

# FRE PRESS

#### Friday

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# Airport apron gets federal aid for concrete

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City and airport officials have been working on the project, Airport Manager Mark Ostmeyer said, adding that some of the con- on the project until the agency recrete dates back to 1952.

grant from the federal Airport Improvement Program, which uses money collected from the aviation industry and airports. The program is run by the Federal Aviation Adminstration.

"We need to do everything we can to keep air travelers safe," said Congress Jerry Moran in announcing the grant. "This funding will increase the safety of airfield operations at Shalz Field."

frastructure Committee where he said Armstrong. serves on the Subcommittee on

On Tuesday, the Colby City aheintz@nwkansas.com Council approved an agreement with the federal agency to pay for Colby's Shalz Field Airport replacing concrete on the apron should be getting \$162,010 of a at the airport. The federal govgrant to help replace bad concrete ernment should end up paying on the apron, where planes are about \$348,650, or 95 percent of the cost, while the city will pay \$18,350. The total estimated budget is \$367,000.

The airport will not begin work leases all the grant money, Ost-The money will come from a meyer said. Mike Rottinghaus, who is with the Federal Aviation Administration's Central Region office in Kansas City, told the city he is confident the money needed to start the project will be available by July or August.

HWS Engineering had been hired to design plans and specifications for the project, City City Manager Carolyn Armstrong said.

Acceptance of the \$162,010 will still need to be approved by Moran is a senior member of the city council at its next meeting the House Transportation and In- at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 17,



State Highway Patrolman Terry Honas has been assigned to

work in Thomas County.

## State patrolman joins troop in Colby

Terry Honas has joined the Kan- joy driving around and getting out sas Highway Patrol contingent as- in the country. signed to Thomas County.

biology. He said he was working in his father's brick masonry business when he started the 22-week course at the patrol's training academy in Salina.

He is now doing his field training with Master Trooper Andrew Schippers of Colby. He will be on road patrol here after that.

"I liked the idea of a job where you are helping people every day," , Honas said, "and possibly making a difference in their lives."

Honas said he and his father en-

"On weekends during January,

Honas is a graduate of Ellis clear up to March, when I'm not High School and Fort Hays State working," he said, "Dad and I like University, where he majored in to drive around in the country and look for antlers, deer have shed. We have a big collection that we store in my parent's basement.

"Dad has a large hunting den there where we display the largest ones and we store the rest. It's just good to get out in the country and spend some time with Dad.'

In June, he plans to marry Megan Weber of Ellis. She has just completed her nurse's training at Fort Hays and has been hired by Citizens Medical Center as a registered nurse, he said.



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Kensey Garrett, second grader at Colby Grade School (above front) browsed at the school's book fair on Thursday while her mother Lindsey Garrett and little brother Kelby, a kindergartner, looked at other choices at the grade school's book fair on Thursday. Third grader Hayleigh Washa (below) examined a Jonas Brothers item at the fair.

## Books offered at fair

The annual Colby Grade School book fair and the middle school book fair has had students' heads buried in their reading all this week.

While the grade school has been holding the fair for 15 plus years, the middle school is in its second years after not holding a fair for several years.

The fair offered lots of choices included humorous, picture and history books. Students could buy books about SpongeBob SquarePants, famous super heroes such as Batman and Spiderman or a history of the presi-

"There are picture books for preschoolers and books for middle school students," said Becky Peterson, vice president of the Colby Grade School Parent Teacher Organization, which sponsors the event.

The books costs between \$3 to \$20. Profits will help buy new books for the library and classrooms, said Peterson.

The books are provided by Scholastic Books, a Kansas City company.

Marilyn Friesen, chairperson of the book fair committee, said the fair has really grown over the last four years because of increased sales.



## Scouts work for dogs

Colby Girl Scout fourth- and fifth-grade troops hope to raise awareness about the needs of the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter in Goodland while working on their Bronze Award. They made posters and sent letters to businesses asking if they would like to donate dog food, dog houses, supplies or money to help the shelter.

The girls will be at Orscheln's on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Orscheln's Dog Adoption Day, when the animal shelter will be bringing dogs to adopt.

The scouts will be giving \$10 coupons supplied by the the Humane Society for those who adopt a dog that day. Anyone, who wants to, may also buy dog food or other supplies for the shelter.

For information, call Mint Culver, fourth-grade leader, at 460-6005 or Deb Zerr, fifth-grade leader, at 462-7489.

Zerr said that the bronze award is the highest a junior girl scout can get. It shows we have made a promise to help others, improve our community, and become the best we can be, she said.

The junior level in scouting is for fourth and fifth graders. The older girls can earn silver or gold awards, she said, and the gold is more difficult to earn than the Boys Scout Eagle award.

### Small farms . gain ground in census

HUTCHINSON(AP) - A fiveyear agriculture census shows that the first time since World War II.

The 2007 Department of Agriculture census released Wednesday says Kansas is seeing more small farms and a growth of its biggest operations, but fewer middle-sized farms. Donn Teske of the Kansas Farmers Union said the drop in midsized farms follows a recent trend.

The census tallies the number. size and value of farms, as well as the age and gender of operators and the kinds of livestock and crops raised.

Kansas has 65,531 farms, up 1,117 farms, or about 1.7 percent, since the 2002 census. Nationally, farm numbers are up 4 percent.

More people are moving from cities to small parcels where they are raising a litte livestock and a few crops, said Carol House, deputy administer for programs and product at the National Agricultural Statistics Service. There is also evidence of more hobby farming.

Teske said while the midsized farm is disappearing, large farmers are getting larger and there are fewer full-time operators.

"This shows where the trend is going to continue, that, over the stretch, we'll see a mass concentration of everything," Teske said. "the current economic downturn is going to speed up concentration,

## **Briefly**

#### **Enjoy soup and the Trojans**

The Colby Community College Farm Bureau Club plans a soup supper at the Trojans-Dodge City basketball game at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at the community building. They will be serving chili, chickennoodle and potato soup.

#### Library has books for sale Pioneer Memorial Library will hold its annual

Book Lovers book sale in the basement from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. next Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, with a wide selection of used books available for sale.

#### Church plans meal

The Colby Berean Church will have a Valentine Banquet from

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6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb.14, at the church, 1000 S. Franklin. Tickets include dinner and entertainment and are available for \$12 at 890 S. Range, or call 460-0550 or 462-7219 before Tuesday.

#### Sorority offers soup at game

Kappa Upsilon sorority will hold a soup supper from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, before the Colby Eagles vs. Dodge City basketball game at the Community building. They will be serving chili, chicken-noodle and vegetable soup with homemade cinnamon rolls and cookies, to benefit Puddle Duck Preschool.

#### Tax help available

Free tax help will be available for with low- and middleincome taxpayers, with special attention to those 60 and older,

from 1 to 4 p.m. on Thursdays through April at the Pioneer Memorial Library. The program is sponsored by American Association of Retired Persons. Call 460-2645 for information.

#### Seniors plan potluck Tuesday

The group More Fun Together plans a potluck dinner for people 50 or older who are alone, widowed, divorced, separated or who have partners in nursing homes at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church. Bring a dish to share. Table service and beverage will be provided. The building is handicapped accessible with an elevator by the east doors. For information, call the church at 462-6342.

#### Woman to detail range wars

Edna Hoyt Ward of Goodland will talk about range wars between ranchers and homesteaders from noon

to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 19, at the Prairie Museum of Art and History. The talk is a part of the Food for Thought program, which features a soup lunch and history program on the third Thursday of this month and next. A different presentation will be offered March 19. Call the museum at (785) 460-4590 for details.

#### Cancer group selling daffodils

Once again, the American Cancer Society selling flowers for its Daffodil Days fund raiser. Colby project leader Kim Barnett will be taking orders at home, 462-2997, at work, 460-2761, or by e-mail at umccolby@st-tel.net. Prices include a flower bunch for \$10, a "sunshine bouquet" for \$15, a bear and a bunch for \$25, a half case (25 bunches) for \$225 and a full case (50 bunches) for \$350. Deadline for ordering is Sunday, March 1.