



8 pages

# COLBY FREE PRESS

75¢

Monday

April 18, 2011  
Volume 122, Number 61  
Serving Thomas County since 1888

## Helping clear the field



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

The Colby High School baseball team helped clear snow off the Colby recreation fields Saturday after a spring storm Thursday night left drifts and puddles all over town. Two softball fields

were in good enough condition for the college softball tournament this weekend, but the main softball field and the baseball field still needed work. The high school baseball team is sched-

uled to play on the field at 4 p.m. today against Goodland and the softball team at 4 p.m. Tuesday against Hays.

# Test drive cars to raise money for district

By Kevin Bottrell

Colby Free Press  
kbottrell@nwkansan.com

A Colby car dealership is trying to get another \$6,000 out of Ford Motor Co. for Colby schools, this time to help pay for a new concession stand and locker rooms at Dennen Field, home to the Eagles football team.

For the second year, Tubbs and Sons Ford Sales is participating in Ford's Drive One 4UR School event, which challenges dealerships around the country to get as many test drives in one day as they can.

Owner Mike Tubbs said the event will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday at the dealership, 810 S. Range. Anyone over 18 with a valid driver's license can come in and test drive a car. Tubbs said the dealership

would have about 10 cars available, everything from pickups to hybrids.

Ford donates \$20 for every test drive up to 300.

"That's the magic number for Ford to give us the \$6,000," Tubbs said.

Last year's event drew more than 400 test drivers, he said. Money from that event went to several areas at the Colby Public Schools, including athletics and

music. With that success, Tubbs applied again for the next program. The dealership was chosen for a second round, but this time he opted to donate the money to the Colby High Booster Club. Tubbs said he doesn't know what Ford's selection criteria is, but he suspected that the dealership's success in the last event helped it's chances.

Tubbs said there are only a few oppor-

tunities to get large corporations to invest in small towns

"And all you have to do is drive a car," he said.

Tubbs said the event is also good for his dealership. Even though the last one didn't result in additional sales, he said, it got his business more exposure.

See "TEST DRIVE," Page 3

## Tree Board plans Arbor Day event at Colby College

By Kevin Bottrell

Colby Free Press  
kbottrell@nwkansan.com

The Colby Tree Board is planning an Arbor Day celebration next week at Colby Community College.

The event will be at 1 p.m. Friday, April 29, on the west side of campus by the flag poles, where people can see the trees the board planted along Range Avenue last year. If the weather turns bad, board member Marvin Bickner said, the event will be held in the

multipurpose room at the student union.

Bickner said there will be a short talk on Arbor Day, followed by a review of the board's range project and a demonstration of how trees are pruned to keep them healthy. All but two of the 90 trees planted along the main street are doing well, he said. The board also recently planted two new trees at Fike Park and 13 at the Colby recreation fields at the northwest edge of town.

See "ARBOR DAY," Page 3

## Groups hold meetings on planned walking trail

Four area groups will reveal their plan for a walking trail through Colby at meetings today and Tuesday.

The plan, developed by the Thomas County Coalition, the Wellness Committee, the Multipurpose Activity Center committee and the city, calls for a paved trail for residents to walk or bike through town.

The first meeting will be from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. today at the Colby United Methodist Church. The second will be from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Pioneer Memorial Library.

Refreshments will be served and door prizes given out. For information, call Karen Merryman at 460-8177.



CYNTHIA HAYNES/Colby Free Press

## Chamber members wine and dine Saturday

Outgoing Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce President Jim McLaughlin (left) of Prairie Land Insurance pulled raffle tickets from a jar during the centerpiece give away at the chamber's annual banquet Saturday at City Limits Convention Center. Brock Wagoner (above, left), Myles Engel and the Colby Community College jazz band provided the entertainment for the crowd of business people, elected officials and citizens.

## Briefly

### College band concert is Tuesday

The Colby Community College instrumental music department will hold its Spring Band Concert at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center on the southeast corner of campus. The free performance will include the Concert and Jazz bands. Everyone is invited. For information, call band director Tony Schroer at 460-5519.

### Churches offer Lenten series

Soup and Scripture, sponsored by the Thomas County Ministerial Alliance, starts at noon each Wednesday through Easter at Smoffee's in downtown Colby. Final speaker in the series for this week on "Who is This Jesus?" will be Craig Crossman, pastor of the Colby First Baptist Church. Cost for lunch is \$5. For information, call Jarrod Spencer at (785) 443-2403 or your pastor.

### Church plans egg hunt Saturday

The College Drive Assembly of God church will have its sixth annual Easter Egg Hunt for children up to age 10 from 1 to 2:15 p.m. Saturday on the church grounds at 245 W. College Drive. Kids under 5 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Sheets for a coloring contest will be distributed through the Colby, Brewster, Oakley and Winona schools, or can be picked up at the church office from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. this week. Prizes will include a bike for each age group. For information, call organizer Michelle Hillery at (785) 846-7688.

### Chickenpox shots available

The Thomas County Health Department will be offering chickenpox vaccinations for \$14 until the end of June for anyone ages 1 to 18. The department says anyone who did not have chickenpox after age

1 should get two doses. For information or to make an appointment, call 460-4596.

### Legion to serve breakfast

The Colby American Legion post will serve biscuits, gravy, hashbrowns and scrambled eggs from 7 to 11 a.m. Saturday at the post, 1850 W. Fourth St. Donations will be accepted. For information, call 462-3809.

### Head Start looking for kids

Head Start, a tuition-free preschool, is accepting applications for its 2011-2012 school year. The school accepts applications all year long for kids aged 3 and 4. For information, or to get an application, call 460-6067.

### Congressman to hold meeting

U.S. Rep. Tim Huelskamp will hold a town hall

meeting from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 28, at the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce office, 350 S. Range Ave. For information, call Huelskamp's office at (202) 225-2715.

### Foundation plans fun shoot

The Citizens Foundation will hold a benefit fun shoot at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, May 1, at the Colby Trap Club west of town. Registration includes food, 125 "rock," competition for all skill levels, prizes and gifts. Proceeds will go toward the purchase of medical equipment for the hospital and to the club. For more information, call Tama Unger at 460-1214 or Bob Luck at 462-0686.

