Weather

National Weather Service

Tonight: A slight chance of showers before 10 p.m., then a chance of showers and thunderstorms between 10 p.m. and 1 a.m., then a chance of showers after 1 a.m. Areas of blowing dust before 10 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 39. Windy, with a north wind between 25 and 35 mph, with gusts as high as 45 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

Tuesday: A 50 percent chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 53. North wind around 15 mph.

Tuesday Night: Showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 38. North wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

Wednesday: A 30 percent chance of rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 55. North wind around 10 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 38.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 67.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 46.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 73.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 64.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 35.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 63.

Friday: High, 81; Low 41
Saturday: High, 85; Low 48
Sunday: High, 92; Low 43

Precip:	Friday	None
	Saturday	None
	Sunday	None
	March:	0.78
	April:	None
	Year:	1.67 inches
	Normal:	3.98 inches

(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset

Tuesday 7:25 a.m. 8:1 p.m.
Moon: waxing, 87 percent
Wednesday 7:23 a.m. 8:12 p.m.
Moon: waxing, 93 percent
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

County hears way to save on plan

From "COUNTY," Page 1

Commissioner Paul Steele said he wasn't sure they need one either.

Deputy Clerk Susan Guill said she has had issues with the current company's 90-day period to turn in claims. She said many times, her providers wouldn't turn in claims in time, and she would have to pay the expenses out of her pocket.

Harms said if the commissioners decided to stick with a health reimbursement account, she suggests they go with Select Account. She said the firm doesn't charge a consulting fee. For about 65 employees that use the account, she said, the county would pay $357.50 a month for a total of $4,290 a year.

Harms said this would be an overall savings of $10,474 for the county. She said the standard rate for this plan is $4.50 per participant a month, and one of the benefits is that the company will deal directly with the employees' insurance companies rather than going through the employees and a subcontracting firm.

"There won't be any employees coming up to get a form so they can fax it in or questions," Harms said. "It alleviates (having) a second … contracting company."

Currently, the employees have to file claims through Worksite Benefit Plans. Harms said that if the county switches to Select Account, it will eliminate the "middle man" and will be less of a hassle for the employees.

Steele asked if they were going to run into a 90-day-period issue with this company and Harms said as far as she can see in the proposal, there are no conditions, but if the commissioners are interested in one of the companies, they will come to a meeting.

However, Harms told the commissioners what she thought they should do.

"Eliminate HRAs and look at your budgets for next year, and seriously consider reducing our deductibles back to $500 or even $1,000 and include family in there," she said. "We've got a lot of employees that work for Thomas County that are … single parents that can't afford to pay the premiums out of their own pocket to cover health insurance for their children."

Thomas County Sheriff Rod Taylor said reducing the cost would help parents keep their kids on their plans until they're 26. Steele said he thinks that is important.

Harms told the commissioners to do some research and she would ask the department heads to sit down with their employees and see how many of them would sign up for the family plan if the county covered it, then, using those numbers, how much it would cost the county to do that.

She said she would also check with other counties to see how many are offering the family plan and how that affects their budgets.

"We've got time to work this out before budgets to see if we can incorporate this in," Harms said.

Christensen said if they did change plans, future raises for county employees could be pretty slim. Taylor said he thinks this plan is important because the county doesn't have very good benefits compared to surrounding counties.

Harms agreed, saying having benefits would help persuade prospective employees to work in Thomas County rather than leave the area.

Steele said he agreed that they should do some research and asked when the representative from their current company will be here. Harms said sometime in April. Steele said it's good that they can figure this out before the consultant meets with them.

Going grey latest fashion for boomers

By Leanne Italie
The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) – Jeanne Thompson began going gray at 23. She colored her hair for years as she worked her way into management at a large Boston-area financial services company, then gave up the dye for good about a year ago.

The earth didn't shake, and the 44-year-old Thompson was promoted to top management the following year.

She is among a new type of gray panther, a woman who aspires to do well and get ahead on the job while happily maintaining a full head of gray.

"Women put pressure on themselves to color," the Exeter, N.H., woman said. "It's a bold statement to be gray because it's saying, 'You know what? I did let my hair go, but I'm not letting myself go.' People take me more seriously now. I never apologize for the gray hair."

But not everyone finds it so easy.

Laws, of course, exist to ward off discrimination in the workplace, yet legions of men and women have no interest in letting their gray fly. Not now, when the struggling economy has produced a stampede of hungry young job-seekers.

But gray heads have been popping up on runways and red carpets, on models and young celebrities for months. There's Lady Gaga and Kelly Osbourne – via dye – and Hollywood royalty like Helen Mirren, the Oscar-winning British actress.

Christine Lagarde, the International Monetary Fund chief, is one of the most powerful women in the world, and she keeps her hair gray.

So does Essie Weingarten, founder and now creative director of the nail polish company Essie Cosmetics.

For regular working women, it's a trickier issue.

"I don't think a woman in the workplace is going to follow that trend," David Scher, a civil rights attorney in Washington, said with a laugh. "I think women in the workplace are highly pressured to look young. If I were an older working person, the last thing I would do is go gray."

Yes, he's a dude, and at 44 he has virtually no salt in his hair, but he wasn't alone in issuing a warning against workplace gray for women.

"While the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 was created to protect employees 40 years of age and older, some men and women may still encounter ageism in the workplace," said Stephanie Martinez Kluga, a manager for Insperity, a San Antonio-based company that provides human resources services to small and medium-size businesses.

"The long-standing perception that men with gray hair are experienced and women with gray hair are simply old may still be an issue that affects employees across the U.S.," she said.

Some of today's new gray panthers also offer strong words of caution about exactly how well those age laws work.

Anne Kreamer is gray and proud, but she didn't unleash the color until she left her day job to become self-employed. She dedicates an entire chapter of her 2007 book "Going Gray" to workplace issues.

Gem couple honored by K-State

From "COUPLE," Page 1

said. Carl has been a director of the Western Kansas Farm Credit Association since 1984. Pat has taught music at Colby Community College since 1988 and has been a director of the Western Plains Arts Association for 22 years.

They are active in their church and supporters of the Colby schools.

Establishing and expanding their operation to develop a legacy for the next generation has been a long-time goal for both, Hill wrote. Through their nearly 50 years of marriage, they have created a bond of commitment and cooperation to each other, their children and their farm, which is located north of Gem.

They have five children:

• Matt Ziegelmeier, his wife and three children farm with Carl and Pat.

• Steve Ziegelmeier is a commodities broker and farmer in Thomas County; he and his wife are foster parents and have five children of their own.

• Lisa Hernandez is a speech language therapist in Fort Collins, Colo. She and her husband have two sons and recently adopted a little girl from Ethiopia.

• Amy Ashlock is controller and general manager of accounting for AgRex Inc. in Overland Park. She and her husband have two daughters.

• Lori Neuberg, the youngest daughter, is working on a doctorate in math at Colorado State University.

Lottery ticket still not seen

TOPEKA (AP) – Kansas Lottery officials said today the holder of the state's winning Mega Millions ticket has not come forward to claim a share of the $656 million jackpot.

Lottery spokeswoman Cara Sloan-Ramos said that no one has contacted the lottery about the prize from Friday's drawing. The winning ticket was purchased in northeast Kansas, though lottery officials don't plan to identify the store until the winner comes forward.

Winning tickets also were sold in Illinois and Maryland, making the Kansas ticket worth about $218 million. So far, the Maryland winner has not come forward either.

Kansas law gives a prize winner a year to claim a jackpot, and it allows winners to remain anonymous.

Briefly

Kindergarten signup Tuesday at school

Kindergarten pre-enrollment and visitation for the 2012-13 school year will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Colby Grade School activity room. Bring your child's birth certificate, immunization records and Social Security card. For information, call the school office at (785) 460-5100.

Puddle Duck preschool plans enrollment event

An enrollment open house for the 2012-13 school year for Puddle Duck Preschool will be from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday at the school, 520 W. Fifth St. The preschool is for children 3 to 5 years old. For information, call teacher Amy Jennings at 460-2603.

Childbirth class here to start on Thursday

Citizens Medical Center will hold a four-week series of childbirth classes at 7 p.m. Thursdays from this week to April 26 in the conference room. Women due to deliver before August are encouraged to attend with their labor support partner. The next series of classes will begin July 5. For information or to register, call Jeanene Brown at (785) 460-4850.

Fourth graders draw historic buildings here

A free exhibit of drawings of historic area buildings by fourth graders at Colby Grade School is on display at the Prairie Museum of Art and History through Friday. For information, call Ann Miner at (785) 460-4590 or e-mail museumed@st-tel.net.

Berean Church to hold 'Art of Marriage' class

An "Art of Marriage" weekend conference will be held Friday and Saturday, May 4 and 5, at the Colby Berean Church, 1000 S. Franklin. Theme of the six-session video event is "Getting to the Heart of God's Design." Sessions will begin at 7 p.m. Friday and continue from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Cost is $50 per couple or $25 per single, including books and lunch. Registration deadline is Sunday, April 15. For information or to register, call the church office at (785) 460-2763, Jim and Shelly Myers at 462-9665 or Lynn and Tammy Higerd at 460-3152.

Free help with taxes offered by senior group

Wednesday is the last day for free tax preparation by experts trained by the American Association of Retired Persons Tax-Aide program. Sessions are by appointment only at the Colby Community College library. For an appointment, call Earle Rice at 462-2990.

Kindergartners to put on show for whole town

Colby Grade School kindergartners invite everyone to a free show, "A Day in the Country," at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 12, in the Grade School Auditorium. For information, call music teacher Jennifer Koel at 460-5100.

Local TV Listings

Sponsored by the Colby Free Press

Tuesday Evening — April 3, 2012

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Last Man	Cougar	Dancing With Stars		Body of Proof		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	NCIS		NCIS: Los Angeles		Unforgettable		Local	Late Show Letterman		Late
KSNK/NBC	The Biggest Loser		The Voice		Fashion Star		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno		Late
KSAS/FOX	Raising	Raising	New Girl	Breaking	Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage
AMC	Backdraft						Red Dawn			
ANIM	Blue Planet: Seas		Blue Planet: Seas		Blue Planet: Seas		Blue Planet: Seas		Blue Planet: Seas	
BRAVO	Housewives/OC		Housewives/OC		Tabatha Takes Over		Happens	Housewives/OC		Shahs
CMT	The Rookie						The Rookie			
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	Key	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Key	Daily	Colbert	Tosh.0	Key
DISC	Deadliest Catch		Deadliest Catch				Deadliest Catch			
DISN	Jessie	The Suite Life Movie			Shake It	Austin	Jessie	Wizards	Wizards	Wizards
E!	Khloe	Khloe	Khloe	Khloe	Fashion Police		Chelsea	E! News		Chelsea
ESPN	NCAA	Wm. Basketball					SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	NBA Coast to Coast				Baseball Tonight		NFL Live		SportsNation	
FAM	Step Up 2	Glory Road					The 700 Club		Prince	Prince
FOOD	Cupcake Wars		Chopped		Chopped		Chopped		Chopped	
FX	Taken				Justified		Justified		Justified	
HGTV	Million Dollar Rooms		Property	Property	House	Hunters	Million Dollar Rooms		Property	Property
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	Top Gear		Top Shot		Top Shot		Pawn	Pawn
LIFE	Dance Moms		Dance Moms			Dance Moms: Miami		Prank Mom	Dance Moms	
MTV	Awkward.	Awkward.	16 and Pregnant		16 and Pregnant		Savage U	16 and Pregnant		Savage U
NICK	My Wife	My Wife	George	George	'70s Show	'70s Show	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	Signs		The Village					Signs		
SPIKE	Ocean's Twelve		Ocean's Twelve						Auction	Auction
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan		The Office	
TCM	Lover Come Back				That Touch of Mink				Move Over, Darling	
TLC	To Niecy	To Niecy	Medium	Medium	Couple	Couple	To Niecy	To Niecy	Medium	Medium
TNT	Bones		Bones		Anchorman				CSI: NY	
TOON	Level Up	Adventure	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Boondocks
TRAV	Mysteries-Museum		Mysteries-Museum		Off Limits		When Vacations		Mysteries-Museum	
TV LAND	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	King	King	King	King	King	King	Raymond	Raymond
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		CSI: Crime Scene		CSI: Crime Scene	
VH1	Behind the Music		Mob Wives		Mob Wives		Jersey Shore		Jersey Shore	
WGN	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	WGN News at Nine		30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Death
Premium Channels										
HBO	Shrek Forever After		Bridesmaids				Game of Thrones		Big Stan	
MAX	Get Him	Marked for Death			Big Mommas					
SHOW	Phenomenon		Teller	Comedy	Californ.	Lies	Shameless		Repeaters	

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Wednesday Evening — April 4, 2012

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Middle	Suburg.	Mod Fam	Happy	Missing		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	Survivor: One World		Criminal Minds		CSI: Crime Scene		Local	Late Show Letterman		Late
KSNK/NBC	Betty	BFF	Bent	Bent	Rock Center		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno		Late
KSAS/FOX	American Idol				Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	Storage	Storage	Dog	Dog	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Storage	Storage
AMC	Contact							Flightplan		
ANIM	River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters	
BRAVO	Housewives/OC		Interior Therapy		Million Dollar		What Happens		What Happens	
CMT	Blue Collar				Blue Collar				Redneck Vacation	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	Chappelle	Chappelle	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	Ugly Amer	Daily	Colbert	South Pk	Ugly Amer
DISC	Sons of Guns		Sons of Guns		Triggers: Change		Sons of Guns		Triggers: Change	
DISN	ANT Farm	Spy Kids			ANT Farm	Austin	Jessie	Wizards	Fish Hook	Wizards
E!	The Hot Chick				The Soup	The Soup	Chelsea	E! News		Chelsea
ESPN	MLB Baseball				Baseball	NBA Basketball				
ESPN2	NBA Basketball					SportsCenter			SportsCenter	
FAM	Bring It On		Cyberbully				The 700 Club		Prince	Prince
FOOD	Restaurant: Im.		Restaurant: Im.		Restaurant Stakeout		Restaurant: Im.		Restaurant: Im.	
FX	The Bounty Hunter					The Bounty Hunter				
HGTV	Property Brothers		Property Brothers		House	Hunters	Property Brothers		Property Brothers	
American Profile — *We Celebrate Hometown Life* — Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.										
HIST	American	American	Larry the Cable Guy		American	American	Larry the Cable Guy		American	American
LIFE	Wife Swap		Wife Swap		Wife Swap		Wife Swap		Wife Swap	
MTV	16 and Pregnant		The Challenge		The Challenge		The Challenge		Savage U	Pregnant
NICK	My Wife	My Wife	George	George	'70s Show	'70s Show	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters Inter.		Monster Man		Ghost Hunters Inter.		Monster Man	
SPIKE	Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction	Am Digger	Am Digger	Repo	Repo	Auction	Auction
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan		Office	Office
TCM	Midnight Lace				Storm Warning					
TLC	Toddlers & Tiaras		Toddlers & Tiaras		Toddlers & Tiaras		Toddlers & Tiaras		Toddlers & Tiaras	
TNT	Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order		CSI: NY		CSI: NY	
TOON	NinjaGo	Level Up	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Boondocks
TRAV	Man, Food	Man, Food	Amazing	Amazing	Man, Food	Man, Food	Extreme Fast Food		Amazing	Amazing
TV LAND	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	King	King	Cleveland	Divorced	King	King	Raymond	Raymond
USA	NCIS		NCIS		Psych		Fairly Legal		NCIS	
VH1	Couples Therapy		Couples Therapy		Consign	Couples Therapy		Consign	Mob Wives	
WGN	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		WGN News at Nine		30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Death
Premium Channels										
HBO	Due Date				Game of Thrones		Real Time/Bill Maher		Game	Sucker P
MAX	48 HRS.	Despicable Me			Jaws				Lingerie	X Men
SHOW	Bobcat Goldthwait		Shameless		Lies	Californ.	Comedy	Jackass: The Movie		

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