone "in the very near future."

"Our main goal with this project is to keep the cost of medication competitive with Wal-Mart and Dillons, and to have a pharmacy that focuses on pharmacy services and total health care instead of just the dispensing of prescriptions, combining the lowest price with the best service," Bloom said.

The foundation, with the assistance of the Kansas Department of Commerce tax credit program will allow donors to receive credit on their 2005 state and federal income tax returns.

"Donations of \$250 or more qualify the donor to receive at 70 percent tax credit on their 2005 Kansas state income tax return. There are still tax credits for \$103,000 in donations available,

and the donation can also be applied as a charitable contribution on the donor's 2005 federal income tax return.

"Anyone wishing to make a donation toward the pharmacy project is urged to consult with their tax advisor prior to donating," Bloom said.

Bloom said the mission of the Logan County Healthcare Foundation, Inc. is to "enhance health care services in Logan County and the surrounding area."

She said the foundation also tries to assist in recruitment of medical professionals, provide scholarship money to students in accredited medical programs, to update technology and equipment and develop long term care alternatives.

"Since it was created in 1993, the foundation has given over \$964,000 back to the community in health-related equipment and ser-

vices," Bloom said.

The most recent contributions the foundation has made include state-of-art equipment for the physical therapy department at the Logan County Hospital and the replacement of some "much needed" equipment at the Logan County Health Department, Bloom said.

Funded entirely by private means, the foundation receives its money from tax credits, fund-raising activities, donations and planned giving.

"Donations to the foundation can be set up as planned giving through an estate or trust, made as a memorial or in any way of the giver's choice."

"If you would like more information about the Logan County Healthcare Foundation you can call the office at (785) 672-3663 or stop by the office at 216 Center Ave. in Oakley," Bloom said.

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