#### Weather Corner



National Weather Service Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 24. North wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 51. Calm wind becoming north between 5 and 10

Saturday Night: Areas of fog after midnight. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 19. East wind between 5 and 10

Sunday: Areas of fog before 9 a.m. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 38. East wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 14.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a high near 25 Monday Night: A 30 percent

chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 3.

Tuesday: A 30 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy and blustery, with a high near

Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around -2. Wednesday: Mostly sunny,

with a high near 34. Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 15.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high

Thursday: High, 59; Low 27 Precip: Thursday 0.00 inches 0.22 inches Month: 0.22 inches 0.45 inches Normal: (K-State Experiment Station)

**Sunrise and Sunset** 7:54 a.m. 6:01 p.m. 7:53 a.m. 6:02 p.m. 7:52 a.m. 6:03 p.m. (U.S. Naval Observatory)

## State's birthday a low-key affair

From "BIRTHDAY," Page 1

series and quilt shows are already posted on the website, *The Kansas* City Star reported Monday.

An 11-month exhibit entitled, "150 Things I Love About Kansas," is scheduled at the Kansas Museum of History in Topeka. It's funded, in part, by Capitol Federal

Roger Ringer, 55, of Medicine Lodge, was one of several people who asked Kansas leaders four years ago to support "a whole sheet of special projects," he said. But he said "politicians tend not to look beyond the current budget year," so plans died.

As vice president of the Kansas Chapter of the Western Music Association, Ringer is planning to stage a musical event, "Kansas -Home on the Range," March 13 in Hutchinson. Public TV and radio will broadcast it, with 14 performers and the local symphony per-

"We'd prefer the state give us official sanction, and we'd love to

have a little money to work with," Ringer said. "But doing it this way, you have the satisfaction of doing it your own way. Which is sort of the Kansas way.'

Sen. Stephen Morris, a Hugoton Republican who is president of the state Senate, said last week that it was possible lawmakers could find some funds – maybe \$20,000 - tosupport sesquicentennial events later in the year.

The celebration will begin Thursday when a U.S. postage stamp honoring Kansas is issued at the state museum in Topeka. On Friday, dignitaries and schoolchildren will gather for ceremonies at the Capitol.

"With Kansas, it might all go back to an identity question," said historian Jay Price at Wichita State University. "We are the place where the South, North, East and West meet. The state has never really done things in a centralized way. We tend to like this grassroots, countercultural approach."

### A corner piece, please



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce Director Holly Whitaker handed a piece of birthday cake to Lottie McLemore this morning. The cake was set up at the chamber office today for anyone who wanted to celebrate Kansas' 150th anniversary.

### NASA marks 25th anniversary of Challenger accident

By Marcia Dunn

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. -Hundreds gathered at NASA's launch site Friday to mark the 25th anniversary of the Challenger disaster, receiving words of hope from the widow of the space shuttle's commander.

The chilly outdoor ceremony drew space agency managers, former astronauts, past and present launch directors, family and friends of the fallen crew  $\square$  and schoolchildren who weren't yet born when the space shuttle carrying a high school teacher from Concord, N.H.., erupted in the

just 73 seconds into flight – killed all seven on board, including schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe.

June Scobee Rodgers, the widow of Challenger's commander, Dick Scobee, urged the crowd to "boldly look to the future" not to happen. We never expect these

and science education. She was instrumental in establishing the Challenger Center for Space Science Education.

"The entire world knew how the Challenger crew died," she said. "We wanted the world to know how they lived and for what they were risking their lives."

Rodgers and NASA's space operations chief, Bill Gerstenmaier, placed a memorial wreath of red, white and blue-tinted carnations at the base of the Space Mirror Memorial. The large granite slab bears the names of all 24 astronauts killed in the line of duty.

Dennis and Pat Cassidy of Franklin, N.H., blinked back tears as Rodgers spoke. Mrs. Cassidy The accident on Jan. 28, 1986 - recalled the joy she felt when McAuliffe was named as NASA's teacher in space – she screamed she was so excited. When Challenger was lost, she couldn't stop

"Geez. You never expected it only in space travel, but in space kinds of things to happen, I guess,'

she said, clutching a red rose.

Her husband recalled after the initial shock, feeling so badly for McAuliffe's family, all present at the launch: her husband, two children and her parents. "All I could do was say a prayer for the family. And that's what they should do today, say a prayer for the fami-

The Cassidys, wintering in Florida, made a point to be at the ceremony.

So did Peggy Shecket, who traveled from Cleveland. Her dear friend Judith Resnik was aboard Challenger that freezing morning. The two women, back in the mid-1980s, lived such different lives. Shecket was a suburban Ohio mom with two sons. Resnik had become the second American woman in space. But their bond was strong: Resnik invited Shecket to the launch, and she went.

A photo she took an instant before the shuttle exploded hangs on her family room wall.

"I miss her terribly," Shecket said. "At this age, in our 60s, we member the lives that were lost." could have gone to ladies' weekends together. She probably would Scobee; co-pilot Michael Smith; have had time that she didn't have Ellison Onizuka, the first Asian-down. 25 years ago because she was so American in space; Resnik; Ron-

Kathryn Serene drove four hours from Savannah, Ga., in the wee hours of Friday to attend the ceremony. She brought a homemade basket bearing a paper model space shuttle, red, white and blue silk flowers, and a large base of the memorial. She was in middle school when the accident occurred, and wanted to show her respects all these years later.

Erik Volk wasn't born yet. Neither were his fellow fifth-graders from Espiritu Santo Catholic School in Safety Harbor, Fla., on the opposite coast. The 60 students were at an overnight space camp Thursday, and the chaperones rearranged the schedule once they learned of the ceremony.

"Remember the teacher? What I said about the teacher?" prompted his father, Joe Volk. "Yes. She was going to give classes from space," said the boy, holding a yellow

Erik said he was there "to re-The crew included commander

ald McNair, the second African-American in space; McAuliffe; and Gregory Jarvis.

At the high school in Concord where McAuliffe taught, special assemblies were held Friday in her honor. Anniversary events also were planned later in the day red apple, which she left at the at Challenger Learning Centers across the country.

This silver anniversary comes as NASA is winding down the space shuttle program. The fleet will be retired after three more flights this year to the International Space Station.

Friday's speakers stressed that exploration will never be riskfree. The Challenger astronauts demonstrated that painful truth □ so did the lost crew of Columbia. But they also showed "that we can learn from our mistakes and be better for them in the end," said Robert Cabana, a former shuttle commander who now is the Kennedy Space Center director.

"They continue to urge us forward, to explore and to never quit just because it's hard," Cabana said. "They are a part of us forever, and we will not let them

### Governor's agency plan moves ahead

From "PLAN," Page 1

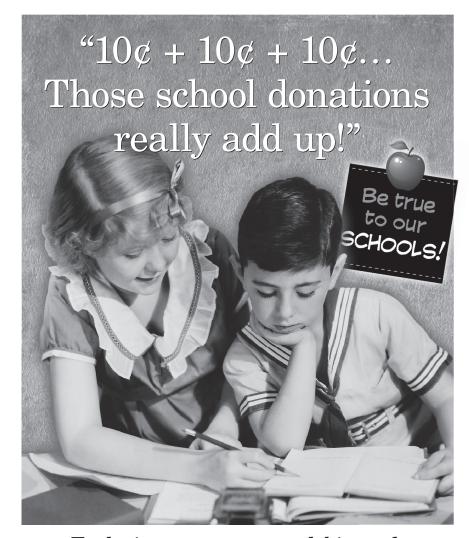
the Department of Commerce to the office of the governor. The commission provides information to families dealing with disabilities, whether at work, school or home. It also makes policy recommendations on laws and programs that affect people with

Brownback said the move would give the commission a direct line to him, joining other commissions in the governor's office.

Unless the Legislature votes them down within 60 days, all three orders will go into effect July 1. Two of the orders have been considered by House and Senate committees and are now before the full legislature.

# DCAL TU IISTINGS sponsored by the

Monda	ay Eve	ning						Jan	uary 3	1, 2011
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	The Bachel	lor			Castle		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kim	mel Live
KBSL/CBS	How I Met Rules		Two Men Mike		Hawaii Five-0		Local	Late Show	Letterman	Late
KSNK/NBC	Chuck		The Cape		Harry's Law		Local	Tonight Sho	ow w/Leno	Late
KSAS/FOX	Human Tar	get	Lie to Me		Local		•			
Cable Ch	annels									
A & E	Intervention		Intervention		Heavy		Heavy		Intervention	
AMC	Hidalgo						Hidalgo			
ANIM	Pit Bulls-Parole		Pit Boss		Pit Boss		Pit Bulls-Parole		Pit Boss	
BRAVO	Atlanta The Real He		ousewives of Atlanta		Tabatha's Salon Take		Tabatha's Salon Take		Housewives/Atl.	
CMT	The Dukes of Hazzard		In the Army Now				In the Army		Now	
CNN	Parker Spitzer		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		<u> </u>		Piers Morgan Tonight	
COMEDY	American F	Pie	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Daily	Colbert	Sunny	Sunny
DISC	American C	merican Chopper		Chopper	Gold Rush:	Alaska	American C	hopper	American C	hopper
DISN	Avalon Higl	h			Deck	Deck	Wizards	Wizards	Hannah	Hannah
E!	Sex and t	Sex and t	Kourtney	Kourtney	Fashion Po	lice	Chelsea	E! News	•	Chelsea
ESPN	College Basketball		College Basketball				SportsCenter		SportsCenter Special	
ESPN2	Wm. Basketball		Welcome to the NFL		Year/Quarterback		Sup. Bowl	Sup. Bowl	Final	NFL Films
FAM	Pretty Little Liars		Greek		Pretty Little Liars		The 700 Club		Whose?	Whose?
FOOD	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Diners	Diners	The Best	The Best	Good Eats	Good Eats	Diners	Diners
FX	What Happ				What Happe					
HGTV	Property	Property	House	Hunters	Cash & Ca	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	House	Hunters
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	American F	Pickers	Pawn	Pawn	American F	ickers	Pawn	Pawn
LIFE	Homecoming		Taken From Me		<u> </u>		Tiffany Rubin		Frasier	Frasier
MTV	Jersey Shore		MTV Special		Skins		Skins		Teen Mom 2	
NICK	My Wife	My Wife	Chris	Chris	George	George	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nanny	The Nann
SCI	Being Human		Being Human		Dawn of the Dead					Being Hur
SPIKE	Fight, Troops		Blade: Trinity				MANswers		UFC Fight Night	
TBS	Fam. Guy Fam. Guy		Fam. Guy Fam. Guy		Fam. Guy Fam. Guy		Conan		Lopez Tonight	
TCM	Breathless				Baby Doll				The Rain People	
TLC	Cake Boss Cake Boss		Cake Boss		19 Kids 19 Kids		Cake Boss Cake Boss		Cake Boss	
TNT	Bones		Bones		Rizzoli & Isles		Rizzoli & Isles		CSI: NY	
TOON	Adventure	MAD	King-Hill	King-Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Tee
TRAV	No Reservation		No Reservation		No Reservation		No Reservation		No Reservation	
TV LAND	Sanford Sanford		Ghost				•		Cleveland Roseanne	
USA	NCIS		WWE Monday Night RA		W		White Collar		Burn Notice	
VH1	You're Cut Off		You're Cut Off		The X Lif You're Cut		Off	The X Lif	You're Cut	Off
WGN	Chris	Chris	Funniest H	ome Videos	WGN News	s at Nine	Scrubs	Scrubs	South Pk	South Pk
Premium	Channels									
НВО	Real Time/I	Bill Maher	Valentine's	Day	The Ricky (			Gervais Show		
MAX	Charlie's Ar	ngels			The Lovely Bones				Lingerie	
SHOW	Twilight: Ne	w Moon	Shameless		Californ. Episodes		Californ. Episodes		Shameless	



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