Weather Corner



National Weather Service Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 37. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday: Increasing clouds, with a high near 73. Breezy, with a south wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45. Breezy, with a southeast wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Wednesday: Isolated showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 71. Windy, with a south wind between 20 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20

Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy and windy, with a low around

Friday: High, 58; Low 27 Saturday: High, 60; Low 34 Sunday: High, 42; Low 37 Precip: Friday 0.00 inches Saturday 0.25 inches Sunday 0.31 inches 0.67 inches Month: Year: 1.85 inches Normal: 3.89 inches (K-State Experiment Station)



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Red Helzer looked pleased as punch when he picked up his brand-new truck on March 25 at Taylor Motors in Colby.

Winners get to 'build' pickup

From "TRUCK," Page 1

The couple said they use SweepstakesToday.com to find the contests they enter.

Della said the website puts sweepstakes and contests all on to Benkleman for more therapy. one site with a forum with tips on iPod and a rechargeable razor.

Red picked up the Dodge pickup from Taylor about the time that Della left to go to Hester House she rides her motorized scooter strength, especially in her hands.

"I got good physical therapy there and got exercises to do at

liked to stay longer, but I had to out a way. get back to continue my treatments for bladder cancer."

This is her second round of cancer treatment, she said. After the treatment, she would like to return

"I looked forward to the mail entering. They have also won an I got at the old folks' home," she said with a laugh. "The cancer was pretty localized."

In good weather, Della said, in Benkelman, Neb., for reha- around town to run errands. She bilitation therapy to build some has multiple sclerosis and is no longer able to walk.

she would get to ride in the truck, home," she said. "I would have but Red thought he could figure ture might be.

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"He takes good care of me," said Della. "I'm a full-time job."

Red retired from the Goodland city Public Works Department in 2002. Della said they traveled a couple of months after that, visiting 15 states including Maine.

The next year, she said, they went to southern California.

The couple said they didn't know where they would go in the new pickup. Della said she would like to go see Red's mother, Beulah Roberts, in Ness City, who will have her 100th birthday in Della said she didn't know if September, but they really didn't know where their next big adven-

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Music is life's theme

From "MUSIC," Page 1

here in 1975, she has filled offices from second vice president to president. She has gone through the offices in PEO since joining the group in 1997, and has been a member and officer for Pi Gamma, a community service club, since 1974.

Besides a passion for volunteer work, her love of the arts led to her involvement with Western Plains. She has served the group since 1999. She was also instrumental in getting the regional Pride of the Plains Orchestra on its feet.

Kriss is an accomplished pianist. Her love of piano is no accident. She lived with her grandparents the first two years of her life because of her mother's ill health and her grandfather, a music teacher, spent lots of time with her. Kriss said her mother, Dora George, had tuberculosis at the time of her birth, and her dad, Max, was away in the military, so the new baby was placed in the care of her grandparents.

When her dad returned, he and his brothers, known as the Five George Brothers, sang for lots of gatherings. Kriss said she was just destined to a life of music.

The family moved to Colby when Kriss was 3 to be near her dad's family, She grew up in Colby, and as a youngster took piano lessons through the school. She said most of her time after school was spent practicing. Her passion for the piano earned

her the Kansas Music Teachers Association Outstanding Teacher award in 1999. She now is state president of that organization. Kriss said she has taught nearly

500 piano students in her career.

"Now I'm having kids whose parents are former students," she said, "and there are 40 active stu-

dents now." She is a member of the Northwest Piano Teachers League and the National Music Teachers Association. She has served as a gubernatorial appointee on the Kansas Arts Commission.

Kriss said her love of public service began in high school.

"The school didn't have girls sports when I was in school," she said, "but there were lots of places in the community for kids to volunteer, so that's what I did. I liked it, and I saw the value in it."

When Citizens Medical Center organized, Kriss said, she jumped in with both feet. She served on the hospital's advisory board from 1986 to 1993, the endowment committee from 1988 to 1991, the foundation board from 1993 to her retirement April 2, and the corporation membership board from 1993 to present.

Kriss said she has lived in Colby since she was 3, except for attending Kansas State University, and when her husband Joel served with the infantry in Vietnam. He is a retired lawyer and farmer.

The will be moving to Manhattan soon to be near their children and grandchildren.

"The move is being made a lot easier because Mom and Dad are moving to nearby Junction City,' she said, "so looking in on them often will be real easy to do."

The Kriss' son, Joel Lee Kriss, an engineer, lives in Silver Lake with wife Dawn and daughters Kelsey and Kenzie. Daughter Kristy Lowe is a physical therapist living in Olathe with husband Todd and daughter, Evelyn.

It's really hard to leave Colby, Kriss said, "but it will be so fun to be close to the grandkids and be involved in their school events.... We'll be back from time to time, but Colby will always be my

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