

Weather



National Weather Service

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 13. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west in the evening.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 34. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southeast in the afternoon.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 17. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 38. Breezy, with a south wind 10 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 24.

Monday: Partly sunny, with a high near 42.

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

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 45.

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

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 43.

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

Thanksgiving Day: Mostly sunny, with a high near 42.

Thursday: High, 22; Low 14

Precip: Thursday Trace

Month: 0.38 inches

Year: 14.44 inches

Normal: 20.03 inches

(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset

Saturday 7:37 a.m. 5:34 p.m.

Moon: waning, 69 percent

Sunday 7:38 a.m. 5:24 p.m.

Moon: waning, 60 percent

Monday 7:39 a.m. 5:23 p.m.

Last quarter moon at 1:29 p.m.

(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Life of early farmers never easy

The pioneers who came out here to farm had a tough life, farmer Albert Hardon told people at the Prairie Museum of Art and History's first Food for Thought program of the year on Thursday.

A little over a dozen people came to hear Hardon, a long-time area farmer, talks about both his life and the lives of his ancestors, everything from the natural history of Kansas to his experience in the Korean war. He said he descended from early homesteaders in Rawlins County and lived through the Dust Bowl era.

"These people that came in here had a hard time," Hardon said.

The first farmers in the area only planted corn, he said. They had to go first to Kearney, Neb., and then Grinnell to get supplies. People lived in sod houses, and when they got the chance, they built a barn for their animals before they built wooden houses for themselves.

He described plowing tech-

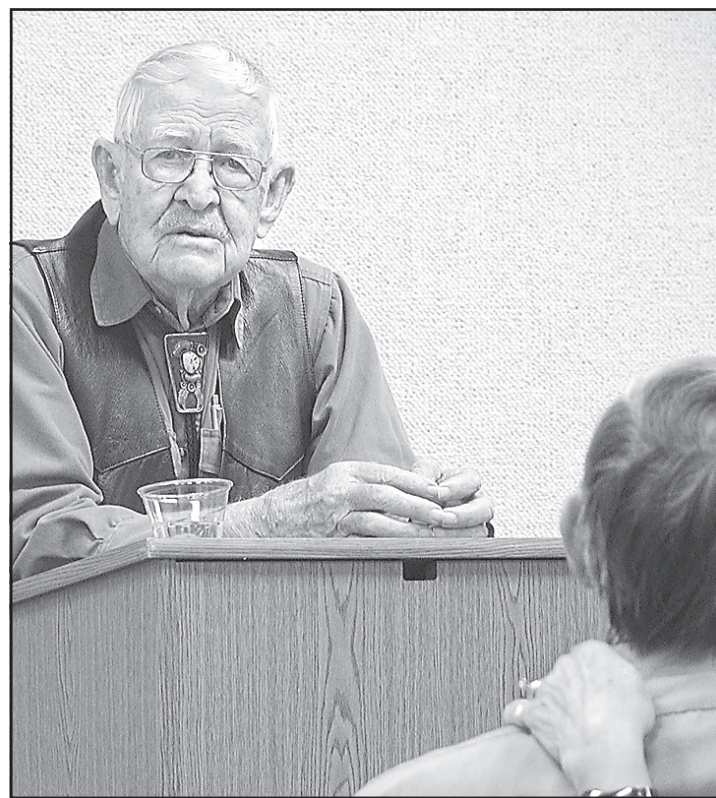
niques that loosened the soil and helped lead to the Dust Bowl. Fate was unkind to many farming families here, he said. Even if broke families managed to survive on vegetables, having no money meant they could not pay taxes. The sheriff could still turn them off their land.

There were plenty of unscrupulous bankers, money lenders and real estate agents to make life hard on farming families, Hardon added.

"I remember seeing people in the road with bedsprings and mattresses tied on top of their cars," he said.

The end of the talk included his experiences in Korea, where he worked as an engineer. The Americans used a lot of local help to build prisoner of war camps where he was stationed, so Hardon learned Korean to be able to speak with them.

Several of his books are available at the museum's book store, along with a collection of poetry, "Poems of the Plains."



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

Albert Hardon talked about his life as a farmer and the history of western Kansas Thursday afternoon at the Prairie Museum of Art and History's Food for Thought program.

County OKs concealed carry on bus

From "COUNTY," Page 1

be placing restrictions on the Second Amendment," he said. "I can't see that if someone has a concealed carry permit, they should not be permitted to do so on that bus."

The commissioners unanimously passed the policy.

On the recommendation of Berens, the board directed Road and Bridge Supervisor Clair Schrock to hire a certified surveyor to act as county engineer to determine the location of a mile of County Road D. The landowners bordering a portion of the road south of Mingo disagree about the road's location, and the county is required by state law to settle the issue.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Signed an agreement to exchange federal transportation money for state funds. The county will receive \$173,066 from the state, 90 percent of the

federal money the county could receive. The exchange allows the county to avoid the paperwork burdens and expense of the federal Davis-Bacon Act, which may require union-scale wages, among other things.

Discussed a claim against the Road and Bridge department for damaged telephone lines. Schrock said he asked AT&T to investigate the claim, since he believes the utility locators did not correctly identify the lines before the department's employees began digging.

Authorized a 3 percent increase in rental rates for office spaces at the Thomas County Office Complex.

Discussed disbursement of delinquent taxes to the City of Colby. City Manager Tyson McGreer had written a letter complaining the county had not sent tax payments as required, but County Treasurer Layn Bruggeman's research showed payments had been sent as recently

as 2012. Bruggeman and McGreer told the commissioners they had worked the problem out and Bruggeman expected to send a distribution to the city by the end of the month.

Tabled approving pay increases for county employees because of some discrepancies Baughn found in the reports he was given to help him analyze county wages and salaries. County Clerk Shelly Harms

asked the board to delay their discussion so she could make changes to the report and calculate increases using these new figures.

Declined to require transient sales license for itinerant vendors, agreeing there did not seem to be a problem.

"If it's not a problem, why increase bureaucratic paperwork?" Baughn asked.

City sets a hearing on increase in budget

From "BUDGET," Page 1

state Connecting Links program is to increase by \$473,130. This fund needs to be increased, McGreer said, because the city and state completed several projects at once this summer which would have been paid for separately. The money comes from the state, he added.

The E-911 fund needs to be increased to buy a generator, start a secondary emergency dispatch center and raise contractual services expenses. Starting cash is to be increased by \$8,998, payment from the state by \$7,000, communications by \$5,224, equipment maintenance by \$7,175 and operations equipment by \$25,410. Salaries are to be decreased by \$10,000. McGreer said the money for this project comes from fees from telephone customers

The water treatment fund needs to be changed to factor in two loads of resin purchased for the water treatment plant and show expenses over the year. Communications, utilities, employee benefits, annual audit costs, special services and operational equipment are to be increased by \$748,528. Salaries, overtime pay and manager pay and information technology salary are to increase by \$10,287. Payment from the Environmental Protection Agency is to be increased by \$782,129, operation supplies by \$23,314.

McGreer said that this fund is being changed because the agency decided to operate its superfund cleanup site here until April. The agency was going to stop operating the site, which was set up after a chromium-plating business contaminated the groundwater, in September.

Briefly

The deadline for Briefly is noon the day before. Items submitted in the morning will be set up for the following day, space available. The deadline for Monday's paper is noon Friday.

Church women selling fresh nuts for holidays

The women of Ascension Episcopal Church are selling fresh holiday nuts, including pecans, walnuts, cashews and variety packs. For delivery, call Martha Hullett at 462-2505, or pick some up at Colby Canvas.

Brewster School reschedules 'Blast'

Because of the storm this week, the Brewster fifth elementary band students have rescheduled their "Blast From the Past" public dance, which had been set for tonight, for Thursday, April 17, at the school. The kids hope to raise money for band instruments. For information, call the school at (785) 694-2236.

Red Cross schedules blood drive at college

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, at Colby Community College. Call (800) 733-2767 or go to www.redcrossblood.org to make an appointment, but walk-ins are welcome.

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 planned 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 Radonda Buford at 462-2804.

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

KU columnist resigns over column

LAWRENCE (AP) - A columnist for the University Daily Kansan has resigned after editors learned the substance of one of his recent columns matched that of an article published earlier in a British newspaper.

The Kansan said Thursday in an editorial that writer Bryenn Bierwirth had used material for a recent column on hospice patients from an article published last year by The Guardian, The Lawrence Journal-World reported (bit.ly/1b14gab). Bierwirth was an opinion columnist and account executive for the Kansan.

"The Kansan accepts only fact-based reporting, the pursuit of truth in accurate storytelling and a constant standard of integrity in both news and editorial content," Trevor Graff, Kansan editor-in-chief, wrote in the editorial. Graff said the Kansan

would review procedures.

The Kansan is the university's student newspaper and operates independently from the school.

Bierwirth did not appear to have a published phone number.

The Kansan published his column, "Hospice patients provide insights to living a happier life," online Nov. 4 and in print Nov. 5. Graff said Bierwirth has acknowledged that he didn't visit a hospice center and did not talk to the patients. Graff said the column appears to have been paraphrased from "Top five regrets of the dying," which was published Feb. 1, 2012, on theguardian.com.

Bierwirth's column did not copy The Guardian article verbatim, but much of it appeared to avoid replication just enough so it wouldn't be obvious plagiarism, Graff said.



Anniversary Sale!!

December 2 through December 7

Open Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Home Furnishings and items in the Gift Gallery

(excludes mattresses and floor coverings)

Pick a card from the discount tree and receive 5, 10, 15 or 20% off your purchase!

Join us for Grand Prize giveaways on Saturday, December 7 - we'll be giving away 3 large prizes.

Refreshments Daily Dec. 2 through Dec. 7

Monday-Friday: 8:30-5:30 Saturday: 9:00-2:00

& Home Furnishings

askofficeworks@st-tel.net (785) 462-2222

960 South Range Colby, KS 67701

FAX: (785) 462-2262

LOCAL TV Listings

Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Table with columns for Monday Evening and November 25, 2013. Rows list various TV channels and their programming schedules.