



COLBY FREE PRESS

8 pages

Young man dies after Selden crash

One of three young men injured in a car crash last Wednesday near Leoville, Jaime Labrado of Selden, died Saturday at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita.

Funeral services for Jaime, a junior at Golden Plains High School in Rexford, will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012, at the Golden Plains Grade School Gym in Selden, with burial in the Selden Cemetery.

Golden Plains Superintendent Mary Ellen Welshhon said today the district will dismiss classes at 12:30 p.m. that day so teachers and students can attend.

She said until then, the district was trying to keep things "as nor-

mal as possible."

Meantime, the other two youths continued to improve at Wesley. Colten Wachendorfer, 17, who had been driving that night, had been listed in critical condition on Friday. By the weekend, both he and Jesse Mumm 18, Vian, Okla., were in fair condition.

"We have support people for the kids to talk to," said Mrs. Welshhon. "We're just really trying to do everything we can for the families, the kids and the community."

"We just want to support our kids ... the best we can. We're trying to keep things as normal as we

See "CRASH," Page 2



Water meeting set in Hoxie

By Christina Beringer

Colby Free Press
colby.society@nwkansas.com

Eighteen property owners in Thomas County and many more in Sheridan County may be affected by new water restrictions they had a hand in developing.

Beginning Jan. 1, and for the next five years, said Wayne Bossert, manager of Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 4, the district known as the Sheridan County No. 6 High Priority area may be under the first Local Enhanced Management Area water restriction authorized under a new Kansas law.

The public will get an opportunity to testify on the proposal at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the Sheridan County Courthouse, 925

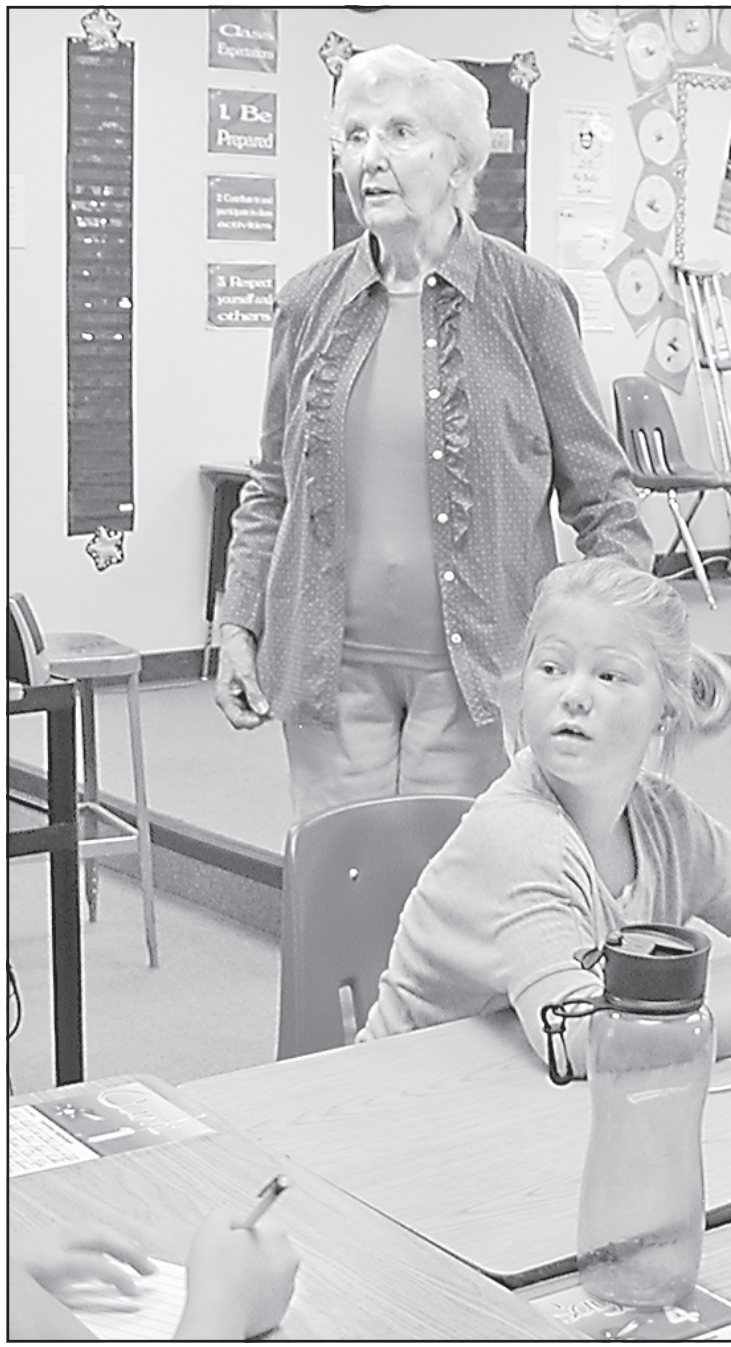
Ninth St. in Hoxie.

The affected area includes Sections 22-27 and 34-36 in Township 8 South, Range 31 West, in Menlo Township. However, the majority of the plan affects Sheridan County property owners.

The area is one of six in the groundwater district identified as having withdrawal rates exceeding the recharge rate and a higher decline rate than the district average, Bossert said.

Considering whether the area is experiencing problems requiring enhanced management allowed under new law is the primary purpose of the hearing, said Mary Geiger, communications director for the Kansas Department of Agriculture.

See "WATER," Page 2



Fourth graders write "thank you" letters

Colby Grade School teacher Jim Myers (above left) talked with fourth-grade students Wednesday about writing letters of appreciation to Colby police and sheriff's officers, firefighters and emergency medical workers for the National Day of Service on Tuesday. The letters honor those who fell in the Sept. 11 attacks and emergency crews everywhere. Retired and Senior Volunteer Program members, including Gail Vacca (left), helped the students with their letters. Yvonne Ballard (below right) and a classmate began writing their letters, which they were helped through from a slide presentation (bottom) by Myers.

KATHRYN BALLARD/Colby Free Press



Historic home finds new life in Rexford

The historic Philip Houston House, a Queen Anne Victorian built in Gem in 1906, is a relic of a day when homes were handcrafted to reflect the character of the family that would live in them.

In 2000, the house, then vacant, was donated to Shepherd's Staff, a Christian conference and retreat center in Rexford. The home was moved in one piece, making the 10-mile journey via truck. Since then, it has been restored by volunteers.

The work was completed this summer, and Shepherd's Staff is celebrating with an open house from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday. A dedication will begin at 4:30. Old-fashioned treats will be served, and tours of the Shepherd's Staff facilities, including the house, will be given.

Now that it is complete, the

house will serve as a bed and breakfast catering to pastors, their wives and others in ministry.

The house has been furnished to honor the past while still providing a welcoming, relaxing atmosphere. There's a library on the first floor and each room is comfortably furnished. The wide wrap-around porch provides a place to rest and relax.

Shepherd's Staff hopes to see a "pastor to pastors" come on staff - someone who can encourage and counsel the guests. Trees have been planted in the back yard with the hope of providing a backdrop for weddings.

"Shepherd's Staff is pleased to offer to the area its lovely facility as an expansion of our ministry," said Joan Dingwerth, founder of the group.



New Jersey mayor jailed in FBI corruption probe

By Geoff Mulvihill

The Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. - Federal agents arrested the mayor of New Jersey's capital city early today as part of an ongoing corruption investigation into bribery allega-

tions related to a parking garage project that was concocted as part of an FBI sting operation.

Trenton Mayor Tony Mack, his brother Ralphiel and convicted sex offender Joseph Giorgianni, a Mack supporter who owns a Trenton sandwich shop, were accused of conspiring to obstruct, delay and affect interstate commerce by

See "PROBE," Page 2

