


Weather Corner



The forecast
Tonight — Partly cloudy with a high near 72. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Tuesday — Mostly sunny with a high around 76. West wind around 10 mph.
Tuesday night — Partly cloudy with a low near 35. Breezy with a north wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.
Wednesday — Partly cloudy with a high near 50. North wind between 5 and 15 mph. Wednesday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 26.
Thursday — Mostly sunny with a high around 53.
Temperatures
Sunday's high, 66
Low this morning, 32
Records for this date, 84 in 1980, 10 in 1938
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
November's precipitation, 0.03
A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

State workers to pay lower insurance

TOPEKA (AP) — A new health insurance contract will reduce premiums for thousands of state employees.

State officials say the good news is a result of better plan management and more efficient use of insurance on the part of workers.

All told, 90,000 government workers and their dependents are covered by the contract.

Gavin Young, a spokesman for the Kansas Department of Administration, said he believed most state workers would see a decrease in rates. He said premiums for the individual-coverage plan would likely drop about \$7 monthly, while family premiums would decrease about \$69 a month.

The new rates take effect Jan. 1.

The state is also starting a pilot program called Healthy KIDS, which will pay 90 percent of health care premiums for children of low-income employees. It is aimed at covering children who are ineligible for the HealthWave program because of federal guidelines barring state employee dependents.

The Healthy KIDS plan is expected to cover more than 2,000 children.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius lauded the improvements, saying "These changes add up to a tremendous benefit increase and demonstrate what can be accomplished when the plan is managed wisely and employees do their part by living a more healthy lifestyle."

The good news for workers was surprising for many who have become accustomed to rising insurance rates.

"It's kind of a surprise," said Kathy Jansen, president of the Support Staff Senate at the University of Kansas, which has 4,760 state employees on its Lawrence campus and another 2,200 at its Medical Center. "We've been conditioned every year to an increase, so it was kind of 'Whoa, what's this?'" she said.

Routine screening and prompt treatment can reduce deaths from breast and cervical cancer.

call to see if you qualify for a free screening

early detection

works

620-275-5302
www.preventionworkskansas.com

A message from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Cancer Information Service, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and American Cancer Society.

Briefly

Deadline today for FFA orders

The deadline is today for ordering cheeses and sausage through the Colby FFA organization, said Mike Wetter, coordinating the sale. There are varying sizes of summer sausage, smoked turkey, hams, popcorn, cheddar cheese, smoked cheese, jalepeno cheese and beef sticks, he said. To order or for questions, call 460-5320. The Colby FFA is currently selling fruits and other items, Wetter said. For those interested in ordering fruits to include oranges, Texas grapefruit, apples, or pears, call 460-5320 by Monday, Nov. 21.

Fair board to meet Thursday

The Thomas County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. Thursday 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. The meeting is open to the public.

Induction ceremony Tuesday

The Colby High School Chapter of the National Honor Society will be hosting its induction ceremony for new members on Tuesday, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. The featured speaker will be Thomas County Attorney Andrea Wyrick. Those students to be inducted this year include: Ashley Barnes, Tisha Bieker, Lindsey Bugbee,

Kristen Cox, Lauren Cox, Liz Erickson, Joseph Heier, Michael Juenemann, David Kinderknecht, Henry Lamm, Amanda McIlroy, Rishonna Martin, Sam Munderloh, Trenton Powell, Angela Rasmussen, Nicole Ritter, Cynthia Rothfuss, Trevor Siebert, Brandi Stupka, Rashaun Wilson, and Hannah Woofert. The public is invited to attend. For questions, call 460-5300.

Lunch-n-Learn program Tuesday

Lunch-n-Learns will begin Tuesday at the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range, from 12:05 to 12:55 p.m. with the first holiday program, "Ode to Ornaments," said Diann Gerstner, the Thomas County Extension's family and consumer science agent. The program is free and will feature how to make holiday decorations that are unique in color and offer new life to Christmas ornaments, she said. This first program is also in time for Thanksgiving or making one-of-a-kind ornaments for special people. Everyone is encouraged to bring a sack lunch for the activity.

New publisher to talk at luncheon

The Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly luncheon at noon, Friday, in the Prairie Rose Restaurant at Quality Inn, 1950 S. Range, Colby. The guest speaker is John Van Nostrand, Colby Free Press publisher. "John will be talking about the present and future direction of the newspaper," said Mary Ann Downing, executive di-

rector. Chamber members and guest are invited to attend. The buffet lunch is \$8 per person and includes drink, tip and tax.

County seeks service projects

The Thomas County Attorney's office is looking for community service projects for defendants and juvenile offenders to do as part of their sentence or as a condition of probation or diversion.

For those who are members of the community or a local business and have a project that needs done or have ideas for some community service projects, send a letter to the Thomas County Attorney's Office, Attn: Community Service, 140 W. 4th, Colby, Kan. 67701.


Veterans sought for assembly

Colby High School will be holding a Veteran's Day assembly, Friday, Nov. 11, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium. Everyone is invited. Students are also encouraging veterans to attend and be recognized and acknowledged for their service. For questions, call 460-5300.

Winona plans pancake feed

The Lions Club is planning a pancake feed from 6 to 10 a.m., Saturday, at the Winona Methodist Church. The event will include all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage and eggs, and coffee and juice. In addition, a special prize of a guided hunting trip will be given away.

Craft fair highlights



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Jennifer Britt of Colby looked at jewelry Saturday during the annual holiday gift and craft fair held at the Colby Community Building. Craft vendors from around the area showed off their wares to let people get a jump on their holiday shopping.

Pet Adoption News

Colby Animal Clinic found three strays over the weekend. The descriptions of the animals follow:

- One-year-old Sheltie mix, male with a purple collar.
- Light brown mix, male dog, about one-year-old, no collar.

Anyone who believes one of these animals could be theirs, should either call the clinic, 460-8621 or stop by the facility, 810 E. 4th St. If neither of the animals are claimed within the week, the clinic will try to find a home for them.

Oakley man pleads no contest in drug case

By Jan Katz Ackerman
Colby Free Press

An Oakley man will be sentenced in Logan County District Court in January on drug charges.

Jason C. George, 21, was in court on Thursday to enter a plea of no contest before District Judge Glenn Schiffner. The judge accepted George's plea and will sentence him at 10 a.m. Jan. 5.

George was charged on Sept. 22, 2004, with the sale of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance within Logan County. He told Schiffner he'd willingly entered into an agreement with the state, of which the possession charge was dismissed.

Depending on George's criminal

history background, he faces 14 to 51 months in prison and a fine not to exceed \$300,000.

By pleading no contest, George waived his right to contest the charge, as well as the right to appeal his case.

Caleb Boone, of Hays, represented George. Boone told Schiffner as part of the plea agreement Logan County Attorney Andrea Wyrick, representing the state, would review George's criminal history classification if in the future evidence showed it could be lowered. A criminal history report will be prepared and filed with both sides in the case prior to sentencing. George remains out of jail on bond awaiting his next court date.

Faced with a Drinking Problem?
Perhaps
Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help
Meetings are Open to the Public
City Hall Basement
Mondays & Thursdays - 8:30 p.m.



FUND-RAISER FOR MARK FLANDERS

MARK WAS DIAGNOSED WITH AL LEUKEMIA

20% of all purchases will go to Mark Flanders to help with medical expenses.

TUESDAY • NOVEMBER 8TH

AT COLBY PIZZA HUT (ALL DAY)

This coupon must be presented at time of purchase in order to donate 20% to the specified organization.

Other Pizza Hut coupons are not valid with this offer.

SLAVENS FAMILY PRACTICE

The Fastest Growing Practice In Northwest Kansas

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Andy Rose, PA-C
Who Is Bringing To You...

"A.M. SICK CALL"

Beginning November 14th
Walk-in Times: 7 A.M. - 9 A.M.
Monday - Friday

Have The Comfort Of Getting Your Sick Child Checked Out Before School!

Healthcare Professionals Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for your after business hours concerns and questions.

For more information **460-8000**
Located in Citizen's Medical Center



Colby Free Press

and

Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce

welcomes:

Colby Workforce Center

1135 S Country Club Drive
Colby
785-462-6862

Hours:
Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
OPEN DURING THE NOON HOUR!

