



COLBY FREE PRESS

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Recreation report says programs up

By Kayla Cornett

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The Colby City Council heard two annual reports Tuesday during a regular meeting, one from the Colby Recreation Commission and the other from Pioneer Memorial Library.

Recreation Director Stacy Lee presented to the council and gave it a report that listed the 35 programs the department offers.

She went through them during the meeting and mentioned that a few programs had been canceled due to lack of interest, but most of the programs' participation grew.

Lee said sixth-grade girls basketball camp was canceled because Brenda Mazanec was coordinating it and decided to pursue other things after she resigned from Sacred Heart Catholic School.

A new class last year, she said, called Rec-Cipes, which was an

adult cooking class, was also canceled after one class due to lack of interest.

A different cooking class the department offers, Lee said, is Kids-a-Cookin' and it has been running for three years.

"We usually get 20 to 30 participants in that," she said. "It's a free class we offer."

Lee said the department had a youth basketball league last year that was canceled due to lack of participants. She said they tried to hold it in the March-April timeframe, but it was just too busy with all of the area 3-on-3 basketball tournaments going on.

The department started its own 3-on-3 tournament last year, she said, and they had a good turnout.

"We had over 20 teams from ages third through eighth grade," Lee said, "and was very successful."

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Summer lunch event kicks off

Anne Marle Pleviak (above left) enjoyed the first Picnic in the Park of the summer Wednesday at Fike Park with her daughters, Addison and Taylor, and her father Jim Arnold. Larry Booth (left) was the entertainment for the lunch.

KATHRYN BALLARD
Colby Free Press

Corporations boost ag funding

By Alan Scher Zagier

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, Mo. — The gap between federal support for agricultural research at large public universities and private investment continues to grow — and the divide comes with increased threats to academic freedom and more instances of meddling in the lab, a new research report suggests.

A recent study by Food and Water Watch, a Washington-based environmental group, shows that nearly one-quarter of the money spent on agricultural research at land-grant universities comes from corporations, trade associations and foundations, an all-time

high. Financial support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture accounts for less than 15 percent, the lowest level in nearly two decades.

The consumer advocacy group's report is rife with what it calls examples of how corporate money "corrupts" the public research mission at land-grant schools, which were created by the Morrill Act of 1862. The law provided federal land for states to establish agriculture and engineering colleges.

The examples range from a University of Georgia food safety

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Kansas lawmakers knock events probe

By John Hanna

Associated Press

TOPEKA — Two Republicans in the Kansas House see a Democratic district attorney's ongoing investigation as political after being subpoenaed and answering questions about private dinner meetings lawmakers had with GOP Gov. Sam Brownback.

Reps. Steve Brunk of Bel Aire and Virgil Peck of Tyro were among seven GOP legislators who received subpoenas late last month from Shawnee County District Attorney Chad Taylor. He is investi-

gating potential violations of the Kansas Open Meetings Act from seven dinners Brownback had in January at Cedar Crest, his official residence.

Two of the subpoenaed legislators, Sen. Bob Marshall of Fort Scott and Rep. Anthony Brown of Eudora, are compelled to appear at the county courthouse Thursday morning to answer questions. Brunk and Peck received similar summonses but came in for interviews last week.

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Kids Fishing Derby sees 115 registered kids

By Barry Kaaz

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The Fourth Annual Kids Fishing Derby was held Saturday at Villa High Lake. The derby has become a community event originally initiated with a partnership between Colby Community College and Kansas Wildlife and Parks.

Attendance was good with 115 registered kids fishing in addition to parents and friends. Weather

was excellent and youngsters hauled in catfish, bullheads, a rainbow trout, turtles and clams. Prizes were awarded to the first 10 "tagged" fish that were caught.

A special thanks go to the sponsors of the event. The local chapter of Pheasants Forever donated the fish this year. Cindy and Mike at C-M Gun Shop in Colby donated 20 rods and reels that were drawn for and passed out prior to the fishing.

Additional sponsors were Colby Ag Center, Colby Implement,

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A work of art



MARIAN BALLARD/Colby Free Press

Colby Public Schools board member Ed Giehler (left) and Superintendent Terrel Harrison admired the Birger Sandzen painting Monday before a regular meeting at the school admin-

istration building. The painting will be presented to the Prairie Museum of Art and History at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 21.



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