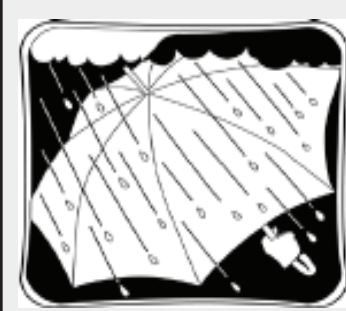


**Weather Corner**



**National Weather Service**  
 Tonight: A 50 percent chance of showers. Cloudy, with a low around 46. Southeast wind around 10 mph.  
 Tuesday: A 50 percent chance of showers before 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 61. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.  
 Tuesday Night: Showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 34. Breezy, with a north wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.  
 Wednesday: A 40 percent chance of rain. Cloudy, with a high near 44. Breezy, with a northwest wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.  
 Wednesday Night: A chance of snow. Cloudy and blustery, with a low around 29. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.  
 Thursday: A 20 percent chance of snow before 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 46.  
 Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 23.  
 Friday: Sunny, with a high near 58.  
 Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 32.  
 Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 69.  
 Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 37.  
 Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 64.  
 Friday: High, 70; Low 38  
 Saturday: High 80, Low 41  
 Sunday: High 80, Low 41  
 Precip: Weekend, 0.00  
 Month: 2.32  
 Year: 18.66  
 Normal: 19.19  
 (K-State Experiment Station)

**Library celebrating harvest time during October**

October is the time for harvest festivals and Halloween activities.

Since it always takes planning and extra effort, I thought I would give you some help early, so you can begin at least thinking about what you might want or need to accomplish prior to your special activities at the end of the month.

If you plan to carve a pumpkin, come in and peruse the shelves for "Pumpkin Carving" by Ed Palmer. This colorful paperback has both bright photos of intricately carved pumpkins and the patterns on the opposing pages. If you want to make a fruit dish, it also has two watermelon creations, "Fancy Watermelon" and "Watermelon Basket." This book also gives instructions and patterns for "Fancy Cantaloupe" and "Floral Cantaloupe." Palmer also includes instructions for making a bird that looks like a dove from a green melon. Wonderful ideas for enhancing any party!

Jordan McKinney provides ways to paint your pumpkin in the book, "Pumpkin Painting." While visiting the library at a local school this week, I saw wonderfully painted pumpkins done by elementary students. However, either I have been out of the pumpkin decorating area for too many years or these students added extra things, such as glitter and hair-like materials onto their pumpkins, which I had never seen before!

If you are a computer guru - check out the really hard patterns to cut out at the website, Pumpkin Carving Patterns ([www.dltk-holidays.com/halloween/mpatterns.htm](http://www.dltk-holidays.com/halloween/mpatterns.htm)). For those interested in really exotic carved pumpkins, view the work of Scott Cummins at his site titled PumpkinCutter.com.

The Pioneer Memorial Library also has materials written by Gail Gibbons, "Things to Make and Do for Halloween." Another item is the *Readers Digest* book, "Tricks & Treats: The Ultimate Halloween Book." It includes such ideas and how-tos on costumes, decorations, foods, toys, gifts and fashions. I love the Mini Pumpkin Sandwiches that have happy pumpkin faces, as well as



**Melany Wilks**

**Library Links**

the colorful "harvest pumpkins" made out of foam balls wrapped with quilted materials. There are instructions to make "Pretty-As-a-Picture Frames" made with assorted fabric or ribbon scraps, and the "Pumpkin Head Family" painted with wonderful expressions and decorated with different hats.

Another book is "Crafts for Halloween" written by Kathy Ross. This is found in the junior reading section and is written with very simple instructions. It requires fairly simple materials for children to use in order to make these decorations.

A book, "Crafts for all Seasons," can help provide harvest festival crafts for kids. The "Leaf

Print Banner" provides an easy way to make colorful creations using paper or fabric, yarn, markers and other easy to find items. I think the "Corkscrew Squirrel" is a new fun idea, and the "Soft Sculpture Pumpkin" made out of nylons create a squishy textile feel for children.

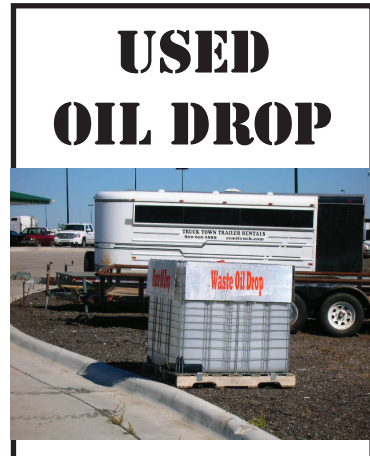
Those of you who really want to put a harvest bash together might want to find suggestions and ideas at the website "Reason to Party" ([www.reasontoparty.com](http://www.reasontoparty.com)). Look for the link that says "Fall Harvest Autumn." Here you will find a webpage titled "Fall Harvest Party" ([www.reasontoparty.com/harvestparty.htm](http://www.reasontoparty.com/harvestparty.htm)). This website will also help with other party parties. You might want to bookmark it in your "favorites" on your computer; that way you always have ideas for food and favors, games, decorations, crafts and much more. We are having a two-day Spook-

taclular Book Sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday.

Remember that the library has a new program called Baby Lapsit. It is designed for infants from birth to 18 months, at 10:15 a.m. Thursdays. The library also continues with Story Time for preschoolers, Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. and 1:15 p.m., and a Toddler Time on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. It also has Story Time Family Night at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, just for that family that is busy during the day.

And for students, the Homework Center is here for you from 3:30 to 8 p.m. Monday-Thursday. When students are looking for help while at home, we invite them to use the online resources that we have reviewed and consider worthy for both your homework needs and just general enjoyment. The junior high/middler page can be found at [www.colbylibrary.com/webpages/6-8StudentLinks.htm](http://www.colbylibrary.com/webpages/6-8StudentLinks.htm), and the high school students' webpage at [www.colbylibrary.com/webpages/HighschoolStudentLinks.htm](http://www.colbylibrary.com/webpages/HighschoolStudentLinks.htm). Also come and enjoy our Wi-Fi hot spot in the lobby of the library.

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**Senate control in doubt**

From "GOP," Page 1

latest, Steve Morris, of Hugoton. After the 2004 election, Republicans designated Morris their president on a 17-13 vote. But the hold of Morris and his fellow moderates on power could slip, depending on how races turn out.

For example, Steve Abrams, a conservative State Board of Education member from Arkansas City, is challenging Democratic Sen. Greta Goodwin, of Winfield. If Abrams wins, conservatives have a better chance at dictating who's president.

But Democrats would help the moderate cause if they win the seat held by Nick Jordan, a conservative Shawnee Republican who's running for Congress this year. The GOP nominee is another conservative, former Rep. Mary Pilcher Cook, also of Shawnee, best known for her strong opposition to stem cell research.

"There's still a lot of indecision out there among voters," said Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley, a Topeka Democrat. "They're only beginning to focus on the down-ballot races."

In theory, Democrats could also have a role in determining who leads the Senate after the election. The Senate majority leader and minority leader are chosen only by fellow party members. But all senators vote on the president and vice president after the majority party designates its choices.

By custom, the minority party defers to the majority party's choices. But if a conservative is

designated as the next president, Hensley said, Democrats could use their votes to prevent that person from taking the top job.

Hensley acknowledged doing so would be unconventional and probably unprecedented.

Still, Hensley said: "It's not outside the realm of possibility."

In 2002, with Kerr as Senate president, the Legislature eventually accepted moderate GOP Gov. Bill Graves' call for massive tax increases to prevent equally massive cuts in spending on schools and social services. In 2005 and 2006, with Morris as the Senate chief, the Legislature bent to court dictates and approved large increases in aid to public schools.

Thus, it does matter who controls the Republican caucus and picks the president in the Senate. That makes the results of this year's races worth watching.

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