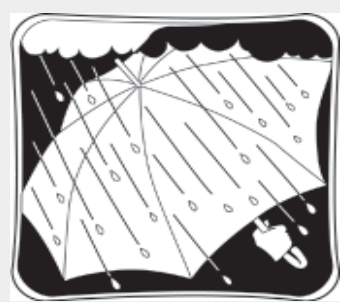


Weather Corner



Cloudy and warmer

The forecast

Tonight — Isolated thunderstorms after 1 a.m. Partly cloudy with a low around 66. Breezy with a south wind 15 to 20 mph becoming west to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent. **Friday** — A slight chance of thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy with a high near 93. North wind between 5 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent. **Friday night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 565. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west. **Saturday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 96. North wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Saturday night** — Clear with a low around 64. Sunday — Sunny and hot with a high near 97. **Sunday night** — Clear with a low around 65. **Monday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 92.

Temperatures

Wednesday's high, 96
Low this morning, 63
Records for this date, 106 in 1988, 35 in 1902

Precipitation last 24 hours, 0.00
June's precipitation, 1.61

Water Use Report

June 20
• 2,053,000 gallons per day, average
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 460-8367.

Briefly

Volunteers needed for construction

At least 30 people are needed at 8 a.m. June 23 and June 24 to help construct Colby High School's new stadium at Dennen Field. For more information, contact Dewey Augustine at 443-1548.

Red Cross training planned

The Thomas County Red Cross office rescheduled training sessions, which were originally planned the week of the Greensburg tornado, said Sherry White, manager. The new dates include shelter operations from 6 to 9 p.m., Aug. 9-10 and disaster response for client casework from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Aug. 11. All training will be held at the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range Ave., Colby. "It is important to pre-register by calling (888) 765-9058 and ask for Melinda Brown," White said. For other information on Red Cross, call (785) 462-7161.

Street project begins Tuesday

The City of Colby will begin a street sealing project next

Tuesday and Wednesday on Thielen Avenue, Terrace Drive, Walker Avenue, Harvey Court, Harvey Avenue and Austin Avenue from Fifth to Sixth Streets. The process, said City Manager Carolyn Armstrong, involves putting a layer of oil on the streets and then covering the oil with sand and gravel. The city is asking that no vehicles be parked on those streets Tuesday or Wednesday. Vehicles parked at those locations will delay the project. For questions, call 460-4410.

Rodeo pageant deadline July 20

The Thomas County Rodeo Queen and Princess Pageant is looking for contestants for this year's event, said Marie Skolout, coordinator. The contest is open to girls ages 8-11 for the junior princess category; girls 12-15 for the princess event; and 16-23 for the queen contest. All contestants are judged on horsemanship, interview, speech and modeling. "A trophy saddle will be awarded to the queen, along with other great prizes for the princess and junior princess winners," she said. The contest begins Monday, July 23, and entries are due Friday, July 20. For questions or to receive an

entry form, call Skolout at (785) 586-2228.

Donations sought for garage sale

Heartland Rural Counseling, an organization helping families with mental health issues, is holding its third annual garage sale from 4-7 p.m., Friday, and 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, at 445 N. Franklin Ave. Donations are being accepted for the sale with all proceeds helping low income families. The final drop is from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Thursday, at 445 N. Franklin. All donations are tax deductible. For questions, call 462-7588.

Relay for Life teams needed

Relay for Life, Thomas County's largest is Thomas County has a new location for 2007. Relay will be held at Fike Park on July 27 from 7:00 pm to 7:00 am on July 28. For information about forming a Team, participating in Survivor activities, being a volunteer, becoming a sponsor or making a donation call Carla Sharp at 460-4881.

Sheridan County voters to decide on higher taxes

By Jan Katz Ackerman

Colby Free Press

Gas pumps are not the only thing ringing up tax dollars in Sheridan County. Despite fuel prices hovering at the \$3 mark, Sheridan County voters will decide whether they want to spend more tax money for the county's healthcare facility.

County Clerk Paula Bielser told Commissioners Keith Kennedy and Ron Schamberger she will mail ballots two weeks prior to the election, scheduled Aug. 14.

"Any ballot that is not received back in her office by noon on Aug. 14 will not count.

Kennedy and Schamberger on Monday signed a resolution approving Bielser to prepare a special election asking taxpayers if they

want to appropriate an additional \$225,000 each year to run the hospital, medical clinic and long-term care facility.

Sheridan County Health Complex is made up of an 18-bed hospital, 38 bed long-term care facility, eight assisted living apartments and a medical clinic.

The facility employs 120 people and has a monthly payroll of \$165,000. State law allows counties to collect up to 6 mills for hospitals before sending the question for more money to voters.

Ballots mailed to approximately 1,500 registered voters will reflect the wording used on the resolution Kennedy and Schamberger approved and will exceed the 6 mill limitation forcing the question before voters.

"In accordance with K.S.A. 19-4606 et seq., shall the board of commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas levy annually an additional amount not to exceed eight mills for operating, maintaining, equipping and improving the Sheridan county Health Complex (Sheridan County Hospital)?"

Based on current valuation, if voters approve the measure it would mean a tax increase of about \$40 on a \$50,000 home or about \$30 on a quarter of dryland farm land.

Trustees of Sheridan County Health Complex last week asked the commissioners to ask voters for more money for new windows, roofing, heating and air conditioning system, fire alarm system, 45 new beds, floor and wall covering, a new kitchen and laundry area and

at least one new boiler.

Using current figures, the total cost of improvements is estimated at \$976,000.

Taxpayers already appropriate \$325,000 for the health complex which was built in 1952.

Also last week, Kennedy, Schamberger and Commissioner Doyle Kauk approved a request by the trustees officially reducing the number of trustees from seven to five.

Lack of interest by anyone to fill vacancies on the complex board of trustees prompted the move.

For the past couple years, numerous vacancies were filled by commissioners seating whoever received the largest number of votes following those elected to the board.

Elected on April 3, incumbent trustee Allen Neal resigned shortly after the election saying he was no longer able to wage a single-handed battle in his position of support for reinstating Dr. John Rand Neuenschwander to the emergency room rotation.

Neuenschwander's tenure in the emergency room ended after a battle over his contact with the complex in 2000. He continues to have staff privileges and operates a private practice clinic in Hoxie.

Trustee Many Karnes did not seek re-election, leaving those remaining on the board being Richard Krannawitter, chairman; Randy Farber, vice chairman; Charles Schwarz, secretary and treasurer; and members Craig Cooper and Veronica "Ronnie" Kauk.

Hoxie resident has 30 days to move animal out of town

By Jan Katz Ackerman

Colby Free Press

A Hoxie man has 30 days to move one of his three dogs out of town or be in contempt of court.

District Judge Glenn Schiffner on Wednesday told Mark Karnes, 27, he has 30 days to move the dog, which was previously testified about in court as violating Hoxie's dog ordinance.

"I don't understand why I keep

getting drug through the mud like this," Karnes said.

Since Oct. 10, 2006, Karnes has denied sheltering dogs belonging to breeds referred to as pit bulls. Acting as his own attorney, Karnes told Schiffner his black dog, Brutus, was not one of any breed listed in the city's ordinance as being banned within city limits.

An ordinance adopted in Nov. 24, 1988, states no dog belonging to the Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Ameri-

can Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, or any dog which has the appearance and characteristics of being predominately of those three breeds or a combination of any of the breeds is banned within the city limits of Hoxie.

There were no pit bulls in Hoxie the time the ordinance was adopted. Should there have been any pit bulls in Hoxie at that time, they would have been grandfathered in but would have been required to register the dog as a pit bull.

"I don't think I'm getting a fair trial here," Karnes said. "We might as well do as we are going to do."

Hoxie veterinarian Mark Poell testified Karnes' black male dog is of the American Staffordshire Terrier breed.

Karnes claims the mixture is of Labrador Retriever and Shar-Pei, a breed originating in China.

Karnes said he has owned his dogs for about five years and has never received a complaint about them.

He also said he has never had any problem with the dogs until last October when former Chief of Police John Bieker took photos of them and gave them to Hoxie City Attorney Ken Eland, who filed a complaint against Karnes.

"The ordinance does not prohibit you from owning that dog," Schiffner said. "But (the law prohibits) harboring that dog."

Hoxie City Attorney Ken Eland told Schiffner if Karnes will license and tag his two female dogs, and the four puppies born since the onset of the case, the city would dismiss the

charge of not having tags.

Hoxie Chief of Police Brian Dierks testified the cost for a license in Hoxie is \$5 per dog.

Schiffner fined Karnes \$200 for having the illegal dog in town, but said he would suspend the fine if he moved the dog within 30 days.

Schiffner told Karnes the ordinance states if he fails to move the dog the city will seize it, but also said the ordinance does not state what would happen to the dog if seized.

Karnes said he will license and tag the dogs, but also said he plans to appeal the case to the Kansas Court of Appeals. He has 10 days to file a motion for appeal with the Sheridan County District Court.

New radio operators join field day

From "HAMS," Page 1

There are also 15 new hams from Goodland.

Amateur radio, or often called ham radio, can be defined as simplex communication.

Each person must take turns talking back and forth because they can't be interrupted, unlike on a telephone. Five different frequency meter bands will allow the user to communicate with someone over a wide area.

By using voice, Morse Code and a variety of other data modes, suc-

cessful communication depends on antennas and the state of the ionosphere to contact someone who is similarly equipped. The ionosphere is affected by the time of day, seasons and sunspot activity.

"We interface a computer to our radio, and then exchange call signs and a report of our station configuration with other participants," McLemore said. "These digital techniques are useful in emergency communications as a written record is automatically produced."

Amateur radio is specifically unique compared to other forms of

communication because of "the variability of the ionosphere that we use for long distance communication gives a suspense and intrigue beyond what can be obtained with voice over internet," Frahm said.

"If I wanted to get Japan on the difficult 160-meter band, my best shot is around my sunrise in the winter near the bottom of the sunspot cycle with an earlier chance being at Japan's sunset," he said.

So far, Frahm has contacted Idaho on a 10-meter band, which completed a long-term goal of contacting all 50 states on each of the five frequency bands. He also reached Slovenia on the 80-meter band, which helped him complete reaching 100 countries on each of the five frequency bands, as well.

For more information about amateur radio, visit www.emergency-radio.org.

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.

Community Calendar

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Wings Upon the Prairie drop-in center, 485 N. Franklin, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
New Hope Narcotics Anonymous, City Hall basement, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Stadium construction, Dennen Field, 8 a.m.
Ham radio field day, 1 p.m., Colby Municipal Airport
Wings Upon the Prairie drop-in center, 485 N. Franklin, 1-6 p.m.
Sixth Street Alcoholics Anonymous, 1275 W. Sixth St., 8:30 p.m.

NOW SHOWING
June 15th - June 21st

SURF'S UP

PG 1 hour, 30 min.
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER

PG 1 hour, 30 min.
Friday & Saturday 7:00 & 9:00
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

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800-701-3672

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Information: 800-530-5524 or ksshine.com

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UPCOMING EVENTS in Kansas

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Kansas Travel & Tourism Division

July 4th

July 4. Variety show and giant fireworks display. Dodge City, KS. (800) 653-9378, www.visitdodgecity.org.

Summer Splash Kids Day

July 4. Cool off with fun water games! Kids free into zoo with paid adult. Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure, Salina, KS. (785) 827-9488, www.rollinghillswildlife.com.

Amelia Earhart Festival

July 20-21
Dierks Bentley concert, arts & crafts, live music, food vendors, aerobatics and spectacular fireworks. Atchison, KS. (800) 234-1854, www.AtchisonKansas.net.

Antique Show & Sale

July 29-30
Sat. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., \$5 at door. 33 Dealers Americana & European. WU Lee Arena, 19th & Washburn, Topeka, KS. Call Bill at (785) 271-8151 for information.

Preferred Health Systems Wichita Open

July 29-August 5. Experience the excitement of PGA golf as you watch legends and new golf talent tee off. Crestview Country Club, Wichita, KS. (316) 219-9046, www.pgatour.com/tournaments/h023.

When Pigs Fly In & BBQ

August 24-25. Activities for the entire family. McPherson Airport, McPherson, KS. (620) 241-3303, www.mcphersonks.org.

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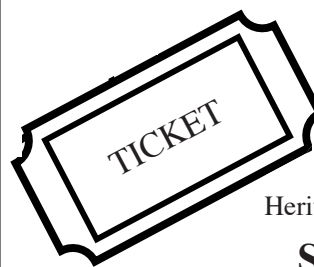
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One-Day Trip for Thomas County Senior Citizens



"Too Old To Be Loud"

Heritage Square Music Hall - Golden, CO

Sunday, July 15, 2007

Cost - \$31.50 (includes meal, transportation, snacks and tickets to the dinner theatre)

Availability limited to 35. For more information or to sign up for this one-day trip, call Deb Koon at 462-6617 by **Friday, June 29.**

Sponsored by Colby Community College and the Thomas County Council on Aging.