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KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

State groups to talk water here in July

By Kevin Bottrell

Colby Free Press
kbottrell@nwkans.com

In the space of two days in mid-July, two meetings will be held in Colby that could determine the direction of water management across the state.

The Kansas Water Congress will hold the first meeting from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 20, at the Colby Community College student union.

The water congress is a group of government entities, industrial directors, mining firm representatives, groundwater management districts and representatives from each water basin.

"Virtually anybody who has a stake in water rights," said Wayne Bossert, manager of Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District Four.

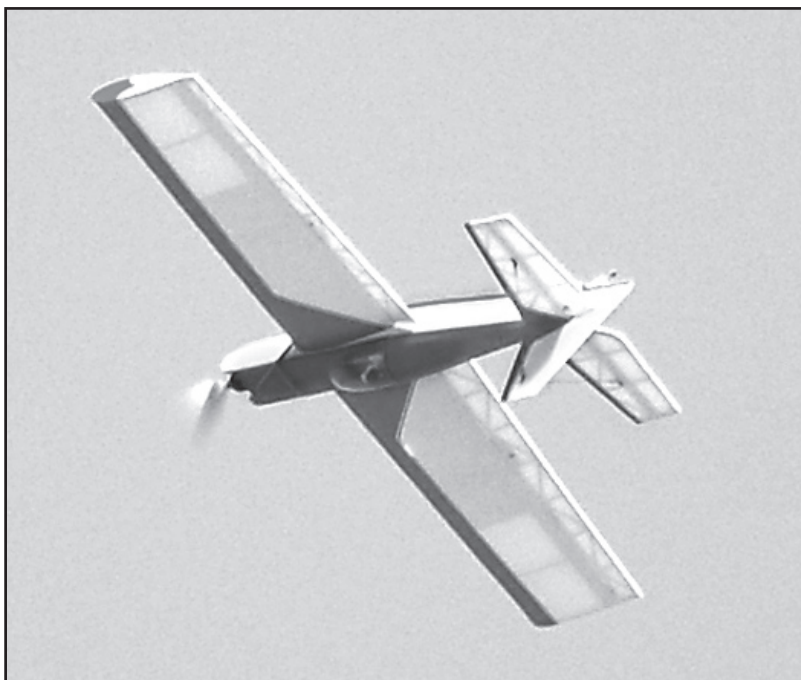
Bossert said the congress gets together several times a year to talk about water management issues and form recommendations to give to the Kansas Legislature. The Colby meeting is the congress' summer get-together. The meeting is open to the public.

Bossert said the full agenda hasn't been decided, but one of the issues on the table will be the Intensive Groundwater Use Control Area (IGUCA) program. Usually if there's a problem with groundwater levels, he said, the most junior water rights are cut off. The program allows the state to look specifically at the needs of an area and tailor a plan to fit them. Bossert said the plan could include scheduling — letting landowners pump water on different days — or requiring every water

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Windy weekend puts a damper on RC fun fly

Despite windy conditions and a storm on Saturday, fliers from northwest Kansas and Colorado still got some of their remote control planes in the air for the RC Club's Fun Fly this weekend. Bob Murphy from Denver (above, from left) put together a new plane Sunday with the help of Marvin Farmer and Merle Duffey, both of Colby. The new plane took off on the first try. The wind was enough blow the planes off course, like this small electric plane (right) which had trouble doing tricks. Brad Waggoner from Colby (below) adjusted a piece on his plane Sunday.



Group discusses disaster meetings

By Tomi Miller

Colby Free Press
colby.society@nwkans.com

People from Thomas County agencies concerned with improving the overall health of the county met Thursday at El Dos De Oros.

The Thomas County Coalition held its monthly meeting to talk about projects like the Colby Walking Trail, the community garden, and possible meetings about emergency and disaster preparedness.

These meetings would serve to inform citizens, business owners in particular, on how to function after a disaster occurs.

Members of the events team suggested dates and times for those meetings. The meetings

would be seasonal, they said, with one each in the fall, winter, spring and summer; each focusing on a different disaster scenario. The scenario for the fall season would be natural disasters and terrorist attacks. The meeting would have guest speakers to talk about how to back up important documents on computer and how to function without a business facility. Drawings for prizes and kits providing useful tools would also be available.

Sue Evans, coalition member and trail coordinator, said that the funding for the trail is well under way. The community has raised \$63,000 for the trail, not counting the second match of \$25,000 to be

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Hoxie Hotrodders plan show on June 25

The Hoxie Hotrodders will hold the fifth annual Hoxie Rod Run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 25, along Sheridan Avenue in downtown Hoxie.

Registration will be from 8 a.m. to noon. Registered cars can join the poker run around downtown Hoxie at 1 p.m. The main car show will end with an awards ceremony at 4 p.m. at the Bowen Scout House. After that will be a barbecue dinner at Trish's for \$5 a plate.

Alongside the show will be music by Prosound D.J. Service, games, a barbecue dinner, free swimming at the city pool and drag races. The races will begin

at 6:30 p.m. at the airport. Admission is \$3. New this year will be the Hoxie Fire Department's water games, designed to help people cool off as well as have fun.

The Hotrodders will raffle off a Traeger grill, toolbox, wrench set and socket set. Winners will be drawn at the awards ceremony.

For information on registering for the car show, to purchase tickets or to volunteer, contact Bob or Patty Mullins at (785) 675-3302, Larry Bieker at (785) 675-2139, or Renee Wagoner at (785) 675-8639. For information about the drag races, contact Doug Wagoner at (785) 769-3038.

Briefly

Center has prevention materials

The Northwest Kansas Regional Prevention center has videos, brochures and other materials on subjects like parenting, substance abuse and neglect prevention available at its office at 140 W. Fourth St. The center is closing on Thursday, June 30, and is looking to give away its materials. For information, call the center at 460-8177.

Pets available for adoption

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a black and white 1-year-old female lab mix available for adoption. Lost or strayed animals are often brought to the clinic. Call or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have current shots, and costs are minimal. For questions, call 460-8621.

Kiwanis needs help for fireworks

The Colby Kiwanis Club is accepting donations to

help pay for their Fourth of July fireworks display. Kiwanis member Rick Dickman said contributions are appreciated since costs go up each year. To donate, send a check to Kiwanis Club, Box 501, Colby, Kan., 67701.

Seniors plan potluck Tuesday

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.

Hospital to hold diabetes class

The Citizens Medical Center will have a diabetes support class, "Journey for Control: On the Road to Better Managing Your Diabetes," from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday in the hospital conference room. The

beginning of a four-class series, it is free but pre-registration is requested. For information or to register, call Jeanene Brown at 460-4850.

Pick up Memorial Day decorations

All Memorial Day or other temporary grave decorations at Beulah Cemetery must be picked up by 5 p.m. Wednesday so the staff can resume regular mowing. For information, call caretaker Deb Henry at 462-3188.

Picnic in the Park on Wednesday

Picnic in the Park will be at noon on Wednesdays at Fike Park. The entertainment for this Wednesday will be Bobbi Barton, and Hi-Plains Coop will be selling hot dogs to benefit the Kiwanis Club's Fourth of July fireworks display. The event is sponsored by the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce, Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Col-

by Free Press. In case of inclement weather, listen to KXXX/KRDQ. For information, call the chamber office at 460-3401.

Learn about miracles in Brewster

The Brewster Community Church will have Vacation Bible School from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday for children from kindergarten to sixth grade. This year's theme is "The Miracles of Jesus." For information or to register, call (785) 694-2720 or (785) 694-3353.



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