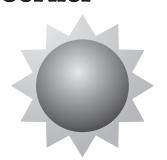
#### Weather Corner



National Weather Service Tonight: Clear, with a low around 39. Calm wind becoming southeast between 5 and 10

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 77. Breezy, with a south wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50. South wind around 15 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 85. Breezy, with a south wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy and breezy, low around 55.

Thursday: A slight chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 62. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent. Thursday Night: A 20 per-

cent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. Friday: Mostly sunny, with a

high near 62. Friday Night: Mostly clear,

with a low around 38.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a

high near 68. Friday: High, 63; Low 42 Saturday: High, 80; Low 45

Sunday: High, 83; Low 35 0.04 inches Precip: Friday 0.00 inches Saturday Sunday 0.00 inches 1.55 inches Month: 22.08 inches Year: Normal: 17.71 inches

**Sunrise and Sunset** 7:39 a.m. 7:29 p.m. Wednesday 7:40 a.m. 7:28 p.m. (U.S. Naval Observatory)

(K-State Experiment Station)

### Groups want new plan for Kansas roads

TOPEKA (AP) — Backers of a new transportation program in Kansas have relaunched their campaign to get it passed with a report warning of approaching problems in the state's highway system.

The Topeka-based group Economic Lifelines had a press conference Monday to highlight the findings in a new report by a national nonprofit group. The report says Kansas will fall \$6.4 billion short of funding its highway system's needs over the next decade.

Economic Lifelines is a coalition of contractor, business, labor and community groups that successfully pushed for transportation programs in 1989 and 1999.

# Kansas' budget woes are likely to outlast recession

From "BUDGET," Page 1

expenses over the next 25 years was \$8.3 billion.

A University of Kansas report declared the system "bankrupt." Many state officials think that's overstating the case, and say an improved economy is likely to shrink the gap as the system's investment earnings recover. But a multi-billion-dollar shortfall is likely to remain unless the state acts.

The report suggested moving toward 401(k)-style plans for government workers, and away from plans that guarantee benefits up front, regardless of the pension system's ultimate ability to pay. Without fundamental reform, the report said, the state is doomed to pour ever-greater amounts of

Colby Free Press

tax dollars into the system — and probably finance last week came from a meeting cies. They also question whether the courts will be forced to raise taxes.

But State Treasurer Dennis McKinney, a Democrat who serves on the retirement system's board, said new pension plans would require startup funds. And, he said, the state still will be required to fund the old plans because employees can't be forced to give

But if McKinney and other critics of the KU report don't see the need to overhaul the system, they do see a need for the state to deal with the long-term funding gap.

"We still have to make up for that lack of funding that wasn't put in there in the past," said Dennis Phillips, a retired Topeka fire chief and chairman of a retirees' coalition.

Meanwhile, rumblings about school

Dodge City and Liberal school officials had with Wichita lawyer Alan Rupe and associates who've sued the state successfully before. The previous lawsuit was filed in 2005 and 2006 forced dramatic increases in aid to public schools.

With its budget problems this year, the state backtracked and cut base aid to schools almost 5 percent. Rupe and some educators believe the state is violating the Supreme Court's past orders, but the attorney said no decisions have been made about a new

Republican legislative leaders note that many parts of the budget saw bigger cuts than schools, including public safety agen- a while, even with an improved economy.

would — or whether they even can — force the state to raise taxes to keep promises it now can't afford.

The Supreme Court believed it had the 1999, and Kansas Supreme Court orders in power in 2005 and 2006 to tell legislators exactly how much they were required to increase education funding. Some Republicans wanted to defy the court, but other Republican leaders and Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, a Democrat, did not.

As for talking about a lawsuit now, House Appropriations Committee Chairman Kevin Yoder, an Overland Park Republican, said, "The purpose of that is to put political pressure on legislators."

And such pressures aren't going away for

# Prevention Center offers programs for new dads

By Aubrey Spencer

colby.society@nwkansas.com The Regional Prevention Center of Northwest Kansas is offering two new fatherhood programs, "24/7 Dad A.M." and "24/7 Dad P.M.," beginning Tuesday, Oct. 6.

The A.M. program is a basic fathering program geared toward the expectant father or the father of young children. The P.M. program is a more in-depth program, focusing on experienced dads with several children or teenagers.

Paige Campbell, Community Consultant with the Prevention Center and contact person for the program, said they are excited to center, 460-8177, to register. bring this nationally known fatherhood program to Colby.

"We look forward to seeing dads getting together with other dads," Campbell said, "providing a support network and a place where they can be comfortable."

Both programs focus on five

day, seven days a week. Both programs cover universal aspects of fatherhood so that men of all cultures, races, religions, and backgrounds can benefit.

The six-week class will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting Tuesday, Oct. 6, at the First Presbyterian Church in Colby. Facilitators will be Dr. W.G. Romine II, pastor of Redeeming Love Ministries Regional Church, and David Keck, owner of True Value. There is no cost to participate in the class. Deadline for registration is Thursday, Oct. 8. Call Paige Campbell at the prevention

Campbell said the center will offer two different sessions, the first in October and November, the second beginning in January. The first session to be offered will be the one with the highest registration. If the majority of those who sign up are new dads or dads characteristics a father needs in with young children, they will be-

order to be a great dad 24 hours a gin with the A.M. program. If the ing," Dr. Romine said. response is mostly dads with older children, the program will be the P.M. one. All who are interested in either program are encouraged to attend the first session, however.

The subject matter and identity points will be a little different for each program, facilitators Romine and Keck said.

The class will be an interaction and discussion format, said Keck. It will be structured to what works best for those involved, he said.

"We want to bring fathers a broad understanding of parent- more involved dad, one who sup-

The program gives dads the tools to become more hands-on, he said.

"Everyone knows the term 'soccer mom.' We would like there to be 'soccer dads.'

"Unfortunately, a lot of dads have been left out of the loop of being hands-on," he said. "We want to help dads become more hands-on and more involved in activities.

"We hope the program helps men come away a better dad, a

ports Mom and helps her in her role, without losing himself or his place in the family.

Campbell, Keck, and Romine all agreed that 24/7 Dad is an exciting program that really does offer valuable tools that dads need for home improvement. They said there are so many outside influences affecting kids today, and they want the primary influence to be fathers and mothers. They said they are glad to be involved with the program and are excited to do their part in helping to accomplish

# OCAL TU 近ISTINGS sponsored by the

#### Tuesday Evening **September 29, 2009** 10:30 11:00 11:30 7:00 Dancing-Stars the forgotten Nightline Jimmy Kimmel Live (BSL/CBS NCIS The Good Wife ate Show-Letterman Late Late NCIS: Los Angeles Local SNK/NBC The Biggest Loser The Jay Leno Show **Tonight Show** (SAS/FOX Hell's Kitchen You Can Dance A & E The First 48 Manhunter Manhunter Manhunter Manhunter Manhunter Manhunter The First 48 Any Given Sunday Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang Lost Tape Lost Tape Weird Lost Tape Lost Tape Monsters Inside Me Weird Flipping Out Flipping Out Flipping Out op Chef: Las Vegas The Singing Bee Smarter Overboard ampbell Brown arry King Live Anderson Cooper 360 arry King Live Scrubs S. Park S. Park S. Park Daily S. Park Scrubs Swords: Life Swords: Life words: Life Agent Cody Banks 2 Phineas Montana So Raven ife With Cory Wizards lenna Jameson Miami Chelsea E! News Chelsea Kourtney NFL Live World Series World Series Baseball Tonight SportsCenter ESPN2 WNBA Baskethall Bowling SportsNation Homecomina Bowling Funniest Home Videos Funniest Home Videos Funniest Home Videos The 700 Club Good Eats Unwrapped Unwrapped The Best Cakes Cakes Unwrapped The Best Chopped HGTV The Universe True Life Best Dance Crew The Hills The Hills The City Pranked Pranked Malcolm Malcolm Malcolm Malcolm The Nanny The Nanny Lopez Warehouse 13 I Am Omega Warehouse 13 UFC Unleashed DEA DEA Surviving Disaster Office Office Office Office Seinfeld Sex and t Anaconda The Bride Wore Black The Road Builder Obsession Cake Boss | Cake Boss | 18 Kids Tiny-Kenadie Cake Boss Cake Boss 18 Kids 18 Kids HawthoRNe Bones Saving Grace Star Wars Total Aqua Tee King-Hill King-Hill Anthony Bourdain Bizarre Foods Bizarre World Bizarre World TV LAND Married Married Married Married Married Married Married Married oseanne Roseanr aw & Order: SVU Law & Order: SVU Law & Order: SVU Law Order: CI Real Chance of Love Tool Academy Tool Academy My Antonio Real Chance of Love WGN News Scrubs S. Park remium Channels Wanted Entourage Curb Joe Buck Live REAL Sports Body of Lies The Dark Knight ingerie. Californ I Witness The Eye Californ Kalifornia

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## Kansas National Guard faces chaplain shortage TOPEKA (AP) — Finding are deployed for several months at

enough chaplains to minister to troops has become a difficult task.

The Kansas Air National Guard has two of its six chaplain positions unfilled, while the Kansas Army National Guard is faring worse with nine of 15 slots vacant.

Officials with the Kansas Army National Guard describe the high vacancy rate as typical of other Guard units across the country.

shortage, including a \$10,000 sign-on bonus, \$4,500 in tuition assistance and extending the age limit for new enlistees, have done little to help so far.

And the approaching retirement of many chaplains promises to his pastoral duties at Stanwood compound the problem in the fu-

to ensure that the spiritual needs of troops are met — a task that involves leading religious services and Bible studies and providing individual counseling.

But a host of reasons are making recruitment a challenge, including the danger of serving in warchurches to stick with pastors who tough time."

a time.

The Rev. Don Davidson, rector of St. David's Episcopal Church in Topeka and the head of the Kansas National Guard's chaplain program, said the shortage has resulted in chaplains facing repeated deployments.

"There is a definite need, but it comes at a price," said Davidson, who doesn't face deployment in his current position but has been The Kansas Army National deployed in the past. "Not every Guard says efforts to address the church, not every clergyperson, wants to do that."

> Chaplain John Potter, 34, said the job has to be a calling. He balances his job as a captain and fulltime support chaplain in the Kansas Army National Guard with Friends Church near McLouth.

"God has to put it on the heart The job of a military chaplain is of the individual that this is where I want you to be planted for ministry," he said.

His duties have included flying to the scene of a helicopter crash that killed all 12 people aboard. While acknowledging the sacrifices, Potter said, "the blessings and rewards are certainly great when torn areas and the reluctance of I can help that soldier through a

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