

# Happy Independence Day

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# Lots to do in town for Fourth of July

By Kevin Bottrell and Vera Sloan

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Whether you're coming in from out of town or staying home for the weekend, Colby will have plenty of entertainment for your Fourth of July weekend.

The Colby Kiwanis Club will sponsor the fireworks display again this year, with the Colby Fire Department handling the show itself. The show will start after dark, about 10 to 10:15 p.m.

The department will shoot off the

fireworks from the arena at the Thomas County Fairgrounds. Parts of the arena will be off limits to viewers for safety.

The National Weather Service is predicting thunderstorms over the weekend, a Fourth of July present from Tropical Storm Alex. Assistant Fire Chief Sean Hankin said if it rains, the department may postpone the show to Monday night.

"As long as it's not pouring and the mortars aren't filling up with water, we should be OK," he said.

According to the Colby Police Department, citizens can shoot off fireworks between 8 a.m. and 11 p.m. from Thursday

to Sunday in the city limits. Shooting fireworks off in the street is prohibited; citizens should be on their own property.

Rockets on a wire or stick such as bottle rockets are prohibited by state law.

The Thomas County Sheriff's Office said there are no specific regulations outside the city limits. County residents are allowed to shoot off fireworks on their property as long as there is no fire ban in effect.

Besides fireworks, the High Plains Lions Club will hold their annual Hot Dog and Watermelon Feed starting at 7 p.m. in the 4-H Building at the Thomas County

Fairgrounds. There will be bingo, a jewelry raffle and entertainment.

At the feed, the *Colby Free Press* will hold a Cointest. Participants will choose either heads or tails and break into the two groups. One of the moderators will flip a coin; the winning side will move on to the next round and choose heads or tails.

Kids and adults of all ages are welcome to play. Participants will compete for \$234 – in honor of the nation's 234th birthday – in presidential \$1 coins.

It's a hit or miss for businesses that will be closed and those who will be open for business as usual on Monday.

All city, county, and federal offices will be closed on Monday because the holiday falls on Sunday, which would normally find those businesses closed.

Banks will take a holiday on Monday.

The Senior Progress Center will be closed and there will be no delivery of Meals on Wheels. Family Center for Health Care and Colby Medical and Surgical Center will be open.

Orschelns will be open and the implementation dealers will be open, as will Truck Town and the Harvest Office. S&W Supply will be closed.

## Wheat harvest keeps rolling along



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

Combines, such as this one in a field south of Colby, are a common sight this time of year. The Colby Harvest Office reports more than 80 crews are in town, helping farmers all over the county get their fields cut. Drivers should stay alert for farm equipment on county and city roads and should exercise caution when passing.

## Mom plans Denver move to help ailing daughter

Hannah Bomba was a normal 9-year-old, beautiful, energetic and smart.

On the Fourth of July, 2006, she fell asleep on the living room floor with a fever and woke up with a rash from head to toe. She was lethargic, barely able to walk or make sense when she tried to speak, and she still had the fever.

"The next few months were a haze of doctors and hospitals," said her mother, Lisa. "The doctors said she may not live and, if she did, she may have to be tubed, in a wheelchair and unable to communicate."

Hannah spent two and a half months in and out of a coma in intensive care, on breathing machines and being fed through tubes. She suffered uncontrollable seizures, psychosis and severe reactions to medication.

A virus had gone into her brain, Lisa said, and made it swell within

## Family holds garage sale for Colorado relocation

To help cut down on things they have to move and to raise money for expenses, the Bomba family will have a garage sale from 2-6 p.m. today and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at 1018 Court Terrace.

The Colby Berean Church youth group will also hold bake sale at the same location to benefit the family.

For information, call Lisa Bomba at (785) 269-7291.

her skull. This caused Hannah's seizures as well as brain damage. It affected the way she learns and processes information and after the coma she had to relearn simple things such as how to hold up her head, walk, talk and swallow.

Hannah had surgery to implant a device in her shoulder that gives her small electric shocks in an ef-

fort to control the seizures, Lisa said, but it didn't fully work. She still has up to 32 seizures a month.

Lisa said Hannah's memory was also affected, and only came back slowly. The girl would have flashbacks and panic attacks as the

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## Colby High School artist gets award in New York City

By Aubrey Spencer

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It is not everyday that a student from Colby gets the opportunity to receive a national art award in New York City. But for Ashley Standage, upcoming Colby High School senior and art student, a trip to the Big Apple was a recent reality.

Standage, daughter of Bob and Krystal Standage of Colby, was honored with a Gold Medal, a National Scholastic Art and Writing Award, on June 9, at Carnegie Hall in New York City, for her batik, "Colorado Waterfall." Colby High's art teacher, Donna Roberts, made the trip to New York where she was also honored with a Gold Medal, for having a student who earned a national award.

More than 165,000 works of art and writing were submitted to regional programs of the Scholastic Awards this year. Approximately 11,000 earned Gold Keys, the top regional honor. Standage earned her Gold Key in February at the Western Kansas Scholastic Art Show in Montezuma. She received an American Vision Award, best in category, for her batik. This qualified her artwork to

be sent to New York to be judged for nationals, where she earned a Gold Medal.

Standage said she created her batik, a process of dyeing fabrics with wax resists to get color, from a photograph she had taken of a waterfall in Colorado. She actually entered the photo in the Kansas State Fair last year, through 4-H, where it was chosen to be part of a traveling photography display for a year in various locations all over the state. Standage said the art piece took her close to three months to complete.

"It was a complicated design," Roberts said. "She did a really good job."

Roberts said that Standage was her only student this year to win at the national level. And, although the teacher has had students win four out of the last five years, this was her first year to travel to New York to attend the ceremony, she said.

"It was an awesome experience. I'm so glad we went," Roberts said.

"I am very proud of Ashley and it was wonderful to see her acknowledged on stage at Carnegie Hall and to see her work displayed in the World

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## Briefly

### Diplomas still available at office

Diplomas, transcripts and miscellaneous items for the Colby High School Class of 2010 are available for pickup at the administration building, 600 W. Third Street. For information, call the district office at 460-5000.

### Church plans video concert

The Colby Berean Church will hold a Gaither Homecoming video concert at 6 p.m. Sunday at the church. The patriotic concert is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For information, call the church office at 460-1968.

### Pets available for adoption

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a 1/2-year-old male chocolate lab and two 6-week-old tiger-striped kittens 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.

### Heartland selling fireworks

Heartland Christian School will be selling fireworks at the Colby Livestock parking lot on Country Club Drive from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. through Sunday. All proceeds will go to the school. For information, call Ronda Myers at 462-7727 or 443-1384.

### Museum plans family show

The Prairie Museum of Art and History will put up a special exhibit from Sunday to Saturday, July 10, featuring brief histories and photos of the Carpenter and Owens families of Thomas County. Paintings and porcelain dolls made by Pearl Carpenter will be

on display, as well as a family signature friendship quilt. The public is invited to an opening reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday at the museum. For information, call 460-4590.

### No trash pickup Monday

The City of Colby Sanitation Department will not pick up trash routes on Monday because of the Fourth of July holiday. Monday's residential route will be picked up on Tuesday. Have your tipper cans to the curb by 8 a.m. For information, call the Public Works Department at (785) 460-4420.

### Move cars for street sealing

The City of Colby Street Department will be sealing the following streets next Thursday: Lue Drive, Brookside Drive, Eighth Street and Lynn Drive all east of Thompson Avenue, weather permitting. Have

your vehicles off the streets starting at 8 a.m. that day. For information, call Chris Bieker at Public Works at (785) 460-4420.

### Picnic, music Wednesday

Colby's Picnic in the Park lunch-and-concert series continues at noon Wednesday at Fike Park with entertainment by Chace McNinch, Steven Kerksiek, Brock Wagoner, and Bryan and Austin Scheideman. For information, call the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce at 460-3401 or the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau at 460-7643.

