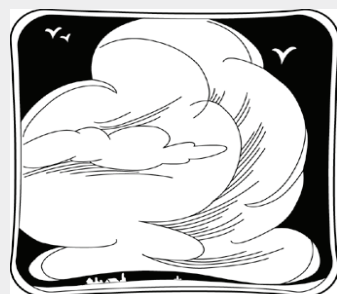


Weather Corner



Tonight...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 50s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.

Tuesday...Partly sunny. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 80s. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. Tuesday night...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Patchy fog after midnight. Lows in the upper 50s. East winds around 10 mph.

Wednesday...Mostly cloudy in the morning then becoming mostly sunny. Patchy fog in the morning. Highs around 90. Light winds becoming southeast 10 to 15 mph in the afternoon. Wednesday night...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s.

Thursday...Partly sunny. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 80s. Thursday night...Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Patchy fog after midnight. Lows in the lower 60s.

Friday...Mostly sunny. Patchy fog in the morning. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs around 90. Friday night...Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s.

Saturday and Sunday...Partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. Lows in the lower 60s.

Sunday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 90s.

Sunday's low, high: 56, 90.

Saturday's low, high: 59, 92.

Friday's low, high: 53, 84

Water usage, Friday to Sunday, average

2,732,000 gallons

3 Consecutive Days over 3.5 million will put us in a water watch

3 Consecutive Days over 4.0 million will put us in a water warning

3 Consecutive Days over 4.5 million will put us in a water emergency

A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-8367.

Norton County slowly repairs roads

By **CYNTHIA HAYNES**
c.haynes@nwkansas.com

The roads in Norton County still have a long way to go before they'll be back in shape; however, most of them are open again after storms a couple of weeks ago wrecked havoc with dirt and gravel roads and bridges.

"Basically we're still trying to get things open," Tom Brannan, county road and bridge supervisor, told the commissioners on Monday. "We had 30 miles closed. We're down to nine."

Commissioner John Miller warned Mr. Brannan that everything his crew did needed to be documented so that, hopefully, the county can get some of the money for its expending on repairs back as disaster assistance from the federal government.

"If we don't get this federal money with these repairs," he told Mr. Brannan, "your department will be broke."

"With gas prices, it's going to be broke anyway," Tom quipped wryly, noting that diesel has gone up 62 cents a gallon since the last time he ordered it.

He added that he has been saving all notes, records and photos of the work on the damaged roads and bridges.

"We're documenting everything that we're doing," he said. "The roads that were damaged, picture taking. We learned a lot from the storm last year — the ice storm."

Mr. Miller said that he expects

an inspector from the state to come out and look over the area. If the state decides that there is enough damage it will recommend that the county get money from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA.)

"If there isn't enough to ask for federal money," Mr. Miller said, "we're stuck with it (the repair expenses.)"

The further south and west you go in the county, the worse the damage, Mr. Brannan said.

"We've got everybody doing tubes and blades and getting roads reopened," he said.

Mr. Miller agreed with his assessment.

"There are places in the south part of the county where we had ditches, now they're six-feet deeper," he said.

Commissioner Leroy Lang noted that people in the country have been pretty understanding about the problems the road and bridge crew has had in fixing the roads.

Mr. Brannan said that his crew is just doing what they can to get people in and out.

"It's taking time to get washouts filled in," he said. "We're just getting them filled in; not trying to make them smooth."

He added that there will probably be a couple of roads that will be closed all summer do to damage.

"Last week the bridge crew got three bridges and a tube (fixed)," Mr. Brannan said. "They're moving as fast as they can."



This trailer floated like a cork in the flood-swollen waters of Sebelius Reservoir following torrential rains May 23. The trailer had been parked south of the main camping area. No one was in the trailer when it floated away. — Telegram photo by Sherry Hickman

Mr. Lang said that when people have asked him what the county's plan is for the roads he tells them that 1. Get people out. 2. Fix major roads and 3. Do everything else.

Mr. Brannan said one of his goals is to get everything as good

as possible for harvest.

Mr. Brannan said that as soon as he had the weekly time sheets he would figure what each repair project was costing the county.

Mr. Miller asked for an estimate of what it is costing to repair things

this year versus what it had cost last year. He added that the county may have to talk to its accountant to see what needed to be done to pay for the repair work, especially if it doesn't get federal help.

Kansas Supreme Court to hear water rights case

LAWRENCE (AP) — A dispute over the use of 1.2 billion gallons of groundwater from the Kansas River Valley will go to the Kansas Supreme Court.

An attorney for area farmer and vintner Greg Shipe said Friday that the Supreme Court has agreed to hear a challenge of a water district's use of eminent domain laws to pump groundwater from the valley between Lawrence and Eudora.

"At the end of the day, we're seeing a water supply district that is somewhat of a rogue, somewhat of a black sheep," said Burke Griggs, a Lawrence lawyer specializing in water law. "This has never been done before in the state."

Shipe and other area farmers argue that the law doesn't allow the water district to condemn property in order to obtain water rights.

But Todd Luckman, an attorney working for the water district, said the district can use eminent domain to install water pipes, pump stations and other infrastructure. He said it's similar to using eminent domain to get an easement to drill a well.

A date for a hearing before the Kansas Supreme Court has not been set.

Douglas County District Court Judge Robert Fairchild sided with the water district in April and the Supreme Court accepted the case before it went to an appeals court.

The case could have major significance for eminent domain laws, Griggs said, but Shipe is pursuing the case to protect his future agricultural operations.

Shipe grows grapes and other produce at his Davenport Orchards & Winery. He said many farmers in the valley are interested in growing fruits and vegetables but those crops will need irrigation to

survive the Kansas weather.

Shipe said the amount of water the district is seeking would make it impossible for farmers to switch to new types of agriculture operations.

"The term that is used is dewatering the valley," Shipe said. "We basically would have to go to dry-land farming, and the value of the property would just go through the floor."

Shipe and Griggs say the water district should seek available water rights from the Kansas River.

Leaders of the water district say they have a right to use the groundwater because the district is not trying to take any existing water rights. Instead, the district is seeking to prove that the area has additional water that is not currently being used.

Larry Wray, chairman of the wholesale water district and the leader of Douglas County Rural Water District No. 5, has said in the past that the wholesale district is seeking the new water to ensure its member districts have enough

water to serve households for the next 50 years.

The wholesale water district was formed by Douglas County Rural Water Districts No. 5 and No. 2

and by Osage County Rural Water District No. 5. Water pumped would be used in parts of Douglas County and areas in Osage, Franklin and Shawnee counties.

PIZZA OF THE MONTH CONTEST!

RULES FOR COMPETITION:

1. 8 Contestants will be selected by random drawing each time and will be called to meet at Gambino's Pizza at 6:00 p.m. on the day selected.
2. Each contestant will have 30 minutes to build their pizza.
3. Judging will be by independent judges.
4. All contestants will receive a \$10 gift card from Gambino's Pizza just for participating.
5. Winner will receive the "Pizza of the Month" honors and their pizza will be featured as Pizza of the Month at Gambino's Pizza and will be used in promotional materials. Winner will also receive a Family Meal Deal for themselves and 3 of their friends.
6. All decisions are final
7. Judging will be based on appearance, taste, creativity and ingredients.
8. Current employees of Gambino's Pizza are not eligible to compete.
9. Gambino's reserves the right to decline ingredient requests based on availability.
10. Deadline for entries is the Wednesday before the competition (except for the first one which shall be June 27th)



Submitted by _____
Address _____
Phone Number _____

Ingredients for your pizza _____

Pizza of the Month Contest sponsored by Gambino's Pizza of Colby, Colby Free Press and KXXX/The Ride.

Forms may be mailed or dropped off at any of the three sponsors!

Prairie Dog State Park roads to be worked on

Norton Telegram

A construction job to seal the roads and parking areas at the Prairie Dog State Park west of Norton will begin next week, said the Area One Office of the Kansas Department of Transportation in Phillipsburg.

The prime contracting firm — Hi-Plains Sand Inc., of Kanopolis — will start the resurfacing project the week of June 16, weather permitting. The process will smooth the road and fill surface defects that can eventually shorten the pavement life. Workers will first spread a thin layer of asphalt over the pavement then coat it with a layer of lightweight aggregate, which is then pressed into place with heavy rollers.

"Areas of the park will be inaccessible for a short period of time as this fast-moving process occurs," explains Transportation Department Construction Engineer Travis Scott. "People wanting to gain access to the park may experience a short delay during the construction process."

The estimated cost of the construction project is \$128, 283.

VOTE WYRICK



District Judge, Div. 2

I will be visiting Brewster on Saturday, June 20th @ 5 p.m.

"Come on out to the park and enjoy refreshments and conversation! I look forward to seeing you there!"

Integrity, Equality & Respect!

Paid political ad by Wyrick for Judge, Jerry Vincent, Treasurer.

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