



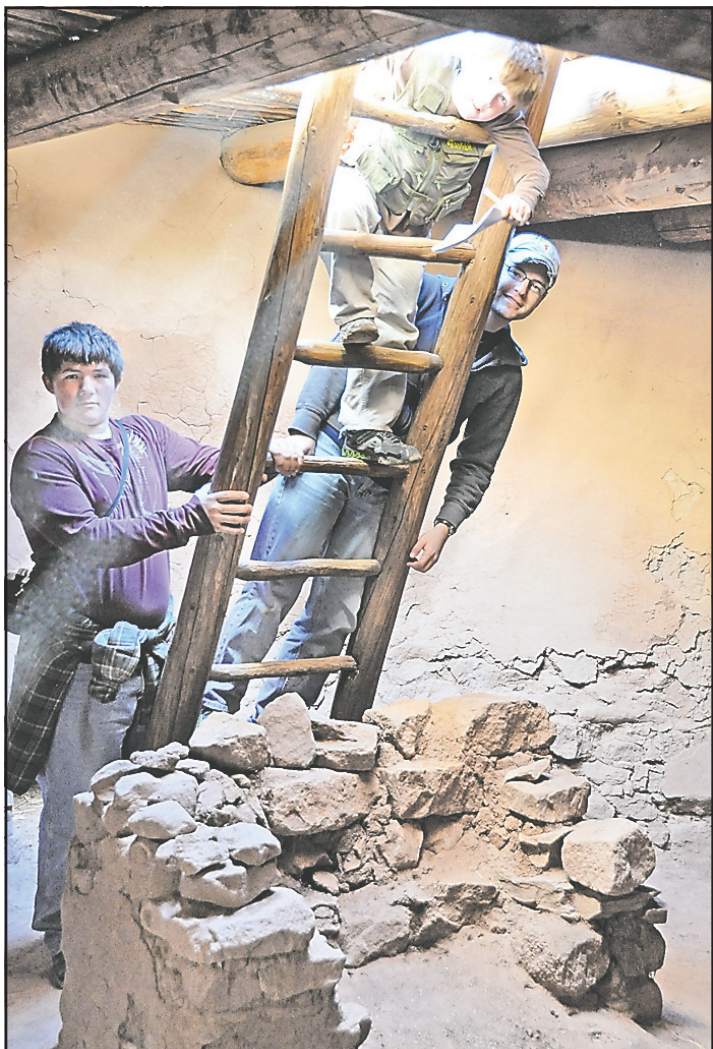
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# COLBY FREE PRESS

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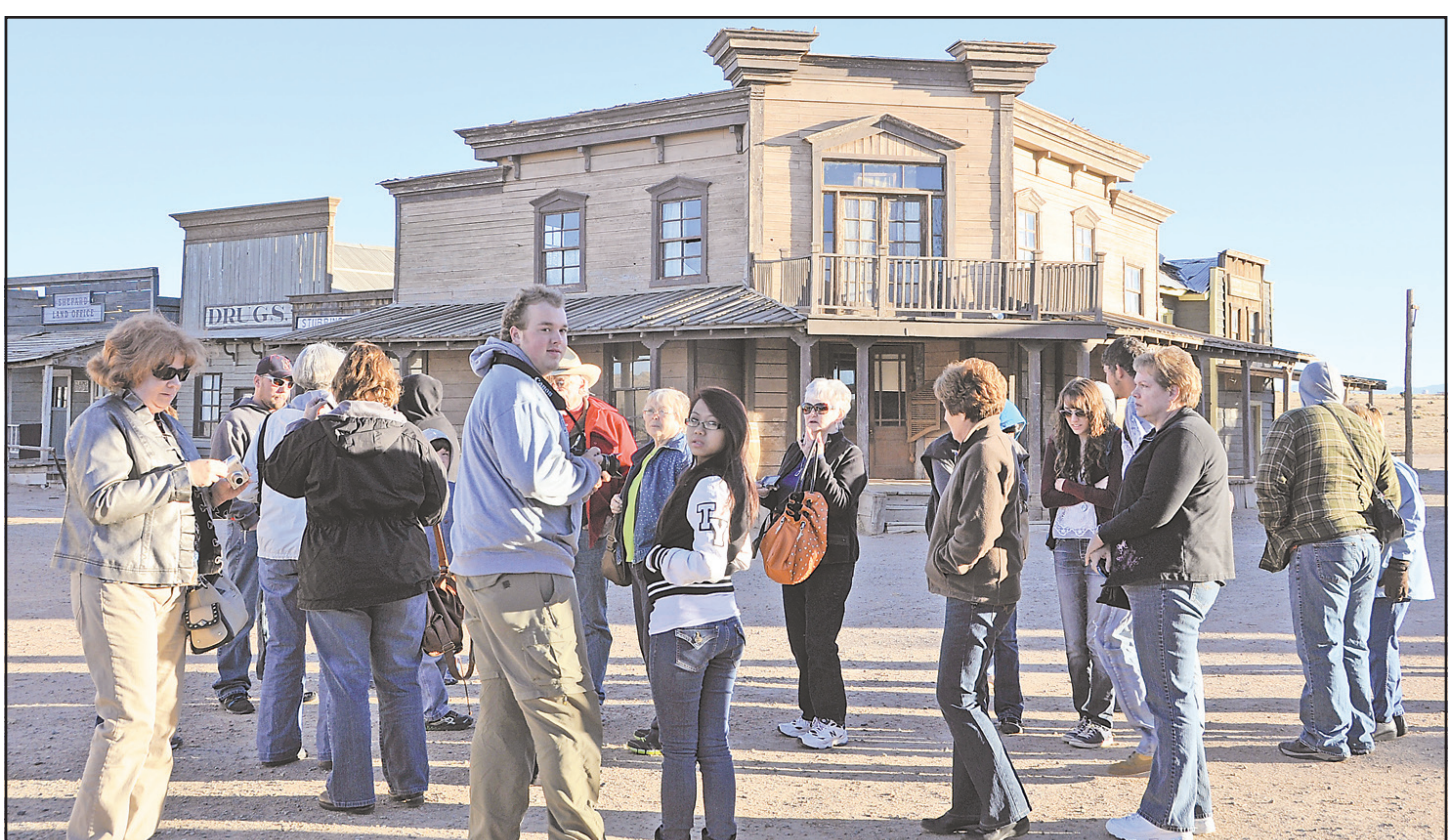
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## College art students visit historical sites

A group of Colby Community College art students, art instructor Rebel Jay and other fans of art traveled to Santa Fe, N.M., to tour historical and cultural sites. Outside the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Corbin and Ethan Jay (right) played around a large Native American sculpture. The Jays and W.D. McNeely (above) visited an underground kiva, or spiritual dwelling, at the Pecos National Monument, an abandoned pueblo. They also visited the Bonanza Creek Ranch (below), billed as a real working ranch that's occasionally the scene for movies, including "3:10 to Yuma," "Lonesome Dove," "Cowboys and Aliens," "Sweetwater" and others.

REBEL JAY/Colby Community College



## Agency here helps victims of abuse

By Christina Beringer

Colby Free Press  
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In northwest Kansas and across the country, everyone is encouraged to join the movement against sexual and domestic violence, not only in October – which is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month – but throughout the year.

In Colby, the nonprofit agency that helps victims and survivors of domestic violence, known as Options, wants to remind victims

that “there is hope and there is help,” said Executive Director Charlotte Linsner of Option’s main office in Hays.

Options has a satellite office in Colby, and with the two, the agency provides help to women throughout 18 counties of northwest Kansas. Linsner said they average between 450 and 470 cases a year, which could multiply if all domestic incidents were reported.

“Our agency offers ways that victims can save themselves,” she added. “They learn the signs and how to identify an ‘undomestic relationship’ by gaining different cognitive think-

ing skills, and not just coping skills.

“Women learn how to take a different stand or avenue to correct the situation.”

Linsner said one woman is killed in the United States every 58 minutes because of sexual and domestic violence.

One in every four women will be the victim of domestic violence at some point in her life, said Audra Fullerton, communications coordinator of the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence. On average,

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## Kansas Democrats purpose ‘Buy American’ law

By John Hanna

AP Political Writer

TOPEKA – Democrats in the Kansas Legislature proposed a “Buy American” law today to require state agencies to use U.S.-manufactured goods in public works projects.

The proposal, announced by

Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley of Topeka and House Minority Leader Paul Davis of Lawrence, comes less than two weeks before the Nov. 6 election. The two leaders said the goal is to spur growth in manufacturing jobs.

The massive income tax cuts, championed by Gov. Sam Brownback and fellow conservative

Republicans, were enacted with a similar goal of stimulating the economy and creating new jobs.

Hensley and Davis outlined their jobs proposal during a news conference at the headquarters of a local auto workers’ union in Kansas City. They scheduled similar events in Topeka and Wichita today and promised that Democrats

will pursue the measure during the next legislative session, which convenes in January.

Manufacturing represents a major segment of the Kansas economy, accounting for about 166,400 jobs in September, or 12 percent of the state’s 1.35 million non-farm jobs, according to the state Department of Labor.

## Senators debate live on television

By Kevin Bottrell

The Goodland Star-News  
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State Sens. Ralph Ostmeyer and Allen Schmidt debated topics ranging from water policy to the state retirement system in a live appearance Wednesday night on Smoky Hills Public Television.

The debate will run again at 4 p.m. Sunday and as part of an election marathon starting at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 4.

Moderator Chapman Rackaway, associate professor of political science at Fort Hays State University, asked the candidates about water policy, since Gov. Sam Brownback has brought the issue to the forefront in the past several years.

“For my 18 years, all we’ve done is talked,” Ostmeyer said. “The past two years is the first time we’ve had a governor that’s said water is going to be an issue in the campaign.”

Ostmeyer said the state has made good strides, especially with the Local Enhanced Management Area concept, which allows landowners to have more of a hand in developing a conservation plan.

“It’s working in the Sheridan County 6 (area),” he said. “Now, we have to sell it to the public. Expand it. We all have to buy into it

for kids and grandkids.”

Schmidt agreed on the need to preserve water for future generations, especially since the “bed-rock” industries in northwest Kansas, agriculture, oil and gas, need it.

Getting rid of the “use it or lose it” doctrine of water rights – which before had defaulted water rights to the state if they went unused – and instituting a five-year “flex” plan were good steps. This allows farmers to decide how much to pump each year within a five-year total.

“It’s voluntary action,” he said. “We’re seeing it for the first time.”

Schmidt said farmers and ranchers are the best stewards of the land, and he applauded any voluntary cutbacks in water use.

Ostmeyer countered that because of the drought, some farmers have been over-pumping for the past two years and they will get penalized with less water available at the end of the five-year plan. He said that although farmers knew that going in, he has also had a lot of phone calls about it, and it would have to be discussed at the Legislature next year.

The candidates were asked about education, and the talk turned to

See “SENATORS,” Page 2

## College cash in short supply

By Kayla Cornett

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Colby Community College trustees, meeting in Norton on Oct. 15 so they could tour the new building there, heard that – as usual – cash will be in short supply over the next couple of months.

Alan Waites, chief financial officer and vice president of business affairs, presented the September financial report, as well as the forecast for the next three months.

He said while the college operates in the black, it has more bills than cash this time of year and will need some extra money to pay its bills.

He said expenses are on budget, with \$62,000 of unpaid purchase orders as of Sept. 30, and the budget total is still projected at \$13.810 million, with \$10.363 million left to spend. Waites said the cash balance on Sept. 30 was \$527,000 after the college received \$950,000 during the month and spent \$1.102 million. They

are watching cash flow carefully, he said, and retaining students is critical.

In October, Waites said, the college is expected to receive \$1.450 million and spend \$1.855 million. That would leave the cash balance at \$122,000.

“If this holds true, we’ll be down to just over \$100,000 at the end of the month,” he added, “which is very, very low. It takes a million dollars ... per month in cash to keep everything going and pay the bills, and so you can do the math: \$120,000 is about two business days worth of cash.”

At the end of September, he said, the college had about \$900,000 in bills left to pay and expects to pay about \$680,000 of those during October.

“We won’t be able to pay all of it off in October,” Waites said later.

He said the college won’t be able to pay the remaining \$220,000 in November or December unless cash comes in from financial aid.

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## Drought, high prices push dairies to brink

HUTCHINSON (AP) – Two years of inadequate rainfall has Kansas dairy farmers in survival mode as high feed and fuel costs continue to push many operations to the brink of bankruptcy.

The prolonged drought has hit the nation’s food supply hard as farmers such as Mary Jane and Orville Miller of Hutchinson are forced to chop up burned crops for silage.

The Hutchinson News (bit.ly/QI17iQ) reports the two are doing

everything they can to ensure a future for their son and daughter-in-law, who want to come back to the farm.

But that hasn’t been easy. The National Agricultural Statistics Service says dairy farmers lost 24 cents on every gallon of milk sold in May and June because of high production costs.

