## Weather Corner



National Weather Service Tonight: Mostly cloudy, low around 21. Calm wind becoming southwest around 5 mph.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 50. North wind between 5

and 10 mph. Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 25. Calm wind

becoming south around 5 mph. Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 49. South wind

between 5 and 15 mph. Wednesday Night: Mostly

cloudy, with a low around 29. Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 46.

Thursday Night: A slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 26. Chance of precipitation is 20

Friday: A slight chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 46. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 27.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 48.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 27.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 51.

Friday: High, 50; Low 23 Saturday: High, 52; Low 28 Sunday: High, 44; Low 27 Precip: Friday 0.00 inches Saturday 0.00 inches 0.04 inches Sunday February: 0.38 inches March: 0.04 inches 0.91 inches Year: Normal: 1.20 inches

**Sunrise and Sunset** 7:16 a.m. 6:38 p.m. Wednesday 7:14 a.m. 6:39 p.m.

(U.S. Naval Observatory)

(K-State Experiment Station)

# Legislators questioned over budget and schools

From "BUDGET," Page 1

any budget problems in the future with taxes rather than looking for other solutions.

support of the governor's sales tax plan, which involved a "temporary" three-year increase of 1 cent on the dollar. The audience was unanimously behind it.

"The crowd is giving you a message to take back with you," she said.

Another citizen asked about the state Lottery and why that money wasn't being put toward the public school system.

"Somehow the public got the idea that it's all supposed to go for education," Morrison said.

He and Ostmeyer said the first \$50 million of lottery revenue is earmarked for economic development and prisons. Nothing is reserved for schools, they said, but after \$50 million it can be put in the state's general fund, where it could be used for

\$15.6 million went to the general fund. Morrison went on to say that he voted

against renewing the lottery. Another asked why the state is building One voters asked for a show of hands in a casino if cutting spending is a priority. Ostmeyer said that although the casino is controlled by the state, Dodge City spent the most money building it and much of the money generated goes to the city and

> Another asked about the Capitol renovation project. Ostmeyer said that was started well before the budget crisis. He said it had gotten out of hand, and he had heard some of the work is going to be postponed.

county, not the state.

Goodland and Norton - one of the governor's cost-saving measures - would hurt those towns by limiting the 170th Maintenance Company's response time after a disaster. Ostmeyer said the Legislature was informed of those cuts only a day before the general public. He said legislators have member, he knows how tough it is to close elected to represent, not to dictate. education. In fiscal year 2009, officials say, been talking to the state adjutant general, a school.

but so far nothing has come of it.

Morrison circulated what he called the 'Billion Dollar List," a list of suggestions suggestions include reducing the number of legislators, consolidating counties and selling off assets such as the Kansas Turnpike. Morrison said he knew many of the suggestions would not be popular.

"You're not going to like all of them," he said. "You may not like any of them."

Morrison also said he didn't think much of the list would be politically doable this

Many other questions revolved around Another said the closing of armories in education. Ostmeyer said the plan for the rest of the fiscal year was not to cut any more money from education.

"I hope we can hold them to a freeze," he said. "I've got districts who can't make

"You have to watch what you say, or you might get beat up or shot," he said.

One audience member asked if there is that could save the state money. Some the anything in place to audit school districts for fraud or misuse of money. Ostmeyer said there is a voluntary management audit that districts can go through, but nothing required by the state. (Schools do get an annual financial audit to detect fraud, however.)

> Another asked Morrison if he was supporting a House bill that would raise the age limit on school buses from 20 years to 25 years. Morrison said he wasn't, which drew an angry response from some of the audience. Superintendent Terrell Harrison said the district has two buses that are in good condition that are nearing the 20-year limit. The bill would save the district from having to replace them right away, she said.

Morrison said he wanted to hear people's Ostmeyer said as a former school board opinions on bills like this because he was

## Developmental agency can't afford tax on vacated building

From "TAX," Page 1

ers approved the plat and signed a waiver allowing the firm involved to proceed with the structure as soon as approval is received from the Federal Aviation Administration. They reserved rights for the county to have space on the tower when and if needed.

paint the court services offices from the alcohol plant east of Oakwhich was presented for approval ley, were traveling down the road last week. The county asked at last at a rate of one every 15 minutes. week's meeting for the judge to get two other bids before accepting the Koenig bid.

Since there are rumors about the state putting the courts on

sas lawmakers are mulling a pos-

disabled and mentally ill. Pro-

sible tax hike on liquor.

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Kan- state's financial crisis began.

The estimated \$21.8 million isting tax on wholesale alcohol

it would generate would support would double, costing Kansans a

grams for both groups have ex- al that lawmakers are considering

programs for the developmentally few more cents for every beer..

perienced funding cuts since the to close a \$400 million deficit.

would furnish the paint if the court services employees wanted to do the painting themselves. All bids were rejected.

Commissioner Byron Sowers told the other two commissioners he had received two complaints about traffic on the Campus Road that trucks carrying "distillers Al Koenig withdrew his bid to grain," the cattle feed by product

The Kansas City Star reported

that under the legislation, the ex-

The tax increase is one of sever-

to hold off on the painting, but ment superintendent since there is said this same situation has hapanother available route available.

County Treasurer Donita Applebury told the commissioners she is having a turn over in employees in her office who are leaving for better paying jobs, elsewhere and would like to name a deputy and raise the pay to meet private business pay scale to stop the turnover. The commissioners

pened in other departments, and approved the treasurer and county clerk raising their deputies pay to \$13 an hour.

In other business, the commissioners:

• Agreed to participate in a statewide tornado drill next Tuesday, March 9.

• Gave the register of deeds per-

mission to have a \$30 petty cash fund.

· Agreed to pay annual dues of \$500 to the Western Prairie Resource Conservation and Development agency, a regional development group backed by the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### DCAL TU IISTINGS This would be in violation of a resolution signed by the county in sponsored by the 1993 prohibiting excessive commercial use of county roads. The road department will look into the furlough, commissioners decided matter, said Clair Shrock, depart-Liquor tax considered for disability programs Tuesday Evening March 2, 2010

#### 7:00 7:30 10:30 11:00 11:30 9:00 9:30 lightline | Jimmy Kimmel Live ate Show Letterman Late KBSL/CBS NCIS The Good Wife Local KSNK/NBC The Biggest Loser Tonight Show w/Leno Late Parenthood KSAS/FOX American Idol Local Cable Channels Criminal Minds Criminal Minds CSI: Miami To-Mockingbird To-Mockingbird Untamed and Uncut Madman of the Sea Wild Recon Untamed and Uncut Mill. Matchmaker Mill. Matchmaker Mill. Matchmaker Mill. Matchmakei Matchmaker O Brother, Where Art Where Art Thou ampbell Brown arry King Live Anderson Cooper 360 Larry King Live Scrubs S. Park S. Park South Pk South Pk S. Park crubs DISC Dirty Jobs Dirty Jobs Dirty Jobs Dirty Jobs Dirty Jobs So Raven Homeward Bound Phineas Wizards Suite Too Young to Kill E! Investigates: Cri Chelsea E! News Chelsea Kendra College Basketball College Basketball SportsCenter NFL Live Fastbreak SportsNation ESPN2 College Basketball NBA Coast-to-Coast Final Nation unniest Home Videos Funniest Home Videos | America's Funniest H The 700 Club Whose Whose? FOOD Cakes Unwrapped Best Good Eats Unwrapped Unwrapped Best Cakes Chopped Property My First Modern Marvels How the Earth Life After People Life After People Modern Marvels Frasier Grey's Anatomy Obsessed 16 and Pregnant The Nanny The Nanny MTV Turn the Beat Around 16 and Pregnant 16 and Pregnant Life, Liz Life, Liz Malcolm Malcolm Lopez The Nanny The Nani NICK Chris Lopez SCI WWE NXT Star Trek: Next Gen Star Trek Gen. 100 Feet BlueMount Players SPIKE UFC Unleashed UFC Unleashed **UFC** Unleashed UFC Unleashed TBS Office Office Office Office Lopez Tonight Name Earl Name Earl West Side Story TCM Rebel Without Tiniest Girl TLC 19 Kids Little Tiniest Girl 19 Kids Southland CSI: NY CSI: NY TNT Southland Southland King/Hill King/Hill Chicken Aqua Teen TRAV Uniq McDonald Best Pig Out Man/Food | Best Fast Food Stops Uniq McDonald TV LAND Griffith Home Imp. Home Imp. Home Imp. Home Imp. Roseanne Roseanne Griffit Boston Legal Law & Order: SVU USA Law & Order: SVU White Collar Burn Notice Psych Fantasia Be Cool Pep Tool Academy Celebrity Rehab Crime S. Park S. Park WGN News at Nine WGN Stir Crazy Scrubs Scrubs Premium Channels Fast & Furious Bia Love 17 Again HBO Reporter

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BRAVO	Mill. Matchmaker		Shear Genius		Shear Genius		Shear Genius		Real Housewives		
CMT	Smarter	Smarter	Son-in-Law	/			Son-in-Law				
CNN	Campbell Brown Larry King Live			Anderson Cooper 360			Larry King Live				
COMEDY	Chappelle	Chappelle	Futurama	Futurama	South Pk	Tosh.0	Daily	Colbert	Tosh.0	S. Park	
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ESPN2	College Ba	sketball	College Ba	sketball				SportsNation		Nation	
FAM	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		The 700 Club		Whose?	Whose	
FOOD	Unwrapped		Flay B. Flay		Dinner: Impossible		Good Eats	Unwrapped	Flay	B. Flay	
FX	The Italian Job			Nip/Tuck		Nip/Tuck		Damages			
HGTV	Property	Property	House	House	Holmes on	Homes	Income	My First	House	House	

### We Celebrate Hometown Life Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper. MonsterQuest Ax Men Modern Marvels MonsterQuest Management rasier Medium Grey's Anatomy The Real World The Real World urn the Beat Around 3. Park Chris The Nanny The Nanny The Nanny The Nanny Malcolm Malcolm Lopez Lopez SCI Ghost Hunters Ghost Hunters **Destination Truth** Ghost Hunters 1,000-Lie MANswers BlueMount Players 1,000-Lie Die Die TBS Name Earl Name Ear Browns Browns Browns Browns Payne Payne Lopez Tonight TCM Cool Hand Luke Heaven's TLC Your Kid Ate What? Child Frozen in Time Strongest Toddler Your Kid Ate What? Child Frozen in Time TNT 300 Bones Leverage everage TOON Dude Star Wars Hero King/Hill Chicken TRAV Man/Food Carnivore | Man/Food | Man, Food | Man, Food | Extreme Restaurants Man/Food Man/Food Griffith TV LAND High School Reunion NCIS NCIS Burn Notice White Collar Psych antasia Songs of '90s Celebrity Fit Club Songs of '90s Fantasia Tool Academy WGN Sixteen Candles WGN News at Nine S. Park S. Park Scrubs Scrubs remium How Real Time/Bill Maher Funny or Life HBO How Big Love Max Pavne Shrek Farth Stood

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Open! • Because of the flooding, we are • As always, customers are our priworking in the back room. While ority at the Colby Free Press. We're repairs are under way, come to the here to serve you. Please pardon front door, come on in, turn left our mess. and you'll find the "front desk."





Office hours: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday.

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