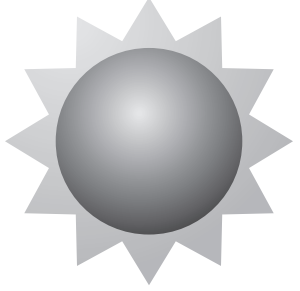


Weather
Corner



National Weather Service

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 63. Breezy, with a south southeast wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 93. Breezy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts up to 30 mph.

Saturday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 59. Breezy, with a south wind 10 to 20 mph becoming north northwest. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Sunday: Partly cloudy; high near 74. Breezy, with a northeast wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 48.

Memorial Day: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 77.

Monday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 55.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy; high near 83.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 56.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 83.

Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 55.

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 83.

Thursday: High, 87; Low 61

Precip: Thursday 0.00 inches

Month: 2.66 inches

Year: 8.31 inches

Normal: 7.24 inches

(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset

Saturday 6:21 a.m. 9:03 p.m.

Sunday 6:20 a.m. 9:04 p.m.

Monday 6:20 a.m. 9:04 p.m.

(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Man bites man over dog fight


NEW CITY, N.Y. (AP) – It wasn’t quite man-bites-dog, but there were men and there were dogs and there was biting.

A sheriff’s office said Monday that one man bit another during a fight over a couple of dogs at a park in suburban New York City.

Rockland County sheriff’s Capt. William Barbera says two dog owners got into it Sunday night. One didn’t like the way their pets were playing at a dog park in New City, about 30 miles north of New York.

Barbera says that a third man tried to break up the fight and that one of the combatants bit him on the wrist. He says that no one has been arrested, but that the case is still being investigated.

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Blaine Younger Band
Ricky Fugitt
Lucas Maddy

Principal, teachers, staff retire from district

From “RETIRE,” Page 1

kids go through a metal detector every day. He said the administrators said there are so many problems, they have to pick their battles, to find one they can win. The other administrators said rural schools may not appreciate how blessed they are.

“Mr Krebs is one of a kind,” Harrison said during the retirement program. We all remember the times that he would part in the kids fun, like allowing them to throw pie in his face; he was named Principal of the Year; there was the early blizzard of 1998 when he helped clear off the football field so we could have a game; he helped with the move from the old high school to the new one.”

“Mr. Krebs will always hold a very special place in our hearts, and the legacy he leaves with the students,” Harrison said, “the way he handles them and the incredible things they will do because they respect him.”

Krebs will not be replaced with a new principal. Activities Director Larry Gable and Middle School Principal Rob Ross will double up on principal duties by going back and forth between the high school and the middle school until a time when school budgets aren’t so tight.

Joyce Mahin

You might say Joyce Mahin and education are synonymous when talking about schools in Colby. Mahin began her career in the Colby Public Schools in 1964 where she taught middle school English through 1967. She moved to the high school library in 1968 to help Principal J.H. Nickel revamp the high school library.

From there she went to Colby Community College for three years, but moved back to the public school library in 1980 where she has spent the rest of her teaching career, except for a two year hiatus in Germany while her husband taught for the Department of Defense.

Mahin said she has seen many changes over the years, with the most significant being that books are now secondary to the

Mahin

Internet for reference material.

Mahin is credited with instigating the Accountable Reading program in the Colby schools. She said grades three through eight read 4,000 books in one year and are tested over their retention of what they have read. She noted that the program encourages other students to read, and has boosted the school’s reading scores every year, she noted

“Libraries are so much more than books now,” Mahin said, “there are computers, DVDs, audio and video tapes, magazines, visual equipment and other resource equipment found in the library now.”

Mahin was busy on Monday with volunteers who were doing inventory on the 14,128 books and pieces of equipment for just the middle school library, but her job wouldn’t be finished until she had inventoried the grade school and high school libraries too.

“The three libraries have a total of 44,318 pieces to be accounted for,” she said, and we’re doing it with a lot of volunteer help, because we don’t have the budget to have paid personnel. We couldn’t do it without our volunteers,” she added.

Mahin said she and her husband Cal have sold their home in Colby and will be moving to Hays later this summer where they own an antique store, operated by their daughter Liesel Keller for the past four years.

“I may come back once a month or so, for a few months to do some consulting,” she said, “because transitions are always hard.”

Shirley Parnell

Shirley Parnell was fresh out of a bank in York, Neb., where she counted money and talked to people as a teller, when the Colby school bookkeeping job came open.

“I was forced into applying by the daughter of a friend,” Parnell said, “and I resisted. I knew nothing about computers, and I’m strictly a people person, but once I got into it I loved it and would still be there today if my health wouldn’t have interfered.”

She said she worked half days year-round, from 1994 until March of this year, when she became ill.

“We were as busy or maybe even busier through the summer than through the school months because we ordered supplies for the entire year,” she added.

One of the things she noted in changes through the past 16 years, was the way they did purchase orders. She said the old way was to feed paper into the machine, push a button and wait for it to print, but now all it takes is a “click” and it’s finished.

She said at first she missed being in touch with the public, but her coworkers at the school soon became one big happy family.

“When I first started, I was tucked away in a small, small room in the old hospital, but it was always fun,” she said.

Parnell said she thoroughly enjoyed her job, and always intended to work as long as she could, no matter what age she attained.

“But my health put a stop to my working,” she added. “I’m feeling pretty good now, but just don’t have the stamina to keep up with the job.”

“I worked with some really good people and it was always fun to go to work,” she said.

Mary Schlick

Mary Schlick has been a familiar face at the Colby Middle School since the fall of 1994, when she started as a paraprofessional helping vision-impaired students.

“I helped them get from class to class, took notes, helped with tests and even learned a little braille while I was at it,” she said.

When the school created a sub-clerk position, Schlick worked part time in that role, and part time as middle school secretary.

She said as clerk, she took attendance not only every day, but several times a day to satisfy state requirements.

“Kids are always coming and going, like on orthodontist day,” she said, “then there’s sports, and other things kids go to, and the state wants everyone tracked.”

Schlick said that being a stay-at-home mom until her youngest of five children was three and a half, was like being in her own little world. She said stepping into the middle school was a whole new experience.

“They’ve been really good years,” she said. “Rob Ross has been great to work for and Deann (Shields) and I have grown so

Schlick

close, it makes it hard to leave.”

Schlick said she has lots to catch up on and will be busy.

“My husband is looking forward to having me around, and I’m sure he has plenty for me to do,” she added.

Judy Shull

Judy Shull, a 19-year veteran of teaching in Colby Grade School, says her love for teaching concentrated phonics to first and second graders makes it difficult to retire from her post. She says there is a real need for someone to carry on the program, where by the end of first grade, students have already learned how to divide words into syllables.

“It is a sequential program,” she said, “where we begin with sounds, then letter formation and tapping out simple three letter words. They learn to recognize letters, and write words and then sentences. The teachers who teach writing say they can see a huge difference, because students know how to spell and how to write sentences after learning phonics.

“This is the second year for first and second grade to have the phonics program,” she added.

Shull began teaching half days in 1991, then went full time in 1993. She said she enjoyed the “looping” program where a teacher stayed with the same class for two years.

She praised the school system for the transition meetings where teachers can transition strengths and weaknesses in academics for students passing from one grade to the next, throughout the school district.

She said she believes Colby has a good reputation for helping students through teacher communication. She said that students who observe respect among the teachers, and see teachers who are willing to help all the students can’t help but set a good example for them

Shull said she plans to rest for a while after retirement, to work in her yard.

“I’m toying with doing some private tutoring, but probably not for a while,” she said. “I just need to survey what’s out there.”

Shull

Governor writes new state budget through vetoes

By John Hanna
Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA – Gov. Mark Parkinson on Thursday rewrote part of Kansas’ next budget, using vetoes to stop an attack on greenhouse gas regulations and to protect Planned Parenthood, public broadcasting and state employees’ pay.

He signed a \$13.7 billion budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1 and a bill raising the state’s 5.3 percent sales tax to 6.3 percent to sustain the spending. He also signed a bill imposing a new tax on nursing home beds to attract additional federal funds.

Parkinson removed 11 budget provisions with his power to veto individual items. They included a 5 percent pay cut for elected officials, their staffs, judges and top state managers, as well as restrictions on government employees’ out-of-state travel.

He rejected a provision that would have kept the state from sending federal funds to Planned Parenthood for non-abortion services for poor Kansans. He vetoed an item diverting half of the state funds for public broadcasting stations to veterans’ programs.

He excised a provision that would have prevented the state from spending money to draft rules controlling greenhouse gas emissions, which scientists have

linked to global warming. He sided with two major utilities that fear the federal government would strip the state of its power to regulate pollution.

The Republican-controlled Legislature planned to reconvene Friday for a brief adjournment ceremony. It wasn’t clear whether lawmakers would attempt to override any of the Democratic governor’s actions.

“The governor has thrown his political support to left-wing political interests,” said Sen. Tim Huelskamp, a conservative Fowler Republican who pushed the greenhouse gas and Planned Parenthood provisions.

Parkinson focused on the broad budget picture Thursday. The sales tax increase is expected to raise \$314 million during the next fiscal year so the state can avoid additional cuts in aid to public schools, social services and other government programs.

He also used his veto power to eliminate a misdrafted provision that mistakenly threatened up to \$44 million in funds for the higher education system.

“We have seized the opportunity to put Kansas ahead of the curve in attracting jobs and stimulating the economy while other states continue to struggle,” Parkinson said in a statement. “Now, Kansas is poised for the economic recovery it deserves.”


Huelskamp’s provision on greenhouse gas regulations really was aimed at the federal Environmental Protection Agency. He said he doesn’t want the state to participate in EPA efforts to control such emissions, fearing they will hurt the economy.

His goal was to slow or stop the EPA with the state’s resistance.

“The real beneficiaries of today’s veto are radical environmentalists,” said Jeff Glendening, a Kansas Chamber of Commerce lobbyist.

But the EPA’s regional administrator in Kansas City, Mo., had warned Parkinson that the agency could intervene if the provision stood.

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