


Weather



National Weather Service  
**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 6. West wind 10 to 15 mph.  
**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 34. West wind 10 to 15 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon.  
**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 13. South wind 10 to 15 mph.  
**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 34. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north in the afternoon.  
**Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 14.  
**Monday:** A 20 percent chance of snow. Partly sunny, with a high near 26.  
**Monday Night:** A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 13.  
**New Year's Day:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 32.  
**Tuesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 15.  
**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 36.  
**Wednesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 14.  
**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 38.

Thursday: High, 19; Low -3  
Precip: Thursday None  
Month: 0.53 inches  
Year: 12.27 inches  
Normal: 20.65 inches  
(K-State Experiment Station)  
**Sunrise and Sunset**  
Saturday 8:04 a.m. 5:29 p.m.  
Moon: waning, 98 percent  
Sunday 8:04 a.m. 5:30 p.m.  
Moon on 30 December: waning gibbous with 95 percent  
Monday 8:04 a.m. 5:31 p.m.  
Moon: waning, 90 percent  
(U.S. Naval Observatory)



Rawlins County Health Center

RAWLINS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

707 Grant  
Atwood, KS 67730  
(785) 626-3211

Bringing Specialized Healthcare To Your Community

December 2012

Author finishes first book

From "AUTHOR," Page 1

run a telephone network.  
"Part of what I did was to write algorithms for telephone network computer systems," he said. "I wrote programs that adjusted the network to compensate for calling patterns."  
Watching computers at work to help people making phone calls was a big inspiration for his book, in which the main villain tries to absorb a new technology into his body.  
"That's where I got kind of my real love for, I guess, technology," he said, "and how it combines with people and how people use it, and how it integrates technology and behavior."

He said also developed a love of writing early on in his life, starting with a short story he wrote in a high school class taught by Jack McCracken, who was also the football coach.  
"I'm not saying it was very good, but I thought that this was something I like to do," he said.  
Working at Gibson's Discount

Visiting live nativity



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press  
Bert Stramel brought his family to see a living nativity scene at Jane Johnson's house. That's Brody petting the goat.

Store, then next to Pizza Hut, during high school, he wrote short stories on rolls of cash register paper on nights when he closed the store and had nothing else to do.  
"I'd have three or four feet of cash register tape and a story that I'd written," he said.  
He said he spent a lot of time

painting in Lawrence, including landscapes, and the main protagonist is a landscape painter who lives on a ranch.  
The wide-open landscape of the High Plains helped him write a book that was 354 pages long, he said.  
"Growing up in that country out there, has influenced every-

thing I do," he said. "Just growing up out there with such an expansive view, I guess, contributed to this expansive book."  
The novel, which is independently published, is available at major online outlets such as Amazon, Barnes and Noble Kindle and iTunes.

Woman here helps with employment

From "JOBS," Page 1

force Investment Act, which was put into (law) for the purpose of federal reform of the workforce development system."  
By helping people look for a job and prepare them for the workforce, Bitner said her office can increase job seekers' confidence during an interview and help them to ultimately get a job they enjoy and are good at. And, she said, all of her services are free.  
"It is important to empower individuals to make their own training decisions and guide them toward their goals," she said. "We can provide information about job vacancies, career options, student financial aid,

relevant employment trends and instruction on how to conduct a job search, write a resume or interview with a prospective employer.  
"We are here to connect employers to jobseekers that are a good fit for them. Some of the services we provide are occupational skill training, we help businesses fund their apprenticeship programs or on-the-job training, adult education, job retention programs and coaching and counseling.  
"The services are designed to assist individual job seekers obtain and retain gainful positions. And, it's important to know that although we do provide some money to help pay for education - which is available after eligi-

bility is established - we should not be considered as a primary source of financial aid."  
Bitner added she is also filling vacancies for the popular Kansas Health Profession Opportunity Program. This is another opportunity, she said for jobseekers to improve their skills. Bitner explained low-income people who are in the Temporary Assistance or Needy Families or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (Food Stamps) programs may qualify for help as they learn a health-care profession.  
"(The program) helps pave the way to employment in health care," she said. "We can provide money to pay for materials and supplies needed for training and can even assist with child care

and transportation."  
Many other services are available, she said, from helping high-achieving, underprivileged high school students take college courses, to helping English as a second language adults receive a General Educational Development degree.  
To learn how Bitner's office can help you find a job, get training or file for unemployment after being laid off; help your business find employees or help your current employees upgrade their skills; or learn how she can provide your school with youth programs for high school and college students preparing for the work force, contact her at 443-4607 or bronwyn@kansas-workforceone.org.

Businesses, offices will close for holiday

From "HOLIDAY," Page 1

closed New Year's Day.  
McDonalds and Arby's will be open Monday and Tuesday while Subway will close at 8 p.m. New Year's Eve and reopen Tuesday with regular hours.  
Taco John's will close at 5 p.m. Monday, but will have regular hours New Year's Day. J&B Meat Market will be closed both days.  
City Limits will have regular hours Monday, but will close

Tuesday. Montana Mike's will be open from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday and will have regular hours Tuesday.  
All other restaurants, including Starbucks and Village Inn, will be open during their regular hours Monday and Tuesday.  
Dollar General will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday and have regular hours Tuesday. Walmart and Dillon's will be open regular hours, but the Walmart Pharmacy will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday

and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday.  
Dillons Pharmacy will close at 6 p.m. New Year's Eve and reopen Wednesday. Palace Drug will be closed on Tuesday.  
The Prairie Museum of Art and History will be closed both New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.  
Area schools will be back in session later in the week. Colby

Community College offices will be open on Thursday and spring semester classes begin on Wednesday, Jan. 9.  
Heartland Christian, Colby Public Schools and Sacred Heart will resume class Thursday. Brewster schools will hold classes on Wednesday while Golden Plains will begin classes Monday, Jan. 7.

Briefly

**Reception Sunday to honor outgoing pastor**  
The First Presbyterian Church of Colby will have a retirement reception for the Rev. Carol Rahn from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the church, 515 W. Fourth St. Stop by and wish her well as she prepares to move to Texas. Mrs. Rahn, pastor of the church for 11 years, will retire Monday. For information, call Wynne Duffey at 462-6342.

**No trash routes, landfill closed on New Year's**  
The Colby Sanitation Department will not pick up trash on Tuesday for New Year's Day. People on Tuesday routes should put trash out by 8 a.m. Wednesday. For questions, call Public Works Director Omar Weber at 460-4420.  
The Thomas County Landfill will be closed Tuesday for New Year's Day. For questions, call supervisor Larry Jumper at 462-8139.

**District court will close Monday for end of year**  
The Thomas County District Court will be closing at noon Monday, New Year's Eve, to finish end-of-the-year accounting. For information, contact Clerk Kim Schwarz at 460-4540.

**Free adult classes to begin in January**  
The Adult Education Department at Colby Community College is offering free General Educational Development classes for anyone who needs to finish a high-school degree beginning Monday, Jan. 7, in the lower level of the library on campus. The department also will provide an "academic bridge" to prepare those who want to enroll in health-care programs. For information or to enroll, call Director Nance Munderloh at 460-4663.

**Volunteers needed to deliver home meals**  
The Colby Nutrition Site at the Senior Progress Center needs volunteers to deliver meals to homes from 10:30 a.m. to noon Tuesdays or Thursdays. Call Kaila DeBoer at 460-2901 for information.

**Group needs 'bigs' to work with children**  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Thomas County is looking for people able to volunteer one to two hours a week as mentors for kids who need a "big." You could make a difference in a child's life, working with the largest mentoring organization in Kansas. For questions, call Orvella Romine at 460-9125.

**Colby Scouts selling popcorn to raise money**  
Colby Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts are selling popcorn to help raise money to support their activities. If you want to help, and haven't been contacted, call Chris Trundle, 462-6904, or Mary Zerr, 460-9757. They will arrange to have a Scout contact you.



Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Monday Evening							December 31, 2012						
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30			
KAKE/ABC	New Year's				Dick Clark		Local	Dick Clark's New Year's					
KBSL/CBS	How I Met	How I Met	2 Broke G	Mike	Hawaii Five-0		Local	Late Show Letterman		Ferguson			
KSNK/NBC	Enchanted				NBC's New Year's Eve		Local	NBC's New Year's Eve		Jay Leno			
KSAS/FOX	Bones		The Mob Doctor		Local		New Year's Eve Live!			Local			
Cable Channels													
A & E	Storage	Storage		Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage		Storage			
AMC	The Fifth Element		The Walking Dead		The Walking Dead		The Walking Dead		The Walking Dead				
ANIM	Tanked		Tanked		Tanked		Eating	Eating	Tanked				
BRAVO	A Few Good Men						Real Housewives		Kathy Griffin				
CMT	Reba	Reba	Chainsaw	Chainsaw	Chainsaw	Chainsaw	Chainsaw	Chainsaw	Chainsaw	Chainsaw			
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight				
COMEDY	Wedding Crashers				South Pk		South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	Futurama			
DISC	American Chopper		American Chopper		Amish Mafia		American Chopper		Amish Mafia				
DISN	Despicable Me				Dog		Star New Year		Phineas	Wizards			
E!	Knocked Up				Hollywood		Chelsea	Ice-Coco	Ice-Coco	Ice-Coco			
ESPN	College Football						SportsCenter		SportsCenter				
ESPN2	College Basketball				SportsCenter		SportsNation		NFL PrimeTime				
FAM	Hook	The Goonies					The 700 Club		Prince	Prince			
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners, Drive		Diners	Diners			
FX	Grown Ups				Grown Ups				Extract				
HGTV	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters			
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn			
LIFE	Pretty Woman						Dance Moms		Pretty Woman				
MTV	MTV Special		MTV Special		Catfish	The Inbet	MTV Special		MTV Special				
NICK	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends			
SCI	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone	Twi. Zone			
SPIKE	Star Wars VI: Return				Star Wars VI: Return								
TBS	Fam. Guy	Family Guy		Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Conan		Office	Office			
TCM	After the Thin Man				The Apartment				Oceans11				
TLC	Cake Boss:Next		Cake Boss:Next		Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Cake Boss:Next		Cake Boss:Next				
TNT	The Mentalist		The Mentalist		The Mentalist		Leverage		Leverage				
TOON	Incredibl	Incredibl	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Eric Andre Spk	Aqua Teen				
TRAV	Vegas After Hours		Vegas: Adults Only 2		Sturgis		Sturgis: Cops		Vegas: Adults Only 2				
TV LAND	Cosby	Cosby	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	The King of Queens				
USA	WWE Monday Night RAW						Couples Retreat						
VH1	Love & Hip Hop		Love & Hip Hop		Hip Hop Songs		Hip Hop Songs		Behind the Music				
WGN	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		WGN News at Nine		Funniest Home Videos		Rules	Rules			
Premium Channels													
HBO	Johnny English		New Year's Eve					Contraband					
MAX	Strike Ba	Strike Ba	Strike Back		Strike Back		Strike Ba	Strike Back	Strike Ba				
SHOW	Untold History		D.L. Hughley: Reset		Andrew Dice Clay		Katt Williams		Gigolos	Gigolos			