

COLBY PRESS

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School board to learn more about online state assessments

Colby Free Press A curriculum presentation on Kansas Assessment online testing will be one of the items on the agenda at Monday's Colby school board meeting. The board will meet at 7 p.m. at the new administration building at 600 W. Third.

Superintendent Kirk Nielsen said this year students took part of the state assessments online and it's the

fered. He said during the demonstration the school board could find out some of the results because with the online testing, some are available immediately after a student finishes the test.

"Not everyone in the state is doing it," he said. "We agreed to do it. It's pretty interesting."

At the March 22 school board meeting, curriculum director Diana options and will find out at the Mon-

its assessments online and was almost finished.

Also on the agenda is the issue of how the board evaluates Nielsen's performance. He said board members have

expressed interest in finding a different method because they've tried several over the years.

Nielsen said he's provided some

first time that option has been of- Wieland said the district was doing day meeting if there is anything they're interested in.

The agenda also includes principal, curriculum and superintendent reports, Kansas Association of School Board dues, emergency substitute licenses and negotiations.

Nielsen said the negotiation process for teacher contracts is just getting under way. "They really haven't started yet," he said, but the process will take some time.



Signs of spring!



Schindler, Patyn Pfeifer and Lexy Kraft took treats from teacher had a picnic and other activities to celebrate the beginning of Amy Jennings this morning at the home of Patyn Pfeifer. The stu-spring.

Puddle Duck Preschool students in Colby, Lander Niblock, Kora dents, she said, enjoyed a walk to look for signs of spring and

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Amending the contract and the \$305,800.

Mayor Hixson

change in price for water and land rights met with approval by the Colby City Council during a special meeting called on Tues-

In the original agreement, the city offered G &

E Farms, owned by Max Embree of Colby, \$352,000 for the land. However, after reviewing information from the Department of Water Resources in Topeka, the Groundwater District #4 and other sources, it was determined that the initial proposal for water rights was calculated too low.

With the discovery of the calculation error in water rights, Embree getting easements for installing the said he wanted to keep the water water main, Armstrong said. rights on land he still owned at the higher total, which resulted in the water into perspective, Armstrong city's first agreement being less. For said that with the added water that reason, said Mayor Warren rights, the city will be able to pump

Hixson on Thursday, the city Free Press Editor changed its contract price to

Carolyn Armstrong, city man-

ager, said two years ago the council started talking about the need for additional water rights. The next step was to then contact landowners and inquire as to

whether they would sell to the city senior water rights. Most of the property owners approached, except for Embree, were

not interested in selling land and water rights or if they were prices were not reasonable.

The land purchased is south of the Thomas County landfill, she said, and on the east side of the road.

With the approval to buy the land and water rights, the city now has an additional 51 million gallons, making the total water rights for the city at 762 million gallons.

Currently, the city is working on

Putting the amount of additional that area eight hours a day for 171

New Mexico man charged with robbery, assault in Goodlar The attendant reported being The complaint filed in district court on \$50,000 bond. He was arrested vehicle.

GOODLAND—A New Mexico man was charged Tuesday with aggravated robbery, aggravated assault and felony theft in Sherman County District Court in a holdup Monday at the Total service station

robbed at knifepoint about 1:40 a.m. Monday.

querque, N.M., is charged with the theft of a carton of cigarettes, \$20

The New Mexico man was being

said Finley assaulted the attendant, east of Brewster on I-70 by Colby Trinity Murray, by placing a knife Police and Thomas County sheriff's Melvin A. Finley II, 19, of Albuat his back and telling him "not to officers, who had heard the call on a robbery in Goodland.

Thomas County officers said worth of gas and about \$600 in cash. held in the Sherman County Bastille they found money and a knife in the

Finley's companion, a 15-yearold girl, was taken to the juvenile holding facility in WaKeeney.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby said Wednesday that Finley and the girl are wanted in Albuquerque, and

may be sent back there.

Selby said the vehicle they were driving had been stolen in Albuquerque, where Finley allegedly held a woman at knife point at an automatic teller machine and stole



60 for Saturday

Colby, Oakley, Hoxie area Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Northeast winds 5-15 miles per hour and gusty. Saturday...Partly cloudy. Highs around 60. Northeast winds 5-15 miles per hour. Saturday **night**...Partly Cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s. Southeast winds 10-15 miles per hour. Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. South winds 10-20 miles per hour.

The numbers

Thursday's high, 76 Low this morning, 37 Records for April 2, 86 in 1921 and -1 in 1936

Year ago today, 86 and 44 Precipitation past 24 hours, April total, 0.00

April snowfall, 0 Soil temperature, 55

The sources:

The forecast is from the National Weather Service, and other numbers are from the Northwest Research-Extension Center, Colby. A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-

Colbyite promoted to Hays bank

Colby banker Les Brown has

joined the commercial division of Emprise Bank at Hays as vice president, it was announced to-Brown spent

the past six years as vice president and commercial lender for First



National Bank in Colby. Prior to

that, he served as assistant vice eral Schools of Banking courses president for Bank IV in Great

Brown is a native of Hoxie and a 1993 graduate of Fort Hays State University with a bachelor's degree in business administration in fi-

He received his master's degree in business from Fort Hays State in 1995 while working as a graduate assistant at the Small Business Development Center.

Brown has since completed sev-

and has also participated in numerous Kansas Bankers Association sponsored seminars and workshops.

Brown has served as a volunteer reporter for the Colby Free *Press* the past couple of years with his focus on the wrestling program at Colby Community

He also was involved in live television coverage of Class 3-2-1A state wrestling.

Residents mourn soldiers

dents near this historic Army post nity.' were moved by the death of five also understood the loss was part of war.

"Every time we lose one it's a ing bills and grabbing a bite to eat tragedy for the fort and the community," said Geary County veteran and member of the Amerment Thursday in Junction City. Ramadi and Tikrit.

FORT RILEY (AP) — Resi- "They are part of our commu-

Soldiers, who declined to dis-Fort Riley soldiers in Iraq, but cuss the latest developments, continued to frequent Junction City's downtown, shopping, pay-

The soldiers were killed Wednesday when a bomb detonated Sheriff Jim Jensen, a Vietnam under their M-113 in Malahma, an area in the Sunni Triangle – ican Legion, pausing for a mo-roughly between Baghdad,

Briefly

College board to meet

The Colby Community College Board of Trustees will meet at 5 p.m. on Monday in the board room of the administration building. Items on the agenda include a presentation from Bob Hartsook and John Pepperdine of Hartsook and Associates on fund raising, approval of contracts and agreements, tuition and fees, student/trustee dinner, policies and procedures manual, and faculty contract negotiations. The meeting is open to the public.

Singles dance tonight The Colby Singles Group has planned a dance tonight from 8 p.m. to midnight at the American Legion in Colby. Swingin' Country from Imperial, Neb. will provide entertainment. All single people and alumni are invited to attend. For questions

or other details, call Don Birzer, 462-2127.

Commissioners to meet The Thomas County Commissioners will meet at 9 a.m.

Juanita Dewey, administrator of the county health department, D'Ette Scholtz and Joe Liebbrandt from the Extension office, Maybelle Moore and Donita Applebury with a presentation on microfilming county records, and opening of carpeting bids for new carpet at the Thomas County Office Complex. The meeting is open to the public.

Memory Walk planned Saturday

The Alzheimer's Association is planning a "Memory Walk" in Colby starting at 1 p.m. with registration and the walk beginning at 1:30 p.m. The event will be held in Fike Park for the purpose of raising awareness about Alzheimer's, said Rhonda Riedel. For questions or information, call her at 673-3149 or 800-487-2585.

Aviation safety seminar Saturday

There will be an aviation safety education seminar, Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Colby Senior Progress Center, 165 Fike Park. The seminar is a national program developed by the Federal Aviation Administration Central Region, Monday at the courthouse. Items on the agenda include said Mark Ostmeyer, manager of the Colby Municipal Air-

port. The program is designed to make using all types of airports, airways and other situations safe and fun. For questions, call Bruce Allred, (316) 941-1208 or Ostmeyer at (785) 462-4438.

Easter Cantata scheduled

A community-wide Easter Cantata will be performed at 7 p.m. on Good Friday (April 9) at the Berean Church in Colby. The public is invited to attend.

Blood drive next Wednesday

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at Colby High School from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, April 7. Many restrictions have been lifted and if people have been cancer-free for five years or have their diabetes under control, they can donate, officals in the Central Plains Region said today. Also, many medications don't disqualify donors. People should bring photo identification. Walk-ins are welcome or an appointment can be scheduled by calling 1-800-