#### Weather Corner



### Cooler temps coming soon

The forecast

**Tonight**—Mostly clear with a low around 31. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday — Mostly sunny with a high around 69. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 30

**Thursday night** — Mostly clear with a low around 36. West wind between 5 and 10 mph. Friday — Partly cloudy with a high near 72. North wind around

Friday night — A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 43.

Saturday — A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a high around 57.

**Temperatures** 

Tuesday's high, 81 Low this morning, 30

Records for this date, 80 in 1914, 13 in 1913

Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00

November's precipitation,

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

## Briefly

#### Football coach to talk Thursday

Conway Springs football coach Mark Bliss will speak at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, in the Colby High School auditorium. Bliss' speech is titled "Building A Winning Football Tradition." Current and future Colby football players, parents and community supporters are encouraged to attend. Bliss has accomplished an 81-4 record in seven years as coach at Conway Springs. He has four state championships, a 43game winning streak, 11 NCAA Division I players, five high school All-Americans and 34 college players to his credit.

#### Second grade musical Thursday

The Colby Grade School second grade class will perform "Three of a Kind," a musical about 3's, at 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., Thursday, at the grade school auditorium.

#### **'Fall Extravaganza' planned**

Colby Sacred Heart School is sponsoring its "Fall Extravaganza," from 3-8 p.m., Thursday, in the school gymnasium. More than 20 vendors will display items to include: Pampered Chef, Mary Kay, Watkins, Iron Works, Purses, Tastefully Simple and more. A portion of the sales that day will go to benefit the parish and school. Soup, veggies, and dessert will also be served for a free-will donation.

#### Transit service makes changes

The Thomas County transportation van will not be available Monday, Nov. 14 and Tuesday, Nov. 15, due to a transition in drivers. County Clerk Shelly Harms said normal service will resume at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16. For questions, call the county clerk's office at 460-4500.

#### Military support group to meet

The Northwest Kansas Military Family Support Group will meet at 4 p.m., Saturday, at the Colby VFW, 220 Lake St. Anyone who has a family member or friend in any branch of the Armed Forces, activated or not, or anyone who would like to be involved in the Support Group is encouraged to attend. For questions, call Melanie Fortin 460-2995, or Lisa Varney

#### Parent meeting scheduled

A parent meeting of all high school boys who plan to participate in basketball this upcoming season in the Colby High School Auditorium starting at 6 p.m. on Thursday.

#### Football potluck Thursday

An awards potluck for the Colby High School football team will be at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, in the high school commons area. Drinks will be provided. Please bring your own table service. Parents and students are encouraged to attend.

#### Cheerleader tryout this week

Colby High School cheerleader tryouts will be at 4 p.m. in the high school mezzanine on Thursday.

#### College sponsors blood drive

Colby Community College Department of Nursing will host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 17, in the student union on the college campus. The blood drive will be used in the Central Plains Region of the American Red Cross, which includes this area, said Pam Head, chief executive officer for the region. To make an appointment, call Tina Schrick, 460-4797. Walk-ins are also welcome.

#### 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.

# County attorney talks about how justice system works

How did they get off with absolutely nothing?

With headlines stating cases are "plea bargained" or "dismissed" I get this question all the time. In previous articles throughout this past year I have endeavored to keep you informed of what my office is doing, how the criminal justice system operates, and some of the "whys" behind the case dispositions that you, the public, would not otherwise be aware of.

In answering this particular question I must address yet another criminal procedure issue: the suppression hearing. These hearings are routinely held in a case at some point prior to a trial. Just to refresh your memory, generally I take a report from law enforcement and decide whether enough evidence exists to file criminal charges. Once charges are filed the case proceeds through a number of procedural "hoops" to trial or final disposition (by plea, etc).

One of these hoops is the suppres-

Andrea Wyrick

•Keeping In Touch

sion hearing. A defendant (the suspect charged with the crime) usually through an attorney, files a motion with the court asking the judge to keep some or all the evidence or proof against him from being considered by the judge or jury in deciding his guilt or inno-

The defense attorney usually argues that one or more of his client's individual constitutional rights have been violated in the discovery of the evidence.

For example, a car is pulled over on Interstate 70 for speeding and the law enforcement officer in the process of making the stop and issuing a ticket discovers the driver has 40 lbs. of marijuana in the trunk. The driver is arrested and charged with possession of marijuana with intent

The driver (now called defendant) asks the court to "suppress" the marijuana found in the trunk arguing his 4th amendment right to be safe from unreasonable search and seizure was violated by the law enforcement officer.

Both sides (the defendant's attorney and I, the State) will argue their points based on case law and statutes and the judge will make a decision. If the request for suppression is denied, then the jury or judge will hear and see evidence that the defendant had marijuana. If the request is granted and the evidence is suppressed, then it is likely the defendant never had marijuana in his

The jury will not see or hear any-

essary to prove the defendant com- cohol related accidents in recent mitted the crime.

case that might lead to eventual sup- come parents themselves because pression of some or all of the evi- of poor choices due to alcohol's indence, I have to decide whether a fluence. plea or even a dismissal should be considered. This would explain why at times it might appear to you that someone is "getting off easy."

More often than not there are many factors, with suppression being one of them, that contributed to the outcome.

I have said it before, but I can't or guardian, know where your kid emphasize it enough: the relationship between law enforcement and and cooperation. We have to work together to bring criminals to trial or to an acceptable plea. Even though we all make mistakes and we might not always agree on everything, constant communication support. and learning improves the whole process. This means a safer community for all of our families to live I would also like to ask for your

thing about the marijuana. When help in dealing with a subject that evidence is suppressed, it makes it can destroy our future: underage very difficult for the State to win drinking. Many young people have

because usually the evidence is nec-died or been severely injured in alyears in our community. Others When I detect a problem with a have developed addictions or be-

I am working with law enforce-

ment to cut down on this plague and would ask for your help. If you know of establishments or adults that are furnishing alcohol to minors, please let law enforcement or myself know. If you are a parent, grandparent

is and what he/she is doing and take a stand with my office and law enmy office is one of codependence forcement in enforcing underage drinking laws. Hopefully, together we can help

prevent future grief and tragedy in our community. As always, I enjoy serving you and thank you for your



# Cosmosphere officials look to minimize damage

that the co-founder of one of the dresses security, access and presernation's premier space museums vation of the collection, a "very inhas been convicted of fraud, theft tensive, top-to-bottom governance and money laundering, the Kansas review" was conducted to make Cosmosphere and Space Center is sure the new policies were being working to minimize the damage to followed. its reputation caused by Max Ary's

Ary, 55, was convicted last week in federal court on 12 charges involving the museum he ran for 26 years. He is to be sentenced Jan. 19, and has been ordered to forfeit more than \$129,000 that was derived from his crimes. Jeff Ollenburger, who took over

as president and CEO of the Cosmosphere in 2002 after Ary went to work at a similar facility in Oklahoma, said steps were being taken to beef up security and improve inventory controls as far back as 2000, even before Ary left. Ed Able, the head of the Ameri-

can Association of Museums, said letting people know about the efforts being made to ensure the integrity of the Cosmosphere's massive collection of space artifacts is a good first step toward moving on in the post-Ary era.

"The museum needs to be very upfront and public about sharing what they have done" to prevent a recurrence, Able said.

Ollenburger said that two years after the museum adopted a collec-

HUTCHINSON (AP) — Now tions management policy that ad-

"It's not tied to anything related to the last couple of weeks," Ollenburger said, referring to Ary's trial. "They are things we started before and continue to work on

With attendance figures at the Cosmosphere remaining healthy and continued strong relationships with NASA and the Smithsonian Institution, the Cosmosphere's reputation doesn't appear to have been hurt too badly by the Ary conviction, said Sean Smith, a spokesman for the Association of Science-Technology Centers.

"This was not really an institutional issue, but an individual issue, and I think the public is aware of that," Smith said.

Gen. Tom Stafford, a retired astronaut who testified during Ary's trial, said the Cosmosphere "tells the story of space flight even better than the Smithsonian does."

That's why museum officials are walking a delicate line between hailing Ary's role in developing the Cosmosphere and acknowledging his conviction for selling museum artifacts for his personal gain.

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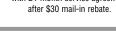
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10th Anniversary

**Celebration** 

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