

## Weather Corner



## Highs 50-60, lows near 30

**The forecast**  
**Tonight** — Partly cloudy with a low around 37. North wind between 5 and 8 mph becoming calm.

**Saturday** — Partly cloudy with a high near 59. North-northwest wind between 7 and 14 mph.

**Saturday night** — Mostly clear with a low around 29.

**Sunday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 52. East-northeast wind 5 to 8 mph becoming south-southeast. Sunday night — Clear with a low around 28.

**Monday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 61.

**Temperatures**  
 Thursday's high, 67  
 Low this morning, 38  
 Records for this date, 93 in 1921, 13 in 1905

Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.32

October's precipitation, 2.29  
 A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

## Officials scale back search for escapees

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Authorities will scale back their search in southern Kansas for one of two men who escaped from an Oklahoma prison earlier this week.

The hunt for convicted killer Aaron Olsen will continue, but Oklahoma Highway Patrol troopers and state Department of Corrections officers will be returning to Oklahoma, Lt. Patrick may said Thursday at a news conference in Winfield, Kan.

Olsen, 39, and convicted rapist Pharon Johnson fled the Joseph Harp Correctional Center in Lexington on Sunday. They are accused of abducting a woman from the prison's parking lot and taking her away in her van before leaving her in a ditch in Oklahoma City.

The van was found Tuesday on Interstate 35 about four miles north of the Oklahoma border.

Johnson, 49, was taken into custody late Wednesday in Midwest City, a community east of Oklahoma City.

He called his family in Bethany and relatives then called police and told them he was ready to surrender, authorities said.

## Briefly

### Pancake feed Saturday

The Kiwanis Club is sponsoring a pancake feed from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, at the VFW, 220 Lake in Colby. Proceeds from the all-you-can eat pancake feed will go toward Christmas projects and other community service.

### Hoedown planned next week

A "Harvest Hoedown" featuring lots of bluegrass and western entertainment is planned Friday, Oct. 28, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. at City Limits Convention Center. For questions, call the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau, (785) 460-7643 or toll-free, (800) 611-8835. All proceeds from the admission charge will go toward funding next summer's Pickin' On the Plains Bluegrass Festival.

### Christian School banquet set

The Heartland Christian School, Colby, is planning its "Partners for the Future Endowment" banquet, starting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 10, at the school, 1995 W. 4th. The deadline for buying tickets is Monday, Nov. 7, said Kim Schriener, secretary. Everyone is welcome to attend. For questions, call 460-6419.

### Benefit dance Saturday

A benefit dance and auction will be held for Diane (Merrell) Homm, Saturday, from 8 to midnight at the City

Limits Convention Center, 2227 S. Range Ave. Featured entertainment will be "Shadow Riders," a country western band. Admission is \$8 per person with the auction taking place at intermission. Donations for Homm, who was diagnosed with cancer, can be left at the First National Bank. All proceeds will help her and her husband, Richard, defray medical expenses. For questions, call Sherry Barrett, 462-6095, or Carolyn Miller, 460-6896. Also miscellaneous items for the auction are needed.

### Transit van for Colby residents only

The Thomas County transit van is available to all people in Colby, said Shelly Harms, county clerk. Operating from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, Colby residents needing to use this service can call 460-2901. Harms said the transit van is not available to make emergency runs to the hospital. "If you are in need of an ambulance," she said, "you need to call 911." The transit van driver, Ed Dean, is not qualified to transport patients to Citizens Medical Center or any other hospital facility. For questions about the transit van, either call the service number or the county clerk's office, 460-4500.

### Music booster meet Tuesday

The Colby Music Boosters will meet Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Colby High School Workroom. The group plans on discussing music booster card sales and the courtesy table at the "Battle of the Bands," Thursday, Oct. 28. Anyone with a

student in band or vocal is encouraged to attend the meeting.

### Red Cross potato bar Sunday

The Thomas County Chapter American Red Cross will sponsor a potato and dessert bar Sunday at Fairview Estates. Serving will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a free will donation accepted to carry on humanitarian activities in Thomas County. Baked potatoes with toppings, along with dessert, will be served. Everyone is welcome. For questions, call Pat Sloan at 785 460-7495.

### Offices to open for trick or treaters

Children in grades kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to stop by three different locations as part of their Halloween trick or treating agenda, Monday, Oct. 31. Any youth in costume can stop by the Thomas County Courthouse, 300 N. Court; the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range; and/or the Colby Visitor's Center (west of Taco John's) between 3:30 to 5 p.m. for "treats." The Law Enforcement Center will not be included in this event, officials said.

### Essay contest available online

The Goodland Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter are encourage students to participate in the American History Essay Contest and the DAR Good Citizenship Award contest. For questions, visit: [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org) and find "scholarships."

## Teaching safety



Courtesy photo by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

**ABOVE:** Youth recently took part in one of many Department of Wildlife and Parks activities designed to teach safety. Wildlife and Parks officials are also reminding hunters Colby is having a hunter education course on Tuesday, Nov. 1 and Thursday, Nov. 3 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All indoor classes are planned at the Colby Community Building, 285 E. 5th. Outdoor range courses will also be held on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 2 to 4 p.m., weather permitting. All students must pre-enroll at The Pirates Den, 1115 S. Franklin, Colby. For questions, call (785) 460-6631, (785) 462-7602, or (785) 462-3367.

## Former Cosmosphere director left paper trail

WICHITA (AP) — The former head of the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center left an extensive paper trail when he sold space artifacts — documents prosecutors showed Thursday in an effort to convince jurors he illegally profited from their sale.

But the defense pointed to much of the same paperwork as evidence Max Ary never intended to scheme or to hide what he was doing but simply made some mistakes.

Ary, 55, faces 19 federal counts ranging from mail fraud to money laundering. He is accused of making profits on the space artifacts, some on loan to the Hutchinson space center from NASA and other museums.

Cosmosphere President Jeff Ollenburger returned to the witness stand Thursday for a second day, for lengthy testimony during which prosecutors introduced volumes of inventory sheets, e-mails and other documents.

Ollenburger testified he did not ask Ary about some missing items because twice before when he had asked about a missing Kansas flag flown on a mission and a data recording tape, Ary was not truthful with him.

"It appeared items were simply taken off the shelf and sold," Ollenburger said.

California auctioneer Ian Michael Orenstein testified that the sale of space memorabilia has "grown exponentially" in recent years. The most valuable items are artifacts used by astronauts on the moon, with souvenirs carried on the lunar surface next in value. Two of the counts ask for the return of any property or proceeds Ary received as a result of the alleged crimes.

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