



Holiday to close businesses

As Labor Day weekend approaches, workers in the Colby area are planning a long weekend. Many businesses and government offices are taking Monday off. Here is a list of who will be closed:

Gas stations and most restaurant will be open, including Oasis/Petro Travel Center, Casey's General Store, Love's Country Store and 24/7 Travel Shoppe.

For restaurants, McDonalds, J&B Meat Market, Subway, Arby's, Pizza Hut, Taco John's, Village Inn, El Dos de Oros, Starbucks and Sonic will all be open. City Limits Convention Center will be closed, and Gambino's Pizza and Montana Mike's are not open on Mondays.

Tubbs and Sons Ford Sales, Colby Dodge, P&D Auto and the Hi-Plains Co-op will be closed.

The Prairie Museum of Art and History and Colby Bowl and Fun Center will both be open.

The Colby Aquatic Park will be open from 1 to 7 p.m. Saturday through Labor Day, and will then close for the year.

Local government offices will be closed, including City Hall, the Colby Public Works Department, the Thomas County Courthouse, including the Thomas County Clerk's office and the District Court, and the Thomas County Office Complex.

The K-State Experiment Station, Veterans Affairs Office and Farm Service Agency will also be closed. The post office and driver's license exam station are not open on Mondays.

Colby Community College will be closed, along with the Colby, Golden Plains and Brewster school districts, Sacred Heart School and Heartland Christian School.

Area banks will be closed, including Bank West, People's State Bank, Sunflower Bank, The Bank and Farmer's and Merchant's Bank, both locations.

Walmart, Dillon's and Dollar General will be open. The pharmacy at Walmart will also be open, but Dillon's pharmacy will not. Palace Drug will be closed.

Gem grabs gusto



EVAN BARNUM/Colby Free Press
The Bugbee sisters (top) entertained the crowd Wednesday evening at the annual Gem Lions Hog Roast, a decades-old traditional final fling to the summer. Margie Flanagin (above) served cake to the crowd. Five hundred to 600 people showed up to the roast, including pets (above, right), while kids kept themselves entertained on the merry-go-round (right).



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press
A group of kids watched motorcycles lead the The World's Largest Truck Convoy up Range Avenue last year. Watch for the convoy again on Saturday, Sept. 7.

Truck convoy billed as World's Largest

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dinner – with 300 pounds of pork – cooked by employees at Modern Woodman of America.

“We’re hoping for a very large crowd Friday night,” said volunteer Joe Mentlick. “We hope maybe 400 or 500 people show up and have supper with us.”

Entertainment starts at the same time, with D.J. Paul Heskett providing the entertainment. Anyone can eat for a free-will donation. A special olympics basketball scrimmage starts at 7:30 p.m., and the “cruise night,” where vehicles will be cruising through town, starts at 8.

The fireworks show will start at dusk, weather permitting. Taz's Fireworks, a longtime sponsor.

The World's Largest Truck Convoy is coming through town again this year to benefit Special Olympics Kansas.

Registration for the convoy starts at 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 6. Registration for trucks is \$100, and they are automatically entered into the truck and motorcycle show the same day in the parking lot of Oasis travel center. It costs \$25 for all other vehicles to register for the convoy, which will also register them for the “cruise night” on Friday.

The money goes to Special Olympics Kansas. In Kansas, the convoy included 101 trucks and raised \$59,000 last year.

Awards will be given to trucks and motorcycles registered in the show. There will be a pulled-pork

Students satisfied; college could do more

By Heather Alwin
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Colby Community College students are generally satisfied with their school experience, according to a recent survey, but the school has some improvements to make.

The college scored below the study's top-performing schools in every measured area: active and collaborative learning, student effort, academic challenge, student-faculty interaction and support for

learners.

It scored above average in active and collaborative learning and student-faculty interaction, but below average in student effort, academic challenge and support for learners.

The survey, which is different from the graduate satisfaction survey the college got earlier, was for current students. It helps the school benchmark its progress to see changes over time and compare it with other similar schools, said Dr. Stephen Vacik, the college's president.

Student responses indicated they have better interactions with instructors than the average level among all the schools studied.

However, only 46.9 percent of students said they worked harder than they thought they could to meet an instructor's expectations, compared to the study's 53.6-percent average.

The school also received below-average ratings on student use of the computer lab, preparation for classes and discussions outside

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