

Weather Corner



National Weather Service Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 43. Breezy, with a north wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 5 and 10 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph. Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 70. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph becoming southeast. Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 48. Breezy, with a east wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. Breezy, with a north wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 79. Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 54. Sunday: Mostly sunny and breezy, with a high near 85. Sunday Night: Mostly clear and breezy, with a low around 57. Memorial Day: Sunny, with a high near 87. Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 57. Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of rain. Sunny, with a high near 83. Monday: High, 82; Low 52 Tuesday: High, 72; Low 50 Precip: Monday 0.67 inches Tuesday 1.00 inches Month: 2.28 inches Year: 5.16 inches Normal: 7.21 inches (K-State Experiment Station) Sunrise and Sunset Thursday 6:22 a.m. 9:01 p.m. (U.S. Naval Observatory)

Two deaths blamed on storms

GREAT BEND (AP) - Waves of violent storms pounded Kansas on Tuesday with hail, high winds, flooding rain and scattered funnel clouds and brief tornadoes. The storms were blamed for two deaths in the central part of the state. The Kansas Highway Patrol said two people were killed in a freakish episode around 6 p.m. when a tree was propelled into their van on Highway 281 near the small Stafford County town of St. John, several miles south of Great Bend. It wasn't clear if a tornado warning was in effect at the time, but wind gusts of 60 to 70 mph and higher were being reported throughout the region. Names of the victims were being withheld until families could be notified. The National Weather Service posted dozens of tornado warnings Tuesday from 2 p.m. on, starting at the western border and spreading into central and then eastern Kansas by evening. Some of the warnings were prompted by sightings of funnel clouds, but many were based on radar readings of clouds or thunderstorms with strong rotation and were quickly allowed to expire.

Near Great Bend, lightning was blamed for a small fire at a four-unit apartment building Tuesday evening. Great Bend Fire Battalion Chief Rick Robison said a witness reported seeing lightning strike the building near an exterior dryer vent. No injuries were reported. Robison said the smoke and flames were confined to the building's laundry area, but tenants had to find other lodgings for the night. In Butler County a semitrailer was blown over on the Kansas Turnpike around 6:30 p.m. and emergency management officials reported a house destroyed in Barton County between Ellinwood and Great Bend. The threat of severe weather prompted suspension Tuesday afternoon of cleanup and recovery work in the east-central town of Reading, where a tornado Saturday night killed one person and destroyed about 20 homes. Every one of Kansas 105 counties was under a tornado watch - meaning conditions were favorable for tornado formation - at some point Tuesday.

Rollover accidents plague local roads

From "ACCIDENTS," Page 1 serious injuries. Finley said two were flown out shortly after. None of the four had been wearing seatbelts. The accident victims were lucky, however. A driver was killed Sunday in Sherman County when he rolled off County Road 65 about eight miles west of Goodland and was ejected from the vehicle. The 2005 Nissan Titan rolled twice into a nearby wheat field. Joshua Aguilar, 25, of Goodland, was pronounced dead at the scene. He had not been wearing a seatbelt. sheriff Marc Finley said a 1997 Ford extended-cab pickup from Oakley rolled on U.S. 83 about a mile west of Rexford about 10:30 p.m. Friday. Deputy Lance Goodman, who responded to the scene, said the truck likely drifted into the north ditch and the driver overcorrected, losing control and rolling into the south ditch. Goodman said three women were rescued but an adult male was trapped and had to be cut out by firefighters. All four were taken to the hospital with

Kansas National Guard equipped to handle disaster relief

TOPEKA (AP) - Kansas National Guard units are better prepared to handle disasters in the state now than they were four years ago when a tornado flattened Greensburg, the Guard's top official said. Adjutant General Lee Tafanelli said there's plenty of personnel and equipment in the state to handle "the majority of the routine kinds of disasters we face in the state of Kansas." Equipment and personnel became an issue after the 2007 Greensburg tornado killed 11 people and wiped out most of the community. At the time, then-Gov. Kathleen Sebelius said the storm exposed holes in National Guard preparation, especially regarding equipment the state had

sent to help war efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Significant improvements have since been made in U.S. Department of Defense funding to replace the equipment sent to war, Tafanelli spokeswoman Sharon Watson told The Topeka Capital-Journal. Watson said the federal government also has sped up the process in which National Guard equipment is returned to the U.S. Tafanelli and Watson said there are about 1,100 Kansas Guard members deployed overseas, after reaching 2,500 briefly during a troop surge. The state has roughly 7,700 Guard members overall, including 5,500 in the Army Guard and 2,200 in the Air National Guard. Any Guard members who aren't deployed are available to respond to a natural disaster, Watson said. About 1,400 responded to the Greensburg tornado. Kansas Guard members have responded to previous disasters that include wildfires in California and Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Watson said Kansas is part of an emergency management assistance compact that enables it to ask other states for Guard assistance or federal resources if it encounters a disaster that's bigger than the state's capability to respond. Any Kansas National Guard response to the tornado scene in Joplin, Mo., would need to be much larger than the Guard provided at Greensburg because of the size of the southwest Missouri city, Watson said. Authorities said at least 116 people died after a tornado ripped through the city of 50,000 people on Sunday, leveling churches, businesses and schools with winds up to 198 mph. So far, the main Kansas Guard contribution to Joplin has been to send five ambulances and 10 crew members to help in rescue efforts.

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Table with columns for Thursday Evening (May 26, 2011) and Premium Channels. Rows include KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, KSNK/NBC, KSAS/FOX, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.

GIVE BLOOD, SHARE LIFE! American Red Cross logo and contact information.

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Table with columns for Friday Evening (May 27, 2011) and Premium Channels. Rows include KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, KSNK/NBC, KSAS/FOX, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.