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Yogurt deal

Thomas County dairy to supply Dannon



Plant to add 13-17 jobs in Rexford

Colby Free Press sl604@st-tel.net

While most of the country is fighting to stay alive in a recession that has gripped the country for more than three years, the McCarty Dairy in Thomas County is close finishing a multi-milliondollar expansion which will make it a supplier of one of the nation's largest producers of yogurt and dairy drinks.

The dairy, southwest of Rexford, is building a plant slated to supply condensed milk to the Dannon Yogurt plant in Fort Worth beginning April 1.

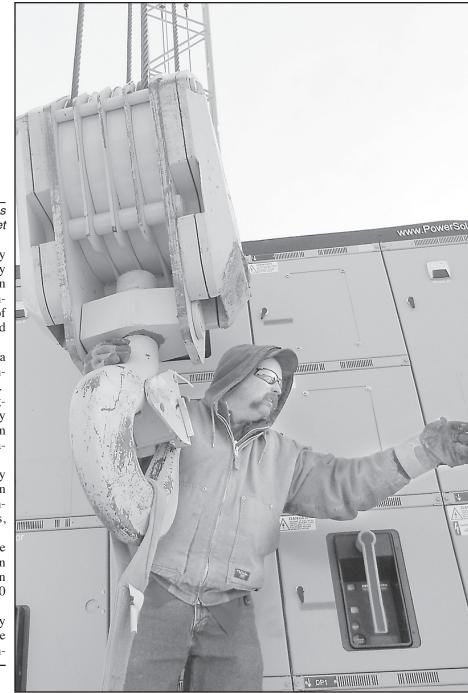
"Never in our wildest dreams did we ever imagine anything like this would happen," said Judy McCarty, who owns the expanding dairy operation together with her husband Tom and four sons, David, Mike, Clay and Ken.

It was the wide open plains of Thomas County that lured the family from a land-locked area in Pennsylvania. The expansion happened. The family has been happy here, and after nearly 12 years, still expanding.

From the McCarty's beginnings in Kansas, the original herd of 750 cows near Rexford was soon expanded to include a facility near Bird City in Cheyenne County that houses an additional 2,200

This past summer, the family leased a dairy north of Scott City. They began operations there with 500 head during the fourth week of Novem-

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Clinic hires doctor pair to work here

signed long-term contracts for a that all residents of Thomas Counmarried couple with ties to north- ty and northwest Kansas have acwest Kansas to practice at its clinces to quality physician services ic beginning next year.

Dr. Kelly Gabel, a general surgeon and son of the Colby High Francis High School, where he School principal, and his wife, Dr. Sarah Gabel, family practice physician, plan to relocate to Colby in the summer of 2013 and begin practicing at Family Center for Health Care in September 2013.

signings of such well-trained and highly skilled physicians to our sciences. community," said Kevan Trenkle, Citizens chief executive officer. "The recruitment of the Gabels is another step in Citizens Medical See "DOCTORS," Page 2

Citizens Medical Center has Center's long-term plan to ensure for the foreseeable future."

Kelly Gabel graduated from St. was a three-time state champion wrestler, and receive his undergraduate degree from Fort Hays State University. He attended medical school in Kansas City and received a Doctor of Osteopa-"We are delighted with our thy degree from the Kansas City University of Medicine and Bio-

at Botsford Hospital, Farmington

He is completing a residency

College to remove mystery chemical

Colby Community College have it removed. officials have asked a Kansas Highway Patrol unit to come agreed it wasn't necessary to Friday afternoon and help dispose of an unidentified chemical found in one of its labs.

information director for the Thomas Hall will be barricaded college, said an expert from from the classroom to the north a chemical disposal company had looked at the substance, a stable condition.

routine clean-up in the chem- have it disposed of. istry lab storage area, she said. ficials, the college decided to nal affairs, at 460-5429.

Schwanke said officials evacuate any builldings on campus.

"The hallway from the chem-Debbie Schwanke, public istry lab in the northeast hall of exit door," she said.

Although the experts feel the liquid, and determined it is in a chemical is not a threat, she said, the college has no need It was discovered during a for it and officials felt it best to

She said anyone with ques-After conferring with the Colby tions about the removal should Fire Department and other of- call Barry Kaaz, dean of exter-

Air Force band to play concert

By Christina Beringer

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The Air Force Heartland of America Band's ensemble Brass in Blue will land in Colby later brass ensemble will accompany this month to perform "Once Heard, Never Forgotten...."

The free concert, sponsored by the Colby Free Press and Western Plains Arts Association, will be Thursday, Jan. 26, at the Colby High School auditorium. Guests can begin arriving as early as 6:30 p.m. and need to be seated at least 10 minutes before the 7:30 p.m. start.

Free tickets, required for admission, may be obtained by contacting Pat Ziegelmeier of the arts group at Colby Community

College. Mail a self-addressed. stamped envelope to her at the college, 1255 S. Range Ave., with a note saying how many tickets you are requesting.

The 12-member symphonic a vocalist, a special treat. Guests can expect a combination of brass and percussion as the orchestra presents a repertoire featuring patriotic favorites, jazz standards, new compositions and other arrangements.

The Brass in Blue features precision performances in every concert, the Air Force says. Debuting in 2007, the group has graced stages from the Grand Teton Music Festival in Jackson, Wyo.,

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Wheat planting up 3 percent this fall

WICHITA (AP) - The nation's is typically used for making bread farmers seeded more winter wheat this season amid higher prices and easing drought conditions in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service reported Thursday that the 41.9 million acres of win-million acres planted for an inter wheat planted for harvest in crease of 8 percent over last year. 2012 is up 3 percent from 2011

and up 12 percent from 2010. The hard red winter wheat that accounted for the bulk of that surge. The estimated 30.1 million acres of hard red winter wheat is up 6 percent from last year. Kansas again led the nation in

winter wheat seedings with 9.5

