

## Weather Corner



National Weather Service  
★ High Wind Watch ★

**Tonight:** Cloudy. Very windy. A chance of light rain showers in the evening, then a slight chance of light snow and light rain after midnight. Lows in the lower 30s. Northwest winds 25 to 35 mph increasing to 35 to 40 mph after midnight. Gusts up to 50 mph. Chance of precipitation 50 percent.

**Friday:** Very windy. Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of light rain or light snow in the morning, then mostly sunny in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 40s. North winds 30 to 40 mph.

**Friday Night:** Mostly clear. Breezy. Lows in the upper 20s. Northwest winds 15 to 25 mph decreasing to 10 to 15 mph after midnight.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny. Not as cool. Highs in the mid 60s.

**Saturday Night and Sunday:** Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. Highs in the mid 60s.

**Sunday Night and Monday:** Mostly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. Highs in the lower 60s.

**Monday Night:** Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of light rain showers. Lows in the upper 30s.

**Tuesday through Wednesday:** Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of light rain showers. Highs in the mid 50s. Lows in the mid 30s.

Wednesday: High, 68; Low 35  
Precip: Wed. 0.00 inches  
Month: 0.02 inches  
Year: 1.01 inches  
Normal: 3.98 inches  
(K-State Experiment Station)  
**Sunrise and Sunset**  
Friday 7:07 a.m. 8:22 p.m.  
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

## State wants teacher fingerprints

TOPEKA (AP) — The Kansas state Department of Education wants added security measures for public schools, including fingerprinting about 40,000 educators licensed before 2003.

Pam Coleman, director of teacher education and licensure for the department, told members of the state Board of Education on Wednesday that around 40,000 teachers and administrators received their state licenses before 2003, when fingerprints and background checks became mandatory.

"We do have to get everyone fingerprinted who is not," Coleman said. "I think we can do that in a practical way."

She said the department also would like the see regular Kan-

sas Bureau of Investigation background checks for teachers and enrollment in the bureau's Rap Back program, *The Topeka Capital-Journal* reported. Coleman and department lawyers said they want background checks conducted every five years, when a teacher applies for license renewal.

Coleman and the legal staff said the stricter regulations are designed to turn up offenses that could lead to revocation of a teaching license sooner.

Representatives for the state's teacher union, however, said changes to the current regulations aren't needed if superintendents and county and district attorneys would report arrests sooner and more consistently to the department, as required by law.

## Governor signs law loosening regulations on telecom giant

By John Hanna

AP Political Writer

TOPEKA — Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback announced Wednesday that he'll sign a bill loosening regulation of AT&T Inc., and his spokeswoman said the measure helping the state's largest provider of local telephone service should improve the state's business climate.

Critics of the bill believe it could lead to higher monthly bills for thousands of Kansans who want only a single landline in their homes. The measure cleared the Legislature with large, bipartisan majorities, but some rural lawmakers were among its biggest critics.

The bill makes it easier for AT&T to avoid a state cap on rates for stand-alone, local landline service that still apply in many areas it serves. The measure still limits rates for poor families in a state "lifeline" program and says prices for basic local service in rural areas can't be higher than those in urban areas.

Brownback scheduled a bill-signing ceremony for Thursday afternoon at an AT&T facility in the Kansas City-area suburb of Mission, with legislators and Steve Hahn, the president of the company's Kansas operations, expected to attend. The law will take effect July 1.

"This legislation will help modernize communication policies in our state, and we also believe also increase the opportunities for investment in broadband and in wireless, at no expense to the taxpayer," Brownback spokes-

woman Sherriene Jones-Sontag said Wednesday.

But David Springe, consumer counsel for the Citizens' Utility Ratepayers Board, a state agency, said the changes will hurt from 25 percent to 30 percent of consumers who want only basic landline service. He said many of them are elderly, and Kansas "has thrown these poor customers to the wolves."

"There's no question prices are going to go up," he said. "That's the only reason the bill is there. There is one area in telecommunications that is not completely deregulated."

A 2006 state law deregulated prices for bundles of services that include wireless, Internet access, cable television or other video. It also deregulated prices for local landline service in AT&T's biggest exchanges, Kansas City, Topeka and Wichita.

The same law said the Kansas Corporation Commission, which regulates utilities, could deregulate prices for local service in an exchange at a provider's request, if the company showed competition existed.

A commission report in February showed 59 of AT&T's exchanges have been deregulated and 75 remain under a price cap, most of them with fewer than 5,000 landlines. The cap limits annual rate increases for a single, stand-alone residential landline and up to four business landlines to the rate of inflation.

The new law says when a service provider has a majority of landlines in deregulated exchanges, it can apply to have prices in

"We want immediate reporting," said Peg Dunlap, director of instructional advocacy at the Kansas National Education Association. "We believe that such timely and contemporaneous notification is vastly preferable to a fingerprint-background check every five years."

Board chairman Dave Dennis of Wichita said he supports the proposed requirements.

"I served my country for 29 years, and I had to get fingerprinted to do that," he said. "I don't see a problem with someone getting fingerprinted. If you haven't done anything wrong, you have nothing to worry about."

Board members are expected to take up the proposed changes in June.

## Tea party to meet Saturday in Goodland

From "TEA PARTY," Page 1

shortfalls that are affecting all Kansans and will for many years, Klemm said. The school budget faces sizable cuts. The state worker retirement fund is massively underfunded (\$8 billion — the second worst in the nation), leaving many state government workers in doubt about the value of the retirement promised to them, he said.

Rep. Billinger's firsthand experience in the Kansas budget process should prove to be of interest to all Kansas voters, he

Following Billinger's comments, time will be allotted for people to talk as they see fit, Klemm said. The event will wrap up with a Freedom March around the Sherman County courthouse.

This event is sponsored by the nonpartisan High Plains Constitutional Society, which Klemm described as a group of citizens concerned about the decline of America.

For information, call Klemm at (785) 899-5804.

## School pride a non-starter at Ohio polls

MARIETTA, Ohio (AP) — Voters in one Ohio county who show their school pride at the polls next month will be asked to cover up with a poncho.

Elections officials in southeast Ohio's Washington County don't want people coming to polling places wearing shirts or other attire promoting local schools that have hotly contested tax measures on the ballot.

Those who do show up to vote on May 3 in a shirt, hat or other article of clothing with the name or mascot of one of the Marietta or Warren Local schools will be handed a poncho by a poll worker, county elections board director Peggy Byers said Friday. Voters will be allowed to wear school colors, she said.

The policy was first reported by WBNS-TV of Columbus.

The school tax issues are stirring up feelings that are "kind of intense either way," Byers said. "A lot of people are either real for them or real against them."

Voters in the Warren Local district are being asked to approve a measure to fund new school buildings at a cost of about \$200 a year to the average taxpayer. It has already been rejected three times in the past year. Opponents are "disgruntled" that tax dollars have been used to put the issue on the ballot multiple times, but the district needs to replace its aging schools because of safety and other concerns, said Superintendent Tom Gibbs.

District faculty, staff and supporters have been asked to keep the school garb at home when they vote on May 3, he said.

The elections board voted unanimously to adopt its poncho policy this week to follow a state directive against displays of "campaign attire or paraphernalia" at polling places, Byers said.

Campaigning close to polling places is prohibited, said Matt McClellan, press secretary for Secretary of State Jon Husted. He said the office doesn't feel wearing a school shirt is electioneering but views it as a local issue.

all of them deregulated. So far, only AT&T qualifies.

AT&T officials have said the new law will make Kansas' regulation similar to that in other states — and to Kansas' regulation of cable companies and other potential competitors.

"The investment can go in areas consumers are increasingly in," said AT&T spokesman Aaron Catlin. "It allows the overall policy to

encourage growth." Supporters of the bill note that consumers are moving away from landlines and toward wireless.

The commission report said the number of wireless subscribers in Kansas grew by 37 percent between December 2005 and December 2009, to almost 2.5 million. AT&T has about 560,000 landlines, down from nearly 900,000 in 2005.

Backers of the bill say they believe prices for basic local landline service aren't likely to rise quickly, arguing that steep increases in urban areas will cost AT&T customers.

But Rep. Forrest Knox, an Altoona Republican who opposed the bill, said many rural customers don't have the product choices that urban ones do.

# LOCAL TV LISTINGS

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Saturday Evening												April 16, 2011	
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30			
KAKE/ABC	Pirates-Dead						Local						
KBSL/CBS	CSI: Crime Scene		Hawaii Five-0		48 Hours Mystery		Local						
KSNK/NBC	Law & Order: LA		Law & Order: LA		Law & Order: SVU		Local	Saturday Night Live					
KSAS/FOX	Truth Be Told				Local		Fringe		30S		Local		
<b>Cable Channels</b>													
A & E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Parking	Parking	Parking	Parking	Storage	Storage			
AMC	Se7en						Secret Window						
ANIM	It's Me or the Dog		Cats 101		Cats 101		It's Me or the Dog		Cats 101				
BRAVO	House		House		House		House		House				
CMT	Lethal Weapon		A Few Good Men						The Edge				
CNN	CNN Presents		Piers Morgan Tonight		Newsroom		CNN Presents		Piers Morgan Tonight				
COMEDY	The Girl Next Door		Fired Up				Jackass: The Movie						
DISC	Filthy Cities		Filthy Cities		Pompeii: Back		Filthy Cities		Filthy Cities				
DISN	Wizards	Good Luck	Shake It	Good Luck	Good Luck	Shake It	Wizards-Place						
E!	Knocked Up				After Lat		The Soup	Chelsea	Sex and t	Sex and t			
ESPN	NBA Basketball		NBA Basketball										
ESPN2	HS Basketball				Baseball Tonight		SportsCenter		Baseball Tonight				
FAM	Ace Ventura				Ace Ventura				Kicking-Scream				
FOOD	Candy	Candy	Easter Basket		Easter Unwrapped		Iron Chef America		Easter Basket				
FX	Max Payne		Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Archer	The International					
HGTV	Green Home 2011		Secrets	Antonio	House	House	Hunters	Hunters	Secrets	Antonio			
<b>American Profile</b>													
We Celebrate Hometown Life													
Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.													
HIST	Weird Warfare				Face of Jesus		Weird Warfare						
LIFE	Final Sale		Nothing But				Coming Home		Glamour	Glamour			
MTV	Freedom	Life, Liz	America's Best Dance		The Real World		Real	RJ Berger	Library	Library			
NICK	Victorou	Ninjas	Victorou	ICarly	My Wife	My Wife	Lopez	Lopez	The Nanny	The Nanny			
SCI	The Storm						Polar Storm						
SPIKE	Rambo		The Punisher				Grindhouse: Planet Terror						
TBS	Lemony Snick.				Dr. Seuss-Cat								
TCM	Ball of Fire				Crossfire		Fire Down Below						
TLC	Hoard-Buried		Hoard-Buried		Hoard-Buried		Hoard-Buried		Hoard-Buried				
TNT	Get Smart		Rush Hour 3				The Matrix Reloaded						
TOON	Firebreath	Regular	King/Hill	King-Hill	Venture	Fam. Guy	Boondocks	Boondocks	Bleach	Kekkaishi			
TRAV	Ghost-Moment		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures				
TV LAND	AllFamily	AllFamily	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond			
USA	NCIS		NCIS		NCIS		Underworld						
VH1	Bad Boys				Bad Boys								
WGN	MLB Baseball						News/Nine	How I Met	South Pk	South Pk			
<b>Premium Channels</b>													
HBO	Lottery Ticket				Boxing		Lottery Ticket						
MAX	Get Him	Jennifer's Body			Clash of the Titans								
SHOW	Nurse	Tara	Aries Spears		Fight	Boxing							

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Sunday Evening												April 17, 2011	
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30			
KAKE/ABC	Extreme Makeover		Desperate Housewives		Brothers & Sisters		Local						
KBSL/CBS	The Amazing Race		Undercover Boss		CSI: Miami		Local						
KSNK/NBC	America's		Celebrity Apprentice				Local		Dateline NBC				
KSAS/FOX	Simpsons	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Cleveland	Local								
<b>Cable Channels</b>													
A & E	Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Breakout Kings		Breakout Kings		Criminal Minds				
AMC	Exorcism-Emily		The Killing		The Killing		The Killing		Breaking Bad				
ANIM	River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters				
BRAVO	Housewives/NJ		Housewives/OC		Housewives/OC		Happens	Housewives/OC	Happens				
CMT	The Edge		CMT's Next Superstar				CMT's Next Superstar		The Singing Bee				
CNN	CNN Presents		Piers Morgan Tonight		Newsroom		CNN Presents		Piers Morgan Tonight				
COMEDY	Employee-Mnth		Fired Up				Work.	Tosh.0	Macdonald	South Pk			
DISC	Human Planet		Human Planet		Polar Bear: Spy		Human Planet		Human Planet				
DISN	Lemonade Mouth				Good Luck	Good Luck	Shake It	Wizards	Hannah	Hannah			
E!	Liar Liar		The Dance	Khloe	Khloe	The Dance	After Lat	Chelsea	Khloe	The Dance			
ESPN	MLB Baseball						SportsCenter						
ESPN2	NHRA Drag Racing				Auto Racing				2010 Poker				
FAM	Ace Ventura		Happy Gilmore				Funnist Home Videos		J. Osteen	Ed Young			
FOOD	Challenge		Challenge		Iron Chef America		Cupcake Wars		Challenge				
FX	The International		Slumdog Millionaire				Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men			
HGTV	Holmes	Holmes	Holmes Inspection		House	Hunters	Income	Income	Holmes Inspection				
HIST	Ax Men		Ax Men		Inspector America		Inspector America		Ax Men				
LIFE	Amish Grace		Army Wives		Coming Home		Army Wives		Coming Home				
MTV	Teen Mom 2		The Real World		RJ Berger	Fantasy	America's Best Dance		America's Best Dance				
NICK	My Wife	My Wife	News	Chris	Lopez	Lopez	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny			
SCI	Jules Verne-Is!						The Triangle						
SPIKE	The Punisher		Punisher: War Zone				Punisher: War Zone						
TBS	The Wizard of Oz				The Wizard of Oz				RV				
TCM	Mysterious-Dr.				Tales-Hoffman				Camille				
TLC	Lottery Changed		Extreme C	Extreme C	Strange	Strange	Sister	Extreme C	Strange	Strange			
TNT	NBA Basketball				NBA Basketball								
TOON	Justice	Star Wars											