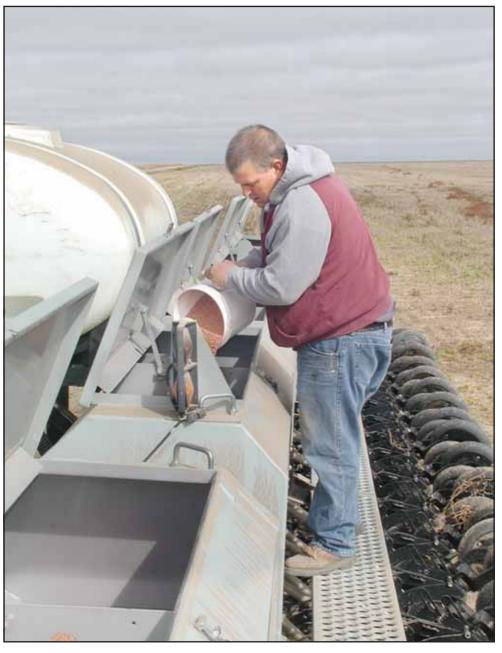


FREE PRESS

Friday

October 4, 2013 Volume 124, Number 156 Serving Thomas County since 1888

Seedtime (and harvest)



Fog and the resulting high humidity made it too wet to for corn harvesting Thursday and today, but it didn't stop farmers from planting wheat. Darwin McReynolds, an employee of Ferguson ZY Farms, was busy drilling wheat in a stubble field five miles north of Colby today. McReynolds evened out the wheat seed in the drill's seed boxes at the end of a row (right) before he continued planting. He raised plenty of dust in the process (below), even though Donald Snow, another employee, said it had been drizzling only 30 minutes ear-

EVAN BARNUM / Colby Free Press



Sheriff's office gets computers

By Heather Alwin

Colby Free Press colby.society@nwkansas.com

The Thomas County Sheriff's Office will finally be getting a

new server and computers after the county commissioners awarded a contract for the hardware to Cumulus Computers LLC.

Cumulus and Ntronic Inc., companies to submit bids for the the companies. computer equipment designed to

systems currently in use at the law ers a total price of \$13,060 for enforcement center.

Will Dearden of Ntronic were associated hardware and licenses. both on-hand to help the commissioners make their decision.

options for the commissioners to choose from, but the commission-

Bandy made some quick calcu- equipment.

replace outdated and overloaded lations, giving the commissionsix desktop computers, back-up Brett Bandy of Cumulus and power systems, a new server and

similar equipment and licenses, so Cumulus' bid contained several the commissioners chose Cumulus' lower bid.

Ntronic, whose technicians ers wanted to compare "apples to already have the necessary secuboth of Colby, were the only two apples" before choosing between rity clearances to work with the sheriff's systems, will install the

Bandy estimated he could have the items delivered within five days, and Dearden said he could have it installed a few days after that, rearranging his schedule as Ntronic's bid was \$14,144 for necessary since he considers this system a priority.

The commissioners had previously struggled with ways to pay for the necessary updates, but they agreed to take it out of the sheriff's department's capital outlay

See "COMPUTERS," Page 2

Corn acres producing better yields

With this year's dry corn harvest going strong, more fields in doesn't measure the amount of the area are producing a crop this

agronomist with the Northwest publishing online because of the Kansas Research and Extension Center, said most high-moisture corn has already been harvested and sent to local feedlots, and the See "CORN," Page 2

dry corn harvest will be in full Colby Free Press swing soon. He said less corn is sdieter@nwkansas.com being chopped up and bundled into silage than last year.

Haag said that Extension corn going into silage. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, which Lucas Haag, northwest area generally reports yields, is not partial shutdown of the federal government.

City streets get state funds

The city will be able to use state money in a year and a half to im- for the outer lanes, McGreer said prove parts of West Fourth Street.

The Kansas Department of Transportation announced last Friday that it will give Colby \$800,000 as part of its Geometric Improvement Program. The department said it will give out the Links" program, that helps with money in its 2016 fiscal year, and that Colby needs matching funds to finish its project.

At Tuesday's city council meeting, City Manager Tyson McGreer He said that the city plans to resurface the middle two lanes of in the year. Fourth Street from Range Avenue west, as far as Fourth is surfaced \$6.23 million for geometric imcould be surfaced with city crews state. It also announced that it will and also could be paid for with adfund 30 connecting links projects.

There is no estimate on the cost later, but he added that they will cost "considerably more," since the curbs need to be worked on

The city could apply for money from the state's "City Connecting state highways inside city limits. McGreer said. Some of that money went towards resurfacing the asphalt on East Fourth and South Range this summer. He pointed told the council about the project. out that the city already did some work on that stretch of road earlier

The department is providing with concrete. The outer lanes provement projects across the

Judge named to another term

Chief Justice Lawton R. Nuss Kansas Judiciary and, in particuannounced Wednesday that the lar, the 15th Judicial District," Supreme Court has reappointed Chief Judge Schiffner said.

Judge Glenn Schiffner to a two-year term as chief

District, effective Jan. 1. Schiffner has served as a district judge since January 1993 in the 15th Judicial District. He presides over cases in Thomas, Sherman, Logan, Sheridan, Rawlins,

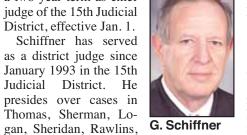
Cheyenne and Wallace counties. As chief judge, he also the underfunding of the courts. We handles administrative issues.

"I am honored to have the con-ner's assistance in facing them." tinued opportunity to serve the

Schiffner, a native of Colby, is a graduate of Kansas State University and Washburn Law School.

> "I am very pleased to announce Chief Judge Schiffner's reappointment," Nuss said. "The Kansas Judicial Branch is facing a number of

challenges, particularly will rely on Chief Judge Schiff-



Rollover accident blamed on fog, unfamiliar roads

A Texas woman went off the road Thursday morning, and then left the accident scene without needing an ambulance, thanks to a buckled seat belt.

The accident was reported just before 10 a.m., after Bonnie Kraisinger of Texas rolled a car at County Roads 21 and X northeast of Colby.

Andy Schippers, a trooper for the Kansas Highway Patrol who worked the accident, said Kraisinger came here from Texas to visit family. She did not know that road X forms a T-intersection and does not pass west

Schippers said the fog made it hard for her to see the intersection as she drove west on road X. She hit her brakes and tried to turn left onto 21, but her white compact car rolled into the ditch west of the road, coming

to rest on its top. Kraisinger was outside talking to Schippers and other emergency responders soon after the accident. She refused a trip to the hospital and left with family members in a white pickup truck.



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press The driver of this car had a hard time seeing the road through the fog Thursday morning as she came up to an intersection. Though her compact landed upside down, her seat belt meant she did not need a trip to the hospital.

