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Brewster boil order continues

By **Patty Decker**

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The boil order for Brewster residents, which was put into effect Friday due to a positive testing for bacteria, continues in effect until at least Wednesday, but could even be Thursday, said Joe Blubaugh, director of communications with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Following a visit Friday from the Kansas Rural Water Association based in Seneca,

it was determined the city's chlorinator, which disinfects the water supply, had malfunctioned, but has now been repaired.

"The amount of chemicals purifying the water is effective," Blubaugh said today.

"However, even though we think the water system is working properly, no samples will be taken until Tuesday and then it will be another 24 hours to determine whether the water is free of the bacteria," he said.

"At the earliest if the tests come back negative, residents won't be ready to use the water until Wednesday, but it could even

be Thursday.

When the boil order went into effect Friday, said Mike Heideman, media correspondent with the state health department, there were no reports of illness in Brewster.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment advisory was issued Friday because coliform bacteria (organisms in the environment that could come from feces of humans or animals) were found in eight samples taken Tuesday, Sept. 25, from the public water system," Heideman said.

At that time, Heideman said the water

association went to Brewster to provide technical assistance — suspecting it was the chlorinator device.

As a precaution Friday, Sept. 28, the advisory was made to prevent any potential threat to people.

Brewster residents are asked to continue to boil water used for cooking or drinking until issue is lifted.

Boiling water for one minute prior to drinking or food preparation is essential, he said, or using bottled water.

The state's health department also sug-

gests disinfecting dishes or other food contact surfaces by immersion for at least one minute in clean tap water that contains one teaspoon of unscented household bleach per gallon of water.

Water used for bathing does not generally need to be boiled and persons with cuts or severe rashes may wish to consult their doctors.

"We (the state) would rather be safe than sorry and residents are asked to continue following the boil order until it's lifted," Blubaugh said.

City considers no parking in one location

By **Patty Decker**

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The Colby City Council will consider approving a "no parking" plan during certain hours of the day on the east side of North Sterling between West Fifth and Sixth Streets at its meeting at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday.

If accepted, the streets would be off limits to any parking from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

City Manager Carolyn Armstrong said property owners and others that could be affected by the change have been notified.

In addition, the council will be presented with a brief update on plans for the recreation program under its new director, Stacy Lee, who took over the position in September.

Lee, formerly of Pittsburg, was selected by the Recreation Commission, which oversees the program. Armstrong said she has a Master of Science, Health, Physical Education and Recreation from Pittsburg State University and prior to accepting the position in Colby was the director of

the sports and aquatics program for the Pittsburg Family YMCA.

Other council items include discussion and possible action on a structure located in the 100 block of West Second Street deemed unsafe or dangerous. One option could be to have the structure removed in order to make the premises safe and secure, she said.

The council could also award a bid for basement electrical work; approve an understanding with Ed Collins, spearheading an 18-hole public golf course on use of water; and the purchase of 440 W. Plum by Beau Sheets.

Armstrong said the new trash truck was due to arrive last week and the council will now need to discuss the provisions in the current ordinance relating to residential trash service.

"In the current ordinance," she said, "normal household solid waste is defined as two 95-gallon tipper cans per living unit per week — this allowing one for grass and two for household garbage if no grass is picked up."

All meetings are open to the public. For an agenda, call 460-4410.

Learning disabilities expert to speak Oct. 8

The Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center in partnership with Colby Community College and SmartStart of Northwest Kansas will host Jonathan Mooney, at 7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 8, in the Cultural Arts Center on the college campus. Parents, families, teachers and students are encouraged to attend.

Jonathan Mooney is a dyslexic writer and activist who did not learn to read until he was 12 years old, said Debbie Schwanke, public information officer.

He is a 2000 graduate of Brown University with an honors' degree in English Literature.

"A winner of the prestigious Truman Scholarship for graduate

studies in disability studies and social change, Mooney was also a finalist for the Rhodes Scholarship," she said.

With the publication of *Learning Outside the Lines* (now in its 14th printing) when he was 23, Mooney established himself as one of the foremost leaders in learning disabilities/attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, physical disabilities, and alternative education.

His work on behalf of students with disabilities was recognized by the LD Access Foundation in 2003 when he was awarded the Golden Advocacy Award.

The presentation is open to the public and at no charge.



JOEY FALKOFF/Colby Free Press

Homecoming highlights

ABOVE: The Colby High School class of 1957 had their own float during Friday's homecoming parade. This year marks the 50th anniversary for the '57 class, which featured Nelson Toburen--the only Colby football player to ever play in the National Football League. **LEFT:** A group of Colby High freshman enjoyed themselves on the freshman float during the parade. This was the first year the class of 2011 was able to have their own float during homecoming week.

Briefly

Fencing project to begin

Contractors will be replacing fence along a portion of Interstate 70 in Thomas County starting Monday, Oct. 8, said the Kansas Department of Transportation Office in Atwood. J and J Contractors of Iola will be installing one-inch, single strand cable along the north and south sides of I-70 between the two Colby interchanges. The new fencing will also be installed on the north side of interstate beginning at Levant, extending west six miles. Work will take place off the roadway, and should not affect interstate travelers. The estimated construction cost of the fencing project is almost \$140,000, said Kristen Brands, public affairs. For questions, call Brands (785) 877-3315.

Riders perform tonight

The multi-Grammy award winning Western music group Riders in the Sky will perform in Colby at 7:30 p.m., today, in the Colby High School auditorium. Admission will be by Western Plains Arts Association season pass, or at the door: adults \$20, students and children \$10. This event, she said, is made possible in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency and

National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Sacred Heart fair nears

Colby Sacred Heart School will be holding their annual book fair in conjunction with parent-teacher conferences from 4 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, and 2 to 8 p.m., Thursday.

Single dance Friday

The Colby singles and married couples dance is from 8 p.m. to midnight, Friday at the Community Building in Colby at 285 E. Fifth St. Everyone is welcome.

Fly tying course offered

An introduction to fly tying and casting will be offered at Colby Community College Friday and Saturday, Oct. 26-27. The hands-on course, taught by Kurt Moomau of Topeka, will develop the knowledge, skills and attitude that are needed to successfully pursue a fly-tying hobby, said Barry Kaaz, coordinating the coursework. For costs, location and times, call Kaaz at 460-5429.

Sacred Heart plans auction

The Sacred Heart Parish and School is sponsoring its 10th annual benefit auction "Let's Tailgate," Saturday, Oct. 20, at the City Limits Convention Center. Officials are asking for donations of cash, service or items for the event. If interested, forms are available at Sacred Heart Church, 585 N. French Ave., Colby. For information on tickets or donating items, call (785) 462-2179.

Book fair starts Tuesday

The Colby Grade School Parent-Teacher Organization is hosting its annual Scholastic Book Fair in the school's library and during parent-teacher conferences. The fair will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday; and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday.

Foundation meeting today

The Thomas County Community Foundation office is inviting everyone to attend its annual meeting at 7 p.m., today, at the City Limits Convention Center.

Contest deadline Nov. 1

The Masonic Grand Lodge of Kansas is again sponsoring an essay contest for high school junior and senior class students. Now in its 48th consecutive contest year, this year's topic is: "Is there such a thing as global warming?"

Explain your rationale." More than \$12,000 will be awarded in prizes with first place receiving \$4,000; second receiving \$3,000; third, \$2,000 and fourth, \$1,000. All junior and seniors in Kansas public schools are eligible to participate. Essays can be no longer than 500 words. Mail: St. Thomas Lodge 306, P.O. Box 421, Colby, Kan. 67701.

Colby Fly-In scheduled

The eighth annual Colby Fly-In is planned from 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Colby Municipal Airport. Highlights include breakfast starting at 6:30 a.m.; lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Eagle Med helicopters; experimental aircraft; antique aircraft; tandem skydiving; and more. For questions, call Mark Ostmeyer, (785) 460-4438.

