

Weather



National Weather Service Tonight: A 20 percent chance of rain after 3 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 33. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming light and variable in the evening.

Saturday: A chance of rain and snow before 2 p.m., then a slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 43. Light and variable wind becoming east 5 to 10 mph in the morning. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Saturday Night: Widespread frost after 1 a.m. Otherwise, partly cloudy, with a low around 27. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west after midnight.

Sunday: Widespread frost before 10 a.m. Otherwise, sunny, with a high near 56. South-west wind 5 to 15 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 32.

Columbus Day: Sunny, with a high near 67.

Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 41.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 66.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 40.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 63.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 42.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 72.

Thursday: High, 58; Low 35
 Precip: Thursday None
 Month: 0.04 inches
 Year: 10.95 inches
 Normal: 19.29 inches
 (K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
 Saturday 7:46 a.m. 7:18 p.m.
 Moon: waning, 65 percent
 Sunday 7:47 a.m. 7:16 p.m.
 Moon: waning, 56 percent
 Monday 7:48 a.m. 7:15 p.m.
 Last quarter moon at 2:34 a.m.
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

City hears request for stop signs

From "CITY," Page 1

small bonfire to roast hot dogs and other food.

Fire Chief Bob McLemore said that Jay, who has been organizing the event for several years, wanted to have the fire in a 50-gallon drum or metal fire pit.

He said he thought it would be okay if the fire was carefully managed.

"I said if they keep it small, keep it supervised, it would probably be okay," he said.

McLemore said that if the fire is placed in the middle of the street, there will be room to get emergency vehicles to pass through on either side if need be. The council approved the request.

McGreer, the City Council and City Attorney John Gatz then entered a closed session for about 10 minutes.

After the session was over, the council approved a request by Gatz to hire attorney Jerry Fairbanks as special counsel at his usual rate of \$250 an hour to compel the trustees of a trust fund from the late Jack Kriss to

comply with wishes expressed in the fund, which were not discussed during the meeting.

The discussions which followed centered on city infrastructure.

Recreation Director Stacy Jasper asked for two scoreboards in the Community Building to be replaced because they are prone to malfunctions, including "a very random buzzer attack" at a recent game.

"It's embarrassing when that happens in the middle of the game," she said.

Pepsi bought the scoreboards around 1995 in return for sponsorship, Jasper said, and she spoke to a Pepsi representative before the meeting. She was unable to get Pepsi to commit to replacing the signs, but thought that a sponsorship might still be possible.

She got a quote for about \$8,000 for two scoreboards, a sponsorship logo and a controller, and later said that the scoreboards would cost about \$8,500 with shipping and handling. Since the scoreboards were the same model, she said, the wiring was already in place.

In the event of there being no sponsorship, McGreer said, the scoreboards could be paid for out of money in the recreation budget left over from this year. He also asked Financial Director Debbie Zerr about other reserve funds in the city budget that could be used as well.

Public Works Director Omar Weber suggested the council look into constructing restrooms at a utility building at "South Franklin Park," the area next to Colby Aquatic Park with trees and concrete walking trails.

Weber pointed out that the park has grown quickly "and now it's grown into maybe we need bathrooms."

A utility room will also be required to hold the controls for the sprinkler lines that are being installed, Weber said, and the ideal place for this room would be in the same building as a restroom.

Although the bathroom has not been planned yet, he said, the city needs to make a decision on the utility room.

He suggested the council consider where to build the restrooms, and more importantly

how to pay for them, since he estimated that a building with heating, lighting and running water would cost at least \$20,000 to \$25,000.

Zerr pointed out that \$7,500 was placed in each of the city's parks and special parks budgets for next year for playground equipment, which might also be used to pay for the building.

McGreer suggested looking at some of the legal language regarding sales taxes to pay for the parking lots by the Aquatic Park, which might allow the money to be put to several different uses.

Councilman Tim Hutfles suggested placing crushed chunks of concrete on top of the parking lot that is being ripped out next to the Community Building, so the parking lot can be used this winter.

During further discussion, Weber said that \$15,000 in the city budget, which had been earmarked to improve a snow removal route, might be used for the project.

McGreer said that the city would look into the price of that project.

Senator discusses key issues in Colby

From "SENATOR," Page 1

port for a higher level of base aid per pupil to offset the low student numbers. He pointed out that one thing that is often overlooked is the high graduation rate in small schools, which compensates for the higher cost.

Schmidt took a few minutes to point out his position as a Democrat running in a largely Republican district.

He said one thing that is often overlooked is that while election campaigns reflect a partisan outlook, the person elected serves everyone in the district, no matter whom they voted for.

"The problem has been people voting along partisan lines," he said, in reference to troubles that plagued the 2012 legislative session. These included difficulty in passing a budget and in completing the redistricting process mandated by the Constitution.

"My constitutional responsibility," he

went on, "is to represent the people of north-west Kansas.

The tax program, passed in the final days of the session, is another major issue, Schmidt said.

"The issue is how we're going to deal with this." He cited a report from the Legislative Research Department, which indicates a \$2-billion deficit projected by 2018, based on the tax cuts passed.

"If we reduce the budget, what programs will take a hit?" he asked. He said that about 20 percent of the population in this part of the state is seniors, many on fixed incomes. The likelihood of income tax cuts transferring to higher property taxes was raised.

Schmidt sees a need for economic development, which will not happen, he said, until there is housing available for workers, particularly rental housing - "a place for people to land."

Without development, he predicted re-

duced services in all departments of the state government.

When asked if living near the eastern edge of the 40th District would make it difficult to stay in contact with the whole area, he said it is proving difficult to get around, but he enjoys getting back into rural areas.

He grew up on the dairy farm where he lives today and attended Thomas More Prep in Hays.

Graduating from the University of Kansas on an ROTC scholarship, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant and returned to Fort Hays State University for a master's in school psychology before entering active duty in the Army Medical Service Corps.

After four years in Alaska, he and his wife Ellen returned to operate the dairy farm for 13 years, while he remained in the Army Reserves.

He returned to active duty in 1994, retiring in 2009.

Kansas court upholds limits on damages in suits

From "COURT," Page 1

urged the justices to uphold the 1988 law, arguing that it keeps insurance premiums affordable and creates a better economic climate.

The high court already upheld the law in a 1990 ruling, but none of the seven current justices were on the court at the time. Still, in today's ruling, the court rejected arguments from Miller's attorneys that the cap violated the Bill of Rights of the Kansas Constitution. One section says the right to trial by jury

shall be "inviolable," and another guarantees the right to "remedy by due course of law."

However, the court returned the case to Douglas County with an order that the district court reinstate \$100,000 in damages awarded by the jury for Miller's future economic losses, which the judge also rejected.

In today's 5-2 ruling, the Supreme Court acknowledged that the cap affects rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights but said the justices have long recognized that legislators can take such a step if an "adequate substitute

remedy" is provided. It said that in Miller's case, the substitute is a state law requiring doctors to carry malpractice insurance, creating a guarantee that awards against them will be paid.

The justices also noted that Kansas has no cap on awards for economic damages, as some other states do. The majority said it wasn't fully convinced that the 1990 ruling was incorrect, even though it is "trou-

bling" that the cap on non-economic damages hasn't increased to account for inflation since the law's enactment.

The dissenters, Justices Carol Beier and Lee Johnson, said the cap violates the state constitution's Bill of Rights.

Miller did not immediately return a telephone message seeking comment. Attorney William Skepek also wasn't immediately available to comment.

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Monday Evening										October 8, 2012												
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
KAKE/ABC	Dancing/Stars				Castle		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live													
KBSL/CBS	How I Met Partners	2 Broke G	Mike		Hawaii Five-0		Local	Late Show Letterman	Ferguson													
KSNK/NBC	The Voice				Revolution		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	J. Fallon													
KSAS/FOX	Bones		The Mob Doctor		Local																	
Cable Channels																						
A & E	Hoarders		Hoarders		Intervention			Intervention		Hoarders												
AMC	Behind Enemy Lines																					Rambo III
ANIM	Frozen Planet		Frozen Planet		Frozen Planet			Frozen Planet		Frozen Planet												
BRAVO	Housewives/NJ		Housewives/NYC		Housewives/NYC			Happens	Housewives/NJ	NYC												
CMT	Reba	Reba			Cowboys Cheerleaders					Cowboys Cheerleaders												
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360			E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight												
COMEDY	Futurama	Futurama	South Pk	South Pk	Brickle	South Pk		Daily	Colbert	South Pk	South Pk											
DISC	American Chopper		American Chopper		American Chopper					American Chopper												
DISN	ANT Farm	Halloweentown			Toy Story	Phineas		ANT Farm	Vampire	Wizards	Wizards											
E!	Sex-City	Sex-City	E! Special		Scouted			Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea												
ESPN	Countdown	NFL Football								SportsCenter												
ESPN2	WNBA Basketball				SportsNation			SportCtr	Football	Baseball Tonight												
FAM	Switched at Birth		Cheaper Dozen					The 700 Club	Prince	Prince												
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	\$24 in 24		Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners											
FX	Devil-Prada							Devil-Prada														
HGTV	Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Hunters	Hunt Intl		Love It or List It		Love It or List It												
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	American Pickers		Pawn	Pawn		Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars	Pawn	Pawn											
LIFE	Steel Magnolias				Abducted Story					Steel Magnolias												
MTV	Jersey Shore		Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	The Inbet		Guy Code		Ridic.	Jersey											
NICK	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	The Nanny	The Nanny		Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends											
SCI	Alphas		Haven		Alphas			Anaconda														
SPIKE	Star Wars V				Star Wars V																	
TBS	MLB Baseball				MLB Baseball																	
TCM	Fury				Libeled Lady					Test Pilot												
TLC	Secret Princes		Secret Princes		Secret Princes			Secret Princes		Secret Princes												
TNT	Major Crimes		Major Crimes		The Mentalist			Major Crimes		CSI: NY												
TOON	Regular	Annoying	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad		Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen											
TRAV	No Reservation		No Reservation		No Reservation			Bizarre Foods		No Reservation												
TV LAND	Cosby	Cosby	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond		King	King	The King of Queens												
USA	WWE Monday Night RAW							CSI: Crime Scene		Law & Order: SVU												
VH1	Basketball Wives LA		T.I.-Tiny	Chrissy	Basketball Wives LA			T.I.-Tiny	Chrissy	Basketball Wives LA												
WGN	Funnest Home Videos		Funnest Home Videos		WGN News at Nine			30 Rock	30 Rock	Rules												
Premium Channels																						
HBO	Real Time/Bill Maher		X-Men: First Class							The Adjustment Bureau												
MAX	In Time				The Running Man																	
SHOW	Dexter		Homeland		Dexter			Homeland		Steve Trevino												

Briefly

Special Olympics to hold bowling tourney

Kansas Special Olympics will have a west region bowling tournaments Saturday morning at the Colby Fun Bowl. Come see teams from Hays, WaKeeney, Atwood, Plainville, Russell, Oakley and Colby compete. Check-in is at 9 a.m. and the games start at 9:45. For details, contact Jane Mentlick at 460-2818.

Baptist church plans community feed

Everyone is invited to come and bring a friend to a hamburger and hot dog feed at 5 p.m. Sunday at the First Baptist Church on the corner of Webster and Grant. For information, call Norma Higerd at 462-7806.

Prairie Museum to have college art displayed

On exhibit during October at the Prairie Museum of Art and History, 1905 S. Franklin Ave. in Colby, is a selection of works from the art department at Colby Community College. The pieces in the show, created by art instructor Rebel Jay and her students from several art classes, utilize a variety of media including acrylics, chalk, clay, paper and found objects. Hours are 9 to 5 Monday through Friday, and 1 to 5 on weekends. There is no charge to view the exhibit. Call Ann Miner at 460-4590 or e-mail museumed@st-tel.net for information.

Wesleyan Church celebrating 25 years

The Colby Wesleyan Church will celebrate 25 years in its current building with a Homecoming Celebration at 10 a.m. Sunday. Everyone who has ever attended the church is invited. Former pastor (1971-1992) Rich McLean's family (Helen, Melody and Mark) plan to attend. Former pastor (1992-2000) Rob Stewart and his wife Barb will attend and he will give the morning message. A fellowship dinner will follow the service. For information, call Joy Rothfuss at 462-8391.

Seniors plan potluck at Presbyterian Church

The group More Fun Together plans a potluck for people 50 or older who are alone, widowed, divorced, separated or who have partners in nursing homes at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church. Bring a dish to share; table service and beverage will be provided. For information, call 462-6342.

Sen. Moran's staff available to cut red tape

A member of Sen. Moran's staff will be available from 1:15 to 2 p.m. Wednesday in the commissioner's room at the Thomas County Courthouse to assist Kansans who are experiencing difficulties with Social Security, Medicare and veterans' benefits or have other concerns regarding federal issues. For information, call Margaret Gabelmann at (785) 628-6401.

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 Colby, KS 67701
 785.460.4596
 785.460.4595 Fax

The Thomas County Health Department would like to thank the community volunteers that helped with our 2012 Mass Flu Clinic Exercise on September 25, 2012. Because of our volunteers we were able to vaccinate over 220 people in less than 4 hours. The clinic helped us prepare and practice for a public health event. We would also like to thank S&T for allowing us to use their wireless hot spot for the day!