

# Weather



National Weather Service

**Tonight:** Clear, with a low around 24. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 61. West wind between 5 and 15 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 29. West wind around 10 mph.

**Veterans Day:** Sunny, with a high near 62. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

**Friday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 31.

**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 61.

**Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 36.

**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 57.

**Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 36.

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

**Monday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 32.

**Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 54.

Monday: High, 44; Low 27  
 Tuesday: High, 43; Low 25  
 Precip: Monday 0.07 inches  
 Tuesday Trace  
 Month: 0.25 inches  
 Year: 19.63 inches  
 Normal: 20.03 inches  
 (K-State Experiment Station)  
**Sunrise and Sunset**  
 Thursday 7:22 a.m. 5:34 p.m.  
 Full Moon  
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

# County plans 911 meeting

From 911," Page 1

Thomas County Office Complex.

In other business:

- Commissioners approved a \$3,000 contract between Thomas County and R&S Digital. The third party company was hired by McMahan and Thomas County Appraiser Mary Cech to ensure orthophotography images taken by Sanborn are of good quality. Cech said R&S Digital is qualified to review the pictures, which will ultimately cost \$76,000, and said other counties have gotten into trouble for not having a good product. If the photos are unacceptable, Sanborn has to retake them, said Cech.
- Emergency Medical Services received approval to spend almost \$6,000 for 10 new pagers and two new radios necessary for the change to narrow-band communication service. Four bids were received and the equipment will be purchased from Nex-Tech Rural Telephone Company.

The commissioners were also provided with a departmental report. Chairman Ken Christiansen, reading from the report, said the ambulances did 56 runs in October, which was the same as last year. It was noted that response time slowed to 5 minutes and 43 seconds due to an unusual amount of night-time calls.

- The commissioners also looked over a department report from the landfill. Christiansen noticed June and August were particularly big months with the landfill taking in more than 18 tons a day in August.

- There will not be a regular commissioner meeting Monday. A special meeting will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 9, so second interviews can be held to hire a new Emergency Medical Services director. The next open meeting will take place at 9 a.m. in the commissioner's board room on Monday, Nov. 21. The public is welcome to attend.

# City takes donations for house fire victims

From "FIRE," Page 1

belt to burn. There was no fire, however, and the students were allowed back inside within a few minutes.

McLemore had some further safety tips for the winter season. As the days and nights get colder, he said, people start turning on stoves, electric blankets, heaters and other equipment that can cause fires if not used properly. People using heating devices should keep them away

from furniture or other ignitable material. People should also check for damaged wires, he said, which can cause sparks.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is also more common this time of year because heating systems are being turned on, but windows are shut. If ventilation ducts, furnaces and chimneys haven't been cleaned, carbon monoxide can build up inside. McLemore said he recommends everyone have their chimney and ducts cleaned each winter.

# College summit focuses on access

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) – Amid a federal push to boost college graduation rates, higher education officials from Kansas and Missouri gathered Tuesday to talk about barriers to entering and completing college.

The rising cost of higher education and the challenges transfer students face were among the topics discussed during the education summit at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. University and community college leaders also shared ideas for recruiting and retaining students from underrepresented populations.

University of Kansas chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little told

participants of her experience leaving her segregated town in North Carolina for college and getting no help from her parents paying for her schooling.

She talked about how the school has broadened student financial support and is working to notify students soon after their admission how much scholarship money they will receive.

"I believe that as a university, we are moving closer to creating an environment where all students, no matter what their backgrounds, whether there are financial considerations or other circumstances, can aspire and expect to go to college," she said.

# Skepticism prevails on education plan

From "PLAN," Page 1

"Where is the money going to come from?" said board member Walt Chappell, a Wichita Democrat. "I think there's a lot of slipperiness between the cup and the lip. You know, if we think this out, there's a lot of loose ends in two months to try to sew up."

The state enacted its current school funding formula in 1992, revising it because of Kansas Supreme Court decisions in 2005 and 2006.

The Great Recession led the state to back away from big, court-mandated increases in aid. This year, the GOP-controlled Legislature, urged by Brownback to control spending, cut base state aid to schools by nearly 6 percent – or \$232 per student, dropping it to \$3,780.

The formula ties each district's funding to that per-pupil base aid figure. Districts can levy local property taxes to supplement their state funds, though the amount is capped.

Fulmer said that under the governor's plan, local school boards would face no property tax cap, though the first \$15 on every \$1,000 of a property's assessed value would go to the state, distributed to help poor districts. The state also would give districts a per-student payment and grants to help them with other programs.

Sales tax revenues would be shared among districts in counties that levy those additional taxes, with a percentage of revenues set aside for poor districts.

"We're trying to solve a lot of different problems here that the

current formula is pitching at us," Fulmer told the education board.

Some critics have suggested that Brownback's administration wants to shift some of the state's responsibility for funding schools to local governments.

"Is the major goal here just to mainly take the burden off the state and put it on the locals?" said board member Janet Waugh, a Kansas City Democrat.

Fulmer replied: "No, I presume this formula will cost more."

Several education officials in the audience said they were pleased by Fulmer's promise that Brownback wouldn't seek to reduce funding further.

"We don't need any more cuts, so that's good, if it really does maintain existing funding, if that's the floor," said Mark Evans, superintendent of Andover schools, outside Wichita.

Fulmer also said the tax plan Brownback is developing – widely expected to contain income tax reductions – isn't designed to force the state to slash its spending. Brownback said Tuesday that revenues would remain "static," suggesting that reductions would be offset by revenue-raising changes elsewhere.

But educators remained nervous.

"There are so many unknown elements of this that it's really kind of difficult to project at this time how it would really operate," said Diane Gjerstad, a former Kansas House member who lobbies for the Wichita school district.

# Briefly

## Group selling nuts

The Colby Episcopal Churchwomen are selling fresh crop pecans and various nuts such as cashews, pralines and walnuts. For information, call Mary Molstad at the Ascension on the Prairie Church, 462-7198.

## Coalition to meet

The Thomas County Coalition will hold a meeting at noon Thursday at El Dos De Oros. Those attending will have a chance to win a free meal. For more information, call 460-8177.

## High school library to hold book fair

The Colby High School library will hold a book fair from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Tuesday in the library. Refreshments and hot apple cider will be available. The fair will include books for all ages. For information, call 460-5300.

## Celebrate Veterans Day with parade, ceremony

The Veterans Day Parade will begin at 4 p.m. Friday at Fike Park with a ceremony at the courthouse to follow. Entries should be at the park by 3:45. A bus for veterans who wish to ride in the parade will be at the Veterans of Foreign Wars post at 3:30 p.m. In case of bad weather the ceremony will be moved to the post at 5 p.m.

## National Honor Society to induct new members

The Colby chapter of the National Honor Society will induct 19 new members at a ceremony at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Colby High School auditorium. Everyone is invited. Colby Community College President Dr. Stephen Vacik will speak. For information, call 460-5300.

## Crafts, food and fun at Harvest of Holidays

The Thomas County Extension office will hold the "2011 Harvest of Holidays" program at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the 4-H Building. Sessions include fall decorations that can be grown or made and dyeing your own silk scarf. Cost is \$10. Sign up by calling Diann Gerstner at 460-4582 or e-mail diann@ksu.edu by Monday.

## College gym to close for floor remodeling

The Colby Community College gym will be closed from Monday to Friday, Nov. 18, while the floor is resurfaced and painted. For information call 460-5411.

## Fourth grade class to sing about elephants

Fourth graders from Colby Grade School will perform the musical "The Elephant's Child" at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesday in the school auditorium. Admission is free. For information, call music teacher Jennifer Koel at 460-5100.

# Farmers wait for wheat report

From "WHEAT," Page 1

tically from 240 million bushels to 160 million bushels, surprising analysts given how tight corn supplies are, he said. Market analysts will be taking a close look at this month's estimate of the use of wheat for livestock feeding.

In Kansas, the use of wheat as a livestock feed has been "very limited," Harries said.

"That was more likely when corn and wheat prices were a little more equal than they are right now," he said. "I would doubt seriously if you are seeing much wheat feeding going on."

Corn prices on the commodity futures market for December ranged between \$6.50 and \$6.70 a bushel Tuesday, compared to hard red winter wheat

prices of between \$7.25 and \$7.50 a bushel on the Kansas City Board of Trade, O'Brien said.

It is a lot easier to predict the price of wheat for March or April 2012 from this year's crops than it is to predict it for July 2012, when the new winter wheat crop is harvested. That's because the crop now in the ground needs rain. The summer drought left the central Plains with little, if any, soil moisture in the ground for it to draw on.

Despite the fall rain, a large swath from southwest and south-central Kansas all the way to southern Texas is still in an extreme drought, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

"We will still be dependent on rainfall come spring to bring the crop to fruition," O'Brien said.

**LOCAL TV Listings** Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Thursday Evening November 10, 2011										
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Charlie's Angels		Grey's Anatomy		Private Practice		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	Big Bang	Rules	Person of Interest		The Mentalist		Local	Late Show Letterman	Late	
KSNK/NBC	Community	Parks	Office	Whitney	Prime Suspect		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	Late	
KSAS/FOX	The X Factor		Bones		Local					
<b>Cable Channels</b>										
A & E	The First 48		The First 48		Border	Border	The First 48		The First 48	
AMC	Chopped							Spy Game		
ANIM	Swamp Wars		Wildman	Wildman	Swamp Wars		Wildman	Wildman	Swamp Wars	
BRAVO	Matchmaker		Matchmaker		Housewives/Atl.		Real Housewives		Matchmaker	
CMT	Top Secret Recipe		Top Secret Recipe		Trick My What?		Top Secret Recipe		Trick My What?	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	Futurama	Futurama	Chris. Titus		Stand-Up	Tosh.0	Daily	Colbert	Tosh.0	Stand-Up
DISC	American Chopper		Gold Rush		Storm Chasers		Gold Rush		Storm Chasers	
DISN	Good Luck	Lemonade Mouth			Good Luck		Good Luck	Good Luck	Wizards	Wizards
E!	True Hollywood Story		Too Young to Kill				Chelsea	E! News		Chelsea
ESPN	College Football				SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	SportsNation		World, Poker				SportsNation		NFL Live	
FAM	Harry Potter-Chamber				The 700 Club		Who's?	Who's?	Who's?	
FOOD	Chopped		Chopped		Chef Hunter		Sweet Genius		Chopped	
FX	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Sunny	League	League	Sunny	League	League
HGTV	First	First	House	Hunters	Selling L.	Selling	House	Hunters	House	Hunters
HIST	Vietnam in HD		Vietnam in HD				Modern Marvels		Vietnam in HD	
LIFE	Unsolved Mysteries		Project Accessory		Project Accessory		Project Accessory		Unsolved Mysteries	
MTV	The Real World		Good Vibe	Beavis	Beavis	Good Vibe	Beavis	Beavis	Good Vibe	Ridic.
NICK	SpongeBot	Kung Fu	'70s Show	'70s Show	George	George	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	30 Days of Night		Jeepers Creepers 2				The Seamstress			
SPIKE	Jail	Jail	IMPACT Wrestling				MANswers	MANswers		
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan		Office	Office
TCM	Love Affair		One Way Passage				Now, Voyager			
TLC	Hoard-Buried		Undercover Boss		Cellblock 6		Undercover Boss		Cellblock 6	
TNT	CSI: NY		CSI: NY		CSI: NY		CSI: NY		CSI: NY	
TOON	Regular	MAD	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Childrens	Heart
TRAV	Off Limits		Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food	Man, Food
TV LAND	Married	Married	Raymond	Raymond	Cleveland	Cleveland	Cleveland	Cleveland	King	King
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Burn Notice		Covert Affairs		NCIS	
VH1	100 Greatest Artists		100 Greatest Artists		Saturday Night Live				Animal House	
WGN	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	WGN News at Nine		30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Sunny
<b>Premium Channels</b>										
HBO	Love & Other Drugs				Bored	Hung	Real Sex			
MAX	Dinner	Lottery Ticket			Face/Off					Emmanuel
SHOW	Thespians		The Hours				Gigolos	Old Porn	Gigolos	Old Porn

Friday Evening November 11, 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		20/20		20/20		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	A Gifted Man		CSI: NY		Blue Bloods		Local	Late Show Letterman	Late	
KSNK/NBC	Chuck		Grimm		Dateline NBC		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	Late	
KSAS/FOX	Kitchen Nightmares		Fringe		Local					
<b>Cable Channels</b>										
A & E	Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds	
AMC	Apocalypse Now				The Walking Dead		House of Wax			
ANIM	Fatal Attractions		Fatal Attractions		Animal Phobia		Animal Phobia		Fatal Attractions	
BRAVO	The Patriot				The Patriot					
CMT	Sweet Home Alabama		Sweet Home Alabama		Cowboys Cheerleaders		Sweet Home Alabama		Cowboys Cheerleaders	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Work.	South Pk	Tosh.0	Stand-Up	South Pk	The Comedy	Central Roast	
DISC	Gold Rush		Gold Rush		Flying Wild Alaska		Gold Rush		Flying Wild Alaska	
DISN	Geek Charming				ANT Farm	Shake It	Jessie	Jessie	ANT Farm	Good Luck
E!	Night-Roxbury				The Soup	Fashion	Chelsea	E! News		Chelsea
ESPN	College Basketball				Carrier Classic		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	College Football						NFL Kickoff		NFL Live	
FAM	Harry Potter-Azkaban						The 700 Club		Who's?	Who's?
FOOD	Diners	Inventors	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Crave	Diners	Diners
FX	How I Met	How I Met	Surrogates				Surrogates			
HGTV	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters
<p>THE LONG-AWAITED NEW ALBUM FROM VINCE GILL GUITAR SINGER</p> <p>FEATURING A DUET WITH AMY GRANT AND "THREATEN ME WITH HEAVEN"</p> <p>Available on iTunes</p>										
HIST	American	American	American	American	Hairy Bik	Hairy Bik	IRT Deadliest Roads		American	American
LIFE	Reba		Reba		Reba	Reba	Reba		Reba	Reba
MTV	Good Vibe	Good Vibe	Beavis	Beavis	How High				How High	
NICK	SpongeBot	Kung Fu	'70s Show	'70s Show	George	George	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	WWE SmackDown!				Sanctuary		Fact or Faked		Sanctuary	
SPIKE	Unleashed						Jet Li's Fearless			
TBS	Browns	Browns	Payne	Payne	Shrek 2				Agent Cody Banks	
TCM	Up Periscope				American-Emily				Marlowe	
TLC	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Sweet Wedding		Say Yes	Say Yes	Sweet Wedding	
TNT	Law & Order		300						Journey-Center	
TOON	Star Wars	Thundr.	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Heart
TRAV</										