

Weather Corner



National Weather Service

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 23. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 43. North wind around 5 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 23. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 41. South wind around 10 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 33.

M.L.King Day: A slight chance of rain and snow before noon, then a slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy and breezy, with a high near 49. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 16.

Tuesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 38.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 18.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 41.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 19.

Thursday: Mostly sunny and breezy, with a high near 32.

Thursday: High, 49; Low 12
Precip: Thursday 0.00 inches

Month: 0.00 inches
Year: 0.18 inches

Normal: 0.45 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset

Saturday 8:03 a.m. 5:45 p.m.
Sunday 8:02 a.m. 5:46 p.m.

Monday 8:02 a.m. 5:47 p.m.
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Three trustee spots open for election

From "TRUSTEE," Page 1

as potential solutions at a board meeting on Jan. 4 including pay cuts for salaried employees, comprising 82 percent of full-time employees; a 4-mill increase in property tax (which should raise \$340,000), employees paying for

a greater share of their benefits, an increase in tuition (\$4 credit hour in state, \$8 border state, \$12 all others), developing strategies to fill the dorms, seeking grants to replace spending and program cuts and encouraging all employees to take a three-credit-hour course.

Bob Dole out of hospital

TOPEKA (AP)—Former Kansas Sen. Bob Dole has been released from Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington for the second time in less than a week.

Dole said in a statement Thursday that he feels "a whole lot better" after being treated for a minor infection. He said he plans to return to work Friday.

The former U.S. senator first left the hospital Jan. 7 but returned

that same night after a recurrence of a fever.

The 87-year-old Dole spent 10 months at Walter Reed last year after suffering pneumonia following knee surgery. He left the facility in mid-November.

Dole was elected to the U.S. House in 1960, and the Senate in 1968. He was the Republican nominee for president in 1996, but lost to Bill Clinton.

Arizona representative hits 'major milestone' in recovery

By Alicia Chang

AP Science Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. — Rep. Gabrielle Giffords is opening both eyes, moving both legs and arms and is responding to friends and family.

Her doctors call it a "major milestone" in her recovery.

"We're hoping that she crosses through many more," said her neurosurgeon, Dr. Michael Lemole.

Her remarkable recovery five days after being shot through the head has provided a much-needed dose of jubilation after a tragic week that left the nation in mourning.

Giffords and 18 others were shot Saturday when a gunman opened fire at a meet-and-greet she was hosting outside a supermarket in her own hometown. Six people died, including a 9-year-old girl whose funeral was Thursday.

The three-term Democrat first opened her eyes on her own Wednesday evening while surrounded by her husband, astronaut Mark Kelly, and close friends

from Congress.

Her left eye, which was unbandaged, started to flicker and she struggled a bit to widen it.

"Gabby, open your eyes, open your eyes," her husband urged her.

Kelly told her to give him a thumbs-up if she could hear him. She did more than that. She slowly raised her left arm.

President Barack Obama, who had just left her bedside to speak at a tribute for the shooting victims, announced the news to the thousands gathered in the University of Arizona arena — and to the world.

The arena erupted in thunderous applause. There were tears. And hugs.

First lady Michelle Obama embraced Kelly, sitting beside her.

Giffords' movements left her friends astonished.

"It felt like we were watching a miracle," said Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, who was at the bedside. "The strength that you could see flowing out of her, it

Governor faces questions, criticism on consolidation plan

From "GOVERNOR," Page 1

ing out. Opponents have said the money would have to follow the patients.

"I'm not convinced it would save the state money, either immediately or in the long run," said Rep. Joe Patton, a Topeka Republican.

Brownback also wants to abolish the Kansas Health Policy Authority, which runs not only Medicaid, which covers health services for the poor and disabled, but the health insurance program for state employees. Its current budget is \$1.47 billion, among the largest.

The authority's programs, including Medicaid, would go to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The move would give the governor

more control, because he appoints the KDHE secretary. The authority answers to a 17-member board that includes the insurance commissioner, education commissioner and appointees of legislative leaders.

"If we're going to institute some sort of Medicaid reform in the future, we're going to have to have an opportunity to have some influence over that process," Fulmer said.

Authority officials said they are still gathering more information about the proposal. But several legislators noted that lawmakers created the authority in 2005, and moved Medicaid out of the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services partly because they thought SRS had grown too large.

Sen. Jean Schodorf, a Wich-

ita Republican, said another move by Medicaid seems to her "wasteful energy."

"I just don't know if they really are aware of the history of this," Schodorf said.

Brownback's proposal to abolish the Parole Board appears similar to a measure pushed unsuccessfully in 2009 by House Speaker Mike O'Neal, a Hutchinson Republican, after he questioned some board decisions. Brownback wants to turn over the board's job to the Department of Corrections.

But critics have worried that the department would have an incentive to release some dangerous offenders too early if its prisons become crowded. Fulmer said that public safety would remain the department's top priority.

Poet laureates to attend Lawrence conference

A Poets Laureate Conference in Lawrence Sunday and Monday, March 13 and 14, will feature 19 poets laureate from across the country, including former U.S. Poet Laureate Ted Kooser of Nebraska, with readings and a book launch.

"It's a landmark poetry extravaganza that brings together some of our nation's best poets ... showing us how the poetry can show us more of who we are, where we live, and how to make the most of our lives," said Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg, poet laureate of Kansas, who is organizing the event.

Events include an auction to have dinner with a poet laureate; an all-day conference featuring panels on poetry as it relates to healing, the land, spirituality, publishing, making a living and the process of writing, and the launching of "An Endless Skyway: Poetry from the State Poets Laureate of America," published by Ice Cube Books.

For information, including registration and accommodations, see www.UnitedPoetsLaureate.wordpress.com.

was like she was trying to will her eyes open."

At a news conference Thursday at Tucson's University Medical Center, Lemole smiled when asked if it was a miracle. Then, he spoke carefully, as those trained to operate on the most delicate of organs do. He knows all too well the setbacks that could lurk.

"Miracles happen everyday," he said. "In medicine, we like to very much attribute them to either what we do or others do around us. But a lot of medicine is outside of our control and we're wise to acknowledge miracles."

He called her movements a "leap forward." Her doctors said her progress was not completely unexpected, but still remarkable.

Giffords was still in critical condition, with part of her skull removed to allow for brain swelling.

Few people survive a bullet to the brain — just 10 percent — and some who do end up in a vegetative state.

The fact that Giffords is alert and moving "puts her in the exceptional category," Lemole said.

The doctors figured Giffords would open her eyes soon enough and were pleased that it coincided with Obama's visit. She can now keep them open for up to 15 minutes at a time.

Trauma chief Dr. Peter Rhee said Giffords acts like a bleary-eyed person just waking up.

Giffords yawns, rubs her eyes and tries to focus, he said. Doctors don't yet know if she can recognize her surroundings, but there are signs her eyes are beginning to track movements.

She is receiving physical therapy, which includes dangling her legs from her bed while propped up by nurses. Doctors hope to have her sit in a chair by Friday.

They also hope to remove her breathing tube — what they called the next milestone.

Kelly has remained by her side the whole time, doctors said. He is scheduled to command NASA's last space shuttle flight, but that's uncertain now. NASA announced a fill-in commander Thursday just in case.

The latest progress is a far cry from last week, when a shocked nation braced for the worst, holding candlelight vigils outside the hospital and Giffords' Tucson office.

But as the days ticked by, doctors shared signs of improvement. There was a glimmer of hope early on: Giffords was able to squeeze a doctor's hand in the emergency room.

Giffords survived the gunshot wound for many reasons. The path of the bullet, quick and quality medical care, and a stroke of luck meant the difference between life and death, say her doctors and brain experts.

Doctors think the bullet pierced

the front of Giffords' head and exited the back, slicing the left side of the brain, which controls speech abilities and muscles on the right side of the body.

They did not explain why her right eye was bandaged.

Had the bullet damaged both sides of the brain or struck the brain stem, which connects to the spinal cord, the outcome would likely be worse — permanent damage, vegetative state or death.

"So far, she's passed with flying colors of each stage" of her recovery, said neurologist Dr. Marc Nuwer of the University of California, Los Angeles, who is not involved in the congresswoman's treatment.

It is too early to tell the extent of damage, but experts say it is rare for people with gunshot wounds to the head to regain all of their abilities.

Damage to the brain's left side can result in memory loss, difficulty reading and hand-eye coordination problems. Her doctors have not been able to determine whether Giffords can speak, since she still has a breathing tube.

"Her full-time job now for the next year is working on her recovery and rebuilding her life around her disability, whatever it may be," said Dr. Stephan Mayer, professor of clinical neurology at Columbia University Medical Center in New York, who has no role in Giffords' care.

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LOCAL TV LISTINGS

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Monday Evening		January 17, 2011									
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
KAKE/ABC	The Bachelor				Castle		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live		
KBSL/CBS	How I Met Rules	Two Men	Mike		Hawaii Five-0		Local	Late Show Letterman	Late		
KSNK/NBC	Chuck		The Cape		Harry's Law		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	Late		
KSAS/FOX	House		Lie to Me		Local						
Cable Channels											
A & E	Intervention		Intervention		Heavy		Heavy		Intervention		
AMC	Chronicles-Ridd						Chronicles-Ridd				
ANIM	River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters		
BRAVO	Housewives/Atl.		The Real Housewives of Atlanta		Tabatha's Salon Take		Housewives/Atl.		Salon		
CMT	The Dukes of Hazzard		Pure Country				My Truck		Smarter	Smarter	
CNN	Parker Spitzer		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360				Piers Morgan Tonight		
COMEDY	Scary Movie 3		Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Daily	Colbert	Sunny	Sunny	
DISC	American Chopper		American Chopper		Gold Rush: Alaska		American Chopper		American Chopper		
DISN	Deck	Deck	Deck	Good Luck	Good Luck	Good Luck	Sonny	Sonny	Hannah	Hannah	
EI	Sex/City	Sex and t	Bridalplasty		Fashion Police		Chelsea		EI News	Chelsea	
ESPN	College Basketball			College Basketball					SportsCenter		
ESPN2	Wm. Basketball		Tennis								
FAM	Pretty Little Liars		Greek		Pretty Little Liars		The 700 Club		Whose?	Whose?	
FOOD	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Diners	Diners	The Best	The Best	Good Eats	Good Eats	Diners	Diners	
FX	Fantastic Four				Fantastic Four						
HGTV	Property	Property	House	Hunters	Cash & Ca	Cash & Ca	Hunters	First	House	Hunters	
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	American Pickers		Pawn	Pawn	American Pickers		Pawn	Pawn	
LIFE	Anywhere but Here		The Greatest				How I Met	How I Met	Frasier	Frasier	
MTV	Jersey Shore		Jersey Shore		Skins		Skins		Teen Mom 2		
NICK	Victorou	Victorou	Ninjas	Chris	George	George	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	
SCI	Underworld: Ev		Being Human		Ghost Ship				Being Human		
SPIKE	UFC Fight Night		A Bronx Tale						GoodFellas		
TBS	Office	Office	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Conan		Lopez Tonight		
TCM	Conn. Yankee				Camelot						
TLC	Cake Boss:Next		Cake Boss:Next		The Opener		Cake Boss:Next		The Opener		
TNT	NBA Basketball						NBA Basketball				
TOON	Adventure	MAD	King-Hill	King-Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen	
TRAV	Dining With Death		Bizarre Foods		No Reservation		No Reservation		Bizarre Foods		
TV LAND	Sanford	Sanford	Sanford	Sanford	Cleveland	Cleveland	Cleveland	Cleveland	Roseanne	Roseanne	
USA	NCIS		WWWE Monday Night RAW				Royal Pains		White Collar		
VH1	You're Cut Off		You're Cut Off		The X Lif	The X Lif	You're Cut Off		The X Lif	The X Lif	
WGN	Chris	Chris	Funniest Home Videos		WGN News at Nine		Scrubs	Scrubs	South Pk	South Pk	
Premium Channels											
HBO	Real Time/Bill Maher		Percy Jackson				Gervais		The Last House on the Left		
MAX	Brown Sugar				Chipmunks-Squeakquel		Co-Ed-4		Housewives		
SHOW	Inglourious Basterds		Shameless		Californ.	Episodes	Californ.	Episodes	Shameless		