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Friday

May 25, 2012 Volume 123, Number 83 Serving Thomas County since 1888

Memorial Day activities planned here

Legion posts plans honor services

By Christina Beringer

Colby Free Press colby.society@nwkansas.com

Memorial Day services to honor fallen veterans are planned Monday for cemeteries in Colby, Brewster and Selden.

Country Club Drive, and at 10:30 city ball fields. These will include The quilt, called Defenders of

the presentation of the colors and Freedom, was designed and mathe reading of the list of members chine quilted by Marlene Heinz. of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gayle Bremenkamp pieced it tothe American Legion and the Le-

gion auxiliary who died this year. Afterwards, the Legion invites everyone to a reception at the post hall, 1850 W. Fourth St. Coffee, The Colby Post will hold two tea and donuts will be provided, flag ceremony services, at 10 a.m. said Tracey Galli, commander of at the Beulah Cemetery on South the Sons of the American Legion. Raffle tickets will be sold \$1 for at Sacred Heart Cemetery, near the a quilt honoring Memorial Day.

gether.

Proceeds will help the Legion buy plaques to honor veterans who live at Colby nursing homes, said Galli.

Galli said he hopes the plaques will be ready for display at both nursing homes by Veterans Day. He said he knows there are at

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Many businesses to close for holiday

Special, 185 W. Fourth St., said

ers can pick up pre-ordered Me-

For information, call (785) 462-

The floral department at Dil-

morial Day arrangements between

6 and 9 a.m. Monday.

By Christina Beringer

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People planning to honor loved ones with flowers have a few blossoming options in Colby this Memorial Day.

Bouquets and wreaths can be found at Walmart, Dillons and 7136. Someplace Special, although time to order special arrangements from Someplace Special is runregular hours, from 8 a.m. to 5 ning out.

Monique Leavitt of Someplace 1320.

Some businesses and most govthey will take orders until 4 p.m. ernment offices will be closed Saturday. The shop will be closed Monday, giving employees the Sunday and Monday, but custom- opportunity to observe the national holiday.

The Colby Free Press will be closed and there will be no paper Monday. The next issue will be the Wednesday paper.

Colby city offices will be lons, 1605 S. Range, will be open closed, and Public Works Depart-

p.m., on Monday. Call (785) 462- See "CLOSE," Page 2

College trustees discuss, OK new statements

By Kayla Cornett

Colby Free Press kcornett@nwkansas.com

The Colby Community College trustees approved new mission and vision statements for the college Monday on the recommendation of a strategic planning committee of faculty and staff that worked on improving them for about a month.

President Stephen Vacik said updating the statements is part of the Higher Learning Commission accreditation process and the board needs to approve them so the college can send them along with its upcoming plan of action.

The college needs to recertified in 2014 and it is beginning the takes a long time.

Dr. Vacik said they sent the statements out to faculty and staff and got some positive feedback. The versions given to the board are the finished products from the committee's ideas and the ideas it received, he said. Board Treasurer and Vice Chair the college "will provide the high-Arlen Leiker said he thought one word should be changed on the mission statement, from "world" to "community," because he felt like it was important for the college to emphasize the importance of the role the Colby community plays in the college and that the college appreciates the town.

Vacik, along with Barry Kaaz, dean of external affairs; Joyce Washburn, dean of academic affairs; and Alan Waites, vice president of business affairs, all members of the committee, said they felt using the word "world" was the best way to simplify how many people the college affects, especially international students, and makes the mission statement less broad and more concise. They also said it helped in their goal to make the statement shorter.

Vacik also said he thinks the importance of the community to the college is implicit in the statement

The board then approved the mission statement:

"The mission of Colby Commuprocess now, he said, because it nity College is engaging others in learning and service opportunities to positively affect their world. Discussion then moved to the vision statement. Trustee Nick Wells, director of the college endowment foundation, made a suggestion the board accepted, which was changing one sentence to say est quality education possible." The board approved the statement:



"Colby Community College will provide the highest quality education possible while promoting a life of study and service in

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Dragon capsule first in space station

ply ship is now part of the Interna- station. tional Space Station.

Space station astronauts captured the SpaceX Dragon capsule industry so it can focus on bigger, and then docked it to the orbiting complex today, gladly taking part in the historic event.

1,000 pounds of supplies. The astronauts will open it up Saturday.

SpaceX is the first private company to attempt such a feat. Un- on Tuesday.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. til now, only major governments (AP) – The first commercial sup- have sent spacecraft to the space

> NASA is turning over orbital supply missions to the commercial better objectives, like sending crews to Mars.

The billionaire mastermind The unmanned Dragon holds behind SpaceX, Elon Musk, described the day's events as "just awesome." His company launched the Dragon from Cape Canaveral

However, Thomas County Treasurer Donita Applebury said Thursday that not all of the problems are fixed yet though, in Colby at least, things are im-

By Kayla Cornett

said Wednesday.

proving. In some larger counties, delays of five to six hours were reported last week by the Associated Press. The "routine maintenance" over the weekend bogged the system down Monday and Tuesday.

Long waits plague Wichita

Christie McKaig said she continued for three hours until thought she could get her driv- McKaig got a text shortly beer's license renewed in an hour fore 3 p.m. telling her the wait Tuesday in Wichita, but found the wait to be much longer.

Reed. The office, along with offices across Kansas, has been

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Problems with a new comput-

er system that caused long lines

for Kansas vehicle registrations

and titles have been fixed, Sec-

retary of Revenue Nick Jordan

She received text messages from the county driver's license office throughout the day, updating her status in line. The text message system is a relatively new service that allows people to leave but keep their more than one (driver's license place in line.

McKaig's first text came at she told the newspaper. 11:18 a.m., saying her wait would be 127 minutes. Updates

In Kansas, county treasurers, vehicle transactions. Applebury not the state, handle most motor said treasurers from all the

counties had a conference call Thursday morning with state officials. Jordan told them the problems that jammed the system Monday and Tuesday had been cleared up, but other issues keep cropping up that the state is trying to resolve as the appear.

"So far, today and yesterday we're running pretty smooth," Applebury said. "If something happens, we can e-mail Nick (Jordan) and they will start working on it as soon as possible."

One issue she said the Thomas County office has been experiencing is when someone is transferring a vehicle tag, and the names have

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Kansas state parks ready for big weekend

WICHITA (AP) - Kansas algae in lakes at the state parks ing for a strong turnout this Meparks department an economic boost after toxic algae contriblast year's holiday weekend.

er and absence of the blue-green since about the first of April."

parks officials have been hop- have given staff plenty of time to prepare for the first big summorial Day weekend to give the mer weekend, The Wichita Eagle reported (bit.ly/KG5owW).

"Park's ready. We're ready," uted to a dismal show during said Ryan Stucky, manager of Cheney State Park. "We've had But this spring's mild weath- six mowers going every day

Lawmaker subpoenaed in probe

By John Hanna

AP Statehouse Correspondent

TOPEKA - A Kansas House member said today that he's been subpoenaed by a county prosecutor investigating private meetings Gov. Sam Brownback had with legislators at his official residence.

Rep. Scott Schwab, an Olathe Republican, told the Associated Press that he received a subpoena Thursday ordering him to appear June 7 at the Shawnee County Courthouse. Schwab was angry about being summoned to answer

any of the gatherings.

Shawnee County District Attorney Chad Taylor, a Democrat, is investigating seven meetings the Kansas Open Meetings Act. Republican governor had in January at Cedar Crest, the governor's official residence. Brownback invited members of 13 legislative committees, with all but one of the invited lawmakers being Republicans.

immediately return a telephone committee membership. The one message seeking comment. The Democrat who was invited has

questions, calling it "beyond ri- gating the meetings since Februdiculous" because he wasn't at ary and has yet to announce any findings. Brownback has said repeatedly that he's confident none of the gatherings violated the

would be 14 more minutes.

"I don't think I've ever wait-

ed longer than an hour before,"

McKaig told The Wichita Eagle.

She said she ran errands with

her daughter, ate lunch and sat

in her car during the long wait.

station) for 350,000 people,"

"I think the solution is to have

-Associated Press

Schwab said he has told Taylor's office repeatedly that he did not attend the two gatherings to cism that the gatherings were which he was invited.

Brownback invited more than 90 of the state's 165 legislators to the dinner gatherings in January Taylor's spokesman did not at Cedar Crest, grouping them by district attorney has been investi- said she assumed it was a mistake

and didn't attend.

The governor acknowledged in March that he set up the meetings to discuss his agenda for this year's legislative session, did 'most of the talking" and took questions and comments.

However, he's dismissed critibusiness meetings, and many lawmakers who attended them have described them repeatedly as social gatherings.



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Linda Murray (left) helped Gary Guard at the Thomas County experiencing some issues and glitches due to a new statetreasurer's office Friday while Tammy Fulton helped Richard wide computer system installed earlier this month.

Some renewal issues resolved