



# COLBY FREE PRESS

8 pages

## Music, food planned for 125th party

By Kevin Bottrell

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Things are ramping up as Thomas County gets closer and closer to its 125th birthday.

125th Committee member Leilani Thomas said the committee has finalized some of the details for its Oct. 9 celebration at the Colby Community Building.

The celebration begins at 9 a.m. with the judging of the Beard and Bonnet Contest. The contest, which challenges Thomas County men and women to come up with unique, distinguished or unusual beards and bonnets, has been running all year. Winners will get Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce gift certificates. The

American Association of University Women will be selling coffee, juice and muffins.

At 10 a.m. the opening ceremony will start with a performance by the Colby Community College band – joined by other county residents – and a flag ceremony by area National Guard members. Committee President Mike Baughn will introduce the elected officials in the audience. Everyone from Gov. Mark Parkinson on down has been invited. Thomas said Parkinson will not be attending, but has sent a letter that Baughn will read during the ceremony.

The ceremony will include a performance by the Thomas County

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## Get flu shots Tuesday at clinic

The Thomas County Health Department is reminding the public of the mass flu clinic from 2 to 7 p.m. at the Thomas County 4-H Building located at the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

People wanting to participate in the flu clinic should have payment or a copy of insurance card available; wear loose fitting clothing and, if possible, present the consent form

Consent forms are available online at [www.thomascountyks.com](http://www.thomascountyks.com) under the health department tab. The forms can be printed out and brought to the health department to avoid wait time, and are available at the clinic.

Vaccine is available in injection and flumist forms. The cost is \$25.

For questions, call the flu information line at (785) 460-4599.

## Hospital gets big gift for therapy expansion

The Citizens Foundation has received a \$10,000 cash gift from the Garvey Texas Foundation to help upgrade physical therapy facilities at Colby's hospital.

"We will use the much appreciated gift to meld the old physical therapy department into the newly constructed therapy addition at Citizens Medical Center," said Tama Unger, foundation director.

Unger said the addition, under construction for several months, is designed to enhance and improve

services to patients. She said part of the addition will resemble a fitness lab.

"We have also received a donation for equipment that will fit on the wall to help wheel-chair-bound clients get the exercise they so desperately need for different muscle groups," she said.

Occupational therapy will also have a new home in the addition, along with room for a charting area and new therapy equipment.

## Travelling memorial to stop in area Thursday

By Carolyn Plotts

The Norton Telegram

A traveling replica of the Vietnam Memorial is coming to north-west Kansas this week.

"The Moving Wall," a half-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, will be in Norton from Thursday to Monday.

The Moving Wall visits hundreds of small towns and cities throughout the United States, staying five or six days at each site. Local arrangements are made months in advance. A sponsoring organization is needed to make the local arrangements for placement and security.

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## Briefly

### Coach plans fitness camp

Colby High School boy's tennis coach Matt Ludwick plans to start a fitness camp for adults. An informational meeting for the camp will begin at 8 p.m. Monday at the Colby United Methodist Church. For information, call Ludwig at 462-2271.

### Legion has answers for vets

The Colby American Legion will offer a session for all veterans and families who want to learn more about veterans benefits at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Village Inn. The session is part of the American Legion-Veterans Affairs Tour, including state and district Legion officers. For information, call Charles Yunker at (785) 232-9315.

### County office to close Tuesday

The Thomas County treasurer's office will close

Tuesday so the staff can attend motor vehicle registration training. The office will resume normal hours Wednesday. For information, call the office at 460-4520.

### College club plans art sale

The Colby Community College Art Club is planning an art sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday in the kiva area of the Bedker Memorial Complex. All of the art is from college students. Money from the sale will help pay for the club's trip to Chicago at the end of September. For information, call Rebel Jay at 460-5459.

### Foundation plans reception

Thomas County Community Foundation is sponsoring a "Business After 5" reception at 5 p.m. Thursday at The Loft, 700 Horton Ave., second floor

of the Oasis Travel Center. For information, call the foundation at 460-9152.

### Picnic for families at the park

Experts say the more often kids eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use drugs, so the Thomas County Coalition plans a Family Day picnic from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 27, at Fike Park. The celebration will include the Jazz Band and Sunflower Singers from Colby Community College. Cake, popcorn, drinks and child car safety seat checks will be provided. Bring a picnic supper and a blanket for you and your family. For information, call 460-8177.

### County band looking for players

Anyone who plays an instrument is welcome to join the Colby Community College band for a per-

formance at the Thomas County 125th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, Oct. 9. The rehearsal schedule will be announced. For information, call Tony Schroer at 460-5519.

### You could help sing out 125th

Singers from all over Thomas County can join the Thomas County 125th Anniversary choir, which will perform at the celebration at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 9, at the Colby Community Building. Practices will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday and Sept. 28 and Oct. 5 at the Colby United Methodist Church. For information, call Jan Wolf at 460-3535.



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

## Memory walkers brave cold weather to bring awareness

About 20 people showed up in the rain and fog Saturday for the Alzheimer's Memory walk. The walkers did a quick lap of Fike Park (above) before having refreshments. Kathy Sikes (right), program director for the central and western Kansas office of the Alzheimer's Association recognized all those who have been affected by Alzheimer's Disease, including victims and their families, before the walk. The group met in the park (below) before the walk and launched balloons. Sikes said similar Alzheimer's walks have been taking place around the region, with some coming up in Hutchinson, Wichita and Garden City. The goal of the events is to raise awareness of the disease, she said.

