



COLBY FREE PRESS

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City, school elections set Tuesday

By Sam Dieter

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Colby residents will have most of the day tomorrow to choose new City Council and school board members.

Polls for city and school elections will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Community Building. Four seats are up for grabs on the council and three on the school board.

On the council, Bill Mariman and Joshua Faber are in a race for Dave Voss's seat in Ward 2, while only one person filed to run in two other seats and no one filed for the fourth.

Mariman has worked at the county Road and Bridge Department for 21 years and has been highway foreman for 10. He said former City Manager Carolyn

Armstrong asked if he would run, along with several other friends.

Faber, chairman of the Republican Central Committee for Thomas County, said he was also encouraged to run by friends. He has started teaching at Colby Grade School last year, and ran a construction business before that.

Lance Bolyard was the only person who filed for Phil DeYoung's seat in Ward 1, and Francis Britton was the only on to file for Mark Beringer's seat in Ward 4.

Britton retired from the Road and Bridge Department last year, and served on the council from 1991 to 2001. Bolyard is a branch manager for the Decatur Co-op Association in Lenora and a volunteer firefighter.

When she learned that no one filed to run for Tim Hutfles' seat

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Athletic teams receive money

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The football and wrestling programs at Colby High School will get a \$2,500 boost from a Gem-area farmer who is donating money he received from an ag-supply company he does business with.

Matt Ziegelmeier said he is donating \$2,500 to the high school football and wrestling teams. That is half of a \$5,000 "America's Farmers Grow Communities" award he got from Monsanto. He gave the other half of the money to the Thomas County 4-H trapshooting team.

"Our children have gone to Colby High School and participated in the football and wrestling program," Ziegelmeier said.

He said his son Jay, 16, a sophomore, has been on the football

and wrestling teams as well as the trapshooting team. Ziegelmeier also has a daughter, Kayla, 19, who graduated last year and a son, Todd, 22, who graduated in 2008.

"I think it is a great thing for the football and the wrestling teams and I enjoy both very much," Jay Ziegelmeier said, "and I feel it will help out the school quite a bit."

"That was very kind and generous of the Ziegelmeiers to think about the school," said Activities Director Larry Gabel.

Gabel said half of the money will be used for football equipment and the other half to refinish a mat for the wrestling team.

Ziegelmeier said he wanted to thank Monsanto for the money. He said the company offers these awards to farmers who use its products, and the farmers can give it to organizations they choose in

College supports violence prevention

By Sam Dieter

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This week marks the first observance of Violence Prevention Week at Colby Community College, where events will focus on violence in our lives and how to prevent it.

Penny Cline, vice president of academic affairs at the college, and a member of the violence prevention committee, said the first event, a talk called "Through Their Eyes," will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Cultural Arts Center.

The audience will hear from people who have survived acts of violence. The lead speaker, Dr. Curt Brungardt of Hays, will tell about how his daughter was killed by her ex-boyfriend in Lawrence in 2008 while a student at the University of Kansas.

"During the day on Wednesday, we're having a pledge to stop violence," Cline said.

Students will get to sign the pledge on a mural in the Student Union, she said, and a table will hold information about groups in town that can help victims of violence from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Kenton Russell and the defensive tactics group from Fort Hays State University will hold a self-defense class at 7 p.m. that night in the campus gymnasium.

Finally, Cline said, "students will be going out and doing some random acts of kindness on Thursday and Friday."

Amy Melikova, an admissions assistant who chairs the committee, said she thinks this is the first year the college is having an entire week of events.

"It was actually developed from a program called 'Enough is Enough,'" she said.

The program has a website that advertises April 1 to 5 as "Enough is Enough Week," and contains suggestions for events to help stem violence at schools. Melikova said the committee came up with its own events.



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press
These kid took off running (top) in Fike Park Saturday morning for the Kiwanis Club's annual Easter egg hunt. The event (right) brought hundreds of kids to the park. Savannah Korhn, 2, won a book later that day (above) at the College Drive Assembly of God just before the church had its own hunt. Church members put eggs in trees and a field just west of the church (below).



Children enjoy egg hunt

By Sam Dieter

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Drop 700 eggs in Fike Park, and how long will it take to pick them all up?

Not very long, if you have hundreds of kids do it. Allowing different age groups to take turns, the Kiwanis Club tested local kids' prowess at Easter-egg hunting three times Saturday morning at the park.

"Once you turn them loose, it's pretty much just stay back and get out of the way," said Rick Dickman, secretary of the club.

He estimated that the club stuffed a total of 2,000 eggs with candy and money before the hunt.

"I was happy with the turnout," Dickman added.

No tally was taken of attendance to the event, but

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