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College plans homecoming in November

By **Debbie Schwanke**
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For the first time in several years, Colby Community College will hold a Homecoming/Family Weekend Friday and Saturday, Nov. 11 and 12.

The event will be held in conjunction with the Ambassador Classic Basketball Tournament. Activities are scheduled at the Colby Community Building, the college farm and the main campus.

Friday, Nov. 11, has been designated as Pride Day. Everyone is encouraged to wear college apparel to show their Trojan pride. In addition to the women's and men's basketball games, which

begin at 5 p.m. at the Community Building, there will be an open house at the college farm from 4 to 6 p.m. followed by a free barbecue at 6 p.m. Tours of the equestrian facilities at the farm will be provided by students. Tours of the agriculture and vet tech building will be held on campus from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m.

In honor of Veterans' Day on Nov. 11, mini-flags will be distributed to everyone who attends the basketball games. Patriotic pins will be distributed to all veterans, various patriotic items will be given away during the games and all veterans will be recognized at the half times of the men's and women's games. The Circle K

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Deadline Friday for vets section

There's still a little time left to submit pictures of military veterans for the *Colby Free Press*' special section: Defending Our Freedoms.

This special Veteran's Day section will feature pictures of veterans submitted by *Colby Free Press* readers. The last day to submit these photos is Friday. They can be brought into the *Free Press* office at 155 E. Fifth St. or e-mailed

to khunter@nwkansan.com.

Pictures of any Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, National Guard or Coast Guard veteran or active duty member with a local connection will be accepted, even if they have never lived in Thomas County. The section will also feature a list of local veterans and feature stories. It will be inserted in the paper on Nov. 11.

How to make an exit



Assistant Fire Chief Sean Hankin showed a class from Colby Grade School how to get to and out of a window in the event of a fire on Wednesday. The fire department had their trailer set up at the grade school all week, teaching fire safety.

KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Three appeals judges to hold court here next week

By **Kevin Bottrell**
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Three judges from the Kansas Court of Appeals will convene in Colby on Tuesday to hear arguments in eight appeals cases.

Judges Stephen Hill, Joseph Pierron and John Bukaty Jr. will hear oral arguments in six cases from Finney, Grant, Haskell and Ford counties beginning at 9 a.m. in the courtroom at the Thomas County Courthouse.

The court divides up into three member panels each year to convene in different cities around the state. Colby last played host to a panel in 2009.

Hill, from Paola, graduated from Washburn University's law school in 1975. He practiced law in Mound City and was the Linn County attorney. He was first appointed as a judge in 1981 in the Sixth Judicial District. Gov. Kathleen Sebelius appointed him to the Court of Appeals in 2003. Hill presided over the 2009 hearings in Colby.

Pierron, from Lawrence, has been

on the court since 1990. Growing up in Olathe, he later graduated from Rockhurst College in Kansas City, Mo., and the University of Kansas law school. He was a district judge in Olathe, municipal judge in Spring Hill and district attorney for Johnson County before being appointed to the Court of Appeals.

Bukaty is a retired judge from Wyandotte County. He attended Regis University and the University of Kansas law school.

Appeals judges are nominated by the Supreme Court Nominating Commission

and then appointed by the governor.

Most oral arguments are limited to 15 minutes for each side. Decisions are not made at the hearings, but are discussed and handed down later. If that decision is appealed, the case will go to the Kansas Supreme Court.

One of the cases on the docket for Tuesday is State v. Robert Lane Yost, where a Finney County jury found a man guilty on a plethora of charges including attempted rape, aggravated burglary and battery. Yost is challenging the decision based on an error in jury instruction, de-

nial of a motion for a new trial and a sentencing error.

Another case is Adelina Garcia v. Michael Anderson, Charles Doull, Garden City Police. Garcia was pulled over for a defective tail light, but when an officer called in her driver's license number, a miscommunication caused her to be searched, handcuffed and put in the patrol car. She was released when the error was discovered, but she filed a racial profiling complaint and a civil cause of action. The

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Latest harvest report shows low production

By **Roxana Hegeman**
The Associated Press

WICHITA — The latest government forecast of the size of the Kansas fall harvest paints an even more dismal picture than last month's estimate.

Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service on Wednesday projected corn production in the state at 451.5 million bushels, or 22 percent smaller than last year's crop and down 4 percent from the September forecast.

Their updated forecast comes despite the fact that Kansas farmers planted 4.9 million acres of corn — 50,000 acres more than a year ago. But many of those acres were abandoned as an unrelenting drought and a record-breaking string of triple-digit temperatures decimated fields. The October forecast estimated just 4.3 million of those corn acres to be actually harvested this fall in Kansas.

Besides the fewer acres, another factor in the lower numbers is that corn yields also are down.

The average corn yield in Kansas is now pegged at 105 bushels per acre. That is 20 bushels per acre less than the yield in 2010. If the estimate holds up, that would make it the lowest corn yield in

the state since 1983.

The outlook also predicts a more modest fall harvest of the other major crops in the state:

- Soybean production was forecast 102.6 million bushels, down 26 percent from last year.

- Sorghum grain crops were expected to bring in 129.3 million bushels, down 24 percent from a year ago.

- Sunflower harvest was forecast at 160.8 million pounds, down 14 percent from last year.

- Cotton production is anticipated to total 83,000 bales, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Fall harvest of major grain crops continues across Kansas, but the tighter supplies mean pricier feed stock costs for cattle producers, feedlot operators, dairies and others come this winter.

Among the most telling is the forecast for alfalfa hay production of 1.95 million tons. That figure is down 21 percent, making it the smallest alfalfa crop in Kansas since 1956. The 650,000 acres of alfalfa grown this year in Kansas represents the lowest acreage in the state since 1941.



HAYDYN BEST

Golden Plains Cheerleader Kylie Jones taught young girls a routine Oct. 1 that they performed at halftime of the Brewster-Triplains football game Friday. Some of the kindergarten

to second grade girls shown are Jamie Graves, Jorja Juenemann, Jayda Schwarz, Ava Brantley, Kassie Miller, Jordyn Fleckenstein, Alisha Brantley, and Morgan Wark.

Little leaders learn big cheers in Rexford

By **Cheyenne Miller**
Golden Plains High School

On Oct. 1, Golden Plains cheerleaders held a cheer camp for little girls ages three and old-

er at the high school in Rexford. The girls were broken up into age groups. During the camp the girls were taught a group cheer, an individual cheer, and a dance. In between learning all of this,

the girls played several different games and spent time bonding with the cheerleaders. For the craft, everyone got to make hair bows. All of the girls received a shirt. The girls performed the

group cheer, and each group performed their dance for the crowd at last Friday's game against Triplains-Brewster much to the delight of their parents and fans.

