



Mail heads to Salina; more changes possible

By Kevin Bottrell
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On Saturday, the Colby Post Office's outgoing mail processing will be shifted to Salina. This change will mean new collection times for outgoing mail.

Colby in time. Any mail that doesn't meet the deadline 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.

where, since local mail will still be sorted 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.

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.

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.

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 Tractor Pull.

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 nationals.

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 division with a pull of 28 feet.



LUCAS TUBBS
Guy Tubbs of Colby posed with his trophy after winning the pedal tractor pull, 4-year-old division, at the state fair.



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

College to offer online vet program

Colby Community College 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.

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 on-campus 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-

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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.

Colby singer performs at Kansas State Fair

By Christina Beringer
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Former Colby resident Lenay Rundel-Marteny will once again be performing for audiences at the Kansas State Fair.

Marteny will perform at 10 a.m. Sunday at Lake Talbott. She will sing classic country songs and a variety of some more current, classic rock pieces and Christian gospel music. Her concert is free of charge and open to all fair goers.



L. Marteny

my memory is going quickly," joked Marteny.

Marteny said she has been giving vocal performances for more than five years but grew up singing.

"I was holding a mic in the children's choir at my church from a very early age," she said. "Nothing brings me joy like the way that singing and music do."

Marteny said her dad was an important influence on her love for music, particularly classic country.

"One of the first tapes I ever memorized front to back, every song, was Patsy Cline's greatest hits," she said. "My love for music spans many genres and many time periods. For me, it's about

touching people, it's about the experience they have when they come to a show."

Marteny said she particularly enjoys the fairs and festivals during the summertime and the state fair is definitely near the top.

"The genre I do is kind of a dying breed, so my shows are kind of like a walk down memory lane," she said. "I love to see the 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 did."

In addition to the state fair, Marteny has also swooned audiences in Colby at Picnic in the Park and enjoys leading worship at Westview Community Church in Manhattan. Most recently, she was interim creative arts director there.

In February, Marteny 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 get through what I went through, or help someone with a struggle, then that's the ultimate."

Marteny is a 1999 graduate of Colby High School and the daughter of Pam and the late Bob Rundel of Colby.

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 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 farmland 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 an estimate of the damage from 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

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