



COLBY FREE PRESS

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Thanks for everything



The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra performed the New World Symphony – First Movement on Sunday during a concert titled “These Are a Few of My Favorite Things” in the Frahm The-

atre of the Cultural Arts Center at Colby Community College. The group was conducted by Beverly Rucker and featured mezzo-soprano Bonnie Cameron as soloist.

KATHRYN BALLARD/Colby Free Press

Secretary to speak in Brewster

By Christina Beringer

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Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach will speak Saturday in Brewster on the Constitution and the Second Amendment.

A free wild game banquet, coordinated by Mike Pinkelman, will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Brewster school gymnasium, 127 Kansas Ave. Kobach will speak at 7:15.

For information or reservations, call Pinkelman, pastor of the Brewster Community Church, by Friday at (785) 694-2720.

Following the presentation, he said, people will be able to ask questions and talk with Ko-

bach.

Along with more standard fare, the menu includes deer, elk, moose, buffalo, caribou, Dall sheep, black bear, antelope, jack rabbit, cottontail, raccoon, alligator, pheasant, turkey, frog legs, carp, white bass and salmon, Pinkelman said.

Although the dinner is not a fund raiser or a political event, he said, donations will be taken to help cover the costs of the meat, especially the buffalo and alligator.

He said that people can bring a wild game dish if they like, although it is not necessary. Dishes should be brought by 6:15 p.m.

“Wild game banquets are not uncommon across America amongst hunters, although perhaps unique to this area,” said Pin-

kelman, “but it is a good opportunity to sample different wild meats and have some fun.”

Pinkelman said that as a pastor, he is concerned about the direction our nation is going.

“Kobach will hopefully give us a broader view of some of the issues that are confronting our nation, in respect to the Constitution and our personal lives,” he said. “... I will say that our nation’s problems – financial, political and social – are just a symptom of leaving God out of our lives.”

Kobach is most commonly known for his aggressive stand on immigration measures and his successful efforts to get a law passed requiring voters to show identification at the polls.

In addition, he is a strong supporter of the Second Amendment, which gives Americans the right to keep and bear arms.



Kris Kobach

Officers check out travelers

Colby police spent some time Monday sorting things out after officers stopped a car on Interstate 70 west of town, near the rest area, and questioned a man and a woman.

Sgt. Kent Dible said an officer had noticed the car near the Oasis Travel Center on South Range Avenue, just south of the Interstate exit, about 4:45 p.m. When he checked the tag, the national computer system returned a “hit” with a notation that a woman in the car might be there against her will.

The officer followed the car west on I-70, Dible said, waiting until others could catch up to him for backup. He stopped the car just short of the rest area, and the man and woman were taken into town.

The woman had been listed by police at home as “a missing person possibly in danger,” he said, adding that her sister apparently had called police in Salem, Ore., who entered the report in the National Crime Information Center.

“It was just a family member who thought it might be a problem,” he said.

With a listing like that, he said, officers have to check on the person’s welfare. Once they were convinced she was traveling with the man willingly, he said, the two were released to finish their trip.

“You never know,” Dible said. “That’s why we check it out. She was with her boyfriend.”

When the first officer made the stop, he added, the other on-duty city officer joined him, along with two deputies from the Thomas County Sheriff’s office.

Thanks for everything



Colby Community College women’s basketball coach Brady Jasper handed a flower bouquet and a poster to Morgan Rickwartz while Brooke Bursiek looked on during the Sophomore Night recognition last Wednesday at the Community Building. The Lady Trojans recognized four sophomores that night during their last home game.

KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

Auditors consult with board

By Kayla Cornett

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The Colby Community College trustees heard the results of the annual audit, done by Adams, Brown, Beran and Ball of Colby, during their monthly meeting Monday.

The report included mention that the college’s cash balances had gone down nearly half a million dollars over the year.

Brian Staats and Michelle Spence presented the firm’s findings to the board. Staats said the audit was performed by five people from the company’s Colby office, along with three from other offices that have expertise in this type of audit.

On the balance sheet of the financial statement, Staats noted that the college’s cash balance is down, and accounts receivable have decreased as well. The unrestricted net assets went from

\$800,000 at the beginning of the fiscal year to \$331,000 as of June 30.

On the statement of revenue, expenses and changes in net assets, Staats said, the college’s tuition and fees increased by \$158,000, total operating revenues increased by \$371,000, operating expenses increased by \$361,000 and overall nonoperating revenues decreased by \$122,000.

“So we’re not making a lot of progress,” Staats said. “We’re increasing revenues a little bit but we’re increasing expenses as well.”

In a section on compliance with state laws, the firm found that two funds had a cash violation, meaning the college had spent more money than was in the fund at year end, and that three funds had budget violations, meaning the college had exceeded spending authority. Staats said the overspend-

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KASIAH ROTHCHILD/Thomas County Health Department

Amy Knipp (left), a nurse with the Thomas County Health Department, with Amanda Wolf of Colby, who won the grand prize here in the state’s Immunize and Win a Prize program. Wolf arranged for daughter Tinsley, 17 months, to have all her shots before the age of 2.

Family wins \$400 ‘Immunize’ prize

Justin and Amanda Wolf of Colby won \$400 in utility bill credits from the “Immunize and Win a Prize” program.

The program is provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Envision Digital Print. It is offered to Vaccines for Children providers throughout the state.

Children who completed their primary vaccine series by the age of 2 last year were entered into a drawing and over 200 prizes were awarded to winners in all 105 Kansas counties. In addition, one grand prize winner was selected from each eligible vaccine provider.

The Wolfs won for successfully immunizing their daughter Tinsley, now 17 months.

Amy Knipp, a nurse at the Thomas County Health Department, said about 15 children from the county were entered in the drawing. She said the program will be offered again for 2012, but due to budget cuts, the prize has been lowered to \$200 in utility bill credits.

The Health Department says that it is important that all children under age 2 receive immunizations to prevent future illnesses and the program’s goal is to help protect Kansas children from preventable diseases.

State reaps \$29 million more than Feb. estimate

TOPEKA (AP) – A state agency says Kansas collected \$29 million more in taxes than anticipated in February.

The Department of Revenue said Wednesday the state collected more than \$261 million in February, about 12.6 percent more than the expected \$232 million.

Revenue Secretary Nick Jordan calls it a sign that the Kansas economy is recovering and more people are finding jobs.

Kansas was coming off a Janu-

ary in which a surge of early income tax filings led to an increase in total tax refunds and left revenues nearly \$31 million short of expectations.

But since the fiscal year began in July the picture has been positive. Tax collections in the first eight months of the fiscal year total nearly \$3.7 billion – about \$32 million more than expected.



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