Area/State

Briefly

Legion group plans

to send care packages

The Colby American Legion Auxil-

iary is taking donations for the Christ-

mas Care Package Drive. The Auxiliary

will be sending holiday care packages

to soldiers serving overseas. To make a

donation or have a soldier added to the

list, call Megan Quenzer at 443-3611

or Abby Barnett at (785) 694-1626. All

names and donations must be in by to-

Registration is open for the Colby

Weather Committee urges merger delay



National Weather Service Tonight: Cloudy, then gradually becoming partly cloudy, with a low around 15. Blustery, with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph becoming calm. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 38. Calm wind becoming south between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday Night: A 40 percent chance of snow, mainly after midnight. Increasing clouds, with a low around 23. South wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north.

Saturday: Snow and areas of blowing snow. High near 28. Blustery, with a north wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 31

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 17.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 28. Monday Night: Mostly clear.

with a low around 11.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 37.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 19.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 43.

Wednesday: High, 58; Low 24 Precip: Wednesday None None Month: Year: 19.63 inches

Normal:

From "FRAUD," Page 1

The department tried to ensure "eli-

gible people got the amount of benefits

they were eligible for. We didn't put a

higher or lower priority on any part of

main way you do that is by determin-

his director of fraud investigation, Ken

Siedlecki said two weeks ago that tion orders can't.

ing eligibility up front," he said.

SHOW I Am Number Four

Boxing

dan said.

(K-State Experiment Station) Sunrise and Sunset 7:46 a.m. 5:21 p.m. First quarter Moon at 3:53 a.m. (U.S. Naval Observatory)

20.65 inches

Welfare fraud could be

costing taxpayers millions

legislative committee has urged Gov. Sam Brownback to delay combining Kansas juvenile justice programs with the state's social services agency, saying the system for dealing with troubled youth and providing for public

safety was working. Members of the House-Senate Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice were critical of the proposal during the committee meeting Tuesday and recommended that the effort be delayed until it's thoroughly studied, the Lawrence Journal-World (http:// bit.ly/sWnTBZ) reported.

Rep. Pat Colloton, a Leawood Republican and chairwoman of the committee, told Social and Rehabilitation Services Secretary Rob Siedlecki that he should have gathered more information before making such a proposal.

"This sounds like ready, fire, aim," she said.

Brownback wants to place juvenile justice programs under SRS as part of his reorganization of state agencies linked to sweeping changes in the state's Medicaid programs. The admin-

TOPEKA (AP) – An interim istration says the changes, which said Sen. Tim Owens, an Overinclude awarding contracts to land Park Republican. private-sector managed care providers, will allow the state to curb the growth in Medicaid spending. Brownback estimates the changes could save \$800 million over five years.

Sen. Dick Kelsey, a Goddard Republican, made the motion recommending that Brownback not issue an executive order reorganizing the programs until more research is completed. Only Rep. Jana Goodman, a Leavenworth Republican, voted against the motion.

"This whole thing hasn't been vetted enough," Kelsey said.

Siedlecki and Juvenile Justice Authority Commissioner Curtis Whitten have scheduled a meeting Dec. 12 to meet with those affected by the changes to discuss the moves.

Several legislators and local juvenile justice officials said SRS wasn't equipped to handle the new tasks, such as intake and assessment of juvenile offenders and administering prevention grants.

Owens and Siedlecki exchanged words after the senator said he found it offensive that people hired by the administra- policy changes. tion from out of state haven't done their research in Kansas before proposing changes. Siedlecki, who moved from Florida, responded that he had bought a home in Kansas and was paying state taxes.

"I prefer you call me a Kan-failings.

san," Siedlecki said.

The meeting was the latest instance of the SRS secretary, legislators and advocates engaging in often tense discussions over

Lobbyists and law enforcement officials attending the hearing noted that the current system was developed in the late 1990s when juvenile justice programs were removed from SRS control because of the agency's

State revenue up

TOPEKA (AP) – Kansas rev- collect \$403.4 million. enue collections are up for No-\$2.5 million more in taxes than anticipated.

Revenue Secretary Nick Jordan says Wednesday the state cal year. collected \$2.4 million more in sales taxes than projected.

Overall, Kansas collected searchers had predicted earlier positive trends. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it," this month that the state would

The state has collected nearly vember, with the state taking in \$2.3 billion since the fiscal year began July 1. That's \$144.3 million, or 6.7 percent, more than through the same period last fis-

Jordan says the revenue collections show steady growth in the Kansas economy. But he \$405.8 million in November. says the state must be careful A group of economists and re- not to disrupt what he sees as

Enter parade now

Christmas Light Parade. Forms are available at the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce office at 350 S. Range. The parade is scheduled to begin at 5:45 p.m. Sunday at Second Street. It will go down Franklin Avenue to Fike Park and then to Santa City. Forms are due by Friday. For information, call

Dance the night away Saturday at golf course A Single's and Couple's Dance will

be held from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday at the Meadow Lake Golf Club. Gary Phipps will be the musician. For information. call Lue Duffey at (785) 269-7057.

Come to the workshop this coming Saturday The Thomas County Community

Foundation will operate Santa's Workshop from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday at the Thomas County Office Complex. The workshop is for children in preschool through fourth grade. Volunteer elves will help them shop for gifts for their family. For information, call 460-

Lions to serve pancakes

The High Plains Lions Club will hold a pancake feed from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Colby Community Building. Proceeds go to the club's community projects.

Prairie orchestra to play this Sunday

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

Health department to hold flu clinic

The Thomas County Health Department will hold an all-day flu clinic from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday at the department office, 350 S. Range Ave. No appointment is necessary. For information, call administrator Kasiah Rothchild at 460-4596.

Grade school students to sing on Tuesday

The Colby Grade School fifth grade class will perform their music program "Once on a Housetop" at 2 p.m. and again at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the grade school auditorium. For information, call 460-5100.

Governor, administration make water proposals two banks chartered in Kansas, one of

From "WATER," Page 1

tomatically lose them.

"That's not the case," he said.

The use it or lose it law looks at five years

of water usage, plus a bevy of other requirements to determine whether a particular water right should be taken back.

Bossert said if a water user wants to set aside their rights for a period of time and still have them in the future, they can agree to a conservation plan with the chief engineer. However, a lot of people don't know they can do that, he said, and the state should have thought about putting more money into educating water users on their options.

• Provide a process for creating conservation plans - Local Enhancement Management Plans - that can include mandatory reductions and other corrective measures. The local Groundwater Management District would originate the plan and the state's

chief engineer would have to approve it. Bossert said this was District Four's pro-

torney General Derek Schmidt as a

is that his department could criminally

prosecute people who commit welfare

judgments can be dismissed in bank-

ruptcy court, he said, criminal restitu-

In the past, the most the state could

fraud in Kansas.

posal to the committee, and the committee has embraced it

As it is now, he said, the only conservation tool is the Intensive Groundwater Use Control Area program. Under that program, the chief engineer holds public meetings on a proposal where anyone can float any idea. The chief engineer then takes all of that and crafts the final conservation order.

"We have no idea what will come out," he said. "That can be risky, and there's no way to stop the process."

For this reason, the program has only been used a few times. However, Bossert said, the types of conservation measures you could put in place with the program

The proposed management plans would still originate at the local level and be sent to the chief engineer, but the plans would be the sole focus of the hearing.

Bossert said the chief engineer can approve the plan, reject it or send it back to the district. He could send it back for two reasons: if it is not consistent with state laws, or if there are suggestions to improve it. However, those suggestions cannot make the plan more restrictive.

This is a more locally friendly process," Bossert said. "It doesn't guarantee they (water users) will get everything they want, but it does guarantee they won't get what they Thompson, was appointed by state At-

don't want." "During the time I was secretary, special assistant attorney general and water banks to relocate water use and pro- in Colby, Wichita, Topeka and Garden City vide conservation in dry areas. Water banks there were very tight resources," Jor- would have prosecutorial authority. What that means, Siedlecki explained, provide a mechanism for buying, selling and trading water rights. A water right owner can Dec. 13, at Colby Community College. deposit their right into the bank, which can water, a payment which goes to the original that job, including detecting fraud. The do was pursue lawsuits. While civil owner. Bossert said 10 percent of the rights that go into a bank have to been retained for

conservation. Bossert said there has been a national pilot program for the past seven years, with

which is a groundwater bank. That program was to sunset this year. The administration's recommendation is to extend the lifetime of the program and remove the two-bank limit. This would allow people to obtain more

Bossert said he didn't know how much usage this recommendation will get if approved. The current groundwater bank is not very active.

 Amend multi-year flex accounts to give irrigators more capability to manage their crop water over a five-year period.

Bossert said six to seven years ago the state created a program where water users could sign an agreement with the chief engineer to create a flex plan. The plan would take their average water use over the past five years, then subtract 10 percent. The user would get to use that total amount of water over the next five years, but they can use it whenever they want within that time, whether spread out or all at once.

However, Bossert said, those were wet years, so users were not irrigating as much, which threw off their averages. The new recommendation would make some corrections to even that out, while keeping the conservation component.

"The concept is good," he said.

The Kansas Water Authority, Kansas Water Office and the Department of Agricul-• Allow development of new groundwater ture ware planning four public meetings — – to talk about the proposed legislation. The Colby meeting will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday,

The Ogallala Committee will continue to in turn allow someone else to pay to use that meet over the next year. Bossert said he and the other districts would continue to make suggestions.

"The committee has been an interesting experience," he said. "They have been pretty open and pretty open minded."

December 3, 2011 Saturday Evening 10:30 11:00 11:30 KBSL/CBS Big Bang How I Met KSNK/NBC It's-Wonderful Saturday Night Live KSAS/FOX College Football Hell's Kitchen Cable Channels Storage Hell on Wheels The Shadow Riders Pit Bulls-Parole Too Cute! Pit Bulls-Parole BRAVO Real Housewives State of Play State of Play CMT Sweet Home Alabam Broken Bridges CNN Presents Piers Morgan Tonight CNN Newsroom CNN Presents Piers Morgan Tonight COMEDY Scary Movie 2 Scary Movie Dance Flick Sons of Guns Sons of Guns Sons of Guns Sons of Guns ANT Farm A.N.T. Farm ANT Farm ANT Farm ANT Farm ANT Farm DISN Random Jessie Austin Clueless Scouted The Soup | Chelsea Kourtney and Kim **ESPN** College Football SportsCenter Football Final ESPN2 College Football Football Scoreboard SportsCenter FAM Harry Potter Harry Potter-Phoenix Tim Burton FOOD Cupcake Wars Iron Chef America Cupcake Wars cake Wars Cupcake Wars Ice Age: Dawn Role Models Archei High Low Donna Dec Color Donna Dec Color Design House

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We Celebrate Hometown Life Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.											
HIST	Big Shrimpin'		Big Shrimpin'		Big Shrimpin'		Brad Meltzer's Dec.		Big Shrimpin'		
LIFE	Nothing Like	е			Boyfriend for				Nothing Like		
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Tribute to Dunn		Ridic.	Ridic.	Starsky & Hutch				
NICK	Victoriou	iCarly	Victoriou	iCarly	'70s Show	'70s Show	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
SCI	Indiana Jon	es	Indiana Jones					Mystery, Crystal			
SPIKE	The Ultimate Fighter				Blue Mountain St			ain State	The Ultimate Fighter		
TBS	Big Bang Big Bang The Hangover					The Hangover					
TCM	Out of the F	ast	Instant Lov			е			While-Sleeps		
TLC	Invasion: Lights		Christmas Light		More Crazy Christmas		Invasion: Lights		Christmas Light		
TNT	Terminator	Salvation			Shooter				·		
TOON	Firebreat	MAD	Oblongs	King/Hill	King/Hill	Fam. Guy	Boondocks	Boondocks	Bleach	Durarara	
TRAV	Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		
TV LAND	Roseanne	Roseanne	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King	King	
USA	NCIS		NCIS		NCIS		The Break-Up				
VH1	ATL					Love & Hip	Нор	Love & Hip	Нор	Basketbal	
WGN	Funniest Ho	ome Videos	Funniest Ho	ome Videos	Funniest Ho	ome Videos	30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Sunny	
Premium	Channels										
НВО	Adjustment	Bureau	·		Boardwalk Empire		Cathouse	The Adjustment Bureau			
MAX	Mad Max		Strike Back		Cedar Rapids		Strike Back			Right	

Staredown Homeland



Sunda	ay Eve	ning						Dece	ember	4, 201 ⁻	
	7:00	7:30	8:00 8:30		9:00 9:30		10:00	10:30	11:00		
	Once Upon		Desperate	Housewives	Pan Am		Local				
KBSL/CBS	The Amazing Race		The Good Wife		CSI: Miami		Local				
KSNK/NBC		NFL Footba	ill		•			Local	Dateline N	BC	
KSAS/FOX	Simpsons	Allen	Fam. Guy Cleveland		Local			-	•		
Cable Ch	annels										
A & E	Criminal Mi	nds	Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		
AMC	Pale Rider				Hell on Wheels		Hell on Wheels		Breaking Bad		
ANIM	Ned Bruha Ned Bruha		Ned Bruha Wildman		Wildman Wildman		Wildman	Wildman	Ned Bruha	Wildman	
BRAVO	Housewive	s/Atl.	Housewive	s/Atl.	Chef Roblé	& Co.	Happens	Housewive	s/Atl.	Happens	
CMT	Extreme Ma	akeover: Hor	me Edition Trick My Wh		hat?		Trick My What?				
CNN	A Dinner with Kings				CNN Newsroom		A Dinner with Kings		Piers Morgan Tonight		
COMEDY	Dance Flick		Kevin Hart: Grown		Carlos Mencia		Carlos Mencia		Tosh.0	Work.	
DISC	World's Dirtiest Man		Dirty Jobs		Dirty Jobs		Dirty Jobs		Dirty Jobs		
DISN	Austin	Good Luck	Charlie		Austin	Austin	Random	Shake It	Wizards	Wizards	
E!	Evan Almig	hty	Kourtney a	nd Kim	Kourtney a	nd Kim	After Lat	Chelsea	Kourtney a	and Kim	
ESPN	SportsCtr	Selection	Bowl Selec	tion			SportsCent	er		SportsCtr	
ESPN2	World, Pok	er	World, Poker		World, Poker		Bowl Selec	tion			
FAM	Harry P	,							J. Osteen	Ed Young	
FOOD			Next Iron C	Next Iron Chef		Iron Chef America		Chef Hunter		Next Iron Chef	
FX	Ice Age: Dawn			Ice Age: Da	awn			Adventureland			
HGTV	Celebrity Holiday Ho		Holmes Inspection		House Hunters		Celebrity Holiday Ho		Holmes Inspection		
HIST	American Pickers		Real Deal Real Deal		IRT Deadliest Roads		Around		American Pickers		
LIFE	Dear Santa	l			Nothing Like		, II		Dear Santa		
MTV	Teen Mom	2	Teen Mom	2 Catch Up	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Beavis	Beavis	
NICK	'70s Show	'70s Show	Nick News	'70s Show	'70s Show	My Wife	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
SCI	Indiana Jor	nes	Neverland		Neverland						
SPIKE	A Time to Kill							In the Line	of Fire		
TBS	The Hango	ver			The Hangover				Old Schl		
TCM	7 Little Foy	S			Yankee Do	odle Dandy			Fragments		
TLC	Sister Wives		Virgin Diaries		All-American Muslim		Virgin Diaries		All-American Muslim		
TNT	Shooter		Leverage		Terminator Salvation					Leverage	
TOON	Gumball	Looney	Chicken	Aqua Teen	King/Hill	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Robot Chic	ken		
TRAV	When Vaca	ations	RV 2011		The Layove	er	Manliest Re	estaurants	RV 2011		
TV LAND	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	The Exes	King	King	King	King	
USA	NCIS	1	NCIS		NCIS	1	Ocean's Th				
VH1	Tough Love: Miami		Celeb Rehab		Tough Love: Miami		Still Single?		Celeb Rehab		
WGN		How I Met		How I Met	News/Nine		The Unit		Monk		
Premium	Channels							_			
НВО	Adjustment		Boardwalk	Empire	Hung	Enlighten	Boardwalk	Empire	Hung	Unknown	
MAX	Big Mom	,			Air America				Unstoppable		
SHOW	Homeland			Homeland		Dexter		Homeland			
	T TOTTION OF THE		DUNIUI		riomolanu		DOMO		i iomolana		