

Weather



**National Weather Service**  
**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 64. Southeast wind around 5 mph becoming calm after midnight.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 98. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph becoming southeast in the afternoon.

**Friday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 70. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 100. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

**Saturday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 69.

**Sunday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 98.

**Sunday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 71.

**Monday:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 94.

**Monday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 70.

**Tuesday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 95.

**Tuesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 70.

**Wednesday:** Sunny and hot, with a high near 98.

Wednesday: High, 98; Low 60  
 Precip: Wednesday None  
 Month: 2.43 inches  
 Year: 8.50 inches  
 Normal: 13.61 inches  
 (K-State Experiment Station)  
**Sunrise and Sunset**  
 Thursday 6:40 a.m. 9:10 p.m.  
 Moon: waxing, 65 percent  
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)  
**Colby Water Use**  
 Wednesday 3,260,000 gal.  
 (Colby Public Works)

# Candidate to compete with friend

From "CANDIDATE," Page 1

at the next session.  
 "I'll be in a position to have influence," he said.  
 Cassidy said every penny of the \$11.4 billion state budget passed through his committee, and this year – since state revenues were up – the committee was able to put money back into programs.  
 "We still didn't get as much into education as I'd have liked," he said.

Even with the budget and redistricting issues, the Legislature did pass some good laws, Cassidy said. These include Caylee's Law, which penalizes parents who fail to report a child's disappearance in a timely manner, and strengthening child abuse laws in response to the high-profile sexual abuse case against former Pennsylvania State University assistant coach Jerry Sandusky.  
 "There's good things that happen in the Legislature," he said, "but you never hear about them."

Before becoming a legislator two years ago, Cassidy was retired from the St. Francis School District, having spent 20 years as principal of St. Francis High School. In total, he spent 43 years in the district as a counselor, basketball coach and principal. Cassidy said both his daughters live in St. Francis, and he has grandchildren in the district.  
 "We have a great quality of life out here," he said. "We have to sell that."

# State House rep runs for a second term

From "HOUSE," Page 1

City Commission, we had lowered the mill levy each year, and when I went to Topeka, the state had a \$500 million deficit," Billinger said.  
 He added that by the end of his last term, "we were able to fix that situation and end up with a \$100 million surplus, and we didn't raise any taxes."  
 Increases in state revenues

and tax cuts, he said, allowed him and other members of the legislature to put \$48 million of state money towards schools. They had to settle on this number instead of their original goal of \$150 million. They were unable to get that number through during negotiations on the tax and appropriations bills with the Kansas Senate.  
 Billinger also sponsored several bills designed to put Kan-

sans to work, including House Bill 2756. Under this bill, he said, anyone living in Kansas for a year or more on unemployment would get a three-year break from paying income taxes if they moved to parts of rural Kansas, including Thomas County, and got a job.  
 "First, we have a job in Colby that somebody's been trying to get someone to apply for," Billinger said. "Number two, we

get someone off unemployment. It's a win-win deal."  
 Billinger said that he thought the tax liability created by the bill would be made up by not having to pay for someone's unemployment benefits in about a month.  
 House Bill 2756 died in committee last year Billinger said, but "I would like to get that piece of legislation through this year."

# Senate passes cuts for all but the richest

From "SENATE," Page 1

each other of playing politics and the last 20 minutes trying to get the last word.  
 "We know this is about the election," McConnell said. At one point he resolved to let Reid close the debate but then changed his mind to dispute a point.  
 "Here we go again," Reid muttered.  
 Despite the drama, the issue carries great significance for voters deeply worried about their finances as the economy struggles to recover from recession. Which way the debate goes could mean a big difference: an average of \$1,600 a year in taxes for 114 million middle-class families, according to the White House.  
 The electorate is deeply divided over the tax cut issue.  
 A CBS News/New York Times poll conducted July 11-16 found that nearly half of Americans, about 49 percent, would prefer that the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts continue

only for those households earning less than \$250,000 a year, as Obama and congressional Democrats want. An additional 17 percent think the cuts should expire for everyone. And 27 percent say the tax cuts should be continued for all taxpayers, as Republicans want.  
 Wednesday's Senate vote on the \$250 billion Democratic bill was a near-party line 51-40 tally, with Vice President Joe Biden presiding over the chamber in the unlikely event his vote was needed to break a tie. Minutes earlier, senators voted 54-45 to reject the rival Republican package that would have included the wealthiest Americans in the tax reductions.  
 "With the Senate's vote, the House Republicans are now the only people left in Washington holding hostage the middle-class tax cuts for 98 percent of Americans and nearly every small business owner," Obama said in a written statement.  
 The vote served as a counterpoint to the

GOP-run House, which next week will pass tax cuts nearly identical to the \$405 billion Republican plan the Senate rejected Wednesday.  
 Republicans say raising taxes on higher earners saps money from business owners who would otherwise create jobs. Democrats say that's overblown.  
 "The House will vote next week to stop that tax hike, and until the Senate does the same, the threat to our economy remains," Boehner said in a statement.  
 Though the House and Senate votes are mostly for show, they pose challenges to some lawmakers in tough re-election campaigns.  
 The Democratic bill would dramatically boost the estate tax, which would be widely unpopular in farming, ranching and high cost-of-living states. It also would increase levies on dividends and capital gains, which are relied on by many elderly people.

# Soda companies racing for a new sweet spot

From "SWEET," Page 1

Richmond, Calif., voters will decide in November whether to pass the nation's first penny-per-ounce tax on soda and other sugary drinks such as fruit juices and teas.  
 All the negative publicity has some once-faithful soda drinkers cutting back. Krista Koster, a 29-year-old who lives in Washington D.C., used to down about two cans of soda a day. Now she's trying to kick the habit and be more conscious about what she drinks.  
 "I've just been hearing how bad soda is," said Koster, who works in public relations. "You start considering a lot of the ingredients, whether it's fake sug-

ar or the real sugar."  
 High-fructose corn syrup, the cheap sweetener that's used in most sodas, has the same nutritional value and taste of sugar. A can of regular soda typically has about 40 grams of high-fructose corn syrup and 140 calories. By comparison, the same amount of apple juice has about 38 grams of sugar and 165 calories, but companies can tout the vitamins and other nutrients juice provides.  
 Aspartame, the artificial sweetener commonly used in drinks such as Diet Coke and Diet Pepsi, doesn't have any calories. But some drinkers worry about the fact that the sweeteners are not naturally occurring in nature. Public perception has

been colored by past studies that have suggested it caused cancer and brain tumors in rats even though The American Cancer Society says there's no evidence showing it has any link with an increased risk for cancer in adults.  
 The concerns have led soft drink companies to search for natural, zero-calorie sweeteners, including stevia, which is derived from a South American shrub. Natural sweeteners have neither the calories of sugar nor the negative associations of artificial sweeteners. The trick, however, is figuring out how to make them taste good in colas.  
 "Every sweetener has its own notes that need to be mixed with other flavors," said Mehmood

Khan, chief science officer for PepsiCo. "It's a bit like an orchestra playing music, as opposed to one instrument."  
 So far, stevia is the natural sweetener that has gotten the most attention and is already used in Coca-Cola and PepsiCo products, including orange juice and bottled teas. But it's proving more difficult to hide the aftertaste in colas.  
 Soft drink makers are testing different extracts from the stevia plant that they hope will be easier to blend. They're also scouring the world for other naturally occurring sweeteners, such as one called mogroside that is extracted from monk fruit and a derivative of a berry called miracle fruit.

# Briefly

## Carnival crew needs help to run games at fair

Help! The Thomas County Amusement Association needs volunteers to help run the games during the fair next week. If you can help, call the Chamber of Commerce office at 460-3401 and sign up for a shift.  
 Volunteers will set up rides, get ready for the carnival and take care of last-minute details at 9 a.m. Sunday. Many hands will help the work go fast. For questions or to volunteer, call Wanda Brown at 462-5857.

## Colby High diplomas available at office

Diplomas for the Colby High School Class of 2012 are available for pick-up at the school district administration office, 600 W. Third St. For information, call the office at 460-5000.

## Church offers a free lunch on Saturday

Everyone is invited to the Fourth Saturday free meal from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the First Baptist Church, Webster and Grant in Colby. For information, call Norma Higerd at 462-7806.

## Group needs 'bigs' to work with kids

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Thomas County is looking for people able to volunteer one to two hours a week as mentors for kids who need a "big." You could make a difference in a child's life, working with the largest mentoring organization in Kansas. For questions, call Orvella Romine at (785) 460-9125.

## Library plans big book sale for next week

The Pioneer Memorial Library will have its annual Book Sale Blowout from Monday to Sunday, Aug. 5. With lots of children's books, fiction and non-fiction items to choose from, prices go down as the week progresses. Sunday, all remaining books are free. Hours are 9 a.m. to a half hour before closing each day and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday. For information, call Debbie Tittel at 460-4470.

## Youth foundation plans free barbecue, concert

The Todd Becker Foundation will have a free barbecue, concert and presentation beginning at 7 p.m. Sunday on Franklin Avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets. For information, contact Chris McClemens, events coordinator, at (800) 983-2644 or through www.toddbecker.org.

## Museum displays student art work

The Prairie Museum of Art and History has a free exhibit of art by students from kindergarten to high school from area schools through Sunday. The museum, 1905 S. Franklin Ave., is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. on weekends. Call Ann Miner at 460-4590 for information.



## Saturday Evening July 28, 2012

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Extreme Makeover	Extreme Makeover	Castle	Local						
KBSL/CBS	NYC 22	Hawaii Five-0	48 Hours Mystery	Local						
KSNK/NBC	XXX Summer Olympics			Local				Olympics		
KSAS/FOX	Cops	Cops	Mobbed	Local		The Finder		30S	Local	
<b>Cable Channels</b>										
A & E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Barter	Barter	Storage	Storage
AMC	The Matrix						The Matrix Reloaded			
ANIM	My Cat From Hell	Bad Dog!		Tanked		Bad Dog!		Tanked		
BRAVO	Housewives/NYC	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI	Law Order: CI		Law Order: CI		
CMT	Nat'l-Christmas	Redneck Vacation	Redneck Island	Redneck Vacation	Redneck Island	Redneck Vacation		Redneck Island		
CNN	CNN Presents	Piers Morgan Tonight	CNN Newsroom	CNN Newsroom	CNN Newsroom	CNN Newsroom		Piers Morgan Tonight		
COMEDY	Dumb	40-Year-Old Vir		Work.	Work.	Work.		Work.	Work.	
DISC	Outlaw Empires	Outlaw Empires	Outlaw Empires	Outlaw Empires	Outlaw Empires	Outlaw Empires		Outlaw Empires		
DISN	Vampire	Vampire	Vampire	Vampire	ANT Farm	ANT Farm	Phineas	Gravity	Gravity	Vampire
E!	Sex and the City				Opening Act		Chelsea		Chelsea	The Soup
ESPN	NHRA Drag Racing				Baseball Tonight		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	Soccer	NFL Yrbk.	NFL Yrbk.	NFL Yrbk.	ATP Tennis				Baseball Tonight	
FAM	Monsters, Inc.	Mulan					Matilda			
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Iron Chef America		Diners	Diners
FX	Superbad				Anger	BrandX	Louie	Wilfred	BrandX	
HGTV	Design Star		Grt Rooms	High Low	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Grt Rooms	High Low

## We Celebrate Hometown Life

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

	HIST	LIFE	MTV	NICK	SCI	SPIKE	TBS	TCM	TLC	TNT	TOON	TRAV	TV LAND	USA	VH1	WGN	Premium Channels
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn
LIFE	Forrest Gump																
MTV	Half Baked				Scary Movie 3												
NICK	Fred 3: Camp Fred		You Gotta	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	The Mist		Philadelphia				Stonehenge										
SPIKE	Day After	I, Robot					Day-Tomorrow										
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Failure to Launch				Ghost										
TCM	What-BabyJane					I Saw What You Did			The Caretakers								
TLC	Undercover Boss	Undercover Boss	Undercover Boss	Undercover Boss	Undercover Boss	Undercover Boss	Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss								
TNT	Independence Day				Wild Wild West					I Legend							
TOON	Scoby-Doo!	Home	King/Hill	King/Hill	Fam. Guy	Dynamite	Boondocks	Bleach	Deadman								
TRAV	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures								
TV LAND	70s Show	70s Show	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King							
USA	Fast Furi	Couples Retreat					Necessary Roughness	Repo Men									
VH1	Love, Hip Hop				Notorious					Music							
WGN	Austin Powers				WGN News at Nine	Funniest Home Videos	Chris	Chris									
<b>Premium Channels</b>																	
HBO	What's Your Number?				True Blood		What's Your Number?										
MAX	Hall Pass	Strike Back			Dream House	Strike Back			Femme								
SHOW	Primary	Faster			Boxing				Franchise								

## Sunday Evening July 29, 2012

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Secret Millionaire	Extreme Makeover	Local							
KBSL/CBS	Big Brother	3	The Mentalist	Local						
KSNK/NBC	XXX Summer Olympics			Local			Olympics			
KSAS/FOX	Simpsons	Simpsons	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Local					
<b>Cable Channels</b>										
A & E	Longmire	Longmire	Longmire	Longmire	Longmire	Longmire				
AMC	Rambo	Breaking Bad	Town	Breaking Bad	Town					
ANIM	Handfishin'	Gator Boys	Wildman	Wildman	Gator Boys	Wildman	Wildman			
BRAVO	Housewives/NJ	New Jersey Social	Housewives/NJ	Happens	Housewives/NJ	Jersey				
CMT	Smokey-Bndt. 2	Smokey-Bandit			Smokey and the Bandit II					
CNN	Voters in America: W	Piers Morgan Tonight	CNN Newsroom	Voters in America: W	Piers Morgan Tonight					
COMEDY	The 40-Year-Old Virgin	Jackass: Number Two			Tosh.0	Futurama	Work.	South Pk		
DISC	MythBusters	MythBusters	MythBusters	MythBusters	MythBusters	MythBusters				
DISN	Good Luck/Shake It	Jessie	Jessie	Austin	Austin	Vampire	Vampire	Wizards	Wizards	
E!	Kardashian	Kardashian	Opening Act		Chelsea	The Soup	Kardashian			
ESPN	MLB Baseball				SportsCenter			SportCtr		
ESPN2	NHRA Drag Racing		Senna				Senna			
FAM	Aladdin		Aladdin		J. Osteen	Ed Young				
FOOD	Cupcake Wars	Chopped	Iron Chef America	Anne Burrell	Chopped					
FX	The Proposal		The Proposal							
HGTV	Property Brothers	Holmes Inspection	Holmes Inspection	Holmes Inspection	Holmes Inspection	Holmes Inspection				
HIST	Ice Road Truckers	Ice Road Truckers	Great Lake Warriors	Shark Wranglers	Ice Road Truckers					
LIFE	Forrest Gump			Army Wives	Forrest Gump					
MTV	Scary Movie 3			WakeBrothers	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	
NICK	Hollywood Heights	George	George	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
SCI	Signs	Nat'l Treasure				Star Trek: Insurrection				
SPIKE	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Flip Men	Flip Men	Bar Rescue			
TBS	Ghosts-Girfrnd			Ghosts-Girfrnd	Sullivan	Just Like				
TCM	The Band Wagon		Daddy Long Legs				Kiki			
TLC	Hoard-Buried	Strange	Strange	Strange	Strange	Strange	Strange			
TNT	Independence Day	Falling Skies	Falling Skies	Falling Skies	Independence Day					
TOON</										