

Weather



National Weather Service Tonight: A 40 percent chance of snow, mainly between 7 p.m. and midnight. Cloudy, with a low around 10. Blustery, with a north wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Friday: Scattered flurries before noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 31. North wind 5 to 15 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 14. Light north wind increasing to 5 to 10 mph after midnight.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 32. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming light northeast in the morning.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 17.

Sunday: A slight chance of snow before noon, then a slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 37. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 21.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 42.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 22.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 44.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 21.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 42.

Wednesday: High, 65; Low 20
Precip: Wednesday None
Month: 0.38 inches
Year: 14.44 inches
Normal: 20.03 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
Thursday 7:36 a.m. 5:25 p.m.
Moon: waning, 78 percent
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

City seeks to force land sale

From "CITY," Page 1

est lien-holder on the building, would have to OK the price.

The city originally agreed to sell the building with Stock Realty, but had to take it off the market. The council discussed offering the job of selling it back to Stock Realty under the same terms. The state had considered having some of its employees work out of the building, McGreer said later, which is why it was taken off the market.

The building was remodeled with city money and a state grant to house a call center for a firm that later defaulted and closed its operations here.

- Voted to send a proposal back to the state attorney general that would allow the city to ban concealed-carry weapons at the Community Building. The council voted to seek an exemption from a new state law for the building at its last meeting. Because of a clerical error, McGreer said, the proposal has to be sent back to the state.

- Decided to seek bids to retrofit all six engines at the city power plant to meet new Environment Protection Agency standards. The council discussed the project in August, and approved an agreement with Kansas City engineering firm SEGA in to improve the engines

last month. SEGA estimated that two of the engines would cost \$120,000 to retrofit, two would cost \$135,000 and two could cost \$145,000.

At that time, the council had not decided whether it should just retrofit all six engines, although McGreer said that would probably be necessary. The city could just retrofit the three largest engines and keep the other three for emergency use only, he said.

On Tuesday, he told the council the city pays about \$50,000 each month to Midwest Energy for the right to use five megawatts of backup power. If all six engines are not retrofitted by the time the agency standards take effect May 3, then the city will probably have to buy the rights to more power.

This time, he told the council that the city is required to produce or buy enough energy able to support itself. Not improving the small engines would mean the city would have to buy more power from Midwest.

- Voted to annex land next to Colby Community College into the city where Bainter Construction bought just under 17 acres from the college for \$615,000 in June to build moderate-income apartments. McGreer said the city is working on a new plat map.

- Heard a report from McGreer problems with the water standpipe by Interstate 70. The water in the top of the pipe is freezing, McGreer said, forming a block of ice which is breaking the small pipe and ladder on the side of the standpipe as the ice slides up and down. The company which built the pipe will inspect if for \$900, he said.

The city will need to put a water mixer in the pipe, he said, but this should stop the ice from forming by moving cold and warm water around inside the standpipe. Since the pipe is too tall and narrow for a normal water mixer, he said, he contacted a company that specializes in making mixers. He said he is talking with the company about testing a new, floating water mixer in the standpipe. The company would sell the mixer to the city at a reduced price if it works, McGreer said.

- Approved board appointments by the mayor. Councilman Omar Weber was reappointed to the Thomas County Economic Development Alliance board and Charles Schwanke was reappointed to the Colby/Thomas County Area Planning Commission until the end of 2016. Bruce Hansen and Marcia Schlageck were reappointed to the Housing Authority Board until the end of 2017.

After-school program grows

From "PROGRAM," Page 1

received a grant of \$3,000 from the Thomas County Community Foundation to help pay for snacks, along with another for the children to build terra cotta soldiers as part of their after-school learning activities.

McCarty Dairy supplies the program with Danon yogurt, as well as providing enough yogurt each day for every child in kindergarten through second grade.

"So far, the kids have received it really well," he said, adding that the school is sharing the yogurt with Sacred Heart Catholic and Heartland Christian school.

Krannawitter also told the board that the fifth-grade community service project, leaf raking, had gone well this year, and he expects to do it again next year.

Middle School Principal Rob Ross reported that he is working on school safety efforts with Police Chief Ron Alexander.

The district will have safety training for all staff on Tuesday, Nov. 26, incorporating an exercise

with the police department to practice safety procedures if a shooter were to come into one of the buildings.

Superintendent Terrel Harrison said the district will make available a survey later this week asking parents whether they want the district's buildings locked during school hours to increase student safety. The survey will be available online and in the schools' offices.

Nikol Nolan, food service director, has created a "Snack Shack" at the middle school similar to the one at the high school, Ross said. It has been popular so far, he said, but he has been emphasizing to the students that the snacks are to be purchased in addition to their normal lunch options, not in place of lunch.

Ross said the seventh graders wrote essays entitled "If I Were Mayor," an essay contest sponsored by the League of Kansas Municipalities. Ross said middle school students had participated in past years but not recently. They were invited to participate again this year by Colby Mayor Gary Adrian.

'Monster' cosmic blast zipped harmlessly by earth

By Seth Borenstein
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Astronomers call it the monster. It was the biggest and brightest cosmic explosion ever witnessed. Had it been closer, Earth would have been toast.

Because the blast was 3.7 billion light-years away, mankind

was spared. But orbiting telescopes got the fireworks show of a lifetime in April.

The only bigger display astronomers know of was the Big Bang that created the universe, and no one was around to see that.

What happened was a gamma ray burst, an explosion that happens when a massive star dies,

collapses into a brand-new black hole, creates a supernova and ejects energetic radiation that is as bright as can be as it travels across the universe at the speed of light.

NASA telescopes in orbit have been seeing these types of bursts for more than two decades, spotting one every couple of days. But this one was special. It set records, according to four studies published Thursday in the journal *Science*.

It flooded NASA instruments with five times the energy as its nearest competitor, a blast in 1999, said University of Alabama at Huntsville astrophysicist Rob Preece, author of one of the studies.

Briefly

The deadline for Briefly is noon the day before. The deadline for Monday's paper is noon Friday.

Students plan dance to help buy instruments

The Brewster fifth- and sixth-grade band students will a "Blast From the Past" public dance from 6:30 to 11 p.m. Friday at the school to raise money for band instruments. Everyone is welcome. For information, call the school at (785) 694-2236.

Reception to bid Chamber director farewell

A farewell reception for Thomas County Area Chamber of Commerce Director Holly Whitaker is planned from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday at the Sleep Inn Convention Center, 2075 Sewell Ave. She and her husband Adam are moving to his home country, England, where he has accepted a transfer with Shelbourne-Reynolds. She has been Chamber director for 7 1/2 years. For information, call the Chamber office at 460-3401.

Creation expert to speak at banquet

The "Partners for the Future" banquet at 6:30 p.m. Friday at Heartland Christian School will feature Brian Young, director of the Creation Instruction Association. Tickets are \$15 including dinner, music and the speaker. Call Deena Bandy at 460-6419 for information.

Help Genesis with holiday food baskets

Genesis needs nonperishable food items and money to fill baskets. Bring donations to the office, 350 S. Range (open Wednesdays), Leroy's Printing downtown or participating churches. Checks may be sent to Genesis, Box 214, Colby, Kan., 67701. For information, call Leisa Hansen at 460-2710.

Free dinner set for Saturday at church

You're invited to a free Joyful Blessings Thanksgiving Dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday at the First Baptist Church, 615 W. Webster. Everyone is invited, so bring a friend. For information, call Randa Buford at 462-2804.

Youth plan Thanksgiving dinner Sunday

The Senior High Youth of the Colby United Methodist Church invite everyone to their Thanksgiving turkey dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday. Join them for a dinner of turkey or ham with all the trimmings. All donations will go to support mission and ministry. For information, call Lisa Wilson at 460-2761.

No trash pickup on Thanksgiving, day after

Colby residential trash pickup for Thanksgiving next Thursday will be done Wednesday. Residential trash for Friday, Nov. 29, will be picked up on Monday, Dec. 2. The commercial truck will run on Saturday, Nov. 30, but not that Thursday or Friday. For information, call Director Omar Weber at the Public Works Department, 460-4420.

The Thomas County Landfill will be closed next Thursday and Friday, Nov. 29. It will be open regular weekend hours, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 30, and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30. For information, call 462-8139.

Library will take food to pay your fines

The Pioneer Memorial Library will have its annual Christmas "Foods for Fines" campaign from Sunday, Dec. 1, to Monday, Dec. 23. Bring canned or packaged food to pay your fines. For information, call the library at 460-4470.

Donations to group will support food aid

Help support the Genesis-Thomas County food bank and the Food 4 Kids backpack program. Drop off your donations from 3 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3, at the Thomas County Office Complex to support the "Community Can" food challenge, sponsored by the Women of K-State at the Northwest Research-Extension Center. For questions, call Becky Darling at 462-6281.

Workshop offers kids chance to shop

The Thomas County Community Foundation's Santa's Workshop will be open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7. Kids in preschool through fourth grade are invited to shop for their families with the help of our friendly elves. Suggested donation is \$4 per gift, and each child can buy up to four. Proceeds will be used for grants in Thomas County. For information, call Executive Director Melinda Olson at 460-9152.

Fourth graders to give musical on Dec. 12

Join the Colby Grade School fourth graders for "A World of Christmas," a free musical focusing on Christmas carols from around the world, at 2 and 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, in the Colby Grade School Auditorium. For questions, contact music teacher Jennifer Otten at 460-5100.



LOCAL TV Listings

Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Saturday Evening											November 23, 2013											
	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	College Football										Local											
KBSL/CBS	How I Met Crazy		Criminal Minds		48 Hours		Local															
KSNK/NBC	The Voice		The Blacklist		Saturday Night Live		Local		Saturday Night Live													
KSAS/FOX	College Football						Local	Animation Domination		Local												

Sunday Evening											November 24, 2013											
	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	Music Awards									Local												
KBSL/CBS	The Amazing Race		The Good Wife		The Mentalist					Local												
KSNK/NBC	Football		NFL Football																			
KSAS/FOX	Simpsons		Burgers		Fam. Guy		Amer. Dad		Local													

AmericanProfile

CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN SPIRIT

HIST	LIFE	MTV	NICK	SCI	SPIKE	TBS	TCM	TLC	TNT	TOON	TRAV	TV LAND	USA	VH1	WGN
Pawn	Kristin's Past	Wild/Out	Sam & Cat	Space Twister	Cops	Big Bang	Breathless	Untold Stories of ER	Sherlock Holmes	Jingle All the Way	Ghost Adventures	Brady	Mod Fam	Love & Hip Hop	Pirates of the Caribbean
Pawn	Love at Christmas	Diary-Black	Hathaways	Stonados	Glory	Big Bang	Sugarland Exp.	Untold Stories of ER	The Lincoln Lawyer	Regular	Transylvania	Raymond	Mod Fam	Love & Hip Hop	Pirates-Worlds
Pawn	Love at Christmas	Wild/Out	Full H'se	Ice Twisters	Die Hard With a Vengeance	Big Bang	Who's-at Door	Untold Stories of ER	A Time to Kill	King/Hill	Fam. Guy	Raymond	Mod Fam	40 Funniest Fails	
Pawn	Kristin's Past	Wild/Out	Friends	Die Hard With a Vengeance	Trust Me	Big Bang	Who's-at Door	Untold Stories of ER	The Lincoln Lawyer	King/Hill	Fam. Guy	Raymond	Mod Fam	40 Funniest Fails	
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