

# Weather



## National Weather Service WINTER STORM WATCH

**Tonight:** A 40 percent chance of snow, mainly after midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 22. South wind 10 to 15 mph becoming east. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

**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 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent. New snow accumulation of 2 to 4 inches possible.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 8. North wind between 10 and 15 mph.

**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 29. Northwest wind around 10 mph.

**Sunday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 13.

**Monday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 24.

**Monday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 5.

Thursday: High, 34; Low 10

Precip: Thursday None

Month: None

Year: 19.63 inches

Normal: 20.65 inches

(K-State Experiment Station)

**Sunrise and Sunset**

Saturday 7:47 a.m. 5:21 p.m.

Moon: waxing, 63 percent

Sunday 7:48 a.m. 5:21 p.m.

Moon: waxing, 72 percent

Monday 7:49 a.m. 5:21 p.m.

Moon: waxing, 80 percent

(U.S. Naval Observatory)

# Beef prices may rise next year

From "BEEF," Page 1

supermarket is that cattle producers have squeezed retailer profit margins this past year. Nearly 23 percent of the price of beef at the supermarket now goes to cattle producers, compared to just over 19 percent in 2009. Retailers are likely going to raise their prices to recoup the profit margin, Blach said.

Meanwhile, livestock producers at this year's association convention are also examining the impact of Gov. Sam Brownback's plans to restructure the state's tax system. The association's members are considering whether to throw their political muscle behind a push to lower or repeal state income taxes.

The association has a longstanding policy

supporting less reliance on property taxes and favoring sales and income taxes.

Landon Fulmer, policy director for Brownback's administration, told the livestock group in a separate presentation that the governor is looking for a revenue-neutral plan that allows for a reduction of income taxes based on restraint of government spending. There is a public sentiment that government is too big, he said.

"What we are trying to do is find a way to catch that sentiment," Fulmer said.

He argued that states with lower income taxes have economies that are growing faster than surrounding states with higher taxes.

Fulmer told the cattle producers — typically landowners who own large swatches of ranchland — that the goal of the income tax restructuring is to not affect property taxes.

But state Rep. Don Hineman, a Dighton Republican and past livestock association president, said states which have reduced or eliminated income taxes have gone to a greater reliance on sales or property taxes. Some states like Texas, which has no state income tax, rely on mineral resources that they tax to fund their state governments. Kansas has only smaller stripper gas and oil wells, which are limited in how much taxes they can provide.

Hineman also questioned whether lowering income taxes would help the economy, noting some states with low state income taxes have low individual gross domestic product, a measure of the value of the goods and services produced.

"Eliminating income taxes is not a guarantee of a robust economy," Hineman said.

# Cold predicted for parade night

From "PARADE," Page 1

Brewster and on to McCook, Neb. Areas northwest of that line can expect one to two inches.

The service had initially predicted the snow would begin Thursday, and while western Kansas didn't see any precipitation, Colorado's Front Range got several inches, with more predicted for today. Unusually high winds also materialized over much of the western United States. In Steamboat Springs, Colo., gusts of up to 123 mph uprooted trees and tore the roof off a four-story condominium.

The snow prediction for western Kansas was revised

Thursday, with the service predicting snow would start falling after midnight Saturday. This morning it was revised again. The current prediction is that the snow will begin around sunrise Saturday and end in the late afternoon. The area may also see a freezing drizzle.

The service has issued a winter storm watch, which will go into effect late tonight. A winter storm watch means there is a potential for snow, sleet or ice accumulation that may impact travel. The service is also warning that sustained winds of 20 to 30 mph may create areas of blowing snow and low visibility during the day Saturday.

# Farm Bureau picks policies, leaders at meeting

Kansas Farm Bureau members elected leaders and set the policy positions for the organization for the upcoming year at their annual meeting.

The bureau's 93rd Annual Meeting adjourned with voting delegates adopting consensus positions on a wide range of public policies that impact the conscious choices bureau members have made to build their lives in rural Kansas.

The voting delegates of Farm Bureau:

- Adopted language calling for school district patron approval of proposed increases in the "local option budget" property tax to help finance public schools. The group reiterated an existing long-standing policy saying new revenues to finance public education should come from sales or income taxes.

- Support a tax mix that would decrease the dependency on property tax and focus more on sales and income taxes for the support of state and local government. Reductions in Kansas personal income tax, or sales tax, should not increase further reliance on property tax as a revenue source for state or local government.

- Reached consensus on a policy providing greater farmer and rancher flexibility to manage his or her own water rights, specifically supportive of the concept of water flex accounts.

The policy resolutions adopted by voting delegates in Manhat-

tan are now the bureau's policy roadmap for agriculture advocacy efforts before local governments, Topeka and Washington, D.C. The resolutions adopted involved input from county Farm Bureau members.

Montgomery County farmer Richard Felts was elected to a two-year term as vice president. As vice-president, Felts will chair the bureau's policy-developing farmer and rancher Resolutions Committee.

Re-elected to the board of directors were Jeff Grossenbacher, Nemaha County, Keith Miller, Barton County and Jim Sipes, Stanton County.

Newly-elected to the board was Cloud County farmer Stacey Forshee, who will represent Farm Bureau's Fifth geographic district of northeast-central Kansas. Joe Newland, Wilson County, was elected to a two year term to represent the Third district, which covers southeast Kansas. Marieta Hauser, Grant County, was elected to an at-large position on the board and as chair of the Committee of Farm Bureau Women. Hauser will succeed Helen Norris, Sumner County, who is retiring after years of dedicated service to the bureau and agriculture.

The delegates were visited by a number of their elected leaders, who pledged to work closely with the organization on policy issues impacting their families and their operations.

# Powerful Santa Anna winds cause destruction in western United States

By Noaki Schwartz

The Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Several overturned semis on a Utah highway. Hundreds of thousands without power in California. A wind gust reaching 123-mph in Colorado.

The powerful winds that tore across Western states Thursday created a path of destruction that closed schools, left neighborhoods with a snarl of downed trees and power lines, and prompted some communities to declare emergencies.

The storms, described as a once-in-a-decade event, were the result of a dramatic difference in pressure between a strong, high-pressure system and a cold, low-pressure system, meteorologists said. This funnels strong winds down mountain canyons and slopes.

The system brought high wind warnings and advisories for California, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, Arizona and New Mexico. The blustery weather is expected to eventually hit Oklahoma, Missouri and Indiana.

The violent winds eased but strong gusts still blew through the region Thursday night, at times reaching 60 mph in some California mountains. Forecasters said the winds would contin-

ue to diminish through Friday.

The winds were fanning fires in northern California.

The *Sacramento Bee* reported that as of Thursday evening, seven fires had burned more than 130 acres in El Dorado County. Five fires had also burned more than 250 acres in Tuolumne and Calaveras counties.

In Southern California, the storm knocked out electricity to more than 350,000 utility customers. By early Friday, 270,000 of them were still without power.

Gusts, which reached 80 mph, were blamed for toppling semi-trailers and causing trees to fall on homes and cars.

A state of emergency was declared in Los Angeles County, where schools in a dozen communities were closed.

In some neighborhoods, concrete light poles cracked in half. Darkened traffic signals and fallen palm tree fronds and branches snarled traffic. At a Shell station, the roof collapsed into a heap of twisted metal.

In heavily damaged Pasadena, schools and libraries closed and a local emergency, the first since 2004, was declared. Officials said 40 people were evacuated from an apartment building after a tree smashed part of the roof.

Pasadena is known for its his-

toric homes and wide oak-lined streets that are frequently depicted in films.

Many residents Thursday blamed the city for protecting its old trees from over-trimming to such an extent that they have now become a public safety hazard.

Vince Mehrabian, the general manager at A&B Motor Cars, estimated eight Lexus, Cadillac and other luxury cars had been destroyed by fallen limbs. He said he'd been asking the city for four years to trim the trees more.

On a street around the corner, almost every tree was either cracked in half or missing limbs.

Elsewhere, Daphne Bell, a Pasadena resident, said she was kept awake by howling wind. "This is the worst, the absolute worst. There were times it sounded like a freight train was roaring down my driveway," she said.

Similar stories of downed trees and power lines echoed across the West, where winds in some areas ripped storefront awnings, filled gutters with debris and forced school closures.

In Steamboat Springs, Colo., the roof of a four-story condominium complex was blown off and about 100 trees were knocked over, some landing on homes. A ski area shut down its lifts after a gust of 123 mph.



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# Briefly

## 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 460-9152.

## 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 on Sunday

The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra will present "A Cozy Christmas with the POP" concert 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.

## Open house planned to benefit food bank

The Women of K-State will hold an open house from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Stock Realty and Auction, 290 N. Franklin Ave. Sally's Unique Boutique will have products for sale, some of the proceeds will benefit Genesis-Thomas County. Donations will also be accepted. For information, call the Northwest Research and Extension Center at 462-6281.

## College band plans winter concert Tuesday

The Colby Community College band will hold its winter concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Cultural Arts Center. The concert and jazz bands will perform Christmas music, swing, rock and other genres. Refreshments will be served at intermission. There is no charge to attend. For information, call director Tony Schroer at 460-5519.

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Monday Evening												December 5, 2011			
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30					
KAKE/ABC	Christmas	Prep &	You Deserve It		Castle		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live						
KBSL/CBS	How I Met	2 Broke G	Two Men	Mike	Hawaii Five-0		Local	Late Show Letterman		Late					
KSNK/NBC	The Sing-Off				Rock Center		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno		Late					
KSAS/FOX	Country Awards				Local										
<b>Cable Channels</b>															
A & E	The First 48		Long Island				The First 48		The First 48						
AMC	A Christmas Carol						A Christmas Carol								
ANIM	Saved		Fatal Attractions		I Shouldn't Be Alive		Saved		Fatal Attractions						
BRAVO	Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Happens	Housewives/Atl.		Real					
CMT	CMA Awards						CMA Awards								
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight						
COMEDY	South Pk	Work.	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Daily	Colbert	South Pk	South Pk					
DISC	American Chopper		American Chopper				American Chopper								
DISN	Random	Santa Clause 3: Escape Clause			ANT Farm	Jessie	Random	Good Luck	Wizards	Wizards					
E!	Sex-City	Sex-City	E! Special		Scouted		Chelsea	E! News		Chelsea					
ESPN	Countdown	NFL Football						SportsCenter							
ESPN2	College Basketball		World, Poker				SportsCtr	Football	Baseball	Nation					
FAM	Rudolph	The Polar Express				Mickey Ch	The 700 Club		Whose?	Whose?					
FOOD	The Best	The Best	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners					
FX	The Proposal						The Proposal								
HGTV	Love It or List It		House	House	House	House	House	House	House	House					
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	American Pickers		Pawn	Pawn	Real Deal	Real Deal	Pawn	Pawn					
LIFE	Holiday Switch				Dear Santa				Holiday Switch						
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Beavis	Ridic.	Ridic.	True Life						
NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	'70s Show	'70s Show	George	George	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends					
SCI	Neverland		Neverland				Neverland								
SPIKE	1,000 Ways to Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die					
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Conan		Office	Office					
TCM	Mystery-Drood				A Christmas Carol			David Copperfield							
TLC	Cake Boss:Next		Cake Boss:Next		Candy	Candy	Cake Boss:Next		Candy	Candy					
TNT	The Closer		The Closer		Rizzoli & Isles		The Closer		Rizzoli & Isles						
TOON	Adventure	MAD	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen					
TRAV	The Layover		The Layover		No Reservation		No Reservation		The Layover						
TV LAND	Roseanne	Roseanne	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King	King					
USA	NCIS		WWE Monday Night RAW				Hostage								
VH1	Love & Hip Hop		T.I.-Tiny	T.I.-Tiny	Love & Hip Hop		T.I.-Tiny	T.I.-Tiny	Love & Hip Hop						
WGN	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		WGN News at Nine		30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Sunny					
<b>Premium Channels</b>															
HBO	The Dilemma		Enlighten		Boardwalk Empire		Enlighten		Due Date						
MAX	Man on the Moon				Cedar Rapids				Another 48 HRS.						
SHOW	The Canyon		Dexter		Homeland		Dexter		Homeland						

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