

Weather



National Weather Service
Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 26. Southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 63. Southwest wind around 5 mph.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 33. South wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 42. Breezy, with a north wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 19.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 39.
Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 24.
Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 47.
Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 28.
Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 52.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 27.
Wednesday: High, 40; Low 12
Precip: Wednesday Trace
Month: 0.25 inches
Year: 19.63 inches
Normal: 20.03 inches
 (K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
 Friday 7:31 a.m. 5:27 p.m.
 Last quarter Moon at 9:09 a.m.
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

Officials spar over agency's role

By John Milburn
The Associated Press

TOPEKA — Kansas lawmakers asked the head of the state's welfare agency Tuesday to explain comments they said he made about some residents being more willing to accept state assistance than find jobs.

Rep. Jim Ward, a Wichita Democrat, said he doubted the estimated 22,000 unemployed workers in the south-central Kansas city would prefer to get food or cash assistance rather than take a job at one of Wichita's many aviation factories.

"Some people in Kansas are broken," Ward said.

Rob Siedlecki, appointed as Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services secretary by Republican Gov. Sam Brownback, said

some people refuse to help themselves by finding a job, especially when eligibility for benefits can change by just a few dollars more in income, complicating their lives.

"I think some people do that," Siedlecki said. "I believe there is hope for everyone. I want to make SRS the agency to give people hope."

He said many of the reforms his agency is considering would put greater emphasis on helping clients find employment and improving their lives. Siedlecki said he wants to work with commerce and labor officials to better match people needing workers with clients who possess the necessary skills, or help clients find additional training.

Legislators said that the difficult economy has made public assistance the only option for some people.

"Where are the jobs going to come from?" asked Sen. Laura Kelly, a Topeka Democrat.

Siedlecki said tax cuts and other incentives would help create private sector jobs. He agreed with Kelly who said transportation issues often make finding employment difficult and said his agency would try to reallocate funds to help with that.

Brownback wants to reorganize three state agencies that handle Medicaid-related services. Social Services would turn some of its programs over to the new Department of Aging and Human Services. Other services would shift from the Department of Health and Environment and the Juvenile Justice Authority to Social Services, with the agency being renamed Department for Children and Family Services.

Smucker recalls jars of peanut butter

ORRVILLE, Ohio (AP) — J.M. Smucker Co. is recalling thousands of 16-ounce jars of its Smucker's Natural Peanut Butter Chunky because of possible salmonella contamination.

The Ohio-based company says the jars covered in the recall would have been purchased in the last week or so. They have "Best if Used By" dates of Aug. 3, 2012, and Aug. 4, 2012, plus the production codes 1307004 and 1308004.

Smucker says 3,000 jars are being recalled from stores. Another 16,000 had never left warehouses.

Salmonella is bacteria resulting in fever, cramps and diarrhea that lasts for several days and can require hospitalization.

Smucker says no illnesses have been reported.

The product was distributed in: Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin and the District of Columbia.

Farmland value continues to go up

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Oklahoma State University agricultural economics professor Wade Brorsen said he's heard that a number of farmland buyers in the state have been able to pay cash for land at recent sales.

"In a few areas, you had oil money," he said.

But Brorsen said he believes the biggest factors driving up farmland values are the low interest rates and relatively strong cattle and crop prices.

Henderson said he believes land values will likely continue to increase in the region next year, but the rate of increase will depend on what happens with crop prices and farmers' production costs between now and next spring's planting season.

A sharp fall in land values could hurt many farmers, especially if they borrowed too much against their land, Olsen said. But many farmers have kept their debt levels low.

Poll: majority of Baby Boomers don't have wills

By Jennifer C. Kerr
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Many baby boomers don't have end-of-life legal documents such as a living will — and some say it's because they feel healthy and young in their middle-age years and don't need to dwell on death.

An Associated Press-LifeGoesStrong.com poll found that 64 percent of boomers — those born between 1946 and 1964 — say they don't have a health care proxy or living will. Those documents would guide medical decisions should a patient be unable to communicate with doctors.

"I'm very healthy for my age," said Mary McGee, 53, of Archbald, Pa. "So, death and dying isn't on my mind a lot."

McGee, a computer programmer, exercises five to seven days a week, everything from aerobics to kickboxing, and her parents are alive and healthy.

The same goes for 57-year-old Sandy Morgan in Richmond, Va., a retired teacher who is working part time for an executive search firm.

"I don't think of myself in terms of my age group," said Morgan, who runs three miles a day twice a week, practices yoga twice a week and takes part in a rigorous fitness boot camp twice a week. Her parents, in their early 80s, are healthy, too — so living wills aren't on her radar.

"I just feel like it's something I'll probably think about in my late 60s or 70s," she said.

A living will spells out a patient's wishes for medical care if he or she is unable to communicate with doctors.

The health care proxy, also known as a health care power of attorney, allows an individual to select a person he or she trusts to make decisions about medical care should the patient become incapacitated.

Kathy Brandt says living wills and health care proxies are a good idea for everyone whether they are healthy and young or older and not so healthy.

Brandt, a senior vice president at the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, said the two documents

can spare families a painful fight and ensure that patients receive — or don't receive — the medical treatment they wish should they end up in a situation where they can't speak for themselves.

The living will is not "all or nothing," said Brandt. A person could say he or she wants everything, something or nothing. For example, one person may want heroic measures taken to prolong life, while another may want to be resuscitated but decide against being dependent on breathing machines long-term.

Brandt pointed to high-profile cases such as the Florida family fight over Terri Schiavo as a smart reason to draft a living will and health care proxy.

At 26, Schiavo collapsed at her St. Petersburg home in 1990 with no end-of-life care instructions in writing. Her heart stopped and she suffered what doctors said was irreversible brain damage that left her in a permanent vegetative state. Her husband said his wife would not have wanted to live in a vegetative state; her parents wanted her kept alive.

What ensued was a years-long legal battle that involved dozens of judges in numerous jurisdictions, including the U.S. Supreme Court, and Congress. Schiavo's feeding tube was ordered removed in 2005. About two weeks later, she died.

Each state has its own forms for proxies and living wills, said Brandt. And while it's a legal document, she said, you don't need an attorney to draft one. The forms need to be witnessed, but that's it. She advises giving copies to plenty of people — family, friends, colleagues — so a person's wishes are well-known.

For baby boomer William Walsh in Petersburg, Va., drafting a living will hasn't crossed his mind.

"I just haven't really thought about it to tell you the truth," said Walsh, 61. "You always think something is going to happen to the other guy, not you."

Walsh said no one in his family has ever needed one, but also said he might give the idea more thought.

Unemployment claims equal with April stats

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of people applying for unemployment benefits fell last week to the lowest level since early April, a sign that layoffs are easing and hiring may pick up.

Weekly applications dropped by 5,000 to a seasonally adjusted 388,000, the Labor Department said Thursday. It was the fourth decline in five weeks.

The four-week average dropped to 396,750. That's the first time the average been below 400,000 in seven months.

Applications need to consistently drop below 375,000 to signal sustained job gains. They haven't been that low since February.

The number of people receiving benefits also fell to the lowest level since Sept. 2008, when Lehman Brothers collapsed and the financial crisis intensified.

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.

College gym closed for floor remodeling

The Colby Community College gym will be closed through Friday while the floor is resurfaced and painted. For information call 460-5411.

Methodist youth to serve Thanksgiving dinner

The Senior Youth of the Colby United Methodist Church will serve a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday. Everyone is invited and donations will be accepted toward missions and ministry. For information, call the church office at 460-2761.

Ministerial Alliance plans Thanksgiving service

The Thomas County Ministerial Alliance will hold its annual Thanksgiving Service at 6 p.m. Sunday in the Framm Theater at Colby Community College. Bring non-perishable food for donation to Genesis-Thomas County. For information, Call Jerrod Spencer at 443-2403.

Football awards banquet planned for Monday

The Colby High School football awards potluck dinner will be at 6:45 p.m. Monday in the high school commons. Bring a covered dish and table service. For information, call 460-5300.

Colby trash trucks off two days next week

Colby trash trucks will not be running next Thursday or Friday, Nov. 25, for Thanksgiving. Thursday's residential routes will be picked up Wednesday. Friday's residential routes will be picked up Monday, Nov. 28. Have your tipper cans to the curb by 8 a.m. The commercial trash truck will not run Thursday and Friday, but it will pick up trash Saturday. For information, call Public Works at 460-4420.

Prairie orchestra to play Sunday, Dec. 4

The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra will present "A Cozy Christmas with the POP" concert at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, in the Cultural Arts Center at Colby Community College. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors and \$3 for students.

Head Start looking for kids

Head Start, a tuition-free preschool, is accepting applications for its 2011-2012 school year. The school accepts applications all year long for kids 3 and 4. For information, or to get an application, call 460-6067.

Saturday Evening November 19, 2011

Channel	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
KAKE/ABC	College Football									Local	
KBSL/CBS	Big Bang	2 Broke G	The Mentalist	48 Hours Mystery			Local				
KSNK/NBC	Harry's Law		Prime Suspect	Law & Order: SVU	Local	Saturday Night Live					
KSAS/FOX	Cops	Cops	Terra Nova	Local	Hell's Kitchen		New Girl	Local			
Cable Channels											
A & E	Hoarders		Hoarders		Hoarders		Hoarders		Hoarders		
AMC	True Grit		Hell on Wheels		True Grit						
ANIM	Pit Bulls-Parole		Tattooed in Detroit		Pit Bulls-Parole		Pit Bulls-Parole				
BRAVO	The Bourne Supremacy				The Bourne Supremacy						
CMT	Reel Love		Fried Green Tomatoes								
CNN	Black in America		Piers Morgan Tonight		CNN Newsroom		Black in America		Piers Morgan Tonight		
COMEDY	Employee-Mnth		Dave Chappelle		Donald Glover		40-Year-Old Vir				
DISC	Walking the Amazon		Dual Survival		Walking the Amazon						
DISN	Up		Jessie	Phineas	Phineas	Phineas	Phineas	Wizards			
E!	Pride & Prejudice		The Soup		Fashion		Chelsea		Ace Ventura		
ESPN	College Football		Score	College Football							
ESPN2	College Football		Score	SportsCenter		SportsCenter					
FAM	Paul Blart: Mall Cop		Paul Blart: Mall Cop		50 First Dates						
FOOD	Chopped		Chopped		Iron Chef America		Chopped				
FX	College Football		Sunny		Sunny		Archer				
HGTV	Design	High Low	Color	Dina's Pa	House	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Color	Dina's Pa	

THE LONG-AWAITED NEW ALBUM FROM VINCE GILL GUITAR SINGER

FEATURING A DUET WITH AMY GRANT AND "THREATEN ME WITH HEAVEN"

DELUXE & REGULAR VERSIONS Available on iTunes

LOCAL TV Listings November 20, 2011

Channel	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Music Awards									Local
KBSL/CBS	The Amazing Race		The Good Wife		CSI: Miami		Local			
KSNK/NBC	Football		NFL Football		Local		Dateline NBC			
KSAS/FOX	Simpsons	Allen	Fam. Guy	Amer. Dad	Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds	
AMC	The Walking Dead		The Walking Dead		Hell on Wheels		The Walking Dead		Talk Dead Walk:Dead	
ANIM	Ned Bruha Ned Bruha		Swamp Wars		Wildman Wildman		Wildman Wildman		Swamp Wars	
BRAVO	Housewives/Atl.		Housewives/Atl.		Housewives/Atl.		Happens		Housewives/Atl. Atlanta	
CMT	Fried Green Tomatoes		Fried		Extreme Makeover		Extreme Makeover		Extrm.	
CNN	CNN Presents		Piers Morgan Tonight		CNN Newsroom		CNN Presents		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	Employee 40-Year-Old Vir		Tosh.0		Work.		Swardson		Futurama Futurama	
DISC	Gold Rush		Your Body on Drugs		Extreme Drug		Your Body on Drugs		Extreme Drug	
DISN	Good Luck Shake It		ANT Farm		Jessie		Wizards		Wizards Wizards	
E!	Serendipity		Kendra		E Special		Chelsea		Kendra	
ESPN	SportsCtr Countdown		MLS Soccer		SportsCenter					
ESPN2	College Basketball		NASCAR Now		SportsCtr		Roll Tide War Eagle		E:60	
FAM	Holiday in Handcuffs		Holiday in Handcuffs		J. Osteen		Ed Young			
FOOD	Alton's Countdown		Next Iron Chef		Iron Chef America		Diners		Next Iron Chef	
FX	Twilight		Twilight		Anarchy					
HGTV	Holmes on Homes		Holmes Inspection		House Hunters-Esc.		House		Hunters	
HIST	American Pickers		American Pickers		IRT Deadliest Roads		Around		American Pickers	
LIFE	Salem Falls		Family Sins		Salem Falls					
MTV	Notorious		Get Rich or Die		Wild/Out		Wild/Out		Wild/Out	
NICK	'70s Show '70s Show		My Wife		George		George		Friends	
SCI	Angels & Demons		The Prophecy		Crocodile Dundee		Crocodile 2			
SPIKE	Major League		Crocodile Dundee		Crocodile 2					
TBS	Four Christmases		Four Christmases		Moby Dick		What Price Glory?			
TCM	Plymouth Adventure		Sister		Sister		Sister		All-American Muslim	
TLC	19 Kids and Counting		Sister		Sister		Sister		All-American Muslim	
TNT	Shooter		Shooter		Robot Chicken					
TOON	Gumball		Looney		Chicken		Childrens		King/Hill	
TRAV	When Vacations		David Blaine		David Blaine		Man v. Food Nation		David Blaine	
TV LAND	M*A*S*H M*A*S*H		Raymond		Raymond		Raymond		King	
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		I Now Pronounce You			
VH1	Tough Love: Miami		Celeb Rehab		Tough Love: Miami		Still Single?		Celeb Rehab	
WGN	How I Met		How I Met		How I Met		How I Met		News/Nine Replay	

Premium Channels

HBO	The Dilemma		Boardwalk Empire		Hung		America		Boardwalk Empire	
MAX	Conviction		Marked for Death		Chemistry		Chemistry		Chemistry	
SHOW	Peep World		Super		Homeland		Dexter		Homeland	