

Weather



National Weather Service  
**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 16. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.  
**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 42. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.  
**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 18. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.  
**Christmas Day:** Sunny, with a high near 48. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest.  
**Sunday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 21.  
**Monday:** Sunny, with a high near 45.  
**Monday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 22.  
**Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 43.  
**Tuesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 23.  
**Wednesday:** Sunny, with a high near 48.  
**Wednesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 26.  
**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 52.

Thursday: High, 00; Low 00  
Precip: Thursday Trace  
Month: 0.67 inches  
Year: 20.23 inches  
Normal: 20.65 inches  
(K-State Experiment Station)  
**Sunrise and Sunset**  
Saturday 8:02 a.m. 5:26 p.m.  
Sunday 8:02 a.m. 5:26 p.m.  
Monday 8:03 a.m. 5:27 p.m.  
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

An unexpected concert



Farmers & Merchants Bank had a few surprise visits Wednesday during their open house. The barbershop chorus sang some Christmas songs and Santa and Mrs. Claus came with their elf and handed out candy canes.

Old pool demolition almost ready for bids

From “POOL,” Page 1

city should give the new owners another 90 days to clean the property up.

- Transferred \$100,000 to the Water Reserve Fund. The cash balance in the Water Fund was enough at the end of the year to transfer the \$100,000 to the reserve, which now has \$501,405.
- Approved rezoning all of the Southwind Plaza Addition from C-2, neighborhood commercial district, to C-3, heavy commercial. The Colby Planning Commission recommended the change at the request of the owners, who plan

to put a bottling operation for the 101st Earthborn Products in the Southwind Plaza.

- Annexed a tract of land in Block One of the Davis Family Legacy Subdivision. The property is on the east side of Sewell Avenue across from Fairview Retirement Estates.
- Denied a request to rezone a lot of the Pine Hill Addition from single family dwelling to multiple family dwelling. At a public hearing of the planning commission, 15 neighbors showed up in opposition to the proposal. The commission voted against it as well, recommending the council deny the proposal.

High school eyes agriculture grant

From “GRANT,” Page 1

some of the funding at the levels districts have been struggling with. Schools can raise local mill levies, she said, but citizens can protest.

Some of the funding proposal is confusing, she said, and it still has to go before the legislature, who could change the plan significantly.

Board Vice President Tracy Rogers said he had recently attended an Educational Service Center meeting where the funding proposal was talked about. Harrison said the state will still be funding special education, but said that some districts may no longer be able to afford their share, and some service centers may have to close.

Harrison said that, if it is approved, the plan will go into effect for the 2013-2014 school year.

- High school Principal Larry Gabel said the school will recognize the state champion track team between the girls and boys basketball games on Tuesday, Jan. 3, at the Community Building. Gabel said some of the team members who graduated will be

back in town that day.

- Weiland said the coordinating council met earlier in December. One of the things the group looked at was the writing assessment. Weiland said the assessment hasn't been given in the past three years.
- “When you don't give that assessment, some of the skills and accountability goes away,” she said.
- Weiland showed the board a project by the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Volunteers clipped every news story concerning the school district from the *Colby Free Press* going back to 1983 and put them together in a binder. Board Member Brice Barton requested that a resolution be drawn up for the next meeting to thank the volunteers for their work.
- The board appointed Mary Beth Flanagan as the new board clerk. Flanagan is taking over for Rhonda Kropp, who is moving to a part-time position in the district.
- The board accepted the resignations of para-professionals Lauren Buhler and Dana Inlow and cross country coach Bob Mannebach.

Briefly

Pets available at clinic for adoption

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a 2-year-old neutered male corgi, a 2-year-old male miniature pinscher and a 5-month-old male black and white kitten available for adoption. Lost or strayed animals are often brought to the clinic. Call or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have current shots, and costs are minimal. For questions, call 460-8621.

Community foundation looking for grantees

The Thomas County Community Foundation is accepting grant applications for the fourth quarter grant cycle. Applications are due by Saturday, Dec. 31. Grants are available for alcohol and drug abuse prevention education, outdoor youth skills and more. Visit [www.thomascountycommunityfoundation.com](http://www.thomascountycommunityfoundation.com) for an application.

Sanitation schedule to change for holidays

The City of Colby Sanitation Department will not be working on Monday. Trucks will pick up Monday's residential trash route on Tuesday. The Sanitation trucks will also not be running on Monday, Jan. 2. Monday's residential route will be picked up on Tuesday, Jan. 3. Have your tipper can to the curb by 8 a.m. For information, call the Public Works Department at (785) 460-4420.

Landfill to close for holiday weekend

The Thomas County Landfill will close Friday, Sunday and Monday for the Christmas holiday. It will be open from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. For information, call 462-8139.

College pool, gym closed until Jan. 2

The Colby Community College pool will be closed through Sunday, Jan. 1, for renovations and repairs. The pool will reopen on Monday, Jan. 2. The college fitness lab will be closed Saturday through Jan. 1. It will also reopen on Jan. 2. For information, call 460-5411.

Ring the bell for the Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is in need of bell-ringers for its Walmart kettle. Money raised is used locally. To volunteer, call Sue Draper at 462-7511.

Courthouse entrance closed for stair repair

The west entrance of the Thomas County Courthouse will be closed while repairs are made to the stairs. For information, call 460-4500.

Get a Colby Eagles flag and support the team

The Colby High School boys basketball team is selling Colby Eagle flags to raise money for the team. The 3- by 5-foot flags are \$55 each. To order a flag, call 443-2763.

Stranger donates \$10,000

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — Salvation Army officers in south-central Kansas' Cowley County say it was like a scene from “It's a Wonderful Life” when a stranger showed up this week to save their Christmas Angel Tree campaign.

The campaign helps ensure that children in need don't go without gifts at Christmas.

Salvation Army Maj. David Bump told *The Arkansas City Traveler* (<http://bit.ly/vRPiVh>) the Cowley County fundraising effort was roughly \$10,000 short of its goal on Monday. Then a stranger entered the organization's store on Tuesday and handed over a \$10,000 check for the Angel Tree campaign.

Bump's wife, Maj. Randi Bump, says the man had called a few days earlier with detailed questions about the Angel Tree program, but the check was still a surprise.

Randi Bump declined to release the generous donor's name.

Oakley chamber hires new director

From “OAKLEY,” Page 1

They also plan to help with a car show in June, a Girls Day Out event set for October and the Governor's Hunt in November.

Thrasher said she intends to spend much of her time out in the community but will keep

regular office hours from 8 to 11 a.m. daily. Her office is located at 216 Center Ave. in Oakley.

Thrasher is the daughter of Bill and Laura Goetz of Oakley and has a son, Corey, who is nine. She is a graduate of Oakley High School and Fort Hays State University.

May the beauty and joy of this season... Refresh your spirit and brighten your life.

Merry Christmas!

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LOCAL TV Listings

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Monday Evening	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Rudolph's Shiny Year		You Deserve It		Castle		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	How I Met	2 Broke G	Two Men	Mike	Hawaii Five-0		Local	Late Show Letterman	Late	
KSNK/NBC	Still Standing		Fear Factor		Rock Center		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	Late	
KSAS/FOX	House		House		Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	Hoarders		Hoarders		Intervention		Intervention		Hoarders	
AMC	The Polar Express				The Polar Express				League-Own	
ANIM	The Haunted		The Haunted		The Haunted		The Haunted		The Haunted	
BRAYO	Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives	
CMT	Beer for My Horses				Tombstone					
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	Work.	South Pk	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	South Pk	South Pk
DISC	Storm Chasers		The Earth Wild		Raw Alaska		The Earth Wild		Raw Alaska	
DISN	Random		A Bug's Life				Jessie	Austin	Random	Wizards
E!	Kourtney and Kim		E! Special		Scouted		Chelsea		E! Special	
ESPN	Countdown		NFL Football						SportsCenter	
ESPN2	Football		Poker-Eu.		Poker - Europe		SportsCtr		Science	
FAM	Pirates-Carib.						The 700 Club		Whose?	
FOOD	Diners, Drive		Diners		Diners		Diners		Diners	
FX	27 Dresses						27 Dresses			
HGTV	Love It or List It		House		House		House		House	
HIST	Pawn		Pawn		Pawn		American Pickers		Pawn	
LIFE	Wife Swap		One Born Ev.		America's Supernanny		How I Met		Wife Swap	
MTV	Awkward.		Awkward.		Awkward.		Teen Mom 2		Teen Mom 2	
NICK	My Wife		My Wife		70s Show		Friends		Friends	
SCI	Being Human		Being Human		Being Human		Being Human		Being Human	
SPIKE	Brothers		Band of Brothers		Band of Brothers		Band of Brothers		Band of Brothers	
TBS	Fam. Guy		Fam. Guy		Fam. Guy		Fam. Guy		Office	
TCM	Little Dorrit Part I						Little Dorrit			
TLC	Cake Boss:Next		Candy		Candy		Cake Boss:Next		Cake Boss:Next	
TNT	The Closer		Rizzoli & Isles		The Closer		Rizzoli & Isles		Rizzoli & Isles	
TOON	Adventure		MAD		King/Hill		Amer. Dad		Fam. Guy	
TRAV	The Layover		The Layover		No Reservation		Hidden City		The Layover	
TV LAND	Home Imp.		Home Imp.		Raymond		Raymond		Cleveland	
USA	Nat'l Treasure		WWE Monday Night RAW				King		King	
VH1	Love & Hip Hop		T.I.-Tiny		Love & Hip Hop		T.I.-Tiny		Love & Hip Hop	
WGN	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		News/Nine		NBA Basketball			
Premium Channels										
HBO	Diary-Rodrick		The Losers				Boxing's Best		Boxing's Best	
MAX	Hereafter				The Nutty Professor		Bad Boys II			
SHOW	The Sum of All Fears				Fair Game				Piranha	

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