

HUNTING GUIDE INSIDE

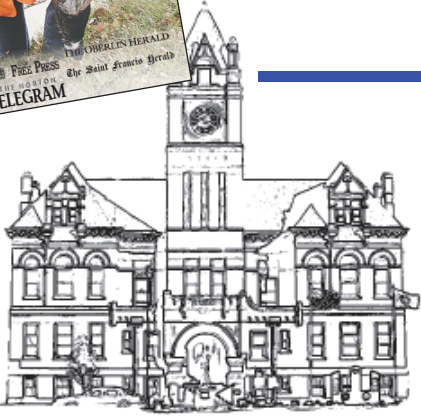
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Friday

October 26, 2012

Volume 123, Number 168

Serving Thomas County since 1888



COLBY FREE PRESS

10 pages

County races see many unopposed

By Marian Ballard

Colby Free Press
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Most Thomas County candidates for the Tuesday, Nov. 6, general election are unopposed, except for the races for sheriff and treasurer of West Hale township. Another race is for state Senate, where two incumbents face each other because of the redistricting plan draw up by federal judges this summer.

Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer, a Grinnell Republican, faces Sen. Allen Schmidt, a Hays Democrat. Ostmeyer has represented the 40th District for 12 years, while Schmidt was selected two years ago to represent the old 36th District to the east. His home county, Ellis, was put into the 40th by the judges.

Running unopposed are two incumbent state representatives, neither of whom has represented Thomas County before.

Rep. Ward Cassidy of St. Francis, a retired school administrator and counselor, was elected after winning a primary battle two years ago. This year, he had to defeat Rep. Rick Billinger of Goodland in a primary contest for the reformed 120th District. He will represent the northwest corner of the county and Colby.

Representing the rest of the county will be Rep. Don Hineman of Dighton, who has been in the legislature for two terms.

A University of Kansas graduate, he has master's degrees from the University of Michigan in operations research and natural resources. In the Legislature he served on the oil and natural gas committee.

A former cattleman, Hineman is a dryland farmer in partnership with his son, who lives in Scott City with his wife, a family practice physician. Hineman's wife Betsy said that getting rid of the cattle opened up the opportunity to run for

the Legislature, allowing him to be away from the farm.

Running for two seats on the Thomas County Commission are Paul Steele of Colby and Mike Baughn of Brewster, both Republicans.

Steele is running for re-election in District 2. A retired accountant, he has held the post since 2004. He was executive

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College hears nursing report

By Kayla Cornett

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The Colby Community College trustees traveled to Norton on Oct. 15 to tour the new nursing facility and classrooms for general classes.

Nursing instructor Jean Ann Wilson reported that the Norton night nursing program is going well in its first year.

Wilson said the students have busy schedules, going to places in town and doing community service.

"We're very visible in our CCC dress," she said.

She gave the trustees copies of class and rotation schedules, the "drug cards" the students have to fill out for each of their patients and a skills checklist for practical nursing students, which shows all the skills a student must know by the time they complete the first year of the Licensed Practical Nursing program.

"It's a wonderful program," Wilson said. "The students are very committed to it, both the

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Superintendent receives award

By Sam Dieter

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Colby's school superintendent has received an award from a statewide group which accredits and checks schools across the state.

"It's a nice honor," said Superintendent Terrel Harrison said, "I was surprised and happy to receive it."

Harrison was presented the M. Claradine Johnson Award at the AdvancED Kansas Fall Conference, Oct. 9 in Wichita. This is the 13th year the award has been given out. Harrison was one of four to receive the award this year; one of them will go on to win the Kansas Excellence in Education Award.

The award goes to someone with a history of working with

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Halloween spirit



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

Mary Carman, a resident of Deseret Care Center, got a ride around the building's front room during a "cakewalk" at Deseret's Halloween party. Between 75 and 100 people enjoyed the party Saturday afternoon.



Volleyball squad holds 'pink' night

Colby Community College students (above) showed their school spirit Thursday at the college volleyball team's Dig Pink Night at the Community Building. At right, volleyball players Jessica Piper (left), Maisy Munson and Andjela Reljic celebrated winning a point against their opponent, Barton Community College. A young girl (below) tried her hand at serving a volleyball between sets. Participants were trying to hit T-shirts lying on the floor on the other side of the net, which they would take home if they were successful. The Lady Trojans defeated Barton in four sets, 22-25, 25-23, 25-17 and 25-20, to move into third place in the Jayhawk West Conference. Colby will hold a region game at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Community Building. The opponent has not been determined yet.

KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press



Six cases of hepatitis confirmed in Hays

HAYS (AP) - The Kansas health department says it has now confirmed six cases of hepatitis C in Hays Medical Center patients linked to a traveling technician.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment announced Wednesday that the six

of 474 patients who had contact with David Kwiatkowski at the Hays hospital have a hepatitis C strain linked to him.

Kwiatkowski worked in the catheterization lab at the Hays hospital from May to September 2010.

Kwiatkowski has denied allegations that he injected himself and used contaminated syringes on patients across the country. So far, prosecutors say 32 cases across the country are linked to Kwiatkowski.

The Hays Daily News reports

(bit.ly/RQRuho) 391 Hays patients have submitted specimens, with 374 negative results as of Wednesday.

