

Weather

Snow storm hits hard across state

Briefly

From "SNOW," Page 1

city utilities, such as trash pick-up, are still operational, and he had not heard of any power outages.

At 11:30 a.m., the Kansas Department of Transportation closed down Interstate 70 in both directions from Hays to just west of Salina.

"I want to thank people for staying home," Gov. Sam Brownback said during a conference call Thursday morning. "If you don't have to be out, please don't get out."

Mike King, secretary of transportation, said had not yet heard of the Interstate 70 closure. The only other state road closed was a stretch of Interstate 35 near Emporia. But he added that snow was expected to keep falling until midnight, and people should stay home. He said ho-

tels are filling up near Hays. Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, state adjutant general and emergency preparedness director, said shelters had been set up in Quinter and WaKeeney.

Aside from many vehicles which slid off slick roads, though, only been a handful of accidents had been reported in the Colby area.

Amy Marks, records clerk for the Colby Police department, said there was only one accident in town Wednesday.

An official at the Hays office of the Kansas Highway Patrol said there had been no injury accidents today, and only two noninjury accidents, one at mile marker 125 on I-70 and one at mile marker 41 west of Colby.

The patrol reported an injury accident Wednesday at mile 69, where a New Jersey driver tried to pass a Department of Trans-

portation snowplow about 11:39 a.m. His 2011 Mitsubishi was struck from behind by a tractor trailer rig that was already in the passing lane.

Kenneth Gregory West IV, 30, and a passenger, Cassandra L. Walker, 28, both of New Jersey, were taken to the Logan County Hospital. The driver of the rig, Daniel Don Knudsen, 51, Cheyenne Wells, Colo., was uninjured. All three were wearing seat belts, the patrol said.

The Thomas County sheriff's office worked or assisted with four accidents in the county Wednesday, Undersheriff Marc Finley, said. Those included the accident at mile 69, another one at mile 54 just outside of Colby, a jackknifed trailer at mile 37 where deputies assisted, and the rollover at mile 41.

The snow forced schools and businesses to close.

Colby Community College closed today, along with the Colby Public Schools, Heartland Christian School, Sacred Heart Catholic School, Golden Plains Schools, Oakley Schools and Brewster Schools. Most of the schools had closed Wednesday also. Puddle Duck Preschool also shut down.

State government offices were closed today, but all county offices were open. Pioneer Memorial Library closed today, but planned to be open Friday. The library's book sale, which was supposed to begin today, will be extended through Sunday, said Director Melany Wilks.

This story was assembled by Kayla Cornett and Sam Dieter of the Colby Free Press. Dieter wrote the final version.

School board hears about special events

From "SCHOOL," Page 1

Colby Ag both brought farm equipment to the playground. Organizers let the kids climb onto the tractors and "made the mistake" of letting them honk the horn. Cake was served for the state's birthday.

"You'd be amazed at how many of our students had never been that close to horse," she said.

The cost of the event, Starbuck said, came to \$814. Of that, \$500 was covered by a grant that she received from the Thomas County Community Foundation, and the Parent-Teacher Organization kicked in \$300.

"So we had a wonderful day and it cost the school \$13," she said.

She added that the \$13 paid for a good educational opportunity. Some kids were

able to tell her what they did at Kansas Day three years ago.

After the slideshow, kindergarten teachers Kelsey McMillan, Shanda Brown, Kim Wolf and Stacy Wolf gave a presentation on Educational Software for Guided Instruction, a program they use when evaluating students.

The software, was developed in 2001 by a kindergarten teacher because, they said, it took hours to evaluate each kid's performance. School testing can require that 3,000 written items be prepared for each student. The software the teachers use depends on a series of yes or no answers and works three times faster than writing the information down, they said. Brown commented that she can put information into the software during a calls, using her iPad.

With the data teachers enter, they can

generate reports for each student, and letters to their parents. The software can organize that data in different ways, the teachers said, allowing them to see not only which questions each kid got right on an assignment, but how many got each question right.

"You know that if your entire class missed triangles, then you need to go through and look at that," said teacher Stacy Wolf.

She added that she heard about the software from kindergarten teachers in Hutchinson. The first- and second-grade teachers considered using the program, she said, but decided not to. McMillan said the grade school teachers use different evaluations.

Kim Wolf said the cost is about \$200 for each teacher. It is paid for through money from the "Drive One for Your School" event sponsored by Ford and Tubbs and Sons in Colby.

Navy Band chorus coming here in March

From "CHORUS," Page 1

"Shenandoah."

The concert is free, but tickets are required. These are available by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Pat Ziegemeier, Colby Community College, 1255 South Range, Colby, Kan., 67701.

Tickets will be issued until they run out.

This special performance is part of the group national tour. The Sea Chanters perform frequently at the White House, the Vice President's home, Blair House, and for dignitaries at Washington embassies.

In 1956, Lt. Harold Fultz, then the band's assistant leader, organized a group from the Navy School of Music to sing chanteys and patriotic songs for

the State of the Nation dinner. It was an immediate success, and Admiral Arleigh Burke, then chief of naval operations, transferred the group to the Navy Band, named them the Sea Chanters and tasked this all-male chorus with carrying on the songs of the sea. In 1980, the group added women to its ranks and expanded the repertoire to include everything from Brahms

to Broadway.

The chorus performed at the dedication ceremonies of the World War II Memorials in Bedford, Va., and in Washington. In 1994, it provided music at the funeral of former President Richard Nixon in Yorba Linda, Calif., and the burial of former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis at Arlington National Cemetery.

Winter storm blankets Great Plains with snow

By Jim Salter

The Associated Press

Blinding snow, at times accompanied by thunder and lightning, bombarded much of the nation's midsection today, bringing whiteout conditions, leaving major roadways all but impassable and shutting down schools and state legislatures.

Kansas was the epicenter of the winter storm, with parts of Wichita buried under 13 inches of still-falling snow, but win-

ter storm warnings stretched from eastern Colorado through Illinois. Freezing rain and sleet were forecast for southern Missouri, southern Illinois and Arkansas. St. Louis was expected to get all of the above — a mix of snow, sleet and freezing rain.

Accidents were blamed on icy and slushy roadways, including a wreck in Oklahoma that killed a teenager Wednesday. Most schools in Kansas and Missouri, and many in neighboring states, were closed. Legisla-

tures shut down early in Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Nebraska and Iowa.

By midmorning today, the snowfall was so heavy that Kansas City International Airport shut down. About 90 flights were also cancelled at Lambert Airport in St. Louis.

"Thundersnow" accompanied the winter storm in parts of Kansas and Missouri, which National Weather Service meteorologist Scott Truett said is the result of an unstable air mass, much like a thunderstorm.

Baptist Church invites everyone to free lunch

Everyone is invited to come and bring a friend for a free lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the First Baptist Church at Webster and Grant. For information, call Radonda Buford at 462-2804.

Sacred Heart carnival set for this weekend

The Sacred Heart School carnival will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday at the school in Colby. Come for bierocks, games, fellowship and to enter a drawing for many prizes. For information, call Principal Laura Krecji at the school, 460-2813.

Seminar offers help on starting own business

Thinking of starting your own business? Come to a free Business Startup Workshop, facilitated by the Kansas Small Business Development Center and sponsored by Thomas County Economic Development, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range Ave., Colby. Make your dreams come true; call Christy Rocca at 460-4511 to register.

S&T to hold Business After 5 this month

Join a Mexican fiesta at Business After 5 on Wednesday at S&T Communications in Colby, 755 Davis Ave. For information, call Alicia Moore at 460-7300.

First graders will perform 'Lemonade'

The Colby Grade School first graders will be presenting the musical "Lemonade" at 2 p.m and 7 p.m. next Thursday in the school auditorium. The show is free and open to the public. For information, call Jennifer Koel at 460-5100.

Genesis-Thomas County meeting set

The annual meeting of Genesis-Thomas County Inc. will be held at 6:30 p.m. next Thursday in the meeting room of the Thomas County Office Complex, 350 S. Range in Colby. The public is invited. For information, call Wynn Duffey at 462-6342.

Head Start here looking for kids to fill classes

Head Start, a tuition-free preschool, is looking for a few good kids. Services include education, nutrition, health, disability services and family support. The school accepts applications all year long for children 3 and 4, but they must be 3 by Aug. 31. For information or to get an application, call Janell Griffin at 460-6067.

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.

National Weather Service

Tonight: Snow with areas of blowing snow before 10 p.m., then a slight chance of snow between 10 p.m. and 1 a.m. Low around 1. North wind 5 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent. New snow accumulation of less than one inch possible.

Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 27. Wind chill values as low as -13. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 12. West wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 33. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 20.

Sunday: A 40 percent chance of snow after 7 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 29. Blustery.

Sunday Night: Areas of blowing snow and a chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 20. Blustery. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Monday: Areas of blowing snow and a chance of snow. Partly sunny, with a high near 32. Windy. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Monday Night: Areas of blowing snow and a chance of snow. Partly cloudy, with a low around 14. Blustery. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 34.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 18.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 37.

Sunrise and Sunset
Friday 7:27 a.m. 6:29 p.m.
Moon: waxing, 90 percent (U.S. Naval Observatory)



Saturday Evening February 23, 2013

Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels and programs.

We Celebrate Hometown Life

Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels and programs.

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Sunday Evening February 24, 2013

Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels and programs.