



Chuck Moore, chief financial officer of Frahm Farmland Inc. (left), and Lon Frahm, president, discussed details of a gift Frahm made to Citizens Medical Center.

Colby man donates to hospital

Citizens Foundation, the fund raising arm of Citizens Medical Center Inc., received \$131,688 from Lon Frahm of Colby. Frahm matched funds raised through the hospital's employee-giving campaign for the expansion of health care services in Colby.

"This is a significant donation that has helped us pull within a few hundred thousand dollars of our \$1.9 million goal," said Kevan Trenkle, chief executive officer of the hospital. "I think it goes without saying that Lon has had an impact on the quality of life in Colby. His contribution to our capital campaign is affecting the quality of care we provide and the lives of our citizens."

Due to successful recruitment of medical providers that includes a full-time general surgeon, Citizens Foundation launched its three-year capital campaign in early 2012.

"People know how important it is to have good health care services and facilities. Our community benefits in many ways because the hospital doesn't receive support from public dollars. The growth Citizens Medical Center and Family Center for Health Care is experiencing is impressive. I'm happy to be a part of the expansion," Frahm said.

City Council changes snow emergency rules

By Sam Dieter
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The City Council decided Tuesday to change how Colby will handle traffic during snow storms to divide a snow emergency into three stages.

This winter, a "snow emergency" ordinance was used to ban cars that do not have either chains on their tires or four-wheel drive from city streets at times. It also banned parking on the streets which have priority for snow removal.

Parking on the streets used for snow removal will be banned during all three stages. The second stage

bans driving on any street without chains or a four-wheel drive vehicle, while the third bans driving anywhere, except for emergency vehicles or in an emergency situation.

Streets where parking is banned during a snow emergency are Fourth, Range, Country Club, Franklin, Pine, Hill, College, Davis, Horton and Willow.

The changes were suggested after a storm in February when the old ordinance was invoked. City Manager Tyson McGreer told the council at its last meeting that some people said they could get through the snow then with a two-wheel drive.

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College board receives positive review on audit

By Kayla Cornett
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The Colby Community College trustees got some good news Monday when the college's audit was presented during their monthly meeting: a positive review by the accountants and a \$1 million improvement in the bottom line.

Brian Staats and Michelle Spence

of Adams, Brown, Beran and Ball came to the meeting and went through the report with the board.

Staats said he and Spence would give the "executive summary" of the report, beginning with a qualified opinion of the accounting firm, which he said was the same as last year:

"In our opinion, except for the effects of not accounting for post-employment benefits ... the financial statements ... present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Colby Community College as of June 30, 2012 and 2011, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows...."

The firm noted that the college lacks numbers on post-employment benefit that the standards say should be in the books, though the

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Legion members celebrate



American Legion members Jim Vap (left), Monte Lewis and Oliver Fyfe chatted before the start of the Legion's 94th birthday party Sunday afternoon. Vap is the adjutant for the Colby post and Lewis is the post commander.

School board learns about online reader

By Sam Dieter
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The Colby School Board took a field trip to the Middle School library during its meeting Monday night to try out a program that lets students read books on a computer.

"What this is, it's a virtual library that's online," said Deena Wallingford, a seventh grade language teacher.

The board members tried the program "myON reader" from the perspective of the students. The program lets kids flip virtually through the pages of a book, seeing a picture of each page on the computer screen. It lets students see basic information about each book, such as when it was written and how long it is. They can search for books by categories, such as fiction or nonfiction.

Wallingford; Andrea Schuette, a sixth-grade language teacher; and

Kelly Draper, a media clerk, explained how the program works, guiding board members through it and talking about what kind of books the kids liked best.

"Here kids can find their book, by genre, by what they like to read," Wallingford said. "They really want to read what they're interested in."

Middle School Principal Robb Ross said that more kids are reading when they can do it on the computer, especially those who need to be hitting the books more often.

Curriculum Director Diana Weiland said the district got the program for a year with over 3,000 books available for three dollars for 1,000 students.

"We actually are a pilot school, so we get it at a really reduced rate," she told the board.



Overlay project begins



Motorists headed south of town on K-25 were delayed Friday as road crews began an overlay project on the highway. The Kansas Department of Transportation predicted delays of up to 15 minutes during the project, which began last week and should wrap up by the end of April.