

Weather

Family wins award

From "AWARD," Page 1

Farm Bureau meetings," he said, "and I've been to Washington and made a couple of trips to Manhattan."

He has been involved in the organization since about 2000. One of his favorite activities was working on the state resolutions committee, which comes up with policies.

"It's the debate part of it," he said, "trying to come up with things to help farmers do what they need to do without a lot of government interference."

He first served on the county Farm Bureau board. Since then, he said, he has been on the state feed grains and natural environmental resources committees, which are also affiliated with the Farm Bureau. Near his map hangs a picture of him with U.S. Sen. Jerry Moran.



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

The Rundel family was recognized as a Century Farm Family at the Thomas County Farm Bureau Association's annual meeting Aug. 14. Betty Rundel and her grandson Case stood up front holding a sign they received, with daughter-in-law Nancy and son Tom behind them.

"I like all the people in farm bureau," he said. "They're all neighbors and it's a small enough community you kind of know most people."

The Stramels can also say that they have earned the award based on their farming operation.

Their place includes about a

half dozen buildings and grain bins, the biggest three of which, Bert said, can hold about sixty thousand bushels of corn each. The crops planted on the land are divided among corn, wheat and fallow land.

Bert said he also raises soybeans and a few cattle. The family bought the land in parcels.

The bulk of it he got around 2004 from his parents, who had owned it since the early 1960s.

"That's what I've always wanted to do, and it's what my family's always done," he said. "It's gratifying to watch - you plant a crop and then watch it grow."

Colby native helped by program mentor

From "MENTOR," Page 1

the importance of being honest and respectful and taught me the many things that Mom couldn't teach me. That ... helped me relate to the guys at school. It helped me make friends and be confident to be social and get involved."

That sociability followed Schmidt to college, when he was elected 2011 senior class president at Panhandle State and named the university's Ag Business Student of the Year.

"Now I'm a financial representative, and I'm helping people plan for their retirement and the unexpected," he said. "I help people meet their financial needs and I really enjoy it. I want to give back and help people; it's something instilled in me by Brian."

Schmidt explained that his success in the

program can't be attributed just to Gustin. He said his mother stayed involved and talked often with his Big. She shared her worries and Brian shared their conversations. Their contact, Schmidt says, helped his mom stay involved with his life.

For his brother, Schmidt said the Bigs in School program was the best thing. This gives high school students an opportunity to eat lunch at school with a younger child who may be struggling socially or at home.

"It gave someone to just hang out with Steve and eat lunch with him when he would have had to eat lunch by himself," said Schmidt. "Other kids started thinking Steve was cool because this older high school basketball player would come all the way to just hang with him...."

"It doesn't take a lot of time or a lot of money to remind a kid that there's people

out there who actually care about them and want them to succeed.

"Brian took me on a weekend trip two times a year. He gave me my first hunting trip and my first boat fishing trip. You could give a kid two weekends a month and two evenings a month. Even just one visit a week is big enough to make a kid feel normal and to fill a void."

Schmidt said he isn't a Big yet, but hopes to get matched with a Little in about two years when his new job becomes a little more stable in his life.

To learn how to get involved in a kid's life, contact Romine at 950 S. Franklin, Colby, Kan. 67701, (785) 460-9125 or oromine@kansasbigs.org. Go to www.kansasbigs.org, e-mail volunteer@ksbbs.org or call (888) KS4-BIGS for information about other mentoring programs.

Hurricane spins into New Orleans on slow slog

From "SPIN," Page 1

said.

Two police officers had to be rescued by boat after their car became stuck.

Rescuers were waiting for the strong winds to die down before

moving out to search for other people.

"The winds are too strong and the rain too strong," Plaquemines Parish spokeswoman Caitlin Campbell said.

Water driven by the large and powerful storm flooded over an

18-mile stretch of one levee in Plaquemines Parish. The levee, one of many across the low-lying coastal zone, is not part of the new defenses constructed in New Orleans after Katrina.

Isaac was packing 75 mph winds today, making it a Category

1 hurricane. It came ashore at 7:45 p.m. (Eastern Time) Tuesday with 80 mph winds near the mouth of the Mississippi River, driving a wall of water nearly 11 feet high inland and soaking a neck of land that stretches into the Gulf.

Three crashes, six injured in Thomas, Gove

From "CRASHES," Page 1

All three were wearing their seat belts, the patrol reported.

An accident at 1:45 p.m. Tuesday, three miles northeast of Grainfield, sent a man

who was not wearing a seat belt to the hospital, possibly with worse injuries.

Mark Hudson, 40, of Perryton, Texas, missed the corner to make his turn off of K-23 and drove another mile to the north to turn around. When he backed his tractor-

trailer rig across the highway, the trailer entered the southeast ditch and the vehicle rolled onto the driver's side. Hudson was taken to Gove County Medical Center, where no information was available on his condition as of noon on Wednesday.

National Weather Service

Tonight: Clear, with a low around 59. Breezy, with a south wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Thursday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 98. Breezy, with a southwest wind 10 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 61. South wind 10 to 15 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 92. South wind 5 to 15 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 62.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 91.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 65.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 94.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 67.

Labor Day: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 92.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 67.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 92.

Monday: High, 93; Low 62

Tuesday: High, 97; Low 57

Precip: Monday None

Tuesday None

Month: 1.32 inches

Year: 10.13 inches

Normal: 0.00 inches

(K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset

Thursday 7:11 a.m. 8:17 p.m.

Moon: waxing, 99 percent

(U.S. Naval Observatory)

Colby Water Use

Monday 1,960,000 gal.

Tuesday 2,407,000 gal.

(Colby Public Works)

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Table with 11 columns (Time slots) and 14 rows (Channels) for Thursday Evening August 30, 2012.

Friday Evening August 31, 2012. Includes a grid of TV listings and an advertisement for American Profile magazine.

Briefly

Landfill to close for Labor Day weekend

The Thomas County Landfill will close at noon Saturday and reopen at 9 a.m. Tuesday for the Labor Day weekend. For information, call landfill supervisor Larry Jumper at 462-8139.

Colby sanitation trucks will not run Monday because of the holiday. These routes will be picked up Tuesday. Tipper cans should be at the curb by 8 a.m. For information, call the Public Works Department at 460-4420.

Flu clinic planned at 4-H Building Sept. 25

Flu shots will be given for anyone who wants one from 2 to 5:45 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25, in the Thomas County 4-H Building. Cost is \$25; bring cash, a check or a copy of your insurance card. Everyone will need to complete and print an online consent form, found at thomascountyks.com. Help is available at the clinic during the flu shot. For information, call the flu line at 460-4599 or Angie Gaede at 460-4596.

Pet ready for adoption at Colby Animal Clinic

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a 12-week-old Siamese mixed male cat available for adoption. Lost or strayed animals are often brought to the clinic. Call or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have current shots, and costs are minimal. For questions, call 460-8621.

College lecture series to feature Colby native

Colby native Dr. Mark Hansen will speak at 7 p.m. next Wednesday at the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center at Colby Community College for the first Dr. Max Pickerill Lecture of the year. His free talk will be, "Coming Together or Coming Apart: America and the 2012 Election." For information, call Dr. Linda Davis-Stephens at (785) 460-5528.

Wesleyan church plans study sessions

The Colby Wesleyan Church invites women to an eight-week Beth Moore Bible study, "Mercy Triumphs," on the man and the book of James, Jesus' brother, who started out as a skeptic. Sessions will run on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the church, 320 W. Pine, or from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m. at the Pioneer Memorial Library beginning next week. For information, call Joy Rotherfuss at 462-8391 or e-mail wesleyan@st-tel.net.

New players sought for first rehearsal

The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra would welcome new players at a session Monday, Sept. 10, at the Colby Community College band room in the Cultural Arts Center on campus. A "meet and greet" at 7 p.m. with light refreshments will precede a rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. If you're interested in playing but don't have an instrument, some may be available. For information, call Mary Shoaff at (785) 462-2159 or Janet Hopson at (785) 462-5102.