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# COLBY FREE PRESS

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## Walk event sees many participants

More than 320 people attended Colby's second Walk to School Day on Oct. 3, led by Safe Routes to School and Smart Start Northwest Kansas coordinators.

Safe Routes Coordinator Megan Carmichael said participants included Colby Mayor Gary Adrian, law enforcement officers, Colby Schools Superintendent Terrel Harrison and Grade School Principal Lance Krannawitter, plus teachers, students from all over the district, parents, grandparents and others.

"(It) was a huge success," said Carmichael. "This was a great kickoff event to celebrate the acceptance of Colby's Safe Routes to School grant, where we will be awarded \$250,000 for sidewalk repairs."

On arrival downtown that morning, students received stickers, zipper tags and reflective safety

"slap bracelets."

Carmichael said adults pitched in to distribute items and line the students up before beginning their walk to school at 7:40 a.m.

"The 320-plus people filled the sidewalks and covered over three blocks," she said. "Once the students arrived at the school, they all gathered in the grade school gym for a quick presentation by (me)," she said. "They were reminded of the importance of being physically active and that walking or biking to school is a great way to get exercise."

Carmichael also discussed upcoming Safe Routes activities, including Bike to School Day, a Traveling Sneaker Award, a Bike Bank and more.

For questions, contact Carmichael at (785) 465-9103 or [ssn-wks@st-tel.net](mailto:ssn-wks@st-tel.net).



## Storm expected in east Kansas

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — The Storm Prediction Center says severe thunderstorms are possible Saturday across the southern and central Plains as a cold front rolls out of the Rockies.

Humid air could extend well into the Mississippi and Missouri valleys, making the atmosphere ripe for storms.

The forecasters say the greatest chance for bad weather is from eastern Oklahoma to northeastern Iowa, including parts of Kansas and Missouri, but that storms

are also possible from Texas into Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Supercells with hail and possibly tornadoes could occur, especially before the storms form a squall line.

After a squall line forms, high winds could be worrisome.

The prediction center, based in Norman, Okla., categorizes the area from Austin, Texas, to Minneapolis and Milwaukee and Chicago as having a slight risk of severe storms.



## Group walks to school

Participants in Colby's second Walk to School Day (above) gathered Oct. 3 in the parking lot of TNT Auction on Franklin Avenue and prepared for the walk. The grade school group headed toward Third Street (left) from Franklin where it would meet up with the middle school group and finish the walk to the school buildings.

MEGAN CARMICHAEL  
Safe Routes to School

## House representative criticizes deficit at 'town hall'

By Sam Dieter

Colby Free Press  
[sdieter@nwkansas.com](mailto:sdieter@nwkansas.com)

Rep. Tim Huelskamp, during a brief stop in Colby Wednesday, argued that the federal government has gone too far in debt — and in Washington, no one seems to mind.

"Republicans and Democrats alike, I just get the sense they think that can borrow a trillion bucks a month," he said.

The freshman member of the House, who represents the 1st District of central and western Kansas, made dire predictions concerning the budget during two "town-hall" meetings Wednesday.

Huelskamp's first meeting was from noon to 1 p.m. in the Thomas County Office Complex on Range Ave., then he visited the Logan County courthouse in Oakley from 3 to 4 p.m. About 15 people, including citizens and the congressman's aides, showed up to each meeting.

Huelskamp brought a set of charts to both meetings, showing the steep rise he predicts in the national deficit, which now stands at just over a trillion dollars.

"Nobody in Washington plans on paying that back," Huelskamp said in Colby.

He pointed out that the Republican-controlled House has been passing budgets for two years, but the Senate, in the hands of Democrats, has refused to approve them. As a result, the government is running without a budget.

"I know I'm being very partisan here," he said, "but the Democrats will not pass a budget."

He proposed a budget that would eliminate the deficit in seven or eight years. The Democrats' idea for a budget would do the same thing in 75 years, he said, while the budget the Republicans were able to pass would do it in 26.

"I don't think we have 20 years," Huelskamp said. "It needs to be quicker than that."

One suggestion that he did make was to raise the age at which people start to receive Medicare, currently 65. He said that 10,000 people turn 65 every day, and it would not be too much to ask for them to work a few months longer.

Other than that, he said, for the cuts in his budget, "everything's on the table."

He said he would cut military spending in his budget by more than the Republi-

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During the parade of the World's Largest Truck Convoy on Sept. 8, spectators acknowledged their pride as the U.S. flag went by and they stopped to honor it. "This couple got out of their ve-

hicle, stood beside their vehicle and placed their hands over their hearts," said Legion Rider Director C.W. Hamilton II. "That will not be forgotten."

JENNIFER JUMPER

## Colby Legion Riders raise almost \$400

The Colby American Legion Riders raised almost \$400 for the Kansas Special Olympics from efforts during the World's Largest Truck Convoy that arrived in Colby on Sept. 8.

Riders Director C.W. Hamilton II said 20 riders entered their motorcycles in competition at a bike show held in the parking lot of the Oasis Travel Center that day. Awards were given in each class, plus Best of Show and Athletes' Choice.

Jason Johnson of Russell won the Best of Show and Custom Class; Sondra Barnett of Rexford received the most votes from Special Olympians for her bike; Jim Vap of Colby won the Touring Class;

Hamilton, Levant, won the Three-Wheel Class; Larry Jumper of Colby won the Cruiser Class; and Nick Quenzer of Colby the Sport Class.

Later that day, a Fun Run be-

gan and ended at the Legion Hall. Hamilton said it drew 14 entries. Tim Wancura and Clarence Becker tied for first place, and the prize of \$205 was split between the two.

Jody Fenner's non-winning card was drawn for \$25 in Colby Chamber Bucks.

"Although the crowd was small," said Hamilton, "everyone enjoyed themselves at the post. The Colby (American Legion) Auxiliary served the meals."

"One thing many of the Riders mentioned after the convoy parade was how proud they felt ... with everyone lined up to watch the parade."

"They were especially impressed with the people who stopped their cars when the United States flag went by."



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