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Mail heads to Salina; more changes possible

By Kevin Bottrell

Colby Free Press

On Saturday, the Colby Post Office's outgoing mail processing will be shifted

This change will mean new collection times for outgoing mail. Colby Postmaster Kenton Krehbiel said the new deadline to get mail on that day's truck will

Any mail that doesn't meet the deadkbottrell@nwkansas.com line will go out on the next day's truck. Krehbiel said most of the time outgoing mail picked up by carriers on city and rural routes will not make it back in time to go out on that day's truck. Anyone with urgent mail should hand-carry it to the post office, but those letters must be in by

Krehbiel said to make things easier, be 3:30 p.m. Collection times at all post businesses with large quantities of first offices in northwest Kansas are also being class mail should separate any mail going moved up, so their trucks can make it to to Colby addresses from mail going else-

in Colby. Krehbiel suggested the same thing be done for metered mail.

"Businesses with postage meters should change the date to the next day at 3:30 p.m.," he added.

Front office hours at the post office are

staying the same, Krehbiel said – 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. Krehbiel said anyone with questions or

comments may call the Colby Post Office at 462-7904.

The Postal Service is making the change

where, since local mail will still be sorted to combat revenue loss over the past decade. At a public meeting in May, Rick Pivovar, district manager for Kansas and Nebraska, said the recession, rising fuel costs and changes in how people send mail have hurt the service financially. Just last year, the service lost about \$8.5

> Hays processing has also been moved to Salina. The service hired 13 new people to handle the increased volume.

But the service isn't done with changes to mail processing. In a press release dated Thursday, service spokesman Brian See "MAIL," Page 2

Sperry said another study is being done on the feasibility of moving Colby processing to Denver.

Much like the study done earlier this year, this examination will look at what transportation and processing capacity would be needed to absorb Colby into Denver. This is part of a larger study about moving almost all processing in Kansas from Salina, Hutchinson, Dodge City, Colby and Hays - to either Denver or Wichita. Colby already sends its Saturday

Colby boy wins state tractor pull

The state fair is wrapping up in Hutchinson, and western Kansas kids are representing the region well, especially in the Pedal Trac-

Four-year-old Guy Tubbs of Colby got first place in the state Pedal Tractor Pull on Sunday with a pull of 27 feet, four inches. He won by just three inches, beating 54 contestants in his age group.

Tubbs will get to go to the Corn Palace in Mitchell, S.D. on Saturday, Sept. 24, for the national competition. Lucas Tubbs, Guy's father, said the family had never been to the state fair before and they are excited to be going to na-Several other local kids won or

placed in the state competition. Ethan Jay of Colby got second place in the 12-year-old boys division with a pull of 28 feet. Leanna Huddle of Oakley got second place in the 9-year-old girls divipull of 25 feet, five inches.



sion with a pull of 28 feet. Dashiell Guy Tubbs of Colby posed with Brown of Quinter got first in the his trophy after winning the 5-year-old boys division with a pedal tractor pull, 4-year-old

College to offer online vet program Colby Community College Veterinary Medical Association

President Dr. Steve Vacik recently announced that the college has received a \$960,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture to develop a Distance Learning Veterinary Technology Program. The grant will provide money for development of online classes and salaries for two veterinarians, two registered veterinary technician instructors and an administrative assistant for the distance learning program.

The new program will be the first online veterinary technology program originating from a Kansas college. There are currently nine distance learning veterinary technology programs in the United States accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

accreditation for the program.

The on-campus Veterinary Technology Program at the college is the only veterinary technology program in Kansas fully accredited by the association. In addition, the on-campus program was one of the first veterinary technology programs established in the United States, achieving initial accreditation in 1974.

In 2010, the graduates of the oncampus program had a 100 percent pass rate on the Veterinary Technician National Board Examination.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, veterinary technology is one of the fastest growing careers, projected to grow by 36 percent from 2008 to 2018. The online program will allow the col-

The College will seek American See "PROGRAM," Page 2



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press



Fund raiser gets 340 people

The latest Drive One 4UR School test drive fund raiser at Tubbs and Sons drew in 340 people, well over the 300 needed to get the maximum \$6,000 donation from Ford Motor Company. Pat Tubbs said she was glad to see so many people there, including some who had never test driven a car in their lives. Tubbs said she saw many people come out to support the fund raiser who don't have kids in the district. The money will go to various activity funds at Colby High School. Tubbs said the drivers could choose which activity their test drive counted toward. The money will help the activities, such as debate club and sports teams, pay for long trips. Student volunteers helped get people signed up for test drives, and Dillon's donated several boxes of donuts. Representatives from the Take Charge Challenge committee were there as well, signing people up to replace their light bulbs with more efficient compact florescent bulbs.

Colby singer performs at Kansas State Fair

By Christina Beringer

Colby Free Press colby.society@nwkansas.com

Rundel-Marteney will once again singing. be performing for au-

State Fair. Marteney will perform at 10 a.m. Sunday at Lake Talbott. She will sing classic country songs and a

diences at the Kansas

variety of some more current, classic rock pieces and Christian gospel music. Her con-

cert is free of charge and open to all fair goers.

L. Marteney

"I'm pretty sure this is my

joked Marteney. Marteney said she has been

giving vocal performances for Former Colby resident Lenay more than five years but grew up

in the children's choir at early age," she said. 'Nothing brings me joy music do."

Marteney said her dad was an important influence on her love for mu- did." sic, particularly classic

country. memorized front to back, every song, was Patsy Cline's greatest fourth time performing at the hits," she said. "My love for mustate fair, but could be the fifth. sic spans many genres and many was interim creative arts director Rundel of Colby. I'm in my 30s now, which means time periods. For me, it's about there.

my memory is going quickly," touching people, it's about the experience they have when they come to a show."

Marteney said she particularly enjoys the fairs and festivals during the summertime and the state "I was holding a mic fair is definitely near the top.

The genre I do is kind of a dymy church from a very ing breed, so my shows are kind of like a walk down memory lane," she said. "I love to see the the way that singing and look on people's faces when they hear one of their favorites and after the shows, I get to hear stories they share about a certain song I

Marteney has also swooned au-"One of the first tapes I ever diences in Colby at Picnic in the Park and enjoys leading worship at Westview Community Church in Manhattan. Most recently, she

In February, Marteney started a ministry called "Beautifully Broken" where she travels to different churches and women's conferences giving presentations, performances and leading worship. She also coaches volleyball at Manhattan Christian College and teaches fitness classes.

"For me, it's about touching people," she said. "When I go to churches and share my testimony and music, to be a vessel for God, to allow him to work through me, is a humbling experience. If I can help a young girl In addition to the state fair, get through what I went through, or help someone with a struggle, then that's the ultimate."

Marteney is a 1999 graduate of Colby High School and the daughter of Pam and the late Bob

Levee damage will cost about \$2 billion to fix

By Heather Hollingsworth

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - The Army Corps of Engineers estimates it will cost more than \$2 billion to repair the damage to the an estimate of the damage from nation's levees, dams and riverbanks caused by this year's excessive flooding, a sum that dwarfs the \$150 million it currently has to make such repairs and that doesn't account for damage from Hurricane Irene or Tropical Storm Lee.

Floodwaters that raged down the nation's rivers this year have strained dams, eroded riverbanks, filled harbors with silt and ripped football field-sized holes in some earthen levees protecting farm- See "REPAIR," Page 2 land and small towns. The damage estimate, confirmed Thursday to the Associated Press by corps officials, promises to be more sig-

nificant than with a typical flood in which high water recedes quickly.

The estimate does not factor in flood damage caused by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, and the corps does not have those storms yet.

Along some stretches of the Missouri River, levees have been holding back floodwaters since June 1 as the corps lowered water levels from upstream dams that had filled to overflowing with record runoff from rain and winter snows. That water ultimately proved too much for many levees downstream in states such as Iowa

