

Weather Corner



The forecast
Tonight — Partly cloudy with a low around 39. East wind between 10 and 15 mph. **Tuesday** — Areas of fog before 10 a.m. Otherwise, cloudy with a high near 59. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. **Tuesday night** — Mostly cloudy with a low around 45. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. **Wednesday** — A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 4 p.m. Partly cloudy with a high near 74. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph. **Wednesday night** — A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy and breezy with a low around 41. **Thursday** — Partly cloudy with a high near 57.
Temperatures
Sunday's high, 83
Low this morning, 40
Records for this date, 90 in 1921, -3 in 1923
Precipitation last 24 hours, 0.00
March's precipitation, 0.22
A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-8367.

Park becomes a budget issue

TOPEKA (AP) — A few minutes' walk takes a visitor past piles of brush and debris, through high grass yellowed by winter and onto a dirt path cutting through woods. Deer bound away upon hearing footsteps.
This wooded 76 acres is nestled next to the Kansas River in northwest Topeka, part of what used to be the campus of the famed Menninger psychiatric center and next to the grounds of Cedar Crest, the governor's residence. A quiet spot, it has been part of a noisy legislative dispute since 2005.
Someday, officials hope, it will be a state park. But it doesn't have a proper name — in Kansas law, it's officially Park No. 24 — and it's attracted plenty of enemies. As lawmakers discussed a proposed, \$12.4 billion state budget last week, less than \$1 million in spending on the park, not even one-tenth of 1 percent of the budget, became a major issue.
The lease of a nearby building for a regional Department of Wildlife and Parks office is part of the debate, the subject of a recent audit that had some Republican legislators wondering whether they'd caught Democratic Gov. Kathleen Sebelius' administration in a sweet-heart deal.
It illustrates how a relatively small item in a relatively small agency can bedevil an administration for months, how a community's project can get derailed by legislators from outside that community and how politics of the distant past can shadow a debate.

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.

MOVIE PASSES

Watch for your name in the Wednesday movie listings for 2 free passes.

(Passes must be used within 7 days.)

Pick up your passes at your:

COLBY FREE PRESS

Briefly

Spring break activities at library

Any middle school students looking for something to do during Spring Break will be interested to know that the monthly program held at the Pioneer Memorial Library every third Tuesday of the month, will meet Tuesday, March 20. The theme for the session is "Couch Potatoes." There will be a make-your own snack table and a movie. The session will run from 3:45 to 5:15 p.m. The program is free and no registration is required. Call 460-4470 or stop by the library at 375 W. Fourth for more information.

Heartland School open house

Heartland Christian School, 1995 W. Fourth St., invites all parents and potential preschool students to the school's open house from 9 a.m. to noon, March 30. The open house is for youth 3 or 4 years old to be in preschool for the 2007-2008 school year. The open house will be in the school commons. For more information, call 460-6419.

Cemetery decoration removal

With the warmer temperatures and drier ground, the Beulah Cemetery Board of Directors is asking families to take down any Christmas decorations that may have been

left during the December snowstorms. Any decorations, such as miniature Christmas trees, ornaments, etc., will be disposed of after 5 p.m., Wednesday, March 21. For questions, call the Beulah Cemetery office, 462-3188.

Lions host roast beef lunch

Rexford Lions Club is hosting a roast beef lunch with all the trimmings from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, March 25, at the Rexford Community Hall on Main Street. Free-will donations accepted for community projects.

Tree deadline changed

The Thomas County Conservation District has changed the deadline for tree orders, as well as the day for delivery. Orders will be taken through Friday, March 23, and Tree Day will be held Saturday, April 14, at the Thomas County 4-H Building from 8 to 11 a.m. Please contact Danielle Freeman at 462-7482 Ext. 303 for order information.

Farm Bureau plans seminar

"The Ten Top Stupid Things Families Do To Break Up Their Business," will be presented at 6:30 p.m., Monday, March 26, in the Colby High School auditorium. The speaker

is Jolene Brown, certified speaking professional, who also is a grain farmer in eastern Iowa. The seminar is free and sponsored by the 10th District of the Kansas Farm Bureau, along with other sponsors. Refreshments will be served and everyone is welcome to attend.

Help sought for caravan

Participants are sought for the June Antique Tractor Caravan scheduled for June 2.
The caravan will start in Bogue, going through Nicodemus to Webster Lake and back to Bogue. If interested, call Foyd and Liz Vanloenen, (785) 421-2604, or write: P.O. Box 10, Bogue, Kan. 67625.

Agri-tourism workshop April 4

A one-day workshop on agri-tourism will begin at 8:30 a.m., April 4, at the Gateway Convention Center in Oberlin. In its third year, the workshop, "Northwest Kansas Rural Experience: Agri-Tourism Part 2" is open to the tri-state area (Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado) and comprised of speakers in the agri-tourism field that will provide various aspects of the business to consider.
To register or questions, call (785) 462-2602.

Attorney general urges investigations before donating

Dear Attorney General Paul Morrison,

Lately it seems that I've been flooded with calls and mailings from charities asking for my support.

Some of them even send me gifts I didn't order like address labels or greeting cards. How can I be sure these charities are legitimate? If I keep the gift a charity sends, am I expected to reimburse them in some way?

Dear Kansas Consumer, Charities provide valuable services to our communities, adding to the quality of life and building net-

Consumer Corner

works of support for people across Kansas and across the world.

Some organizations include a free gift along with their appeal for support in the hope that it will make you more likely to donate.

These types of gifts are often mass produced at a very low cost to the

organization and you are under no obligation to "repay" the charity, or return merchandise you did not

order.

I encourage all Kansans to do a little research before contributing to any charity they are not familiar with.

Unfortunately, not every person or organization posing as a charity actually spends the money to help people in need.

Kansas Charity Check provides information on charitable organizations registered in Kansas. Consumers can visit www.KsCharityCheck.org or call (785) 296-4564 to find the amount of money raised by a charity, as well as the percentage of money spent on

administrative expenses not related to the cause.

For charities not registered in Kansas, consumers should ask for written information on the charity's programs and finances.

Any honest, legitimate charity will be willing to answer questions about the types of programs they conduct, how much of their donations are used to support these programs and how much they spend on administrative expenses.

Kansans have always been generous in supporting people less fortunate, but it is important to take a few precautions and donate wisely

to any group or organization. Consumers should never feel pressured into making a contribution or pledge, and should decide in advance which charity conducts the most effective program they want to fund.

As your Attorney General, I encourage all Kansas consumers to continue supporting the charities they care about, after finding out the details you need to make an informed decision.

Please contact my Consumer Protection Division at 785-296-3751 or 1-800-432-2310 with your questions or concerns.

High Plains Art Club makes plans for summer activities

When the members of the High Plains Art Club met at 10 a.m. in the Methodist Church on Tuesday, March 13, the main order of discussion was plans for the "June Art Jubilee."

Eleven downtown businesses have been asked to display paintings by members of the art club during the month of June. Those businesses participating are: "The Sports Shop," "Horlacher Jewelers," "Pioneer Memorial Library," "Inlow Interiors," "Colby Photo," "Donelan Jewelers," "Farmers and Merchants Bank," "Sunflower Bank," "Personal Touch," "True Value Hardware," and "Someplace Special."

In order to encourage the public to come in to the businesses to see the paintings, a large basket of art gifts, made and signed by the art club members, and some donated by the participating merchants, will be given away on June 30.

Club News

Customers can register to win the basket each time they come into the participating businesses. The basket will be on display at the "Prairie Museum of Art and History."

Also, as part of the "June Art Jubilee," the art club members will be painting "En Plein Air" (meaning they will be painting out in the open directly from their subject) in Fike Park two mornings in June. Those times will be announced at a later date.

Another activity to be held as part of this June celebration is a free watercolor workshop, to be given at the Museum, on June 9, for children ages 10 to 14 from 2 to 4 p.m. The workshop will be taught by Marj Brown and the other art club members will assist her.

Club President, Marlene Carpen-

ter, reported on the artist's roundtable meeting that several of the ladies attended at the museum on March 12. It was decided at that meeting that the grade school and high school students will have an art show at the museum during the month of June. Several other art type projects were discussed at that meeting. The round table group will meet again at the museum on April 9 at 4 p.m.

The Lillie Plummer art show sponsored by the art club and now on display at the museum was discussed. Carpenter announced that Plummer will be present at the museum on March 25 for the reception to be held after the 2 p.m. program given by Ann Birney entitled, "Her Father's Son." The public is invited to this program sponsored by the AAUW as part of "Women's History Month."

A new member, Jan Andregg of Hoxie, was welcomed to the art club. Jan was the wife of the late, Kyle Andregg, formerly of Colby. Member, Rosie Van Dyke, was

transferred to Honorary Member status due to her failing health.

Jo Bricker announced that Cal Mahin has agreed to give a workshop for the club in the near future.

Due to the illness of Bev Kern, program chairman for the month, Carpenter gave a short report from the Christian News Authority paper The Chronicle, written by Michelle Couchon. According to the report, Akiane Kramarik, a 12 year old girl from Idaho, had a vision at the age of four when God appeared to her in her home and told her that she was going to be given a gift. That was when she began to draw, and by the age of six she was painting.

The quality of her paintings are considerably beyond what would be expected of a child of her age. They are now selling for between \$100,000 to \$500,000. Akiane says,

DEALERS WANTED

Kansas distributor looking for motivated individuals to become a dealer for **BRYAN FURNACE.** The #1 outdoor woodburning furnace.

Great income potential!

Call 1-800-794-6660 or 1-620-241-2869 for more details about this great opportunity.

NOW SHOWING
Mar. 16th - Mar. 22nd
THIS WEEK ONLY

THE NUMBER 23
Starring Jim Carrey
R 1 hour, 40 min.
Friday 7:00 & 9:15
Saturday 7:00 & 9:15
Sunday 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

WILD HOGS
Starring Tim Allen & John Travolta
PG-13 1 hour, 45 min.
Friday 7:00 & 9:15
Saturday 7:00 & 9:15
Sunday 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

There will be no 4:00 Matinees this week.

Colby Cinema
460-9600 • colbycinema.com

Employee threatened over war bumper sticker

TOPEKA (AP) — A leading Republican lawmaker wanted a state employee fired for putting an anti-war bumper sticker with a strong swear word on her car, which she parks in the Statehouse garage.

House Majority Leader Ray Merrick, R-Stilwell, dispatched the director of the Kansas Legislative Research Department two weeks ago to tell Ashley Holm her job was in jeopardy unless she removed the sticker from her car.

The two-word sticker uses the

four-letter "f" word followed by the word "war."

Holm, the research department's legislative fellow, at first agreed to remove the sticker but then changed her mind.

Now, Merrick said others will have to decide Holm's future, but he remains upset by the sticker.

Merrick, a former Marine, said he was mostly upset by the offensive word, especially because Holm parks her car in a high-traffic spot in the parking garage.

RECOVERY.....

The Bright Side of Addiction

Narcotics Anonymous
is there for you and your family!

Meetings are Open to the Public
City Hall Basement
Tues., Fri. & Sun. - 8:00 p.m.

2007 Sacred Heart Carnival Raffle Winners

•\$200	COLEEN BELITZ	•\$500	YVONNE WINGARD
•\$100	JOHN STRECKER	•\$100	JEANNE SCHROEDER
•\$200	CHARLENE BARNHART	•Quilt	TERRI CRAMPTON
•\$100	TINA HARRIS	•\$200	TERRA ZERR
•\$150 Cash	RON SIMONS	•\$100	ASHLEY STEINLAGE
•\$100	JUDY CALL	•\$100	JERRY MESSEMORE
•2 Lamps	MARGENE GRIFFIN	•\$225	JIM STANLEY
•Photo Sitting Fee, Duffel Bag & Stadium Blanket	MARIE MEIER		
•3-\$50 Gift Certificates	CHEYENE FORTON	•\$100 Gift Certificate	CARRIE BREDEMEIER
•\$100 Gift Certificate & \$50 Cash	TERRY HOCKERSMITH		
•Hog & Processing	TYLER SAMUELSON	•3-\$50 Savings Bond	JENNA SCHOENBERGER
•\$100 Gift Certificate, \$30 Gift Certificate & oil change	GRETCHAN MCILNAY		
•Clock & City Limits Gift Certificate	BRAD MCILNAY		
•\$30 & \$120 Gift Certificates, Corded Phones, Dog & Cat Food	WILLIAM RIKOFF		

Sacred Heart School C•A•R•N•I•V•A•L THANK YOU

Sacred Heart School would like to personally "THANK" the following businesses, organizations and individuals who donated to this years carnival.

Colby Ag Center Laurie's Quilting, Laurie Allen P & D Auto Huttles Sand & Excavating John & Jeannie Schroeder Mike & Sondra Finley Donald & Debbie Zerr Love's Country Store Jack & Kathy Elliott Taco John's, Jeff & Shelly Krzycki Frito Lay, Steve Dempewolf Hi-Plains Coop John & Mert Strecker C.Y.O. Colby Community College Barton Concrete Works Arby's Sunflower Bank Sonic Drive-In Farmers & Merchants Bank Service Oil Company Dairy Queen Gary Wingard Wagoner & Sons Farm & Ranch Realty, Inc. Colby Cinema & Arcade Butch's Body Shop C.J. Boutique Made of Iron, Lana Johnson Daughters of Isabella Office Works & Home Furnishings Donelan Jewelry Chris & Jennifer VanEaton McDonald's	Colby Country Club Someplace Special Uptown Style, Shelly Moeder Ashley Haines St. Gerard Circle Knights of Columbus S & T Communications Holy Family Circle St. Monica Circle Queen Mary Circle Parish Council Taylor Motors Dan & Janet Schroeder Hairitage, Linda & Bud VanHorn Jeannie Solko Dave & Cheryl Evert Dougherty Implement First National Bank The Bank Mike & Elaine Bremenkamp Sports Shoppe Colby Bowl & Fun Center LeRoy's Printing Pizza Hut Claire's Clint & Sarah Horinek Carol Morgan Huttles Construction, Inc. Grinnell Locker City Limits Bar & Grill Dillons Lucy Curtain Work-Out-Women Vanderbilt's	Doctors Morrison & Wahlmeier American Family Insurance Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball Cersovsky Insurance F & M Insurance Store Shane & Kim Franz Great Plains Spraying Homeland Real Estate Jim's Electric, Jeff Unger Prairie Designs Lanscape & Irrigation, Gery & Shirley Skolout Stephens Construction, Inc. Western Sprinklers, Inc. Colby Free Press Tina Harris Physical Therapy J.J. Oil Company, Bob Luck Burger King Karen Thummel, DDS Farm Bureau Financial Services Fotogirl Photography Gavon's Electronics Schlick Construction State Farm Insurance Swartz Veterinary Hospital Tom & Nancy Barlow
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A special thanks to the parents and community for your support!