



Foundation gives to college campaign

By Sam Dieter

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The Colby Community College Endowment Foundation talked about funding and elected new officers at its annual meeting Thursday.

A group of about 35 board members, college employees and others from the community attended the 49th annual meeting Thursday evening in the college Student Union. Executive Director Nick Wells and past board president Shane Franz gave a check for \$250,000 to Dr. Stephen Vacik, the president of the college, as a part of the college's "campaign for change." Wells said the foundation intends to match the next donation of \$250,000 raised by the community for that campaign, which led to a brief financial discussion.

Arlen Leiker, president of the college's board of trustees, appealed to the group to agree to give money to the college. He explained that the college is being reviewed by the Higher Learning Commission, in large part because of its tight financial situation.

"What you give is up to you," he said, but he thought all of the foundation and trustees board members getting on board to donate would make an impression on the commission.

Lou Hines, the husband of trustee Audrey Hines, asked Wells how he plans to come up with the matching funds. He later volunteered to help.

"I think if we're going to make it happen, it's going to happen before Dec. 31st," Hines said, especially before people write their tax claims.

"You want to chair that, Lou?" Wells asked, referring to the effort to get the donations in.

Wells pointed out that a discussion he had with Vacik about using the foundation's money to support the college was reported in the *Colby Free Press* after a trustees' meeting. Wells was not at the meeting, but Leiker had said it was his understanding that the foundation board favors giving all the proceeds from its yearly auction directly to the college.

"That was kind of premature, I kind of should have visited with my board and that's not going to

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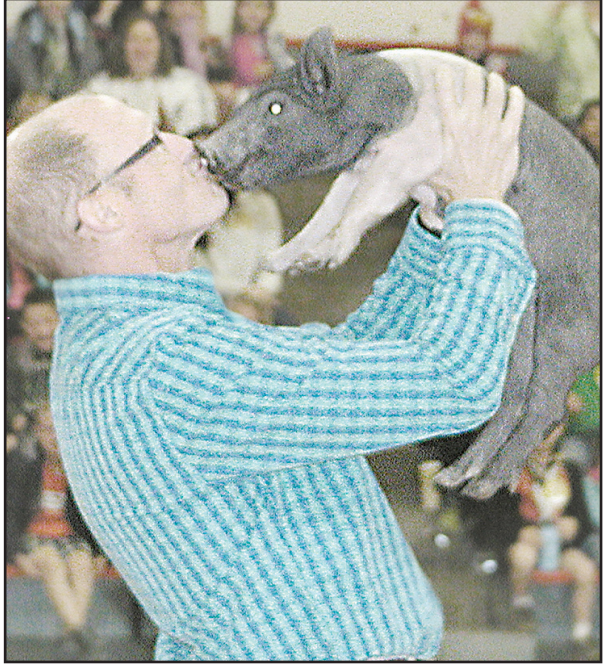


SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

The Sunflower Singers kept the crowd entertained over dinner Thursday night at the annual meeting of the Colby Community College Endowment Foundation.



Walking to school together



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press
LAURA KREJCI/Sacred Heart School

High School mascots greeted 109 younger kids Wednesday morning at the entrance to Colby Elementary School after they walked from Franklin Avenue for this year's Walk to School Day (top). A total of 34 Sacred Heart Catholic School kids made a similar trek down Sixth Street (above left). Colby Grade School principal Lance Krannawitter (above right) agreed to kiss a pig this year after the parent teacher organization raised \$5,273 from this year's candle sales.

Kansas' help on shutdown can't last long

TOPEKA (AP) — Gov. Sam Brownback's chief spokeswoman says Kansas can't shield residents relying on social services from the federal government's partial shutdown after mid-November.

Brownback issued a statement today saying his administration is committed to minimizing the shutdown's effects. The governor said the state's healthy cash reserves allow it to juggle funds to programs that are sustained by federal dollars.

But spokeswoman Eileen Haw-

ley says the juggling can't continue through November.

She said if the shutdown continues, the state can't provide benefits for November under the Women, Infants and Children program, which helps poor mothers with young children buy food.

She also said that the state won't be able to provide cash assistance to poor families after mid-November.

Brownback has canceled furloughs for state workers processing unemployment benefits.

Fed shutdown hurts Guard

TOPEKA (AP) — Every day the federal government remains shut down, the Kansas National Guard loses some of its readiness, Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, Kansas adjutant general, said Thursday.

"The longer this goes on, the more degraded our capability becomes," Tafanelli said. "Each day we lose a little bit of readiness."

He said that as of Thursday, 268 Kansas National Guard employees remained furloughed, representing about 13 percent of the Guard's 2,100 employees state-

wide, *The Topeka Capital-Journal* reported (bit.ly/18UUYsH).

Congress hasn't approved a budget for this fiscal year, prompting the partial shutdown of federal services.

"We hope this gets resolved as quickly as possible so we can get back to training," Tafanelli said.

Gov. Sam Brownback said today that the state has assumed the responsibility for the costs of some of the National Guard's operations, which are expected to be reimbursed.

Accident Tuesday hospitalizes truckers

A truck driver went off the side of Interstate 70 on Tuesday after he had been distracted searching for something in his

vehicle.

The Kansas Highway Patrol reported that David H. Magnusson, 58, Garland, Ark., was on Interstate 70 headed west out of Goodland at 6:24 Tuesday evening.

Magnusson was 3.4 miles from town when he got distracted as he searched for something in the cab of the 2014 Peterbilt. The semi-trailer rig slid off the north side of the road and rolled onto its side.

His wife, Pearl M. Magnusson, 57, also of Garland, was riding in the sleeper berth. David Magnusson was not wearing his seat belt; both were taken to Goodland Regional Medical Center for treatment.

KU Faculty Senate affirms free speech

LAWRENCE (AP) — The University of Kansas Faculty Senate has affirmed free speech rights for faculty after a professor was placed on leave following a tweet against the National Rifle Association.

The Faculty Senate said in a statement Thursday that the Senate endorses the principles of First Amendment rights, academic freedom and due process and will work to ensure those principles are followed for all faculty, *The Lawrence Journal-World* reported (bit.ly/18UPluE).

The statement didn't mention David

Guth who was placed on leave after tweeting in the wake of the Washington Navy Yard shooting. Guth's Twitter post said: "The blood is on the hands of the #NRA. Next time, let it be YOUR sons and daughters. Shame on you. May God damn you."

Gun rights advocates and others condemned Guth in the days after his post, saying he was wishing death on the children of National Rifle Association members. Guth said he wasn't advocating violence, but was trying to make gun-rights advocates see mass shootings from the point of view of

the victims' families.

The university placed Guth on indefinite, paid leave the Friday after the tweet.

The senate resolution issued Thursday was prompted in part by an earlier statement from the Senate's Committee on Faculty Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities that dealt directly with Guth's leave. The committee's statement said that although the university administration said Guth's leave did not constitute a professional sanction, it "has the appearance of being a sanction applied without compliance with Uni-

versity Rules and Regulations or with the Faculty Code of Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct."

Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little has said Guth was put on leave to avoid disruption of his classes "and not because of the nature of the professor's comments, regardless of how controversial they may be."

Senate President Christopher Steadham also said faculty will be represented on the university committee reviewing the duration of Guth's leave and the conditions for his return.

