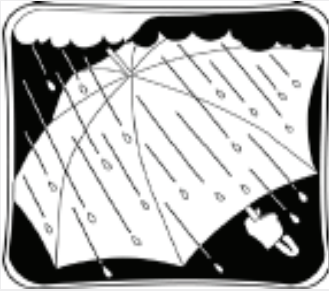


Weather Corner



**Tonight...**Mostly cloudy. Colder. Lows in the lower 40s. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph in the evening becoming light.

**Thursday...**Partly sunny. A 40 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 60s. Southeast winds around 10 mph. Thursday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the evening... Then partly cloudy after midnight. Lows in the mid 40s. East winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light.

**Friday...**Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. Friday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 40s.

**Saturday...**Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 60s. Saturday night... Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 40s.

**Sunday...**Mostly sunny. Highs around 70. Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s.

**Monday...**Sunny...Windy. Highs in the mid 70s. Monday night...Mostly clear in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s.

**Tuesday ...** Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s.

Tuesday's low, high: 51, 85, trace of precipitation.

With the warmer temperatures, the city of Colby is again tracking water usage. Should water usage surpass the watch, warning or emergency totals for three days, certain restrictions go into effect.

Tuesday, May 6 usage was 2,032,000 gallons.

Water Watch — 3 consecutive days exceeding 3.5 million gallons per day

Water Warning — 3 consecutive days exceeding 4 million gallons per day

Water Emergency — 3 consecutive days exceeds 4.5 million gallons per day

Senate OKs bill

TOPEKA (AP) — Senators approved a bill Tuesday night bundling two proposed coal-fired power plants in southwest Kansas to economic development projects in other parts of the state.

The vote was 24-10. The measure went to the House, which expected to consider it Wednesday. If House members approve it as expected, it will go to Gov. Kathleen Sebelius.

Artists asked to pay for display space

By Sharon Corcoran  
slcorcoran@nwkansas.com

Artisans displaying their work at the state-run Goodland Travel Information Center have been told they have to join a new program and pay \$250 a year — or move out.

So far, area artists, unable to deal with state standards, have chosen the latter, moving their works out.

The Kansas Travel and Tourism Division is pushing TakeKansasHome.com, a two-year pilot program that will allow vendors to display products at the center west of Goodland and sell them through a web site. The state has another travel information center at Belle Plain, but the program is being tested at the Goodland center before deciding whether to expand into other sites owned by the state.

Artists had been allowed to display examples of their work with their business cards at the center, said Donna Price, director of the Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and then travelers would contact the artists and buy from them. With that arrangement, she said, the state didn't get a cut of the sales.

The new program has not gone over well with artists who make a few things by hand, she said, as opposed to making things in bulk. Some have found the fee a challenge, she said, and most have problems with the program's requirement that all orders be shipped within three days.

Before, they displayed samples of their art, she said, and then people would order custom-made pieces. There is no way to finish a painting or hand-make a doll in 72 hours, she said.

Often visitors came to Goodland to meet with the artist after



Mona Carver, supervisor at the Goodland Travel Information Center, arranged photographs by Dale K. Cole of Salina in the TakeKansasHome.com gift shop Thursday. The photos are among the works of Kansans displayed at the center for sale on a web site as part of a state Travel and Tourism Division "pilot program" to determine whether it's possible to sell Kansas items and use them to promote tourism in the state. Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

stopping at the travel center, Price said, and that was a boon to businesses here. Once travelers came here to meet with an artist, she said, they usually stayed for lunch or dinner and shopping, sometimes even overnight.

"I know they did that to meet an Oakley artist, too," she said. "They went out into the country to look her up. It was good for all of northwest Kansas and had an impact for the whole state."

"The items were by extremely

talented people who represented Kansas well."

Goodland artist Marilyn Cooper, owner of WindWoman Originals, said she is disappointed in the program.

"Everyone is taking advantage of Kansas west of Hays except the people who live here," she said. "People in Topeka don't know anything about what goes on out here. They forget we are even here."

The center also displayed min-

iature replicas of the Victorian Ennis-Handy House in and of the bronze "Buffalo Bill" sculpture in Oakley, Price said. Both highlighted area attractions, she said, but now those things are gone, and no artists from this area plan to display their work.

The web site is maintained by Free Bird Business Solutions, which has a contract with the state. The business is owned by Claudia Larkin, former director of the department's Travel and Tour-

ism Division.

Vendors interested in displaying their work can get an application from the travel center, which is on I-70 at mile marker 7 between Kanorado and Goodland, or e-mail Larkin at clarkin11@cox.net.

They will have to submit a sample to be evaluated by a selection committee, a compact disk with three high-resolution images (300 dpi) taken from different angles of the product and a \$40 nonrefundable application fee.

State asks for help in identifying person in 35-year-old case

Thirty-five years ago this past April an unidentified body of a white male was found in rural Anderson County, southeast of Garnett, said Robert E. Blecha, director of Kansas Bureau.

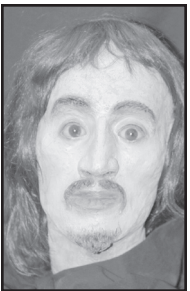
"The victim," he said, "was described as a white male, 18-20 years of age, 5'8" to 5'10" tall, 150 lbs., brown wavy, below the ear length hair.

A forensic facial reconstruction of



unidentified

the shell has been completed by a forensic artist with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and DNA examination being done at the Univer-



facial hair

sity of North Texas Health Center in For Worth, Texas.

"The Anderson County Sheriff's Department and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation



profile

have worked closely together on this investigation in an effort to identify the victim," he said.

The facial reconstruction images are being released to the public for their help in identifying the victim, Blecha said.

Anyone with information is

asked to call Linda Durand, legal assistant, in Topeka at (785) 296-8211.

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Public Notice

Request for Proposal

Interested parties are invited to make a proposal to provide abstracting services to the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Kansas, for the purposes of assisting the Board in a judicial foreclosure and sale of real estate by the county. The sale of real estate will be undertaken to comply with K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 79-2801 et seq., and said abstractor's services will be utilized to prepare a listing of each parcel to be sold, including a description of each tract, including the street number or location, the amount of taxes, charges, interest and penalties chargeable to each tract, the name of the owner or supposed owner or party claiming to have any interest therein. The list shall further disclose the year(s) the real estate was sold for delinquent taxes under the provisions of K.S.A. 79-2302, and amendments thereto. Proposals should state the qualifications of the bidder, the price per parcel and the estimated completion date of said services. For the purposes of the proposal, a parcel with delinquent real estate taxes for multiple years shall be considered as one parcel. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Interested parties may make their proposal in writing to the Board, addressed in care of the Thomas County Clerk, 300 N. Court Ave., Colby, Kansas 67701. The Board will consider the proposals received at their meeting, May 19, 2008, at 9 A.M.

(Published in the Colby Free Press May 7, 9, 12 and 14, 2008.)

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