

Weather

Safe Routes receives big grant

From "GRANT," Page 1

impact.

"But, to me, this is just the beginning.... We'll be looking to get more grants later in order to meet our ultimate goal of making Colby the most walkable community in Kansas."

Most of the money, about \$245,000, will be used for engineering, she said.

Although it seems like a lot of money, said Carmichael, it can only go so far when you consider Americans with Disabilities Act and other regulations that must be adhered to.

Identified as primary walking routes are parts of Fifth Street, Grant Avenue and Pine Street, she said. To stretch the dollars and to encourage kids to take

a direct route without crossing the street more than necessary, primarily only sidewalks on one side of each street will be improved on.

While there's no date for when work on the sidewalks will begin, City Manager Tyson McGreer said engineering work and environmental studies have already begun.

"It's probably the most important step in the process," he said, "and may take awhile. Since this is a pretty extensive project, we are being very careful to make all the right moves and spend every cent as smartly as we can, which takes time."

The Safe Routes team also hopes to get adults interested in taking a healthier route to work, too, instead of driving every

day.

"We want to get more people active and making healthy lifestyle changes," said Carmichael. "Right now, it's not normal for people to walk or bike to work; people think it's weird when they see others walking, and we want to change that."

"So much is lost when you drive, including the social aspect kids get when walking to school with their friends. And we are going to make the sidewalks better on these streets so people can go on a walk easier, for parents with strollers and for (people in) wheelchairs, too."

Carmichael said the Coalition is an "umbrella organization" to many programs in the area that focus on making healthy decisions— including Safe Routes,

which started in 2011 with a \$2,000 grant from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The Coalition is spearheading efforts for walking trails and a community garden, too. Members helped with the Thomas County Meltdown, providing the "Bod Pod" and blood tests, and with Walk Kansas.

"Basically, anything in the community that encourages a healthy lifestyle, we try to get involved with," said Carmichael. "We try to make the healthy choice the easy choice."

For information, go to the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/tccoalition, watch a slideshow at play.goldmail.com/64efehdjfnj, call (785) 460-8177 or e-mail tccl@st-tel.net.

Governors want to keep wind tax credit

By Jeff Barnard and Nicholas Riccardi

The Associated Press

The fate of a tax credit that advocates say is needed to maintain tens of thousands of wind energy jobs will be decided during high-stakes, last-minute negotiations between President Obama and House Republicans, officials said Tuesday.

The wind-energy production tax credit is due to expire at the end of the year, along with many other tax breaks. An extension stalled in Congress this summer amid fierce opposition from some conservative House

Republicans. The last chance to extend the measure is in the budget deal that will be cut between Obama and Republicans in the lame duck session of Congress.

Backers of the credit tried to ramp up pressure to extend the \$12 billion break Tuesday with a teleconference featuring several governors, who noted that uncertainty over its fate has led to thousands of job losses across the country. A study found that 37,000 jobs would be lost if the credit expires.

The credit's supporters say the government has subsidized fossil fuels like oil for more than a century. Opponents argue it distorts the energy marketplace.

The credit was first signed by President George H.W. Bush and backed by a number of prominent Republicans. But some conservative House Republicans objected to the extension of the latest form of the credit this summer, arguing it is wasteful spending. Their cause was taken up by the party's presidential nominee, Mitt Romney, who argued the credit should expire.

Still, Republican governors Terry Branstad of Iowa and Sam Brownback of Kansas joined Democratic governors on Tuesday's call urging the credit's extension. They said they represented a bipartisan group of 28 governors who back the tax break.

Accident, fuel spill halt Selden traffic

From "ACCIDENT," Page 1

As for the fuel, what wasn't taken up with absorbent material was washed into the ditch, said Assistant Fire Chief Steve Rodgers.

"The fuel tank was ruptured," he said, "probably from hitting the tree on the driver's side ... With the cleanup, what we did was absorb as much as we could

with absorbent naps, and the rest of it was basically just washed off, the little bit that was left. We were going by what the state was telling us to do."

Troopers asked their dispatcher to report the spill to the state Department of Health and Environment.

Boultinghouse said that the amount of fuel spilled was less than 100 gallons.

"It was strung from here to there, so it looked like a lot more than what it was," she said. "The whole accident just tore both vehicles to pieces."

She added that the Department of Transportation shut down traffic going both directions on the highway and rerouted it two to three blocks through town.

"We had to divert it around and through town because the tractor

was in the middle of the highway, and one set of dual wheels were entirely off it," Rodgers said. "It broke them plum off and laid the tractor (cab) right on its side in the highway, so we had to close that whole section of highway down."

Rodgers said the incident and the cleanup had the highway closed for about four hours.

Ringneck Classic begins Thursday in Oakley

From "CLASSIC," Page 1

ford, a top country music song writer.

On the last day, a bonus hunt will be offered for those interested, with participants leaving for the field at 8:30 a.m.

All the activities surrounding the clas-

sic will be held at the cultural center, an 8,000-square-foot facility that includes a 3,200-square-foot multi-purpose event space capable of handling meetings and events for groups of up to 300 people.

Keller said the Classic is the first event for the center.

"We will have a grand opening on Dec. 1," she said, "but the public is welcome to see it after the event."

For information, call the center at (785) 671-1000 or e-mail contact@kansasingneckclassic.com.

City approves new maps for electrical system

From "CITY," Page 1

trical meter and light post, the manager said.

"The system's changed since the last time the maps were updated," McGreer said, "and this

is a much more accurate way of mapping, compared to what we've had in the past."

He said the Missouri company compiles data maps of a city with Global Positioning System units which employees

carry with them when they visit each city, Katie Shepherd, marketing director for the firm, said. The data should be accurate to within a decimeter — a tenth of a meter — or about four inches.

Data for the maps will be giv-

en to the city in digital form.

City attorney John Gatz told council members that a provision in the contract says the city will retain the copyright to all the data.

Briefly

Booster Club holding wreath fund raiser

The Colby High School Booster Club is holding a holiday wreath fund raiser and orders are due by Friday. The wreaths come from a wreath farm in Molalla, Ore., and are made from Noble Fir along with five other mixed greens. They are decorated with English holly, juniper, cedar, pine, yellow/tan juniper and two pinecones. The wreaths, which are 24 to 26 inches in diameter, cost \$40 and will be delivered by mail to your home the first week of December. For information, call Debbie Giebler at 462-0693.

First Baptist plans Thanksgiving dinner

The First Baptist Church of Colby invites everyone to a Thanksgiving dinner from noon to 1 p.m. Saturday at the church, 615 W. Webster. For information, call the church at 462-2867.

Sanitation trucks won't run on Thanksgiving

Residential trash for Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 22, will be picked up next Wednesday. The sanitation trucks will not be running on Thanksgiving. Residential trash for Friday, Nov. 23, will be picked up on the Monday, Nov. 26, route. The sanitation truck will not be running on Nov. 23. Please have your tipper cans to the curb by 8 a.m. The commercial truck will be running on Saturday, Nov. 24. It will not be running Nov. 22 or 23. For information, contact Omar Weber at the Public Works Department at 460 4420.

Curator to give talk on Kansas archaeology

The High Plains Chapter of the Kansas Anthropological Association will sponsor a talk by Don Rowilson on "Archaeology in Kansas" at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Prairie Museum of Art and History in Colby, with a short business meeting to follow. Rowilson, a professional archaeologist and long-time curator at the Cottonwood Ranch State Historical Site, will present an overview of Kansas archaeology along with insights from his years in the field. For information, call Ann Miner at 462-6399.

United Methodist youth will have holiday dinner

The senior high youth of the Colby United Methodist Church invite everyone to a Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday. The group will serve a traditional dinner from 11:30 a.m. 1 p.m. All proceeds will go to missions and ministry. Contact Kim Barnett at the church office, 460-2761, for information.

Thanksgiving service set in Colby Sunday

Colby's annual Thanksgiving Service, sponsored by the Thomas County Ministerial Association, will begin at 6 p.m. Sunday in the Frahm Theater at Colby Community College. Charles Taff of the Levant Community Church will speak, with music by a band from the Celebration Community Church. For information, call Jarrod Spencer at 460-6322.

Friday: High, 55; Low 20
Saturday: High, 75; Low 16
Sunday: High, 36; Low 14
Monday: High, 50; Low 18
Tuesday: High, 55; Low 20

Precip: Friday None
Saturday 0.05 inches
Sunday None
Monday None
Tuesday None
Month: 0.05 inches
Year: 11.74 inches
Normal: 20.03 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
Thursday 7:29 a.m. 5:29 p.m.
Moon: waxing, 5 percent
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Table with columns for Thursday Evening (November 15, 2012) and Friday Evening (November 16, 2012). Rows include channels like KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, KSNK/NBC, etc., and programs like Last Resort, Grey's Anatomy, Scandal, etc.

American Profile We Celebrate Hometown Life. Stories from hometowns just like yours. Looking for us each week in this paper. Includes a list of shows and their descriptions.