

Weather

National Weather Service

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 57. Breezy, with a south wind between 10 and 20 mph...

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 88.

Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 9 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 56.

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 4 p.m. Sunny, with a high near 93.

Friday Night: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 7 p.m. Partly cloudy and breezy, with a low around 60.

Saturday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 83.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 76.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.

Monday: High, 81; Low 44
Tuesday: High, 88; Low 50
Precip: Monday None, Tuesday None
Month: 0.34 inches, Year: 4.84 inches, Normal: 7.21 inches

County approves plan resolution

From "COUNTY," Page 1

make additional efforts throughout the fall to counter the annual problem.

"I don't pretend to not have any myself, so I understand how difficult it is to get the thistle under control," said Depe...

Commissioner Chairman Ken Christiansen agreed.

"One treatment just doesn't cut it," he said. "We must be vigilant every year, and we have the same problem with the prairie dogs."

Depe said old prairie dog holes are a real problem on his property.

"Because of the way they burrow straight down," he said, "they just get bigger and bigger and after 40 years or so, I've lost two calves that have suffocated in those old prairie dog holes."

Hickert said he hasn't had any luck filling a paramedic position.

Hickert was given authorization to offer payroll deductions to students who receive training on employment with the county.

He was also given approval to plan a Business After 5 event for the ambulance service.

A proposed natural gas contract with Seminole Energy Services was tabled to Monday since the county's current energy provider, Oneok, has not responded to a request for information.

Budget requests were received from the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging, the Brewster Senior Center and High Plains Mental Health.

A bill for \$3,186 was approved for insulation on the east side of the 4-H building.

Thomas County Health Department Director Kasiah Rothchild told commissioners that the nursing vacancy left by Amy Knipp, who moved to Hays, will be filled by Diana Middleton.

Road and bridge supervisor Clair Schrock was given permission to look into incentive programs to replace a 1991 New Holland skid loader that has been used 1,653 hours in about 20 years.

He said they recently spent \$1,200 to replace the

He said all of the married applicants have turned down the job because of the county's insurance package, which favors singles.

He was given authorization to offer payroll deductions to students who receive training on employment with the county.

He was also given approval to plan a Business After 5 event for the ambulance service.

A proposed natural gas contract with Seminole Energy Services was tabled to Monday since the county's current energy provider, Oneok, has not responded to a request for information.

Budget requests were received from the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging, the Brewster Senior Center and High Plains Mental Health.

A bill for \$3,186 was approved for insulation on the east side of the 4-H building.

Thomas County Health Department Director Kasiah Rothchild told commissioners that the nursing vacancy left by Amy Knipp, who moved to Hays, will be filled by Diana Middleton.

Road and bridge supervisor Clair Schrock was given permission to look into incentive programs to replace a 1991 New Holland skid loader that has been used 1,653 hours in about 20 years.

He said they recently spent \$1,200 to replace the



CHRISTINA BERINGER/Colby Free Press

Joe Hickert, director of the Thomas County Emergency Medical Service, showed commissioners and County Clerk Shelly Harms the contents of a new "jump kit" carried on the ambulances.

"brains" of the machine after the computer part was stolen a couple of weeks ago.

He was given permission to take bids for a narrower rotary disk mower for Rovohl Town-

ship.

The next meeting will begin at 9 a.m. Monday. The meeting is open and the public is welcome.

Court asked to settle redistricting fight

From "COURT," Page 1

Kriegshauser also said in the court filing that Kansas election officials have until June 23 to distribute ballots to military personnel overseas if the state plans to have its primary on schedule.

He wrote that legislators and the Kansas Supreme Court have too little time to approve and review redistricting proposals.

GOP conservatives believe the proposal before the Senate is designed to keep the chamber's moderate Republicans in power and allow them to check conservative Gov. Sam Brown-

back's agenda. Many lawmakers believe alternatives offered by conservatives aim to help them oust the Senate's current leaders.

The bill would draw three conservative Republican candidates out of districts where they're challenging incumbent GOP senators.

As the Senate prepared for its debate, lawmakers differed about Kobach's court filing, which came on the 95th day of the Legislature's annual session, five more than its leaders scheduled.

During a stormy Tuesday evening caucus of GOP senators on redistricting, several conservatives suggested that the feuding factions would never agree and that it was time to leave the setting of new political boundaries to the courts.

Masterson said today that Kobach's request is "prudent action."

Four graduate from Brewster High on Saturday

By Kevin Bottrell

Goodland Star-News kbottrell@nwkans.com

Two Brewster High students and two foreign exchange students received their diplomas at the school's commencement Saturday.

The area students were Kasey Mae Hoyt and Aaron Luckert. Hoyt, the daughter of Keith and Christina Hoyt, will be studying secondary education at Colby Community College.

The foreign exchange students were Luiz Fernando de Arruda from Brazil and Corinna Hanisch from Germany.

De Arruda, who has been staying with Peggy Ohlogge, plans to go to law school. Hanisch has been staying with Jim and Jessica House; she plans to be a flight attendant and study hotel management.

Brewster Superintendent and Principal Janci Mills spoke.

"You're giving your parents the best gift you can give them," she told the graduates, "earning your diploma."

That diploma, she added, is an opportunity and a commitment to go forward and continue a lifetime of learning.

Mills said the students should never underestimate the small school they came from, because the teachers and staff at Brewster have given them everything they

need. Turning back to graduation, Mills said it is an emotional day. She noted that Hoyt and Luckert have been together in the Brewster schools for 13 years.

"You are leaving your comfort zone," she said. "I'm sure what you discover will be wonderful, and what you discover will be yourself."

Luckert, the salutatorian, and Hoyt, the valedictorian, made a joint speech. Luckert said he and Hoyt had indeed been together a long time, since kindergarten, in fact.

Hoyt began by describing people's reaction when she tells them the size of her class. Many are surprised, she said, but that small size doesn't mean there

aren't a lot of memories. She and Luckert reminisced about the pranks they played on each other and the fall play where they forgot their lines.

They acknowledged their exchange student friends, saying they had picked up many Americanism as well as making their own impact on the school.

"They became a part of this family, whether they like it or not," Hoyt said.

The pair thanked the town for its support and thanked their parents.

"We hope that someday we can give this community as much as it's given us," Hoyt said.

The district held an eighth-grade graduation and baccalaureate earlier in the day.

LOCAL TV Listings logo with 'Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS' text.

Table of TV listings for Thursday Evening, May 17, 2012. Columns include time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and various channel programs.

Friday Evening May 18, 2012

Table of TV listings for Friday Evening, May 18, 2012. Columns include time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and various channel programs.

American Profile advertisement: 'We Celebrate Hometown Life. Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.' Includes a grid of program listings.

Briefly

Selden Antique Show will feature cars, cycles

The 19th Annual Selden Antique Tractor and Classic Car show is coming up on Sunday, June 3, with events ranging from a 10 a.m. horseshoe pitching competition to a 3 p.m. parade.

Economic Development to meet on Thursday

The Thomas County Economic Development Alliance board will meet at 8 a.m. Thursday at the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range Ave.

Library plans event to mark reopening

The Pioneer Memorial Library will reopen at 9 a.m. Friday. An open house with cookies and iced tea from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday will show off the new look.

New church to gather for worship on Sunday

The old church at Third and Range is open with a new congregation as Faith Fellowship at 2 p.m. on Sundays. Come enjoy old-time gospel songs, along with newer songs, and join in an opportunity to worship God in spirit and truth.

Prairie Museum features art club's work

The Prairie Museum of Art and History has a free exhibit by members of the High Plains Art Club up through the end of the month. Works include oils, acrylics, watercolors, mixed media and ceramics.

Federal employees to meet at restaurant

The Colby Chapter of the National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees will meet at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, May 24, at Montana Mike's.

College offering class for health students

The Colby Community College adult education and nursing departments are offering a free class for students studying for or considering health care professions from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday, May 25, in the Rooks Room.