# **Area/State**

Weather

National Weather Service

Tonight: Clear, with a low

around 27. South wind between

Saturday: Sunny, with a high

near 56. Breezy, with a south

wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy,

with a low around 30. Calm wind

becoming north between 10 and

Sunday: Sunny, with a high

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy,

Monday: A slight chance of

rain and snow. Mostly cloudy,

with a high near 45. Chance of

Monday Night: A slight chance of rain and snow. Partly

cloudy, with a low around 20.

Chance of precipitation is 20

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear,

Wednesday: Sunny, with a

Wednesday Night: Mostly

Thanksgiving Day: Sunny,

Thursday: High, 51; Low 25 Precip: Thursday 0.00 inches

(K-State Experiment Station)

Got news?

Call 462-3963

0.30 inches

25.49 inches

19.95 inches

clear, with a low around 25.

precipitation is 20 percent.

near 51. North wind 5 to 15 mph

becoming southwest.

with a low around 29.

5 and 10 mph.

15 mph.

percent.

a high near 47.

high near 51.

with a low around 23.

with a high near 53.

Month:

Normal:

Year:

Corner

## City mulls proposed power, water rate increases

#### From "RATES," Page 1

In the summer, the study says, average residential use is 1,500 kilowatt hours per month. Under the current rates, an average user would have a bill of \$142.25. Under the new rates, the user would pay \$142.50. In the winter, when average residential usage is 500 kilowatt-hours, the current bill would be \$49.60 and the proposed bill would be \$49.80.

information, Councilman Fred Taylor said he was glad that even the proposed rates are at or below those of surrounding cities. Norton has a \$4 meter charge for

both residential and commercial. Oberlin charges \$5 while Goodland does not have a meter charge. Norton's residential charge is \$0.1769 for the first 80 kilowatthours, and the price is lowered The study compared the city's for usage above that. Their com-

rates with those of surround- mercial charge is \$0.1910 for the counteract this. ing communities. Reviewing the first 100 kilowatt-hours and lower above that. Oberlin charges a flat rate of \$0.1250 per kilowatt hour and Goodland charges a flat rate of \$0.1120 for residential and \$0.0986 for commercial.

McKenzie also did a study of the is in a similar predicament. Revenues in 2008 were \$633,637 and expenditures were \$830,009. Under the current rate structure, estimated revenues for next year will drop by more than \$44,000 while expenditures will rise by about \$72,000. The surplus will be gone by 2011. The study recommended from \$0.63 to \$0.95. For a pipe a 54.9 percent increase in rates to over 3 inches, the city is recom-

The city administration's recommendation is to increase the residential meter charge for the first 3,000 gallons from \$10 to \$20 and the charge per 1,000 gallons after that from \$0.70 to \$1.05.

For an average residential user water fund, which he concluded in the summer, this would mean an increase in the bill from \$35.90 to \$58.85. Average residential usage in the summer is 40,000 gallons per month.

> The recommended commercial rate would double the existing meter charge and raising the charge per 1,000 gallons after that

mending that the charge per 1,000 gallons after the initial 3,000 go from \$0.60 to \$0.95.

Average motel usage in the summer is 281,000 gallons, the study says. This would make for a bill under the current rate structure of \$222.14, and a bill under the proposed rate structure of \$358.10.

Armstrong said she realized some of the increases could have been done in smaller increments over the past 15 years instead of in one larger increase. The city's Utility Rate Committee had reviewed and recommended the council passed the increase, she said.

### **Colby Kiwanis** hangs tree with care

#### From "TREE," Page 1

Genesis at this time of year, and as far as I know, the three have worked together for a long time. The fire department has the bicycle program, Genesis has the food baskets and we collect toys."

The Kiwanis Club keeps 35 members busy during the year for philanthropic activities, he said.

in the spring, the fire works display during the Fourth of July, the Pumpkin Patch and a pancake feed in the fall, and the Toy Tree at Christmas, Hankin said, besides teaming up with the fire department at the Colby Gun and Coin show for an annual raffle.

It sponsors the Easter Egg Hunt

For information or questions, with fund raising projects to pay call Tina Harris, chairman of the Christmas Toys project, at 462-8008, or Hankin at 460-4454.

# New group at Colby High aims to help the less fortunate

#### From "HELP," Page 1

Genesis-Thomas County food drive and the Colby Kiwanis Club's Toy Tree.

Genesis provides food for the less fortunate, he said, and the toy project hopes to collect Christmas gifts for between 160 and 200 kids.

Tina Harris, committee chairman for the toy Dollar General each list a child's age and sex. Saturday, Dec. 12.

People can take an ornament off the tree and buy a gift for the child. Names are never revealed, but volunteers will get the gifts to the right children.

After a person buys a gift for the child at Dollar General or another store, Kiwanis members will pick it up. Harris said. She said the club will buy presents for children whose ornaments are not taken. Volunteers will wrap the gifts on Monday, project, said paper ornaments hung on a tree at Dec. 6. The food and presents will be distributed



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## **Eisenhower Library** offers quilt challenge

ABILENE — The Eisenhower be pieced, quilted and labeled by Presidential Library and Museum a single person, group, or school. has announced a Veterans Day Quilts of Valor Challenge, giving participants nearly a year to work on their creations.

Quilts will be collected and put on display in time for Veter- a minimum size of 50 inches by ans Day, 2010. After the show, the quilts will be distributed to wounded service men and women in partnership with the Quilts of Valor Foundation and Kansas Quilts of Valor.

The program is being organized by Jan Hottman at the library.

Quilts of Valor provides heirloom-quality quilts for men and women who have been injured hower.archives.gov. serving our country. Quilts may

If you are not able to complete the quilting, submit the top with backing and label to be completed by volunteers.

Quilt entries should be between 60 inches and a maximum of 72 by 96, and include matching binding and backing. The backing should be a surplus of 4 inches on all four sides. Standard or twin size pillowcases made from extra material should be included. These can later be used for storing the quilts.

For details, go to www.eisen-

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