

Keeping fit



JAN KATZACKERMAN/Colby Free Press

Recent temperature of a mere 10 degrees outside Sheridan County Health Complex did not stop 94-year-old Chet Andgree from keeping up with his exercise program inside in the physical therapy department.

Hoxie clinic holding training

By Jan Katz Ackerman
Colby Free Press

Calling it the “Road to Wellness Begins with You,” staff members of the Hoxie Medical Clinic are sponsoring an exercise training class at 7 p.m. Jan. 25.

Available at no charge, Pam Popp, clinic manager, said the public is invited to attend the meeting

which will help people get 2007 started with a positive outlook on health care.

“Diabetes is epidemic right now in the United States and we are concerned about our youth and our older people,” Popp said.

The educational meeting will feature Kay Riedel, registered dietitian from WaKeeney, who will present information on weight manage-

ment.

“Coach Tom Friess and Coach Richard Stephens from Hoxie High School will give a presentation on basic exercise and strength training,” Popp said.

Using the premise that a person has to “take the first step to walk a block,” Popp said the clinic’s staff has volunteered to assist people who want to monitor their weight throughout the year.

“We’d be willing for people to come here to use the scales, have their blood pressure taken and to talk to Kaylee or Dr. France,” Popp said.

Hoxie Medical Clinic is staffed by Dr. John France, Nurse Practitioner Kaylee Watkins, as well as Rhonda Farber, a licensed practical nurse; Leanna Sloan, receptionist; and Popp.

Sheridan County Health Complex is located at 826 18th St. in Hoxie. Anyone attending the meeting is asked to enter by using the west entrance of the Long Term Care Unit, which is adjacent to the conference room where the meeting will take place.

State treasurer releases her legislative agenda

By Lynn Jenkins
Kansas State Treasurer

TOPEKA — Kansas State Treasurer Lynn Jenkins, CPA, announced her legislative agenda for the 2007 session. The state treasurer’s office will focus its efforts on issues in its Unclaimed Property and 529 Education Savings Programs. Jenkins, a strong proponent of financial literacy, will also propose a bill that will offer tax breaks to people who save money.

“I will present a bill that proposes that the first \$100 in interest income, or \$200 for joint-filers, will be exempt from taxation,” Jenkins said. “During my time as state treasurer, I have traveled the state promoting financial literacy. This bill shows Kansans that saving money is important, not only for their long-term financial health, but also for the state’s.”

Unclaimed property legislation
“My office will introduce a bill that will pay interest on interest-bearing unclaimed property accounts,” State Treasurer Jenkins said. “We are introducing this legislation, because paying Kansans the interest they are owed is the right thing to do.”

The legislation would amend the Unclaimed Property Act to allow the State Treasurer’s office to pay interest on property claimed that was originally reported to the office as an interest-bearing account. The legislation will affect only savings accounts and certificates of deposit.

Currently, the interest earned on these types of accounts is retained by the state and incorporated into the State General Fund.

On average the amount of interest that will be paid to Kansans each year if this legislation is passed is estimated to be less than \$100,000.

“Paying interest to the property owners would not put an undue burden on the state,” State Treasurer Jenkins said.

Unclaimed property includes inactive savings and checking accounts, uncashed checks, stock shares and bonds, dividend checks, insurance proceeds, mineral royalties, utility deposits, and safe deposit box contents. The Kansas

State Treasurer’s office receives property from businesses and state and local governments and actively searches for Kansans to reconnect them with their lost or forgotten property and cash.

During the last fiscal year, a record amount of unclaimed property — more than \$11 million — was returned to Kansans by the Kansas State Treasurer’s office. The average annual amount returned is \$8 million.

Searching for and claiming unclaimed property is easy. Visit www.KansasCash.com or call 1-800-432-0386.

Education Savings Program
“Encouraging more Kansans to invest in a 529 plan for their loved one’s post-secondary education is one of my top priorities,” State Treasurer Jenkins said. “To offer more incentive, legislation will be proposed that will double the amount families can deduct from their taxes.”

Current law allows Kansas taxpayers to receive a state adjusted gross income deduction of up to \$3,000 (\$6,000 if married filing jointly) per beneficiary for contributions made to their 529 education savings account.

If passed, the legislation will raise these deductible amounts to \$6,000 and \$12,000 deductions respectively.

“The increased deductions are more in line with the majority of other states that offer 529 tax deductions,” State Treasurer Jenkins said.

Changing date of deadline
“The end of the calendar year is a difficult financial time for most Kansas families,” State Treasurer Jenkins said. “Families have the holidays to pay for and many find it difficult to make a year-end contribution to their 529 plans.”

A bill will be introduced to lessen the burden by extending the deadline for making deductible contributions to April 15 of the following year, not Dec. 31 of that year.

“In addition to moving the deadline away from the holidays, this timing will better coincide with the timeline used by IRA investors which is familiar to many taxpayers,” Jenkins said.

Public Notice

Public Notice

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 25-2018 (b), notice is hereby given that a General Election will be held on April 3, 2007, and a Primary, if necessary, on February 27, 2007 to fill the positions listed on the City Council for various cities:

Oakley – Three (3) Council positions

Menlo – Mayor position
Five (5) Council positions


Brewster – Mayor position
Two (2) Council positions

Gem – Mayor position
Two (2) Council positions

Colby – Mayor position
Four (4) Council positions
Ward 1
Ward 2
Ward 3
Ward 4

Rexford – Mayor position
Five (5) Council positions

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of my office this 16th day of January 2007.


Shelly A. Harms, County Clerk/Election Officer
Thomas County, Kansas

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