



COLBY FREE PRESS

8 pages



Tree gets up close

SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

No one expected this tree (above) to fall over onto Jim Oliver's shed from the yard next door Friday afternoon. Mike Woofter, with some employees and other helpers, brought in a platform and crane to move the tree. Workers trimmed away branches so they could put straps around the tree, then attach those straps to a crane. After more trimming, they lifted the main trunk (right) off the shed (below).

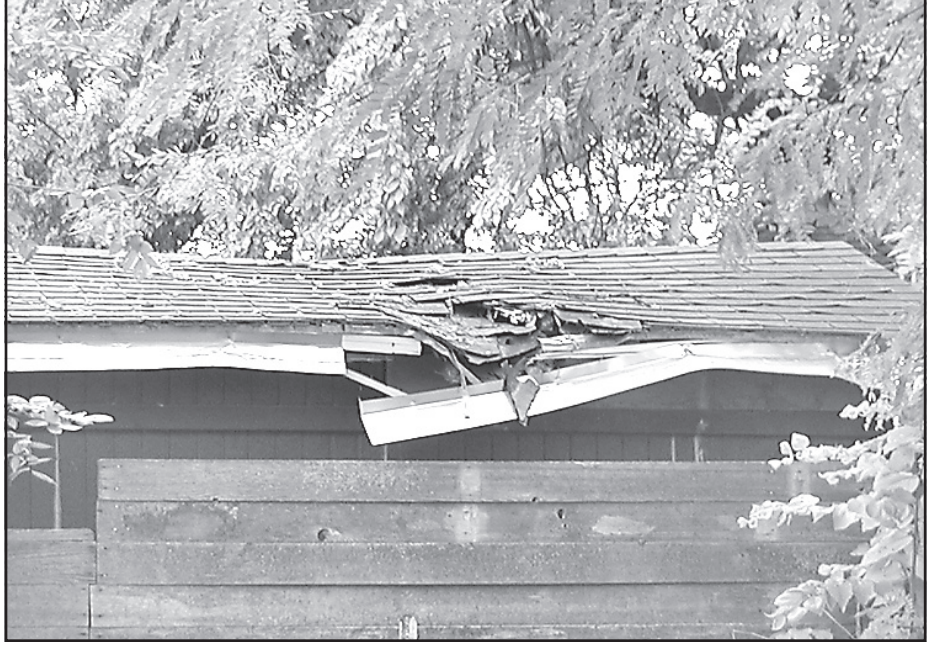


Exhibit showcases state scenes

The Prairie Museum of Art and History will present a free special exhibit welcoming Kansas photographer and videographer Audrey Kalivoda, opening with a reception at 1 p.m. Saturday and a presentation by the artist at 2 p.m.

Kalivoda will display her photographs of Kansas scenery and talk about the people she encountered while filming her documentary "Kansas: The Center of it All."

"Audrey's exhibit will consist of about 25 to 30 still photos highlighting scenic views of Kansas," said museum education director Ann Miner.

It will be on display through Monday, Dec. 30.

Kalivoda grew up on a farm near Brantford in Washington County, where she received her first box camera from her parents at age 6. The camera inspired a passion for still photography, and she has since captured scenes across the state.

In 2002, she branched into videography with her first documentary, "Texas' Palo Duro Canyon."

Kalivoda said she found video and its ability to capture sound, motion and stories quite addictive.



Audrey Kalivoda

"Kansas: The Center of it All" was completed in 2010 in anticipation of the state's 150th birthday in 2011. The 45-minute video explores the state's history, people and places.

"A 45-minute video meant that a huge number of the thousands of images and stories captured had to be left out," said Kalivoda.

Visitors can also enjoy the unveiling of new Christmas decorations and receive 10 percent off Christmas and fall décor items in the gift shop.

Halloween safety primary

Halloween can be a scary holiday, particularly when it comes to potential dangers to kids out on the street at night after dark.

On average, says Safe Kids Kansas, children are more than twice as likely to be killed in pedestrian accidents on Halloween night, and falls, burns and poisonings are also more frequent with Halloween festivities.

Colby Police Chief Ron Alexander encourages parents and kids to "stick to the basics" when trick or treating.

Alexander's tips include:

- Stay in groups rather than going anywhere alone.
- Choose a light-colored or reflective costume to increase visibility.
- Do not wear masks that keep you from seeing properly.

- Visit familiar houses.
- Parents should check over treats before letting children eat them.

Safe Kids Kansas offers additional tips, encouraging parents to accompany children younger than 12 and older children who may not be mature enough to without adult supervision.

Drivers can help keep kids safe by using extra caution on Halloween night.

"Safe Kids Kansas urges drivers to slow down and pay close attention on neighborhood roads to make Halloween more safe and enjoyable for everyone," said Director Cherie Sage.

"If you see vandalism or inappropriate mischief, please report it to the police department," said Alexander. "Have fun and be safe!"

Fort Hays grows; tuition stable

By Sam Dieter

Colby Free Press
sdieter@nwkanas.com

Dr. Edward Hammond, president of Fort Hays State University, talked with about 10 people here about plans for the future during a stop on his yearly tour at Meadow Lake Country Club.

He explained at the meeting Oct. 7 how the university is using low tuition to attract more students to Hays, who can save as much as

\$40,000 over four years, while a program in China is subsidizing education for Kansas students.

Hammond made the tour near the end of his 28-year tenure as president. On Wednesday, he announced that he will resign effective at the end of June.

"I'd like to bottle this and take it to Washington," Hammond said. "Western Kansas people are doers."

On an overhead projector, Hammond showed statistics from over the last five years

concerning the education at Fort Hays to the group of alumni association members and several people from the community.

The university, he said, was the fastest growing in the state over that time, giving out 46.8 percent more degrees and taking on 38.8 percent more students. The University of Kansas comes in second in growth, he said, with a 4.4 percent increase in the last five years.

The number of students from Kansas at Fort

See "TUITION," Page 2

Fire started in a vacuum

A dozen firefighters responded to a small apartment fire near the interstate Wednesday night in Colby.

The fire was in the Zelfer apartments, behind the Super 8 Motel west of Range Avenue. Assistant Fire Chief Sean Hankin said the fire started when a resident's old vacuum cleaner, stored in a closet next to a furnace, heated up and caught fire.

The department got the call at 7:35 p.m., Hankin said, and had finished working on the fire by 8:30. A dozen fire fighters, including himself, went to the scene with two firetrucks.

He said the resident helped the fire department out by putting most of the fire out and taking the badly-melted vacuum cleaner outside. That apartment was the only one with fire damage. However, about a dozen residents could be seen standing outside the building, waiting to go back in.



HEATHER ALWIN/Colby Free Press

A Colby firefighter walked toward Zelfer Apartments Wednesday night where a vacuum cleaner next to a furnace set off a small blaze.

Representative in Colby Monday

U.S. Rep. Tim Huelskamp plans a "town hall" meeting from 10 to 11 a.m. Monday at the Colby Community College Student Union Room 106.

The congressman will be in Hoxie from 8 to 9 a.m. at Oscar's restaurant downtown, and in Oakley from noon to 1 p.m. at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center on U.S. 83. Other area meetings will be at 2 p.m. in the city's community room in Quinter and at 4:30 p.m. at the courthouse in Dighton.

Rep. Huelskamp says he values the visits because they give him a chance to talk one-on-one with voters. When he took office in January 2011, his office notes, he promised to continue this tradition, established by his predecessors,

U.S. Sens. Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran, by holding a meeting in every county in the 1st District each year.

In the last two years, he has held at least one town hall in every county and he plans the same this year. Wednesday, Nov. 6, will mark a milestone, as Rep. Huelskamp holds his 200th town hall in Plainville.

"Town halls are a great opportunity to discuss the challenges facing our nation, and they give me an opportunity to listen to Kansans," he said.

