

Weather



**National Weather Service**  
**Tonight:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 9 p.m. Mostly clear, with a low around 56. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Friday:** Sunny, with a high near 88. East wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Friday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 56. South wind around 5 mph.

**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 88. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Saturday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 55.

**Sunday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny and breezy, with a high near 73.

**Sunday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 49.

**Monday:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 66.

**Monday Night:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 46.

**Tuesday:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 66.

**Tuesday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 46.

**Wednesday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 71.

Wednesday: High, 84; Low 49  
 Precip: Wednesday None  
 Month: None  
 Year: 4.50 inches  
 Normal: 7.21 inches  
 (K-State Experiment Station)  
**Sunrise and Sunset**  
 Friday 6:41 a.m. 8:41 p.m.  
 Moon: waxing, 97 percent  
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

# County authorizes plan with tax rebate program

From "COUNTY," Page 1

county's revenue from property taxes.

Nobody present spoke against the revitalization plan, but a few skeptical questions were asked. It was asked whether a neighbor's home improvements under the revitalization plan would affect a person's property taxes, and concern was raised about ensuring young families and persons with modest incomes could benefit from the program and would not be negatively affected.

Later in the morning, county appraiser Mary Cech explained that a number of taxing authorities throughout the county affect a person's property taxes, and that a neighbor's home improvements are not the primary cause for increases or decreases.

It was added that the program is intended to be an incentive for new construction and expansions.

It is not intended to make it possible for every person to participate in the program.

"This program isn't going to make it possible for you to expand, if you can't afford to in the first place," said resident Mike Woofter, "but it is an incentive to do something, if you can afford it."

Rocca explained that before the plan can be set in place, it must be approved by Thomas County commissioners, the cities affected by the program as well as the taxing districts. If it is not approved by one of the districts, it doesn't mean that the program won't pass, it simply decreases the benefits to the property owner.

The discussion concluded with an agreement to move forward with the plan. Documents will be drawn up by Rocca to include a minimum of \$25,000 as suggested by Adrian, no maximum cap and to be spread out over the course of 10 years, as agreed among those in attendance.

# U.S. applications for aid drops most since last year

From "AID," Page 1

mists said temporary layoffs stemming from the spring holidays might have inflated benefit applications.

Last week's drop reversed the increase during April. Applications are now roughly back at their level four weeks ago.

"These data are consistent with the notion that while the labor market is not as robust as December-February data suggested, neither is it in the process of falling apart," said Joshua Shapiro, an economist at MFR Inc., in a note to clients.

Other recent data have been mixed. A survey by payroll provider ADP, released Wednesday, said businesses sharply cut back on hiring in April.

A report earlier this week showed that the economy's manufacturing sector expanded at the fastest pace in 10 months. Measures of new orders, production and exports rose. And a gauge of employment reached its highest level in 10 months.

On Friday, analysts expect the government to report that em-

ployers added 163,000 jobs in April, while the unemployment rate was unchanged at 8.2 percent. That would be an improvement from March, when job growth slowed to just 120,000. But it would be below the average of 246,000 jobs a month added from December through February.

Thursday's report on unemployment applications will have no direct effect on Friday's report on hiring in April. The government calculates job creation by surveying companies during one week each month.

Unemployment applications during April's survey week were higher than in March's survey week. That suggests hiring last month might have been weaker than in March.

But the connection between the applications figures and job gains isn't always direct. And the drop in unemployment applications last week suggests that any slowdown may be temporary.

Many economists downplayed the weak hiring in March. They said a mild winter led employers

to accelerate hiring in January and February.

ADP's report said companies added only 119,000 jobs last month. The ADP report has deviated sharply from the government's figures in the past and isn't always a reliable indicator. For example, the government's estimate of 120,000 jobs created in March was much lower than ADP's estimate of 201,000.

Most economists said the ADP figures would not lead them to change their forecasts for job creation during April.

The number of people receiving benefits also declined. In part, though, that's because some extended benefit programs are winding down. Nearly 6.6 million people received benefits during the week of April 14. That's down from about 6.7 million the previous week.

The unemployment rate has fallen to 8.2 percent in March from 9.1 percent in August. Part of the reason was that some people gave up looking for work. People who are out of work but not looking for jobs aren't counted among the unemployed.

# Special Olympics holds track event

From "EVENT," Page 1

in 1968.

According to the group's website, Shriver founded Special Olympics "on the belief that individuals with intellectual disabilities could participate and excel in a variety of sports thereby improving their quality of life and that of their family members."

Special Olympics has programs in over 165 countries and in all 50 states, and it has extended its program to train the athletes for life, the website says.

"Participation develops each individual's self-esteem and self-confidence while enhancing the social, psychological, emotional, physical and spiritual aspects of an individual's life," the website says. "This is the basis of our existence in pursuit of a better quality of life for the athletes."

Mentlick said she and her husband go to the event for another reason as well.

"We go to watch the kids' big smiles," Mentlick said.

For information about other events in Kansas, log onto www.kssso.org.

# Briefly

## League track meet info wrong in calendar

The Great West Activities Conference high school league track meet will be at 3 p.m. next Thursday in Scott City. The information in the school calendar is incorrect. For information, call Colby High Principal Larry Gabel at 460-5300.

## Church women to have Friendship Day

Church Women United's May Friendship Day will be Friday at the Colby First Presbyterian Church, beginning at noon with a salad luncheon in the fellowship hall. This year's theme, about Naomi and Ruth, is "Listening to My Sisters." It looks at the mission of listening, caring and accepting new members of a community. For information, call Joyce Gatlin at (785) 460-3656.

## Group plans dance at Meadow Lake

A singles and couples dance is planned for 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday at the Meadow Lake Golf Clubhouse. Calhouns will provide music. Everyone welcome. For information, call Lue Duffey in Rexford, (785) 269-7057.

## First work day Saturday for new garden

The first work day for Colby's community garden is set for 9 a.m. Saturday in the area west of Southwind Plaza, south of Interstate 70 and west of Range Avenue. Sign-up sheets will be available. For information, call Denise Singer at 465-9103.

## 'Walk for Hope' fund raiser open to everyone

The Second Annual Walk for Hope begins 1 p.m. Saturday at the agricultural center at Colby Community College. "Bring your dog or a two-legged friend to enjoy the walk," said Faculty Alliance representative Dr. Marcy Ward. Proceeds will go to the Northwest Kansas Foundation for Hope, which helps area people with cancer-related expenses. A \$15 donation is suggested. For information, call Ward at 460-5465.

## Colby Spring Cleanup week coming up

Colby's annual spring cleanup will be from Monday through Friday, May 11. Residential trash customers may clean and spruce up their yards and have the city remove items if they are boxed and bagged, weigh less than 50 pounds and placed at the curb. Call the city manager's office at 460-4410 to schedule a pickup. For questions, call Jo Strange at the same number.

## A few spaces left for 'Art of Marriage' class

A few places remain for an "Art of Marriage" weekend conference Friday and Saturday 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 \$25 person, including books and lunch. For information or to register, call the church at (785) 460-2763, Jim and Shelly Myers at 462-9665 or Lynn and Tammy Higerd at 460-3152.

## Class will teach about diabetes, blood sugar

Citizens Medical Center will continue a monthly series of free classes on diabetes, "Journey for Control," from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday in the hospital conference room. The topic will be "Achieving Blood Glucose Control." Register by calling Jeanene Brown at the hospital's education department, (785) 460-4850.

## Seniors plan potluck at Presbyterian Church

The group More Fun Together plans a potluck for people 50 or older who are alone, widowed, divorced, separated or who have partners in nursing homes at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church. Bring a dish to share; table service and beverage will be provided. For information, call 462-6342.

## Colby's Bike to School Day set for next week

Wednesday will be Bike to School Day. Students, parents and teachers are encouraged to ride their bikes to school. Everyone will meet on the playground at 7:50 a.m. and have a chance to win a free bike helmet. Everyone else could ride their bikes to work. For information, call Megan Carmichael at 465-9103.

## Hospital to mark 30th with Business After 5

Citizens Medical Center Inc. invites everyone to a Business After 5 and 30th Anniversary celebration from 5 to 7 p.m. next Thursday. A Founders Celebration will begin at 6 p.m. in the hospital conference room. Activities, food and tours will cover the Family Center for Health Care, Citizens Medical Center and Prairie Senior Living Complex. For questions, call Tama Unger at the Citizens Foundation, (785) 460-1214.



# LOCAL TV Listings

Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Saturday Evening May 5, 2012										
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Shark Tank		Hancock				Local			
KBSL/CBS	NCIS: Los Angeles		Person of Interest		48 Hours Mystery		Local			
KSNK/NBC	Escape Routes		The Firm		Law & Order: SVU		Local	Saturday Night Live		
KSAS/FOX	UFC: Miller vs. Diaz				Local		The Finder		New Girl	Local

Cable Channels										
A & E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Flipped Off		Flipping Boston		Storage	Storage
AMC	Backdraft						The Perfect Storm			
ANIM	Cats 101		Tanked		Tanked: Unfiltered		Tanked		Tanked: Unfiltered	
BRAVO	Housewives/NJ		Silence-Lambs				The Silence of the Lambs			
CMT	Rock Star		Texas Women		Southern Nights		Texas Women		Southern Nights	
CNN	CNN Presents		Piers Morgan Tonight		CNN Newsroom		CNN Presents		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	Semi-Pro		Jeff Dunham: Arguing		Jeff Dunham: Controlled Chaos		The Comedy Central Roast			
DISC	American Guns		American Guns		American Guns		American Guns		American Guns	
DISN	Good Luck	Good Luck	Good Luck Charlie		Jessie		ANT Farm	Jessie	Austin	Good Luck
E!	Pride & Prejudice				Ice-Coco		The Soup	Chelsea	Fashion Police	
ESPN	MLS Soccer				Baseball Tonight		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	NHRA Drag Racing		Boxing		Boxing		SEC Storied		NBA	Baseball
FAM	The Lion King		The Lion King				Willy Wonka			
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Iron Chef America		Diners	Diners
FX	Iron Man				Louie		Louie		Louie	Louie
HGTV	High Low	Genevieve	Grt Rooms	Interiors	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Grt Rooms	Interiors

## We Celebrate Hometown Life

Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.

	Sold!	Sold!	Sold!	Sold!	Sold!	Sold!	Pickers	Pickers	Sold!	Sold!
HIST										
LIFE	Carjacked				The Kane Files				Carjacked	
MTV	Baby Boy			Ridic.	Seed of Chucky				Seed of Chucky	
NICK	Victoriou	iCarly	Rock	Bucket	70s Show	70s Show	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	Treasure Island		Treasure Island				Land of the Lost			
SPIKE	Jurassic Park III		Day-Tomorrow						Fighting	
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Ocean's Thirteen				Blue Strk	
TCM	Camille				Waterloo Bridge				Written on the Wind	
TLC	Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss	
TNT	NBA Basketball						NBA Basketball			Inside the NBA
TOON	Monster House	King/Hill	Childrens	Loiter	Fam. Guy	Boondocks	Aqua Teen	Hunger Force		
TRAV	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures
TV LAND	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King
USA	NCIS		NCIS		NCIS		X-Men			
VH1	8 Mile		Get Rich or Die						Behind the Music	
WGN	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		WGN News at Nine	30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Chris	

Sunday Evening May 6, 2012										
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Once Upon a Time		Desperate Housewives		GCB		Local			
KBSL/CBS	The Amazing Race				NYC 22		Local			
KSNK/NBC	Harry's Law		Celebrity Apprentice				Local		Dateline NBC	
KSAS/FOX	Simpsons	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Amer. Dad	Local					