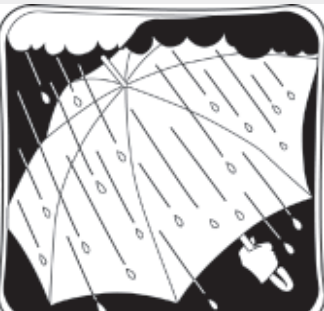


Weather  
Corner



More rain,  
cooler temps

**Tonight** — Showers and thunderstorms likely, mainly before 1 a.m. Some storms could be severe, with large hail, damaging winds and heavy rain. Partly cloudy with a low around 57. Calm wind becoming northwest between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

**Saturday** — Partly cloudy with a high near 86. North wind between 10 and 15 mph.

**Saturday night** — Mostly clear with a low near 61. East wind between 5 and 10 mph becoming calm.

**Sunday** — Mostly sunny with a high around 91. Calm wind becoming east between 5 and 10 mph.

**Sunday night** — Mostly clear with a low around 61.

**Monday** — Mostly sunny and breezy with a high around 95.

**Monday night** — Mostly clear and breezy with a low around 63.

**Tuesday** — Mostly sunny with a high around 92.

**Temperatures**  
Thursday's high, 99  
Low this morning, 62  
Records for this date, 107 in 1946, 40 in 1981  
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.86  
June's precipitation, 1.62

**Water Use Report  
Thursday, June 15**  
• 3,137,100  
3.5 million = Water Watch.  
4 million = Water Warning  
4.5 million = Water Emergency

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

Colorado  
man pleads  
on drug case

**By Jan Katz Ackerman**  
*Colby Free Press*

A Colorado man was sentenced in Thomas County District Court on Wednesday for a drug arrest last year.


Patrick McNeal, age unknown, of Denver pleaded guilty in April to possession of marijuana with the intent of selling it in Colby on June 25 and July 22, 2005.

According to court documents, District Judge Glenn Schiffner sentenced McNeal to an underlying prison term of 18 months and then granted him probation with community corrections for 18 months. McNeal will also serve a postrelease probation of 24 months and pay \$1,402 in court costs, attorney fees and Kansas Bureau of Investigation lab fees.

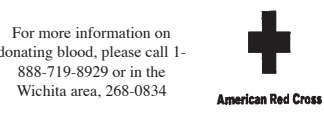
McNeal will not be allowed to own a firearm for a period of five years and was ordered to submit blood and saliva samples to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation within 10 days.

Schiffner also ordered McNeal to obtain drug treatment as a way to reduce the risk of offender recidivism and is allowing him to serve out the terms of his probation in Colorado.

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Briefly

Amusement Association to meet

The Thomas County Amusement Association will meet at 8 p.m., Monday at the Thomas County Office Complex meeting room, 350 S. Range Ave., Colby. With only one and one-half months until fair time, said Wanda Brown, association member, everyone is encouraged to attend.

College board meets Monday

The regular meeting of the Colby Community College board of trustees begins at 5 p.m., Monday, in the board room of Thomas Hall. Items of business on the agenda include a tour facilities and inspection of the bus. In addition, the board will talk about agreements and contracts; approving the Kansas State University and Colby Community College memorandum of understanding; buying a bus; consideration of sick leave request; upgrading the telephone system; and considering a shared secretarial position for the Endowment office. The board will consider retaining legal services and also hear reports from the new president, deans, and trustees.

Budget tops county agenda

The Thomas County Commissioners will meet at 9 a.m., Monday, at the courthouse, 300 N. Court Ave., Colby. Agenda items include a budget presentation by the Thomas County Extension Office staff. At 9:30 a.m., Colby City Administrator Carolyn Armstrong will talk to Commissioners Ron Evans, Paul Steele and Ken Christiansen about the 2007 contract for communications, such as dispatching. Landfill

Supervisor Larry Jumper will meet with the commissioners at 10 a.m. about salary discussions, which have been ongoing for the past three weeks with department heads and Evans, Steele and Christiansen. Other items include approval of minutes from the June 12 meeting, review of a letter from the Northwest Kansas Regional Recycling Organization thanking Thomas County for its past support and a transfer of money request. The commissioners will also review the master plan for updates at Colby Shalz Field Municipal Airport, approve accounts payables and a request for a laser printer for one of the county's offices and talk about Fund 101, the special reserve equipment fund. For questions, call 460-4500.

Nutrition meeting today

A newly-formed group offering coaching on better nutrition is sponsoring a special event starting at 7 p.m., today, at the Quality Inn meeting room. The guest speakers are Forest and Dr. Cheryl Townsley, who will offer tips on where to start in identifying health needs; the strategies as it relates to blood type; metabolism and digestion; supplements and solutions. For questions about tonight's workshop, call either Adams at 460-6801; Willoughy, 460-0032; Corder, 460-9024; or Philipp, 460-8215.

Kitten, dog ready for adoption

The Colby Animal Clinic is updating the current found and/or adoptions at the facility. Of the four kittens from the same litter, only one of the siblings needs a home — the male Siamese, about 10 to 12 weeks old. Another animal ready for

adoption is a male, one-year-old, Collie-Huskie mix, brown and white. Found on Thursday was a fawn-colored Boxer, male, wearing a blue collar and also a tan and white Guinea pig found outside Beringer Hardware. The only cost for adoption is the price of immunization shots. For questions, call 460-8621 or stop by the facility, 810 E. Fourth St.

Heartland Share delivery June 24

Heartland Share delivery is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 24 at Sacred Heart School gym, 1150 W. Sixth St. There are a few shares left. If interested in a food share, call 460-3579 or 460-8640. For those unfamiliar with the concept, the program is designed to bring people together based on a common need. The way the program works is people volunteer two hours a month and, in turn, are eligible to purchase a food package each month. For questions, call 460-3579 or 460-8640. Everyone is eligible and there are no income requirements. This is not a federal program.

Waste site collection scheduled

The Thomas County Household Hazardous Waste Site, 190 W. Fourth St., Colby, will be collecting old paints, cleaning products, lawn and garden chemicals and more from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, June 24. "Don't throw those items in the trash," said Sandy Swob, director. Using the household hazardous waste site, she said, is a good, safe alternative to disposing of this items in the landfill. The service is free and open to all county residents. For questions about what is accepted, call Swob at 460-4526.

Oakley man guilty on second drunk driving charge

**By Jan Katz Ackerman**  
*Colby Free Press*

An Oakley man has been sentenced in Logan County District Court on a second drunk driving conviction.

Dr. Michael Dodd, formerly a veterinarian in Oakley, was found guilty by a six-person jury May 10.

He was sentenced on Thursday.

District Judge Glenn Schiffner ordered Dodd to an underlying six-month jail term and placed him on a six-month probation. Having already served the state mandated 48 hours in jail for the driving under the influence charge, he will spend the balance of his sentence under a community corrections supervised probation. Besides the jail time, Dodd was fined \$1,000 and ordered to pay \$117 in court costs and a \$25 probation fee. On a second count of transporting an open container, Dodd was fined \$200 and sentenced to an underlying jail term of six months and placed on probation which will run concurrent to the first sentence.

In January, Dodd was convicted in Thomas County District Court by a six-person jury for driving drunk and transporting an open container on Dec. 13, 2004, on Range Avenue in Colby. In the Thomas County case, Schiffner sentenced Dodd to 48 hours in the custody of Thomas County Sheriff Mike Baughn then he was allowed to serve the remainder of the sentence on unsupervised probation.

Dodd was also ordered to enroll in and complete an alcohol and drug safety action education program, fined \$500 plus court costs for the driving while under the influence charge and \$100 for the open container charge.

As required by state law as part of a second DUI conviction, Schiffner ordered Dodd to surrender his driver's license for a period of one year.

Public meeting on electric system nears

**By Jan Katz Ackerman**  
*Colby Free Press*

A public meeting about the future of Oakley's electric system will take place later this month.

Starting at 7 p.m. June 22, Mayor Frank Munk and council members Lary Eberle, Charles Beamer and Steve Badger will meet with Midwest Energy representatives about the pending sale of Oakley's electric transmission lines and generator facility.

The meeting will be held at the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center building, 703 W. Second Ave.

"I hope everybody comes to the public meeting," Munk said. "We are going to present the facts and Midwest Energy will present what they can do and we'll go from there."

Since March, Oakley's city council have been talking about a proposal to sell the electric distribution system to Midwest Energy.

Midwest Energy has offered the city \$2.5 million dollars for the aging system which needs an estimated \$1.5 million dollars in upgrades.

Midwest Energy plans to base four of its employees in Oakley as part of the venture.

Munk has repeatedly said the city is looking at all options for the system which currently services 1,000 active meters. Those meters generated \$1.8 million in utility sales in 2005, but cost the city \$1.9 million to furnish the electricity to customers.

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