



# COLBY FREE PRESS

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## Endless reading material



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

The Pioneer Memorial Library Blow-Out Book Sale is in its final two days. Books were \$1 per bag on Thursday and are free today and Saturday. The library is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

# City's 'Big Splash' is coming Saturday

By Kevin Bottrell  
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The city of Colby is hoping to pick up ground in the Take Charge Challenge with a Big Splash Event on Saturday at the Colby Community Building and the Aquatic Center.

The event will begin at 11 a.m. in the Community Building with an "Energy Bandit" skit. Take Charge Committee member Holly Whitaker said the skit will teach people about electronics that still draw power even when turned off. The skit will have information on how to stop that power drain.

After that will be three "Learning Tree" activities. The first is called "Viewpoints on the Line," which will get people thinking about the usage of natural resources. The second is "Renewable or Not Renewable," which will talk about fossil fuels versus other energy sources. The last activity is "Energy Sleuth," which will discuss ways to conserve energy.

Whitaker said the activities will be done with everyone attending at the same time, rather than splitting the audience up into groups. The first 400 people - aged 4 and older - to complete all three activities will get in free to a barbecue at 12:30 p.m. at the Aquatic Cen-

ter sponsored by Farmers & Merchants Bank. The first 200 get free admission to the pool that day.

The city will get 30 points toward the Take Charge Challenge for each person who completes the activities. It also gets 10 points for each person present at the Energy Bandit skit. The challenge pits five northwest Kansas communities against each other to see who can save the most energy.

Colby is currently in fourth place behind Goodland, Oakley and WaKeeney. Hoxie is in fifth place. The prize is \$100,000 toward an energy efficient improvement project.

# Weekend motorcycle races offer danger, excitement

Motorcycle racing is coming to Colby next Friday at the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

The Cycle Zone Racing event will have categories for all types of vehicles such as vintage bikes and four-wheelers and all age groups from kids to over 50. Anyone looking to enter can do so up to the race day. Local riders are encouraged to enter.

For spectators, gates open at 5 p.m. with heats beginning at 6 p.m. and the main events at 7 p.m.

Pat Tubbs of Tubbs and Sons Ford Sales, one of the local sponsors, said the riders race at more than 100 mph, and are protected from the ground only by the handlebars, a steel boot and safety gear.

"Motorcycle racing is a real thrill," said Frank Hardman of Cycle Zone Racing. "The ultimate in

danger with no roll cages, no strap-ins; nothing separating the rider from the other riders but the dirt."

The event is part of a four-race series sponsored by Cycle Zone Racing. The series continues in Norton on Saturday, Aug. 13; Stockton on Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 15 and 16.

The races will feature some of the top riders in the United States. Frank Hardman said three of the top European riders will also be completing.

Tubbs said local businesses have contributed more than \$6,000 in prize money for the main races.

"Fans are sure to get their money's worth," she said. "It's shaping up to be an exciting and thrilling night of racing."

# Unemployment dips in July; nation adds 117,000 new jobs

By Christopher S. Rugaber  
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON - Hiring picked up slightly in July and the unemployment rate dipped to 9.1 percent. The modest improvement may quiet fears of another recession after the worst losses on Wall Street in nearly three years.

Employers added 117,000 jobs last month, the Labor Department said Friday. That's better than the past two months, which were also revised higher.

The gains gave the stock mar-

ket a small lift one day after the Dow Jones industrial average fell more than 500 points. Stock future turned positive Friday after the report was released. The report "should lessen fears that the recovery is truly faltering," said Jim O'Sullivan, chief economist at MF Global.

Still, the economy needs twice as many net jobs per month to rapidly reduce unemployment. The rate has topped 9 percent in every month except two since the recession officially ended in June 2009.

Businesses added 154,000 jobs across many industries. Governments cut 37,000 jobs last month. Still, 23,000 of those losses were almost entirely because of the shutdown of Minnesota's state government.

The unemployment rate fell from 9.2 percent in June partly because some unemployed workers stopped looking for work. That means they are no longer counted as unemployed.

As a result, the number of un-

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# Colby native has artwork in anniversary competition

By Christina Schimid  
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A former resident of Colby has been selected to show artwork in two prestigious shows in August.

Shela Reilley, formerly Shela Page, is the daughter of Donna and Elmer Lawyer, of Colby, and Dennis Page, of Bird City.

The first of the two shows is the Kansas 150 Art Competition which is currently running until Monday, Aug. 15 in Topeka. She has four paintings that were juried into the competition which is an exhibition and sale of 150 original Kansas-inspired artworks commemorating Kansas' 150 years of statehood. The pieces will also be published in an art book by SouthWind Art Gallery, called State of the Art: Kansas.

The second show is the Mile High International Exhibition that will open with an awards ceremony on Saturday, Aug. 20, at the Curtis Arts & Humanities Center in Greenwood Village, Colo. The public is invited to this free exhibit which will run through Sept. 19. Reilley has



CHRISTINA BERINGER/Colby Free Press

"Snowmelt at Cave and Burr" is one example of Shela Reilley's artwork. Reilly, a former Colby resident, will be showing some of her work at the Kansas 150 Art Competition.

two paintings that were selected for inclusion in the show, sponsored by the Pastel Society of Colorado. Only 80 were chosen of more than 200 entries.

Reilley grew up in Colby and graduated from Colby High School in 1983. She then attended Colby Community College under the direction of art instructor Ken Mitchell before attending Kansas State University with a degree in fashion design.

She later became accustomed to drawing animals as a graphic

designer of fabric prints and screen-prints in children's wear while working in the fashion industry in New York City. She designed clothing for companies such as London Fog, Jordache, Gitano and Simplicity Patterns.

While in New York, she also took figure drawing classes at the Stuyvesant School before relocating to Aurora, Colo. She currently paints at the Denver Art Student's League and is a

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DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Free Press

Adult leaders helped a young shooter learn shotgunning at last year's Youth Outdoor Skills Day.

# College to teach outdoor skills

Colby Community College and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks will hold the 11th Annual Youth Outdoor Skills Day on Saturday, Aug. 20.

The day begins with registration at 8 a.m. in the student union. There is no charge to participate and a free elkburger lunch will be provided.

Activities include shotgunning and muzzle-loading, archery (with animal targets, tree stand safety, blood trailing), fishing, fur harvesting and compass and map reading. A hunter education class will be held Friday and Saturday, Aug. 19 and 20.

Preregister at Colby Lumber or Rasure Lumber in Colby by Wednesday, Aug. 17.

Additional sponsors for the free day of activities include the Colby Trap Club, Greg Bellamy, Hunting Heritage Group, Thomas County Sheriff's Office, Walmart, Pepsi, Pheasants Forever, and Orscheln's.

For additional information, contact Matt Bain at 462-3367, Josh Williams at 462-7993 or Mike McGinnis at 462-7602 at the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks or Barry Kaaz at the college at (462-5429).

# State testing maps with fake blizzard

It wasn't snowing today, but the 511 Traveler Information Map (511.ksdot.org) may have looked like a blizzard was covering the state.

The 511 Map is undergo a live simulation test beginning today to test its ability to handle information requests when the entire state highway system has snow and ice conditions. During the test, all the highways on the map will display colors simulating snow and ice conditions. Kansas Department of Transportation staff will then use special software to bombard the site with thousands of information requests in a short time to identify

the stress point at which the map's performance slows or stops.

The test will be repeated on each Friday this month.

During the test, information about road work activities and incidents will be real but may not display as the stress point is approached. Users can turn off the snow and ice condition colors by un-checking "Roadway Weather Conditions" in the legend on the left side of the map. The real highway information will be available in the "Driving Conditions List" and will be listed separately from the simulated snow and ice conditions.

The department anticipates the highways to have normal, seasonal driving conditions during the test period, which may include wet pavement. Current road work activities and incidents will be reported on 511 as these reports will not be affected by the test. Travelers can access the 511 phone system by calling 5-1-1 from anywhere in Kansas or (866) 511-KDOT (5368) from anywhere in the U.S.

