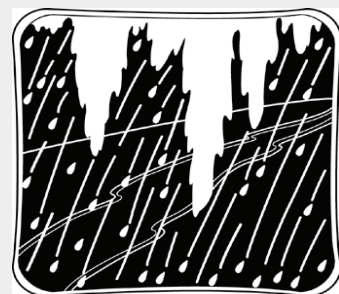


**Weather Corner**



National Weather Service

**Tonight:** Snow before midnight, then rain and snow. Low around 27. Northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100 percent. New snow accumulation of around an inch possible.

**Veterans Day:** A chance of snow before noon, then a slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 40. North wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent. Little or no snow accumulation expected.

**Tuesday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 27. Calm wind becoming west around 5 mph.

**Wednesday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 53. Southwest wind around 5 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 30.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 55.

**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 34.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 53.

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 30.

**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 51.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 30.

**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 60.

Friday: High, 55; Low 30  
Saturday: High, 54; Low 28  
Sunday: High 51, Low 28  
Precip: Sunday, 0.00 inches  
Month: 0.00 inches  
Year: 19.88 inches  
Normal: 19.95 inches  
(K-State Experiment Station)

# Kansas county fights elder fraud

WICHITA (AP) — Officials here estimate that as many as 3,500 elderly Sedgwick County residents lose money every year by scam artists, family, "caregivers" and other thieves.

But a task force organized by District Attorney Nola Foulston is keeping a closer eye on finan-

cial transactions of senior citizens. The Financial Abuse Specialist Team, formed last month, enlists the help of volunteers such as bank employees, postal workers, state Department Social and Rehabilitation Services workers, federal agents and mental health specialists.

Margie McFrederick, a banker, says workers watch for elderly customers coming in regularly to withdraw money with the help of someone other than a relative who does all the talking.

They also watch for seniors who start making small, unexplained withdrawals from their savings

accounts, aware that scam artists call elderly people at home and pretend to be from a bank, asking for banking information and Social Security numbers.

"One of the worst parts about this is that the elderly involved are from a generation that trusted people and has a lot of pride," said McFrederick, a vice president at Emprise bank. "So they often don't report it when they are robbed."

Authorities say only a fraction of such crimes against elderly residents get reported... April Shine, supervisor of the state department's Adult Protective Services Division, said that in the four months since July 1 this year, there have been 107 reports.

Foulston set aside money in her budget last year to build a new financial crimes investigative team, which now is compiling evidence for several cases.

One of the cases prosecuted by

the team was that of John Hartley, who began conning money out of Mildred Patterson, an elderly Wichita woman with dementia, in 2003.

In early 2004, Patterson's son Ray, a California resident, became convinced that Hartley was stealing thousands of dollars from his mother.

Ray Patterson said his first attempt to alert authorities ended in disappointment.

"The district attorney's office moved way too slow then," he said. "They've done the right thing by forming this team, but back then it moved too slow."

The Financial Abuse Specialist Team was the idea of Dana Gouge, a former homicide detective. He was appointed last year to help with the elder fraud task force.

Gouge said the goals for the team are to go after criminals and warn people through educational programs about potential scams.

## Bush, Obama to meet in private today

WASHINGTON (AP) — Barack Obama's first visit to the White House since winning the election will feature a photogenic walk along the Colonnade with President Bush.

More details of the mostly private visit by Obama and his wife, Michelle, emerged today, just hours before they were arrive for a visit and tour of the Executive Mansion. The visit is certain to give the president-elect his first feel for the place where momentous decisions will soon fall to him.

Bush invited Obama for the private talk, a rite of passage between presidents and successors that extends back for decades.

The moment is sure to be steeped in history, part of a symbolic changing of the guard to Democratic leadership and the country's first black president. But it will be substantive as well, as Bush and Obama are expected to review the nation's enormous economic downturn and the war in Iraq.

Obama and Bush will be the only ones in the Oval Office when they meet.

White House press secretary Dana Perino said today that she could not offer a detailed preview.

"It's just very private," she told reporters at the daily White House news briefing, "and I'm sure that this won't be the only time that they speak."

Obama and his wife, Michelle, are expected to arrive at the South Portico at 1 p.m. (Central Time)

today, to be greeted by the president and First Lady Laura Bush. They will head into the Diplomatic Reception Room, where the Obamas will meet the chief usher of the White House, Perino said.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Bush will give Mrs. Obama a tour of the first family's living quarters, including the bedrooms used by children of past presidents. Perino said the two women are expected to talk about living in one of the world's most famous building, from family life

to the help provided by executive staff.

The Obamas have two daughters: Malia, 10, and Sasha, 7. Obama started his day in Chicago, dropping the two girls at school, each with a kiss, and then going to a gym for a workout.

Ahead of the meeting, Obama told reporters last week that he was headed to the White House meeting with "a spirit of bipartisanship."

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## Parolee questioned in Chicago killings

JOLIET, Ill. (AP) — A parole review official today refused to release the convicted felon questioned in the killings of Jennifer Hudson's mother, brother and nephew, after a witness reported seeing him with a gun similar to the one used in the slayings.

A 35-minute hearing ended with a decision that there is probable cause to believe that William Balfour violated parole and should be held until a Dec. 3 hearing before the full Illinois Prisoner Review Board.

Balfour has been questioned, but not charged, in the killings.

Authorities have called him a "person of interest."

During today's hearing by a member of the review board, Balfour denied any involvement in the crime, including the allegations that he had been seen with a gun.

Balfour, 27, has been in custody since the bodies of Hudson's mother and brother were discovered at the family's Chicago home. After 48 hours — the longest Chicago police can hold anyone without charges — he was taken by the Illinois Department of Corrections on a parole violation.

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