

Weather Corner



Clear and warmer

The forecast

Tonight — Clear with a low around 41. North wind between 5 and 15 mph. **Saturday** — Sunny with a high near 80. West wind around 5 mph. **Saturday night** — Clear with a low around 50. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 10 mph. **Sunday** — Sunny with a high near 87. South wind between 10 and 15 mph. **Sunday night** — Clear with a low around 52. **Monday** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy with a high near 82. **Tuesday** — Partly cloudy with a high near 78.

Temperatures

Thursday's high, 66
Low this morning, 35
Records for this date, 91 in 1989, 22 in 1924
Precipitation last 24 hours, 0.30
April's precipitation, 3.45
A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-8367.

Briefly

4-H dog show Saturday

A 4-H dog show will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday at the 4-H Building at the Thomas County Fairgrounds. 4-H members and their dogs will compete in showmanship and obedience.

Commissioners to meet Monday

The Thomas County commissioners will meet at 9 a.m. Monday at the courthouse. Items on the agenda include breaking the tire for the Menlo City Council election and a tour of county roads. The meeting is open to the public.

"Look, Lunch and Learn" planned

Thomas County Academy, the Colby School District's charter school, is holding a "Look, Learn and Lunch" at the school from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday. Come look at the classroom environment, learn about projects and presentations and eat a light lunch. For information, call 460-5075.

Square dance Saturday

The Golden Buckle Square Dance group is planning a dance starting at 8 p.m., Saturday, at the Colby Community Building. Anyone interested in square dancing is invited.

Day of Prayer May 3

The Thomas County Ministerial Alliance invites everyone to observe National Day of Prayer at noon Thursday, May 3, in front of the Thomas County courthouse. A proclamation from Gov. Kathleen Sebelius will be read followed by opportunities for individual prayers. The service will conclude no later than 12:30 p.m. A praise and prayer rally is also planned from 7 to 8 p.m. that day at the Colby Community Building Little Theater.

Remote control car races May 6

Remote control races will not be held this Sunday at First Baptist Church of Colby, 615 W. Webster, but are scheduled for Sunday May 6 from 2 to 5 p.m. Young people are invited

to attend and cars will be provided for those who do not have one. For questions, call Kent Higerd, 462-3440.

Endowment Foundation meeting

The Colby Community College Endowment Foundation annual meeting is set for 6 p.m., Monday, May 14 in the Robert Burnett Student Union on campus. For questions, call Foundation Director Nick Wells, (785) 460-4684.

Free sports physicals May 8

Colby Medical and Surgical Center, 175 S. Range Ave., will again offer free sports physical examinations to Thomas County middle and high school students between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 8. The times for Colby High School students to arrive at the clinic is 5:30 p.m.; Colby Middle School students at 6 p.m.; and all Brewster and Golden Plains middle and high school students at 6:30 p.m. "Please bring the physical examination forms with you," said Patti Stephens, RN and coordinator of the event. For questions call Stephens at (785) 462-3332.

Flint Hills will be alive with the sound of music

By Ron Wilson

Director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University.

The song of a meadowlark. The cry of a hawk. The distant lowing of a cow and the gentle swish of the Kansas breeze rustling through the tall prairie grass, with scenic hills rolling into the distance.

Taken together, it is a sort of symphony of nature in the Flint Hills. Now these Flint Hills are serving as the stage for another type of symphony — an actual symphony, complete with world-class musicians, instruments, and conductor, yet still with those pastoral hills as a backdrop.

Emily Hunter is the coordinator for the 2007 Symphony in the Flint Hills. She explains that the inspiration for this event is a special birth-

day party put on by rancher Jane Koger back in the 1990s. Jane wanted to do something unique for her 40th birthday, so she had an orchestra performance in her ranch pasture and invited the neighbors. It was quite a happening.

In the following years a group of volunteer leaders came together to put on a similar event for the entire region: A Symphony in the Flint Hills. They organized committees and a volunteer board of directors. They brought Emily Hunter on board to serve as event coordinator. She set up her office in the rural, Flint Hills community of Strong City, population 585 people. Now, that's rural.

After years of planning and work, the First Annual Symphony in the Flint Hills was held in 2006. It featured a performance by the Kansas City Symphony in a natural amphi-

theater nestled in the hills of Chase County. The audience response was tremendous.

The board committed to move the event around the region each year. As

Emily says, "The Flint Hills have many faces." In 2007, the second annual Symphony in the Flint Hills will be held in Wabaunsee County. It promises to be even bigger.

Emily says, "This is a three-fold event: The landscape, the music, and education. We want to educate people about the natural and cultural heritage of the Flint Hills region."

Emily and the Board care deeply about the Flint Hills and its history. "People talk about the ancient redwoods in California. They've been there for 3,500 years, Emily says. But the grass has been here for 8,000 years. And this remaining tallgrass prairie is unique on this continent"

"There's wonderful wisdom in the Flint Hills," she says. "Long time ranchers have a saying, 'If you take care of the grass, it will take care of you.'"

She says, "Experienced people in the Flint Hills say there are three essential elements for the prairie ecosystem to survive. One is the grass itself. The second is grazing animals, which originally were buffalo and now are cattle. People truck in 100,000 head of cattle each summer to graze on these hills. The third element is fire, which must happen to burn off the hills or invasive species (read "cedar trees") will take over.

Educational and experiential opportunities will be provided prior to the symphony, which takes place on Saturday, June 16, 2007. At 6:30

p.m., the concert begins, with comments from the Governor and then the Kansas City Symphony Orchestra performing works by Aaron Copland and others.

Interest in this event is so high that the general admission tickets for this year's performance sold out in an incredible 24 hours. Wow. VIP patron tickets and sponsorship opportunities are still available.

Emily says, "This is a highly collaborative event." Last year, there were more than 400 volunteers from 53 towns in seven states. Reservations to attend this year's event have come in from coast to coast and from Florida to Alaska. For more information, go to www.symphonyintheflinthills.org.

The song of the meadowlark, the cry of the hawk, and the distant rolling hills will be joined with an actual symphony of music and 5,000 visitors in this incredible event in June 2007. We salute Emily Hunter and the Board of Symphony in the Flint Hills for making a difference with their creativity and initiative.

And there's more. We'll learn how Wabaunsee County is making the most of this opportunity in our next column.

The mission of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development is to enhance rural development by helping rural people help themselves. The Kansas Profile radio series and columns are produced with assistance from the K-State Research and Extension Department of Communications News

Recipients don't reply to e-mail

From "GRINNELL," Page 1

meeting since the recipients, Dickman and Albers, did not reply to the e-mail.

Schmeidler also said a conversation in the boys' locker room between Wellbrock and Rudell did not constitute an illegal meeting because they were talking about one

of the men's wives, not school matters.

The second lawsuit against Schmeidler was filed on April 9, less than a week after the April 3 election. Confusion arose after the case was filed listing Wolf, not Beckman, as one of the plaintiffs.

"We had originally filed with a different set of petitions and it was

a typo and we simply did not catch it," Oller said.

Oller said his office staff erroneously listed Wolf as a member of the recall committee when it should have been Dickman, Teeter and Beckman challenging Schmeidler's decision for a second time. An amended petition will be filed with the court.

School districts' future unknown

A cooperative merger between Grinnell and Grainfield school districts has still not been settled by the Grinnell school board.

While a 1980s cooperative agreement paved the way for boys from both districts to play football as one team, an expanded agreement signed in December includes all sports and academics.

Grinnell board members voting in favor of the expanded agreement was Duane Vollbracht, Gary Ostmeier, Francis Rudell and Scott

Wellbrock. Voting against it were Ben Dickman, Jody Beckman and Don Albers.

At last Monday's board meeting, Dickman, Beckman and Albers, voted to overturn the agreement, but the measure failed in a 4-3 vote.

The agreement is still undetermined and things could change in

Soapbox Derby Saturday, May 19th Atwood Rod Run

SAFETY INSPECTION Friday, May 18 @ 7:00 High School Ag Shop or 1:00pm Saturday, May 19

Race Starts Saturday 2:00 P.M.

For Rules Contact Matt at 785-626-0315

Please Recycle

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ZELNORM® ALERT

Zelnorm® (generic: tegaserod) was used to treat constipation and irritable bowel syndrome. Because of findings that persons who took Zelnorm® had a higher risk of heart attacks, strokes and angina, the FDA has recently ordered that Zelnorm® not be sold. If you or a loved one may have been injured by Zelnorm®, call the Hollis Law Firm at 800-701-3672. You may be entitled to compensation.

Lee J. Hollis, Attorney

800-701-3672

The students and staff of Thomas County Academy invite you to

LOOK, LEARN, AND LUNCH

at the Open House on

Mon. April 30th, 11 - 2 @ TCA Classroom

(enter through Woods door on South side)

Look at our classroom environment, learn about our projects/presentations, and eat a light lunch on us.

For more information, please call 460-5004.

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HEARTLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

will be hosting it's **First Annual Spring Tea!**

Saturday, May 5 at 2:00 p.m. at the school.

The featured Keynote Speaker will be James Dobson's daughter, **DANAE DOBSON** who has written 22 books to date.

Tickets-\$10.00. Please call 785-460-6419 for more info or tickets.

American Red Cross

1-800-GIVE-LIFE
AMERICA'S BLOODLINE

• • • AUCTION • • •

Saturday, May 5th 10:00 a.m. • Viewing @ 9:00

Law Enforcement Center Impound Lot • 225 North Court, Colby, KS

Abandoned and seized vehicles to be sold by the Thomas County Sheriff's Office

Lot 1 1989 Subaru Station Wagon, 4 dr.	Lot 12 1991 Pontiac Grand Prix
Lot 2 1990 Lincoln Town Car, 4 dr.	Lot 13 1995 Hyundai Accent, 4 dr.
Lot 3 1998 Nissan Altima, 4 dr.	Lot 14 1988 Honda Accord, 4 dr.
Lot 4 1995 Ford Taurus, 4 dr.	Lot 15 1994 Chevy Corsica, 4 dr.
Lot 5 1970 Ford Maverick, 2 dr.	Lot 16 2000 Chevy Malibu, 4 dr.
Lot 6 2001 Ford Focus, 3 dr.	Lot 17 1984 Chevy Station Wagon
Lot 7 1997 Chevy Venture Mini Van	Lot 18 1987 Pontiac Grand Am, 2 dr.
Lot 8 1997 Yamaha Dirt Bike	Lot 19 1996 Isuzu Station Wagon
Lot 9 1991 Nissan, 4 dr.	Lot 20 1982 AME Eagle SW
Lot 10 1993 Toyota, 4 dr.	Lot 21 1991 Dodge Caravan
Lot 11 1993 Mercury, 2 dr.	Lot 22 1987 Oldsmobile Cutlass, 4 dr.

Drug forfeiture vehicles to be sold by the Thomas County Sheriff's Office

Lot 23 2000 Ford Focus, 4 dr	Lot 25 2000 Mitsubishi, 2 dr.
Lot 24 2002 Hyundai, 4 dr.	

Other vehicles that may be sold are:

2003 Ford Crown Victoria, 4 dr.	2002 Ford Crown Victoria, 4 dr.
2002 Ford Crown Victoria, 4 dr.	

Vehicles to be sold by the Thomas County Emergency Management

1985 Chevy step-van 454 cid, on board propane generator, auto transmission

Other miscellaneous items may be auctioned in addition to the vehicles.

Announcements made day of sale take precedence over printed matter. Terms: Cash day of sale. All items to be paid for before removal. No warranties expressed or implied.

Bugbee Auctions

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