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Legislators update town on session

By Sam Dieter

Colby Free Press
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Voters got an update from three state legislators who represent Thomas County on Tuesday morning, talking about everything from education to the value of pasture land.

State Sen. Ralph Ostmyer was joined by state Reps. Don Hineman and Ward Cassidy to meet with about 25 people at a "town hall" meeting Tuesday morning

at the Thomas County Office Complex. They updated the crowd, mostly of city, county and school officials, on the legislative session, then took questions on the issues.

The legislators covered bills in the Legislature, land valuation, the state budget, how much tax money will go to health care and education, and where those taxes are coming from.

Ostmyer spoke first, pointing out that farmland values are going up for northwest Kansas, and counties in this area are

seeing higher valuations from oil exploration. The average tax valuation of agricultural land jumped 32.7 percent from last year, he said, but while oil and gas revenue seems to be going up, the mineral valuation in his home county, Gove, dropped by about \$11 million.

Paul Steele, chairman of the Thomas County Commission, later suggested that Ostmyer could boost county tax revenue by leaning on Roger Hamm, deputy director of the Division of Property Valuation in the Kansas Department of Revenue, to

raise the valuation for pasture land. When he started as a commissioner, Steele said, the pasture valuation was \$10 an acre, the same as waste land.

Ostmyer also talked about his effort to legalize charity raffles, which are common in Kansas despite the fact that they are against the law. He said he is working on a constitutional amendment to legalize these raffles. A bill he pushed last year that would have removed the penalties for raffles was vetoed by Gov. Sam Brownback. Ostmyer said the governor

told him he should pass an amendment to change the prohibition.

"It's been a different year from last year," Ostmyer said. "It's just been easier to work."

Hineman spoke next and agreed that this year's session had a different feel to it. Maybe the biggest issue is the pending Kansas Supreme Court case over whether the Legislature was putting enough money into schools. A district court ruled in

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Showgoers shoot the breeze

SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

Phil Livengood (above left) and Max Sprague both came here from Hays Saturday to see the collection of weapons and artifacts on display at the Colby Gun and Coin Show. They chatted with Sue Coard, a collector who lives near Wichita. The show ran all weekend and included about 60 collectors, selling not just guns, ammunition and coins but all kinds of knives and trinkets, which ranged in age from modern-day to hundreds of years old. Dwight Focke and his wife Susan (right), both of Colby, looked over some of the newer rifles on display in the Community Building, brought here by Monnie Shearer and her husband Doug, who own Doug's Gun Shop in Hays. Dave and Sandy Harper (below), who are from Colby, set up a booth in the corner with 1800s rifles and Plains Indian artifacts.



City software contract passed

By Sam Dieter

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The Colby City Council approved a \$150,000 contract to secure the city's accounting system at its meeting Tuesday night after some debate about whether to send it back for revision.

Under the contract, Tyler Technologies will charge the city \$32,038 for professional services and hardware, \$22,500 in all for its application software and \$19,005 in annual fees for the five years of the contract. When the council discussed the contract in February, City Manager Tyson McGreer said the software the city is using will be no good after the end of the year. He said this contract will save the city \$41,714 in the first year and \$37,318 over five years over what it has been paying.

The city has \$20,000 encumbered for the project, \$10,000 set aside for it in this year's budget and the rest set aside in the city Municipal Equipment Reserve Funds, said City Finance Director Debbie Zerr, who said she had gone looking for new software along with Technology Director Mike Albers.

Council members had considered sending the contract back to Delaware-based Tyler with one of the provisions taken out. McGreer said that he was worried about several of the finer points of the contract. The first issue was that Tyler Technologies could never completely guarantee the safety of its software. The second was a provision in the contract stating

that if Colby decides stop using Tyler Technologies to secure its software, then the city cannot buy a similar service for another year.

McGreer said the council could just approve the contract with that provision taken out and send it back to the company, adding that he has sent the contract several times asking for revisions.

In February, he said that the company would take over computer security risks to the accounting system by hosting the software on its own servers rather than this being done on the city servers. However, at Tuesday's meeting, the manager said he told the council he could never get a straight answer as to how exactly the company would be securing the software.

Albers said he got a news-letter from the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Communications Commission which advised agencies with software needs to be wary of security risks from cloud computing, the software used on the company's computers.

Zerr said 141 companies are using Tyler services, and Albers added that they said Colby is the first to question its security.

"Makes you wonder how the rest of them got the contract without asking any questions," Albers added.

The other concern McGreer and City Attorney John Gatz had was the "non-appropriation" agreement in the contract, which says that if the city decides to get rid

See "SOFTWARE," Page 2

Colby man takes plea agreement

A Colby business owner charged with sexual battery of a former employee has entered a diversion agreement, which includes paying \$5,000 restitution to his victim and agreeing that he does not contest the charges.

Jeffery Horlacher, 59, Colby, agreed to pay the 19-year-old woman for unwanted touching "with intent to arouse or satisfy his sexual desires," and to have no contact with her for a year.

A criminal complaint and information filed a year ago this month alleged that Horlacher touched the woman at some point between April 1 and Aug. 9, 2012, the last day she worked at his store. Court records show she would have

been 17 or 18 at the time. The complaint was signed by County Attorney Kevin N. Berens and by Richard Barrett, investigator for the Colby Police, as complaining witness.

The case never went to trial. In October, Horlacher's attorney, Calvin Williams of Colby, filed a motion for a bill of particulars, asking the county attorney to provide a specific time that the crime occurred or to have the court dismiss the case. Without a time, the

See "PLEA," Page 2



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Weather

National Weather Service

Tonight: Partly cloudy; low around 41. South wind 10 mph becoming west after midnight.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of rain after 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 54. Windy, with a north wind 15 to 25 mph increasing to 25 to 35 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 45 mph.

Tuesday Night: A chance of rain and snow before 10 p.m., then a slight chance of snow between 10 p.m. and midnight. Cloudy, gradually becoming partly cloudy, with a low around 24. Windy; north wind 25 to 30 mph decreasing to 15 to 20 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Wednesday: Sunny; high near 52. Breezy, with a northwest wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunrise and Sunset
 Tuesday 8:02 a.m. 7:47 p.m.
 Moon: waxing, 78 percent
 Wednesday 8:00 a.m. 7:48 p.m.
 Moon: waxing, 85 percent
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

Legislators give update on session

From "LEGISLATORS," Page 1

favor of several school districts that sued the state in 2010, deciding that the legislature has been violating the state Constitution by not adequately funding schools. (The Supreme Court affirmed the decision Friday, but ordered only about half the increase the district judges has decided on.)

Legislators had been expecting the court to release its ruling in December, Hineman said Tuesday, and were holding their breath waiting for the decision. He said it seemed as though the court probably would not have a ruling until after the session, which the legislators would prefer because they would not have to plan around it.

Another difference, he said, is that this year is an election year, and no one in the Legislature wants their name on a controversial bill or comment. He pointed out that midway through the session, when the House and Senate normally turn over bills for the other chamber to work on, the House turned over 52 bills and the Senate 20, far below normal.

Finally, Hineman, said, work for the 2015 budget is nearing completion. Last summer, Gov. Brownback made a line item veto for the state's two-year budget for prisons, saying that too little money had been allotted to the corrections budget.

Brownback recently sent the Legislature a request for a larger budget, Hineman said. The governor also asked for \$16 million a year for all-day kindergarten, \$7 to \$8 million to build up the oil and gas trust fund for counties and about \$2 million more for the moderate-income housing program, which Hineman said is badly needed in western Kansas.

Cassidy said that KanCare, the state's new take on Medicaid, the state-federal program for low-income people, has been working out well, even though some in the audience mentioned the difficulties of poor families who don't have health insurance. Steele pointed out that he read in *Kansas Farmer* magazine that the state will not give Medicaid payments to families who make \$497 or more a month. A family needs to make at least \$1,792 a month get a federal subsidy for health insurance, so families that fall between those incomes get no help with insurance.

Cassidy said he has gotten the names and pictures of people on

Bills discussed at meeting

These bills were discussed at the town hall meeting Tuesday in Colby with State Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer and State Reps. Ward Cassidy of St. Francis and Don Hineman of Dighton:

House Bill 2552: introduced this year, passed in the House last month and sent to the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare. Hineman said this bill will speed up Medicaid health insurance payments under KanCare, the state's implementation of the federal program for low-income families. With Medicaid expenditures going up, the three managed care organizations that have taken over managing health insurance under KanCare have been slow to give out payments. This bill will put a 12 percent interest rate on most claims unpaid after 30 days and on complicated claims unpaid after 90.

House Bill 2271: introduced last year, currently in the House, would move local elections to the fall alongside those for state and national candidates. It would require candidates to run on a Republican or Democratic ticket. Mayor Gary Adrian said he hopes the bill will fail, citing its partisan nature and the fact that government employ-

ees would not be able to run for city and school posts.

Senate Bill 109: introduced last year, currently in the Senate, would make it illegal for cities or counties to use tax money for lobbying the state government, which would keep the city and county from giving money to groups such as the Kansas Association of Counties and the Kansas League of Municipalities for lobbying. City Manager Tyson McGreer said he did not feel the bill would be fair, as it would keep municipalities from representing themselves. He pointed out that Colby does not have the money to pay his expenses to drive to Topeka.

Senate Bill 196: introduced last year, currently in the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. This bill would allocate public school money for charter schools. Ostmeyer said he does not support the bill, and he thinks there is little chance it will make it out of committee. He said there is not a lot of room for charter schools in western Kansas, but that much of the support for the bill comes from eastern Kansas legislators whose communities are growing much faster, allowing charter schools to buy old public school buildings.

Man takes plea

From "PLEA," Page 1

motion said, it was impossible for Williams to properly prepare a defense.

Horlacher, through Williams, entered the year-long diversion agreement with County Attorney Kevin N. Berens on Feb. 19. The agreement says the court will dismiss the charge "with prejudice," meaning it cannot be refiled, if the diversion is successfully completed. Sexual battery is a Class A person misdemeanor under Kansas law, carrying a possible term of up to a year in jail and a fine up to \$2,500.

Under the agreement, the defendant will pay the \$5,000, as well as \$158 in court costs and a \$200 diversion fee. He also agreed to be evaluated at Prairie View, a treatment center in Newton, or a similar program, and follow any recommendations made to him.

The agreement says he waives all rights to a speedy trial and if he violates any term of the agreement, he would go to court solely on the basis of the facts as set forth in the original complaint. It says he "does not contest the allegations" in the complaint. Another promise is to obey "all laws," state, federal and municipal, during the term of the agreement, and to keep his attorney informed of his whereabouts.

Apparently standard provisions requiring the defendant to keep the county attorney informed of his whereabouts and not to leave the state were eliminated by mutual agreement in return for the last promise.

various state agencies so he can call them whenever he needs something. He also managed to get more state money for two-year colleges, even though it came at the cost of four-year schools, something he did not particularly want to do.

"I just try to play the game for northwest Kansas," he said.

Cassidy admitted to spending "huge amounts of money" as part of his job as chair of the Education Budget committee, which handles well over half the state's spending. He said pressure groups from the Kansas Association of School Boards to the National Rifle Association will send emails to members and voters slamming Legislators if they vote the "wrong" way even once.

"The maddest people show up at the capital daily and they run around daily," he said.

Colby City Manager Tyson McGreer asked if the governor's decision last year to do away with income tax on profits from small businesses has paid off. Dropping the tax, he had heard, was supposed to bring in new businesses. He questioned if there had been a lot of growth in the state, or if the new businesses mainly represented people who formed a limited liability company to avoid being taxed. In that case, he said, the income tax burden could fall on Main Street businesses.

"We've shifted the burden a little bit," McGreer said, "and the numbers that they've thrown out there aren't necessarily correct."

Hineman said that the state had seen a net gain of about 5,900 businesses last year and 7,200 businesses in 2012.

City software contract passes

From "SOFTWARE," Page 1

of the contract, it cannot buy a "like or similar" product from a different company for another year.

Gatz pointed out that if the city were to run out of money at some point and be forced to have to drop the software, it cannot agree to spend anything beyond what it has budgeted for the year. Then, he said, the city would be stuck not buying anything

else for a year.

Nonetheless, McGreer pointed out that the city has no options left for software security short of doing the accounting manually, and the council approved the contract as it was.

In other business, the council:

- Approved a bid from Strutt Insurance to provide insurance for the city for the year for a total of \$348,489. Owner Darvin Strutt presented the particulars of his company's bid,

the only one turned into the city after three companies initially showed interest. The policy covers general liability, commercial property, business auto, workers compensation, law enforcement liability, crime or employee theft and data compromise

- Approved a repair for a utility line along County Road Q. There have been concerns about that road since the line froze during the snow storms in 2006, McGreer said.

Sponsored by the

Tuesday Evening												March 11, 2014											
		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30												
KAKE/ABC	S.H.I.E.L.D.			Goldbergs	Trophy	Mind Games		Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Nightline													
KBSL/CBS	NCIS			NCIS: Los Angeles	Person of Interest			Local	Late Show Letterman	Ferguson													
KSNK/NBC	The Voice			About-Boy	Fisher	Chicago Fire		Local	Tonight Show	Meyers													
KSAS/FOX	Glee			New Girl	Brooklyn	Local																	
Cable Channels																							
A & E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage												
AMC	Jaws				Game of Arms			Freakshow	Freakshow	Game of Arms													
ANIM	Wild Amazon			Walking the Amazon				Wild Amazon		Walking the Amazon													
BRAVO	Housewives/NYC			Housewives/NYC	Housewives/Atl.			Happens	Housewives/NYC	Atlanta													
CMT	The Dukes of Hazzard			Rambo: First Blood				Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.													
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360			Piers Morgan Live	Weed 2: Cannabis	Weed 2: Cannabis			Anderson Cooper 360														
COMEDY	Kroll	Tosh.0		Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Kroll		Daily	Colbert	At Midnig	Tosh.0											
DISC	Amish Mafia			Amish Mafia	Clash of the Ozarks				Amish Mafia	Clash of the Ozarks													
DISN	Liv-Mad.	Austin		Jessie	ANT Farm	Jessie	Dog		Austin	Good Luck	Good Luck	Good Luck											
E!	Kardashian			Mean Girls 2					Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea												
ESPN	NBA Basketball			College Basketball					SportsCenter		SportsCenter												
ESPN2	College Basketball			College Basketball					Olbemann		Olbemann												
FAM	Pretty Little Liars			Twisted		Pretty Little Liars			The 700 Club	Twisted													
FOOD	Chopped			Chopped		Chopped			Diners	Diners	Chopped												
FX	Transformers					Justified			Justified														
HGTV	Hawaii	Hawaii		Beach	Beach	Hunters	Hunt Intl		Flip It to Win It		Beach	Beach											
HIST	Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars		Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars	American	American		American	American	Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars											
LIFE	Dance Moms			Dance Moms		Kim of Queens			Bring It!		Dance Moms												
MTV	Teen Mom 2			Teen Mom 2		Teen Mom 2			Are You the One?		Are You the One?												
NICK	Nick News	Full H'se		Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se		Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends											
SCI	Face Off			Face Off		Geek Wedding			Face Off		Geek Wedding												
SPIKE	Tattoo Nation					Ink Master			Tattoo	Tattoo	Tattoo	Tattoo											
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang		Big Bang	Big Bang	Cougar	Big Bang		Conan		Holmes	Conan											
TCM	Carson	Carson		Carson	Designing Woman				Sex and the Single Girl														
TLC	Long Island Medium			The Little Couple		The Little Couple			The Little Couple		The Little Couple												
TNT	Rizzoli & Isles			Rizzoli & Isles		Perception			Rizzoli & Isles		Perception												
TOON	Uncle Gra	Adventure		King/Hi!	Cleveland	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad		Family Guy		Chicken	Aqua Teen											
TRAV	Bizarre Foods			Dangerous Grounds		Bizarre Foods			Bizarre World		Dangerous Grounds												
TV LAND	Gilligan	Gilligan		Raymond	Raymond	Everybody-Raymond			Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King											
USA	Law & Order: SVU			Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Chrisley	Chrisley		Mod Fam	Sirens	Chrisley	Chrisley											
VH1	Single Ladies			You Got Served					Stomp the Yard 2														
WGN	Funniest Home Videos			NBA Basketball					How I Met	How I Met	How I Met												
Premium Channels																							
HBO	Wrath	Game		True Detective		Girls	Looking		True Detective	Happy	Good Day												
MAX	Mission: Impossible					Banshee			Depravity	Lingerie	Armageddon												
SHOW	The Longest Yard					Lies	Episodes		Shameless	Comedy	Gigolos												

Briefly

The deadline for Briefly is noon the day before. Items submitted in the morning will be set up for the following day, space available. The deadline for Monday's paper is noon Friday.

Sacred Heart enrolling preschool

Early enrollment is now open for Sacred Heart Catholic School's preschool and pre-kindergarten classes for the 2014-2015 year. For information or to pre-enroll your child, call Sharon Shirley at 460-2813 before 8:30 a.m. or after 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Save money on a formal

Buy a gently used formal dress for \$20 and support Genesis-Thomas County Food Bank. Sale will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday to Wednesday at the First Presbyterian Church, 515 W. Fourth St. For information or a special appointment, call Sue Draper at 460-6332.

Seniors plan potluck at church

The group More Fun Together plans a potluck for people 50 or older who are alone, widowed, divorced, separated or have a partner in a nursing home at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church. Bring a dish to share; table service and beverage will be provided. For information, call 462-6342.

Form team to Walk Kansas

Warm weather is coming and so is Walk Kansas! Gather a group of six and register your team by Friday, as Sunday, March 16, is the first day of the program. Go to www.thomas.ksu.edu or pick up a packet at the Thomas County Extension Office, 350 S. Range. For information, call 460-4582 or go to www.walkkansas.org

CHS serving spaghetti for Genesis

The CHS Colby Agronomy Center will have a benefit spaghetti dinner (meat and vegetarian) and bake sale from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday at the Colby American Legion Hall for the the Genesis-Thomas County food bank. For information, call Michele Lorg at 462-6880.

Pickin' to have St. Patrick's Party

Proceeds from a St. Patrick's Day Pub Party on Saturday at the City Limits Convention Center will go to the Pickin' on the Plains Bluegrass and Folk Festival. Wine and beer tasting will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. DJ Justin Meitl will provide music from 8:30 to 9 p.m. and you can dance to the Mama's Boys from 9 to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$20 each for the tasting party or the dance, or \$30 for the whole evening. Tickets are available at the Chamber office. For information, call 460-3401.

Brewster church plans feed

The Brewster United Methodist Church plans a biscuit-and-gravy feed from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday. The offering will help updating the church's outdoor chimes. For information, call the church at (785) 694-2645.

Divorce recovery class offered

A 10-week divorce recovery class for women will run from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday evenings from March 17 to May 19 at the Colby United Methodist Church. For information, contact Lynette Ball at (785) 675-8606 or lynetteball@yahoo.com.

Commodities to be given out here March 17

U.S. Department of Agriculture commodities will be distributed from 1 to 2 p.m. next Monday at the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program office in the Senior Progress Center at Fike Park. Distribution is first come, first-served, and you may send a signed permission slip with another person. Bring a sack or box. Expected commodities include creamed corn, carrots, apricots, tomato soup, cereal and canned chicken. For questions, call the office at 462-6744.



Wednesday Evening												March 12, 2014											
		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30												
KAKE/ABC	Middle	Suburg.		Mod Fam	Mixology	Nashville		Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Nightline													
KBSL/CBS	Survivor			Criminal Minds		CSI: Crime Scene		Local	Late Show Letterman	Ferguson													
KSNK/NBC	Revolution			Law & Order: SVU		Chicago PD		Local	Tonight Show	Meyers													
KSAS/FOX	American Idol					Local																	
Cable Channels																							
A & E	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Wahlburg	Wahlburg	Wahlburg	Wahlburg	Duck D.	Duck D.													
AMC	Braveheart								Friday Night Lights														
ANIM	Treehouse Masters			Tanked		Tanked			Treehouse Masters	Tanked													
BRAVO	Real Housewives			Flipping Out		Flipping Out			Happens	Flipping Out	Real												
CMT	The Dukes of Hazzard			My Best Friend's					Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.													
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360			Piers Morgan Live		Anderson Cooper 360			E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Live												
COMEDY	Work.	South Pk		South Pk	South Pk	Work.	Broad Cit		Daily	Colbert	At Midnig	Work.											
DISC	Survivorman			Survivorman & Son		Ice Cold Gold			Survivorman & Son	Ice Cold Gold													
DISN	Spy Kids			Good Luck		Austin	ANT Farm		Jessie	Dog	Luck of-Irish												
E!	E! News			Kardashian		The Soup	The Soup		Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea												
ESPN	NBA Basketball			NBA Basketball							SportsCenter												
ESPN2	College Basketball			College B	College Basketball				SportCtr		Olbemann												
FAM	Melissa	Daddy		Casper					The 700 Club	Daddy	Daddy												
FOOD	Restaurant: Im.			Restaurant: Im.		Restaurant: Im.			Diners	Diners	Restaurant: Im.												
FX	Girl-Dragon Tat					The Americans			The Americans		The Americans												
HGTV	Property Brothers			Property Brothers		Hunters	Hunt Intl		Property Brothers		Property Brothers												

AmericanProfile

// CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN SPIRIT //

HIST	LIFE	MTV	NICK	SCI	SPIKE	TBS	TCM	TLC	TNT	TOON
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Babies

Ryder and Reagan Sowards

Ryder Vaughn Sowards and Reagan Caroline Sowards, son and daughter of Wesley and Jennifer Sowards of Colby, were born Monday, Feb. 17, 2014, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. Ryder weighed 5 pounds, 5 ounces, and measured 19.5 inches. Reagan weighed 5 pounds, 15 ounces, and measured 19.25 inches.



Ryder and Reagan Sowards

Sister Jayde welcomed them home.

Grandparents are Craig Sowards and Sandy Glanzer of Hoisington, Doreen Smiley of Fort

Lauderdale, Fla., and Andrew Smiley of Houston.

Vivian Aubrey Ellis



Vivian Ellis

Vivian Aubrey Ellis, daughter of Keith and Amie Ellis of Topeka, was born Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014, at Stormont-Vail Regional Health Center in Topeka. She weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces, and measured 20.75 inches.

Brother Alexander James welcomed her home. Grandparents are A.J. and Jodi Hurst and J.L. and Cindy Ellis, all of Colby.

Great-grandparents are Berdean Simminger of Ludell, Francis and Florine Hurst of Achilles and Jim Ellis of Great Bend.

Archie David Schippers

Archie David Schippers, son of Matt and Cortney Schippers of Hoxie, was born Friday, Jan. 17, 2014, at the Gove County Medical Center in Quinter. He weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Sister Demi welcomed him home.



Archie S.

Grandparents are David and Stephanie Schippers of Hoxie and Dan and Kristy Moser of Winona. Great-grandparents are the late George and Lillian Schippers, Howard and Carol Baalman of Hoxie, Verla Moser and the late Archie Moser of Winona, Sharon Murray and the late Charles "Jock" Murray of Garden City and the late Betty Murray of Colby.

Piersyn Lee Kahle

Piersyn Lee Kahle, son of Evan and Kristy Kahle of Colby, was born Monday, Feb. 10, 2014, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. He weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces,

and measured 19 1/4 inches.

Sister Brynlee welcomed him home. Grandparents are Kurt and Pam Kahle of Monument and DeAnn Oreitz of Atchison.

Aubrey Renay Page

Aubrey Renay Page, daughter of Victoria Koch and Wesley Page of Colby, was born Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed

8 pounds, 11 ounces, and measured 20.5 inches. Grandparents are Dawn Koch and Jan Pohlman of Fuquay-Varina, N.C., and Mark and Lisa Page of Colby.

Bronson Dean Wecker

Bronson Dean Wecker, son of David Wecker and Chelsea Allen of Colby, was born Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. He weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and measured 19 3/4 inches. Brother Braxton Allen welcomed him home.



Bronson W.

Erratic spending habits show need for savings

America Saves Week, an annual campaign to encourage us to save money and build personal wealth, came at the end of February. It saddens me a bit that, as a nation, we spend so erratically that we now need special week to focus on our lack of savings.



Heather Alwin

• Frankly Frugal

In 2013, a national survey assessing household savings revealed that our savings habits are pretty poor overall. Less than half of the survey respondents, 41 percent, said they save through regular transfers into savings accounts or investments, and just over half, 54 percent, said they have a savings plan with specific goals.

I guess it's not just Congress that has a hard time managing finances.

The mantra for America Saves Week, which is sponsored by the Consumer Federation of America, is: "Set a Goal. Make a Plan. Save Automatically."

I wish I had done all three of those things when I was younger. But I must admit that saving was the last thing on my mind when I was fresh out of school. I don't know where all my money went, but it was pretty much gone by the end of the month.

All that changed when I deployed and spent seven months with nowhere to spend the money I was earning. It dawned on me then that I should have a plan for the money sitting in my checking account twiddling its thumbs.

I began saving then, though I didn't have any particular goals for the money. Just a year later, that money bought a "new" car and paid for a lovely wedding—neither of which would have been possible without savings.

Of course, savings is good for a rainy day, too, not just for making large purchases. We never really know when something ex-

pensive will happen, do we? Job loss, transmission out, car wreck, illness — all much easier to handle when money stress isn't piled on top.

When I counseled military members, it amazed me how many of them came to my office with money problems, particularly when we were facing furloughs. With each furlough scare, at least a handful of troops would come in asking what they could do to get their pay sooner because they couldn't put food on the table without it. The answer to that question is "nothing."

There's rarely anything anyone can do to instantly replace income when it's lost. And if the security of government work doesn't even provide real job security, no job is really safe.

Maybe that's why America Saves Week is necessary: to provide an annual reminder that there is no such thing as job security, so it's important to make an umbrella for a rainy day. Or a wedding. Or a new car....

Heather Alwin is the society editor for the Colby Free Press and blogs at kansalife.wordpress.com. Before moving to Kansas, she was a lawyer with the U.S. Air Force. Alwin lives in Brewster with her husband and son.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$7.08
Corn (bushel)	\$4.75
Milo (hundredweight)	\$8.20
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.67

Yes, you can start transplants at home

I'm feeling mighty good today. In fact, as we used to say down in Bucklin, "Man I'm really fired!"

Why? It's very simple. The reason is that I have received dozens of calls and messages since the first of the year from gardeners asking about "starting some of my own transplants." Many of you are telling me you are actually going to try it, and I think that's just awesome. Growing a few of your own transplants can be one of the most gratifying garden projects you'll ever do. You've ask many questions. Let's get right to it.

You'll need a few supplies, many of which you can use again next year. You may want to buy one of those "ready to go" seed-starting kits at your favorite garden store. Or, just pick up the things you'll need on an individual basis.

You'll need a bag of seed starting mix. Not potting soil — not garden soil — not dirt from the back yard. You need seed starting mix, a material made expressly for seed starting.

You'll need some kind of tray or pan that is a couple of inches deep to hold the starting mix. I use several of those plastic trays that my petunias came in last year.

And then you'll need the seed you have carefully selected. Maybe it's just tomato seed, maybe broccoli or cabbage seed, or perhaps the seed of a favorite perennial plant that you want in your garden.

That's about it. Fill your tray or plastic pan with the starting mix and spread out evenly. Wet the mix thoroughly, but leave no standing water. With the point of a pencil, punch a few quarter inch holes in the wet mix, at half-inch intervals. Drop one seed in each hole and cover with your fingers. Mark each row with a plastic or wooden marker that tells you what you have planted.



Kay Melia

• The Gardener

Set the pan someplace at room temperature and check it each day. When you see a plant emerging, move the pan immediately to an area of bright light, like a south-facing windowsill or shelf. This is the most critical step of the entire project.

There are "grow lights" available at the garden store, made especially for this kind of use. But however you do it, get the starting pan into strong light just as soon as the little plants come up or they will suddenly get tall and leggy and useless. They must have light.

When the plants get their first set of true leaves, transplant them into their own individual peat pots, two-inch plastic cells or foam cups that have been filled with the starting mix. Keep them in the bright light. Be sure they have a drainage hole in the bottom. Set them out in the garden at the proper safe-planting time.

For tomatoes, start the plants about six or seven weeks before they're ready to go outside. If you want them outside by May 10, start the seed on or about March 30. Most peppers need to be planted a few days earlier.

Broccoli and cabbage need only five weeks starting time and can go outside a week or 10 days earlier than tomatoes. Check with your Extension Office about average last frost dates in your area. Questions? Please call or email me.

This can be an extremely satisfying project. Give them light and they will grow!

You can contact Kay Melia at vkmelia@yahoo.com.

Harvest of Hunger food drive underway

CHS Agronomy Center is gathering donations of money, food and crops to help fight hunger. As part of CHS Harvest for Hunger food and fund drive, CHS Inc. will accept contributions through Thursday, March 20, at its locations in Quinter, Colby, Selden, Brewster and Burlington Colo., to benefit local food banks.

"Hunger is a reality for more than 50 million people in America. That's one in six who doesn't have access to enough food," says Jeff Kahle, general manager of the Agronomy Center. "We're working together to make a difference for those in need."

Financial donations are encouraged because they enable food

banks to leverage their buying power to provide nutritious food at deeply discounted rates.

"Our local communities benefit even more when CHS Country Operations makes a contribution to help friends and neighbors right here in our community. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to multiply the impact of every donation we make," adds Kahle.

Donations can be made at Agronomy Center locations or call Jennifer at (785)754-3318 for information on how you can help.

The center is a business unit of CHS Inc., an energy, grains and foods global agribusiness owned by farmers, ranchers and cooperatives across the U.S.

On the Beat

- COLBY POLICE**
Feb. 21
- 9 a.m. — Theft of cell phone.
 - 4:18 p.m. — Caller found hypodermic needle lying in alleyway. Told reporting party how to dispose of it; all OK.
 - 5:36 p.m. — Walk through at Colby Community Building.
 - 5:38 p.m. — Spoke to owners of vehicles parked; vehicles moved.
 - 7:35 p.m. — Walk through at Colby High School.
 - 9:06 p.m. — Caller reported subjects looking into vehicle windows. All appeared OK.
 - 9:50 p.m. — Caller reported loud music. Not found.
 - 11:15 p.m. — Dogs barking. Spoke with owner.
- Feb. 22**
- 10:21 a.m. — Walk through at Colby Community Building
 - 1:20 p.m. — Caller reported van blocking alleyway. Spoke to owner, vehicle moved.
 - 1:49 p.m. — Walk through at Colby Community Building.
 - 1:53 p.m. — Dog at large caught; dog got out of back of truck. Not found.
 - 6:15 p.m. — Walk through at Colby Community Building.
- Feb. 23**
- 4:18 a.m. — Driving under the influence report filed on traffic stop.
 - 4:18 a.m. — Battery report filed.
 - 5:37 a.m. — Clerk called about subject passed out in hallway. All OK, was drunk.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF
Feb. 21

- 4:22 p.m. — Served arrest warrant on Ondre D. Brooks Sr.
 - 4:22 p.m. — Served arrest warrant on Travis Stephon Jefferson.
- Feb. 22**
- 7:43 a.m. — Report of someone possibly breaking into garage building in Rexford. All OK; nothing appeared to be missing. Owner had subject go through it.
 - 12:20 p.m. — Provided traveler's aid.
 - 1:30 p.m. — Child solicitation report filed.
- Feb. 23**
- 5:44 a.m. — Helped Colby Police on suspicious person call at Motel 6.
 - 1:17 p.m. — Helped on suspicious person call.
 - 3:26 p.m. — Provided traveler's assistance.

Thank You

The family of Josie West wishes to say thank you for the kindness shown to us on the death of Josie. Thank you for the memorials given to us. We appreciate your kindness.

The family of Josie West

Deaths

Raymond H. Bange

Raymond H. Bange, 76, Colby, formerly of Menlo, died Friday, March 7, 2014, at the Fairview Estates in Colby.

He was born Oct. 24, 1937, in the Solomon Township of Sheridan County, the son of Joseph Herman and Anna Mary (Schwarz) Bange.

On May 11, 1963, he married Frances Sander in Colby. They farmed near Menlo.

Preceding him in death were his parents; a daughter, Sandra Bange; a brother, Vincent Bange; and a sister, Agnus Bange.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; two sons, Paul Bange, Colby, and Matthew Bange, Salina; two daughters, Anna (Scott) Reese, New Smyrna Beach, Fla., and Becky (Bob) Wuerdeman, Independence; two brothers, Sylvester (Rosemary) Bange, Colby, and

Ed Bange, Garden City; three sisters, Barb (Al) Rietcheck, Seguin, Rosella (Walt) Meitl, Oberlin, and Mildred (Dennis) Hill, Great Bend; and eight grandchildren.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 12, 2014, at the St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church in Hoxie, with burial in the St. Martin Catholic Cemetery at Seguin.

Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home in Hoxie, with family receiving friends from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and a vigil service at 7:30 p.m.

The family suggests memorials to the St. Martin's Compassion Fund, in care of the funeral home, Box 987, Hoxie, Kan., 67740.

Condolences for the family may be left at www.mickeyleopoldfuneral.com.



R. Bange

Colby Rotary Club

Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday at Colby Community College with 41 members and guests Bruce and Janice Frahm, Lance Krannawitter and Melissa and Mia Schneider.

Patrick Toth had the program. His guest was Lance Krannawitter, who shared his experiences from two years in the Peace Corps. Krannawitter, originally from Hoxie, was in the Peace Corps from 1992-1994. He was placed in Tanzania, East Africa, where he had three months of intense training learning the Swahili language.

Following his training session, Krannawitter was placed at Mbabulo Secondary School where he taught English and agriculture. There were about 300 students and 10 staff members at the school.

He said the school had no electricity or running water. There were no textbooks or paper available for the students so they would use scraps of newspaper and worn down pencils to take notes. The school, at that time, did not offer a lunch program so the students would eat breakfast and then not another meal until they returned home in the late afternoon. The majority of the students walked at least a mile to and from the school.

During his teaching tenure, Krannawitter received a grant to build a greenhouse as a school project where tea plants could

be grown until they were large enough to be transplanted into the fields in the area. Tea was the main crop grown for the local industry. On occasion the students helped pick tea leaves to sell or helped harvest corn. The proceeds from the sale of the crops went to the school.

Krannawitter said that education is well respected in Africa and over 90% of the students that graduated from the secondary school were able to become employed.

Krannawitter had the opportunity to travel during his time in Africa and said he enjoyed seeing the sites and variety of wildlife found there.

The Peace Corps' was established in 1961 under President Kennedy. Over 139 countries have been served since that time. The Mission of the Peace Corps is to promote world peace and friendship by helping people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women, to promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the people served and to help promote a better understanding of the other people on the part of the Americans.

Melany Wilks won Roto-Lotto. The club meets each Tuesday in Room 106 of the Student Union.

—Relda Galli

Veterans' art sought for St. Francis show

The Cheyenne Center for Creativity in St. Francis is looking for art work by veterans for a show called "What is War?" opening Memorial Day weekend, hoping to show how art can bridge the gap between the veteran and civilian worlds.

Submissions can include poetry, prose, music, sculpture, photography, painting, drawing and other creative forms.

All veterans are invited to submit work for consideration by Saturday. Send information describing the work (with a photo, if available) to jjocarman@hotmail.com mail to CC4C, 1625 Road G,

St. Francis, Kan., 67756, or call (785) 332-3569 for information. Include the artist's name, address and other contact information. Details will be given if work is accepted.

The center was launched in 2012 to inspire and promote growth of a creative community through exhibits, recitals, workshops and classes in Cheyenne County, northwest Kansas and the Tri-state Area.

In 2013, the center rented gallery and classroom space at 109 N. Quincy and established Quincy Gallery.

Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Bridge Club

Meadow Lake Bridge winners for Tuesday were: first, Elaine Ptacek; second, Margaret Denner; third, Sarah Jane Barrett; fourth, Ken Ptacek; fifth, Barb Ulmer; and sixth, Katie Melvin.

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Other Viewpoints

State employees overdo for raises

So far, prospects for a modest salary increase proposed by Gov. Sam Brownback for classified state employees aren't particularly bright.

In his budget proposal, the governor recommended a 1.5 percent pay increase for classified employees, who haven't received a pay raise for five years during the "Great Recession." However, legislative committees have been removing those raises when they review agency budgets. When a member of the House Appropriations Committee questioned that action earlier in February, he was told by Chairman Marc Rhoades, R-Newton, that legislators would debate the pay raise in a "global" sense later in the session rather than discussing it for each agency. However, Rhoades noted that the pay raise wasn't included in the two-year budget the Legislature approved last year.

"It's an additional spend," he added. "We are going to continue to strive to keep government small. Some of you like to spend money. I don't like to spend money."

That doesn't sound particularly optimistic for classified employees, who probably are among those who would "like to spend money" — and might even give the state economy a boost if they had a little more money to spend.

Five years is a long time to go without a raise. According to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, from 2010 to 2014, the consumer price index has risen about 7.3 percent. What cost \$20 in 2010 would cost \$21.45 this year. If a state employee made \$30,000 in 2010, he or she would need to be making \$32,175 this year just to keep up with inflation. In addition to stagnant salaries, many state employees have seen their workload increase in recent years because of budget cuts and staff reductions.

As the economy improves and the job market brightens, the state will find itself increasingly vulnerable to many of its best employees being lured into higher-paying jobs in the private sector. The best employees are likely to go first, which will have an impact on the efficiency of state operations and the level of service agencies provide.

Continuing to squeeze state salaries is a penny-wise, pound-foolish strategy. Perhaps legislators simply do want to consider the salary proposal as a "global" issue, but it would be too bad if removing the increases from agency budgets is just part of a strategy to kill the modest raises later.

— Lawrence Journal-World, via the Associated Press

Write us

The Colby Free Press encourages Letters to the Editor on any topic of general interest. Letters should be brief, clear and to the point. They must be signed and carry the address and phone number of the author.

We do not publish anonymous letters. We sign our opinions and expect readers to do likewise. Nor do we run form letters or letters about topics which do not pertain to our area. Thank-yous from this area should be submitted to the Want Ad desk.

Letters will not be censored, but will be read and edited for form and style, clarity, length and legality. We will not publish attacks on private individuals or businesses not pertaining to a public issue.

Before an election, letters (other than responses by a candidate) will not be published after the Thursday before the polls open.

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Bill opens floodgate to online courses

You cannot be online for more than a few minutes before online college ads will pop-up on your screen. Click on them and you may find that they reduce or even disappear when you enter your zip code.

There are a few states that have partially held back the flood of "cheap" online college courses. Kansas has been one of those states.

But House Bill No. 2544, approved this last month, will now move to the Kansas Senate Ways and Means Committee. This bill opens the floodgates to every online course and program that is "accredited" in other states that have also joined the "State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement" or SARA.

Just as the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers have worked to give away state oversight and jurisdiction of K-12 education to a uniform nation-wide common core, this act supported by the Kansas Board of Regents abdicates state decision-making and will automatically admit online programs.

The Authorization Reciprocity Agreement is touted as offering "...a process to make state authorization more efficient, more uniform in regard to necessary and reasonable standards of practice that could span states, and more effective in dealing with quality and integrity issues that have arisen in online/distance education offerings. It also aims to be less costly and less complex than the current system for both states and institutions."

The Kansas Board of Regents has been approving out-of-state online courses and programs at a steady clip for the past decade — about as fast as they flow in. The board operates under the illusion that they have little choice but to approve online programs if they are approved in some other state. But the pa-



John Richard Schrock

• Education Frontlines

perwork and monthly procedures kept this flow limited to a steady stream — a half-hearted "finger in the dike." But passage of this bill will automate the process. It opens the floodgates to online operations across the United States.

What about the alleged advantages of being "more efficient, more uniform"? That is precisely why every rust bucket that sails the seas is registered in Panama. It provides the lowest common denominator in inspection for the high seas. It has the lowest tax rate too.

What about the claim that the reciprocity agreement establishes "necessary and reasonable standards of practice" to deal with "quality and integrity issues"?

Where is the evidence that accreditation can detect the superior programs from the diploma mills? Most public school superintendents know that student teachers vary widely in competency from different Kansas colleges. Yet every college is National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education-accredited. That accreditation is useless.

Just a few years ago, the Inspector General's Office of the U.S.D.E. issued an alert and criticized the Higher Learning Commission, an accreditor of over 1,000 U.S. institutions for its decision to accredit the for-profit American InterContinental University. That alert "calls into question" this major accreditor's ability

to verify quality education, in specific, a five-week course for nine credit hours.

Most online operations are for profit. In the May 3, 2013, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, a doctoral study at the University of Washington used data from the national Longitudinal Survey of Youth that tracks nearly 9,000 teenagers each year since 1997 and controlled for background traits. The wages of graduates of for-profit colleges "were more than 20 percent lower than the wages of those who attended two-year programs at public colleges..." An additional survey commissioned by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* of employers who hire graduates with baccalaureate degrees found that "employers were least likely to hire graduates of online colleges. For-profit colleges scored the next lowest..."

The workplace has good reasons to question the quality of many online courses and programs. A growing number of graduate programs are no longer accepting transfer credit from so-called online science "labs" and performance arts.

In Kansas, the gatekeeper on course and program quality is the Board of Regents.

House Bill No. 2544 allows them to abdicate that responsibility. And out-of-state online courses and programs will not be subject to the rigorous program review of regent's schools.

That leaves the Kansas Senate our last line of defense to preserve the value of a bonafide degree.

John Richard Schrock, a professor of biology and department chair at a leading teacher's college, lives in Emporia. He emphasizes that his opinions are strictly his own.

Alzheimer's Disease needs to be tackled

Every 68 seconds, someone in America develops Alzheimer's disease — a devastating and irreversible brain disease that slowly destroys an individual's cognitive functioning, including memory and thought.

Alzheimer's currently affects more than 5.2 million Americans and more than 35.6 million worldwide. As the population ages, the number of people diagnosed with Alzheimer's will double every five years, while the number 85 years and older with this disease will triple by 2050.

These statistics provide a much-needed Alzheimer's reality check. This terrible disease is the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States and there is currently no diagnostic test, no treatment and no cure.

The U.S. Senate recently held a hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the devastating impacts of Alzheimer's — both personal and economic — and the state of current research initiatives. I invited my friend and former colleague, Congressman Dennis Moore of Lenexa, to share his personal testimony at the hearing. Rep. Moore was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in June 2011 after serving Kansas' 3rd District from 1999 to 2011.

"An epidemic is upon us" Rep. Moore told the committee, "and too many families are in situations like mine facing a fatal disease that currently has no way to prevent, cure or even slow its progression."

I asked my friend what health care profes-



U.S. Senator Jerry Moran

• Moran's Memo

sionals are telling him he can do about his diagnosis. Dennis responded, "Basically to take the medication that they diagnosed for me ... and also to get some exercise, which I try to do on a daily basis. My wife very much encourages me to do that. I'm a smart husband; I say, 'Yes dear.'"

I appreciate Congressman Moore's willingness to testify before the Senate on behalf of the thousands of Americans and people around the world who have encountered Alzheimer's disease. The way he is living his life gives others courage and hope, and I commend him and his wife Stephanie for their continued public service.

As a nation, it is critical that we confront the pending Alzheimer's crisis and its financial costs as the Baby Boom generation ages. Caring for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias is expected to cost \$203 billion this year, with \$142 billion covered by the federal government through Medicare and Medicaid.

A study by the Rand Corp. stated that the cost of dementia care is projected to double

over the next 30 years, surpassing health care expenses for both heart disease and cancer. Yet, for every \$270 Medicare and Medicaid spends caring for individuals with Alzheimer's, the federal government currently spends only \$1 on research.

Alzheimer's has become a disease to define a generation, but if we focus and prioritize our research capacity, it does not need to continue as an inevitable part of aging.

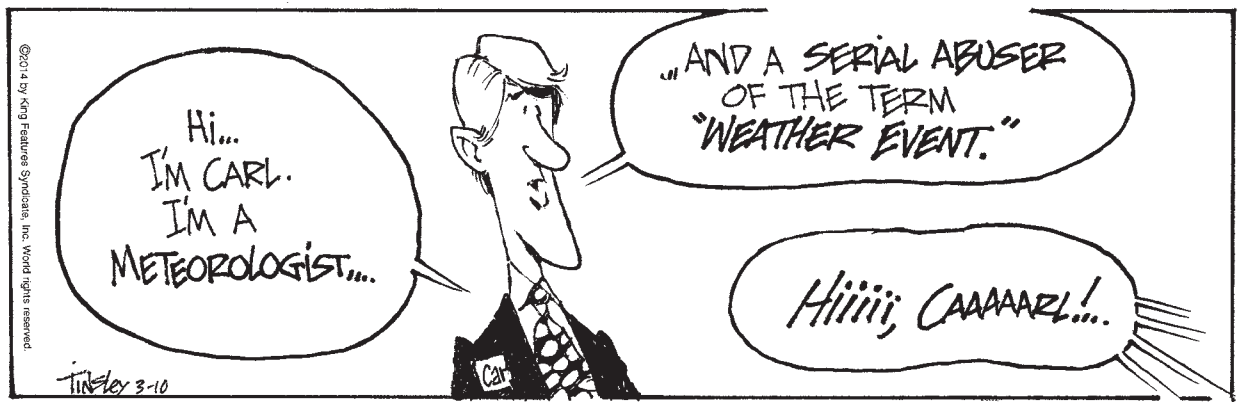
Research suggests that more progress could be made with a boost in investment. One study found that a breakthrough against Alzheimer's that delays the onset of the disease by five years would mean a savings of \$447 billion a year by 2050.

It is time to pledge to defeat Alzheimer's disease in the next decade. The health and financial future of our nation are at stake and the United States cannot afford to ignore such a threat. Together, we can make a sustained commitment to Alzheimer's research that will benefit our nation and bring hope to future generations. The challenge is ours and the moment to act is now.

Jerry Moran of Manhattan, the junior U.S. senator from Kansas, is a member of the Senate Banking Committee and serves as the ranking member of the Subcommittee for Housing, Transportation and Community Development. He is the sponsor of the Financial Institutions Examination Fairness and Reform Act.

Mallard Fillmore

• Bruce Tinsley



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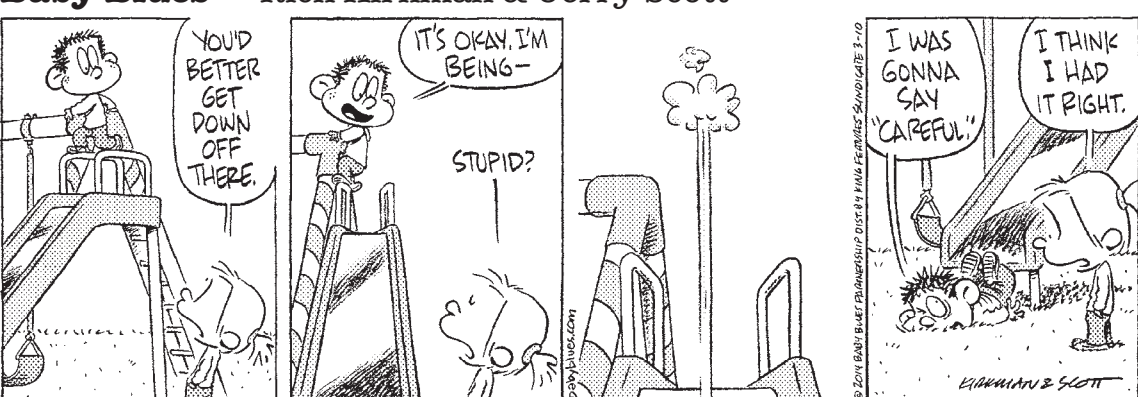
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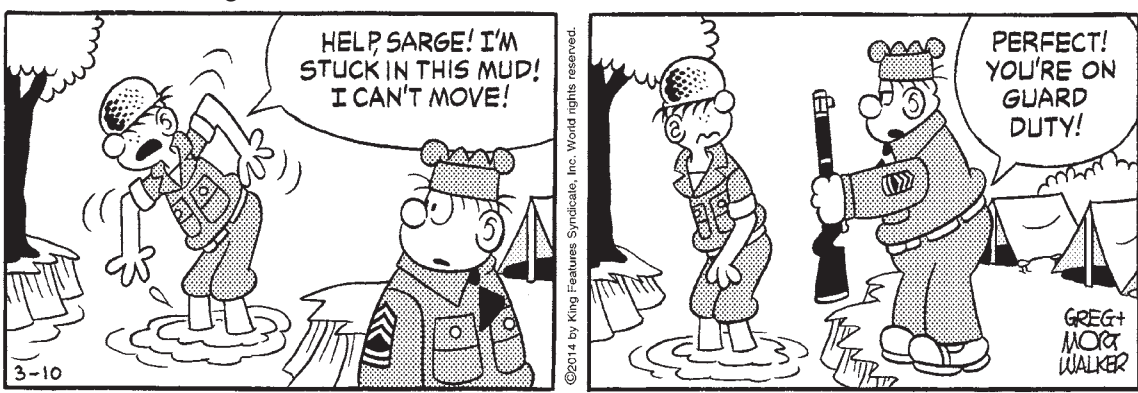
Dennis Tubbs
dtubbs@kansasins.com

www.kansasins.com

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



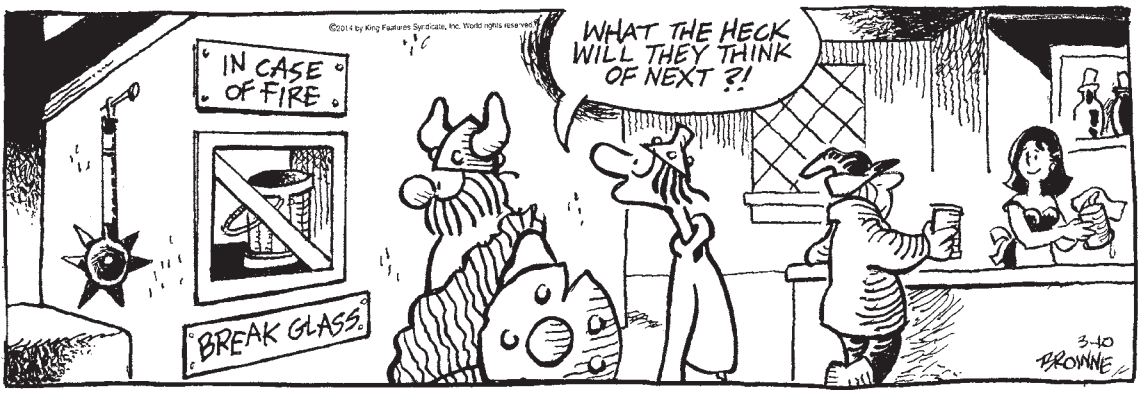
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



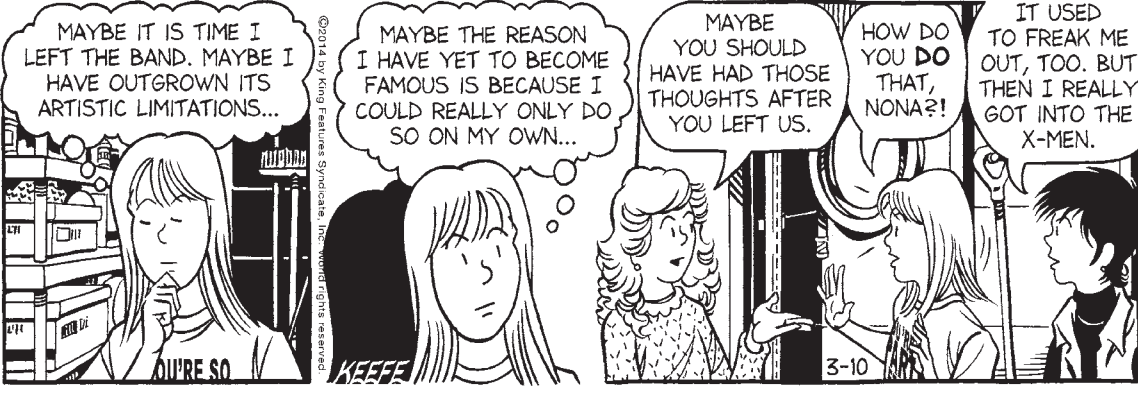
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



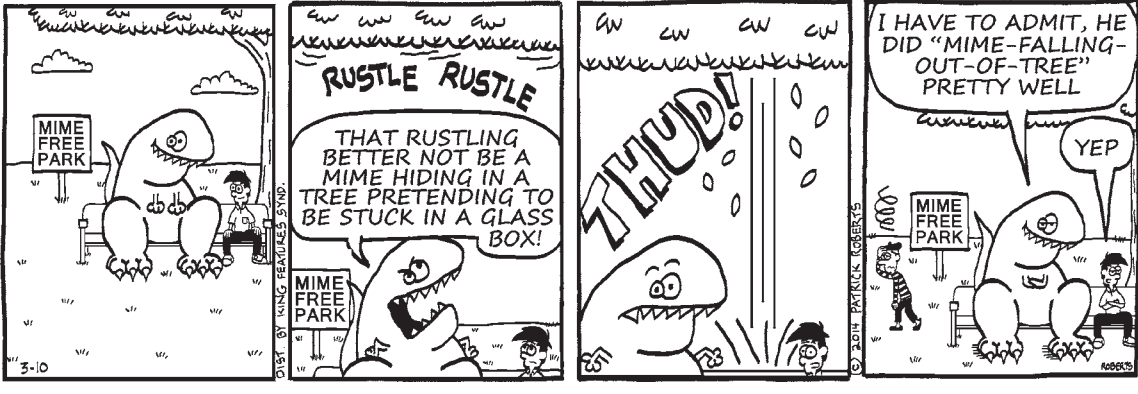
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



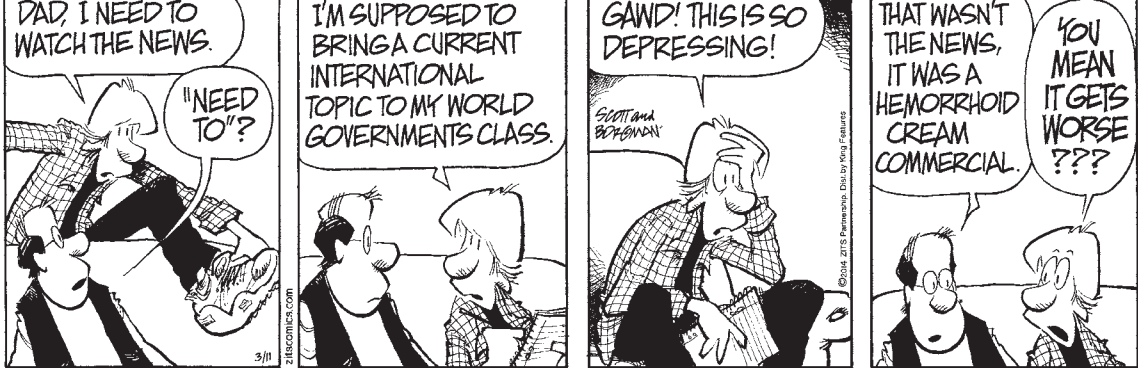
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting

Cameo glass a popular find

Cameo glass is popular with collectors. Galle, Thomas Webb, Mt. Washington and Daum are well known, but some smaller companies that worked at the same time are almost unknown.

Burgun, Schverer & Cie (son) was founded in 1711 in Meisenthal, France. The company always made top-quality glass and survived by changing methods and designs to attract new customers. It made blown glass, watch glass, eyeglass lenses and tableware.

By the 1860s, it was famous for its understanding of glass-making. Emile Galle was an apprentice there before he left for his father's company, and the two companies had a working arrangement for about 10 years.

In 1895 Burgun, Schverer & Cie produced cameo glass by the new and less expensive method of painting layers of colored and clear glass and then carving them. It also made other art glass, including enameled and gilt vases, often with silver mounts.

Burgun, Schverer & Cie won many awards for its glass, and in 1901 it became a public company. It is now called Verrerie de Meisenthal. Its glass has long been marked with a hard-to-understand emblem that includes the Cross of Lorraine, a thistle and the letters BS & C on a banner.

Look for cameo glass by Burgun, Schverer & Cie. It may be overlooked by those with less information about the glass's quality and mark.

Tip: Don't swim in a pool wearing jewelry. Chlorine makes it dull. If you are in the ocean, the glimmer of metal may attract unwanted fish.

(c) 2014 by Cowles Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ A 8 4
♥ J 9 7 4 2
♦ A 9 8 6 5
♣ —

WEST
♠ 7 5 3
♥ A 6
♦ Q 10 7 3
♣ 10 8 7 5

EAST
♠ K Q J 10 9 2
♥ —
♦ K J 4
♣ A K Q 4

SOUTH
♠ 6
♥ K Q 10 8 5 3
♦ 2
♣ J 9 6 3 2

The bidding:
North Pass 2♦
East 5♦
South 3♥
West 3♠

6♥ Pass Pass Dble
* strong Opening lead seven of spades.

Famous Hand
This deal occurred many years ago in a match between Argentina and the United States. Egisto Rocchi, East for Argentina, opened the bidding with two spades after Charles Coon, the American North, passed. Rocchi could hardly have suspected at this stage that he would eventually wind up minus 1,210 points!

South, Eric Murray, overcalled with three hearts, and West, Ricardo Calvente, bid three spades. After Coon bid four hearts, Rocchi made a slam try by bidding five diamonds.

Murray, knowing that he was not going to allow the opponents to play in five spades, then bid six clubs, which was converted to six hearts by Coon. Rocchi made a forcing pass, and Calvente doubled, ending the auction.

Murray had no trouble making 12 tricks. He won the spade lead with the ace and crossruffed the rest of the way, trumping all five of his clubs in dummy. Calvente's ace of trumps scored the only trick for the defense. Rocchi, who had opened with a strong two-bid, took no tricks at all!

The contract would have failed had Calvente led the ace and another trump originally, but this was by no means a clear-cut lead.

The American East-West pair at the second table, Mervin Key and Robert Nail, fared only slightly better than their Argentine counterparts, shrewdly doubling the opponents in five hearts before they got to slam! Here the bidding went:

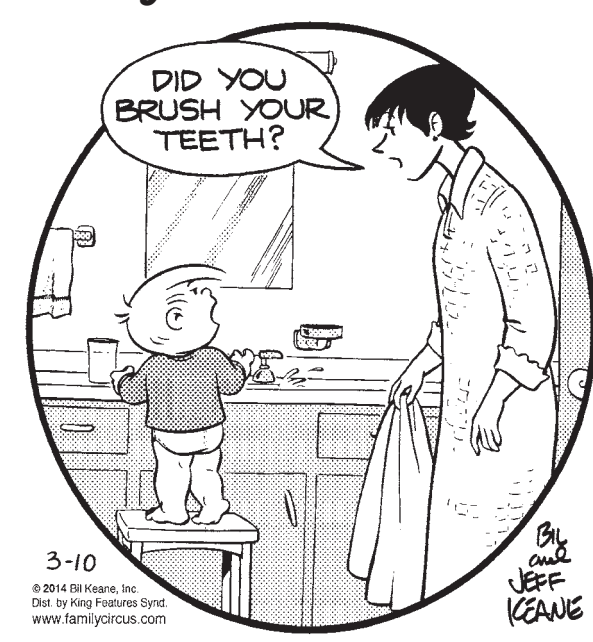
North East South West
1♥ 2♥ 5♥ Dble

The Argentine North scratched up an opening heart bid and found himself in five hearts doubled at his next turn. East sat for the double (a questionable decision) and led the king of clubs.

North made the contract with an overtrick, scoring 750 points, but, not having bid the slam, his team lost 460 points on the deal.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



3-10 © 2014 Bil Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd. www.familycircus.com "Most of them." By and with JEFF KEANE

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

5			4					3
	4	6					1	9
			6	3				
7		1	5	2				4
3			6					2
2		8	3	7				5
			7	4				
	8	1					7	6
2			1					8

Difficulty Level ★ 3/10

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

1	4	2	3	8	6	9	7	5
3	7	5	1	9	2	4	6	8
8	9	6	7	4	5	2	3	1
2	1	8	4	5	7	6	9	3
7	3	9	8	6	1	5	2	4
6	5	4	9	2	3	8	1	7
4	2	7	6	1	8	3	5	9
5	8	3	2	7	9	1	4	6
9	6	1	5	3	4	7	8	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Cryptoquip

IJQOA IJSOCWUQ SODK PBUWCK
UORWIT PJDAODU EDJBIA NWU
XCJQNWIT EDQWXCOU:
ODIOUQ NOFFWIT EREK.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AFTER I ACCIDENTALLY ATE LOTS OF FOOD COLORING, IT FELT AS THOUGH I DYED A LITTLE INSIDE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals A

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Actress — Pinkett Smith
5 Not many down
8 Stop
12 Supervisor
14 Author Wiesel
15 Poe's "The — Heart"
16 PBS science show
17 Dine
18 Binges
20 Main force
23 Remain
24 Unusual
25 Mideast metropolis
28 Director Lee
29 Diving duck
30 Crow's cry
32 Satellite launched in 1962
34 Scoop holder
35 Deserve
36 Adjusted a piano

DOWN
37 Easter (Sp.)
40 Turf
41 Settled down
42 Wire
47 Existed
48 DNA, instance
49 — -do-well
50 Author's uncle
51 Wooden strip
5 Accomplishment
6 Moray, e.g.
7 One who's hard to pin down?
8 English king, 1413-22
9 Burn soother
10 Not pre-recorded
11 Afternoon parties
13 Immediately, in the ER
19 Carson predecessor
20 Lingerie item
21 Carry on
22 Incite
23 Car style
25 Tests the strength
26 Monitor picture
27 Barn roof decoration
29 Jacob's brother
31 Marry
33 "Silence of the Lambs" role
34 Bat
36 Three-sloth
37 Chess piece
38 Sheltered
39 Paddock papa
40 Slender
43 Gabor or Mendes
44 Genetic letters
45 Performance
46 Verbalized shrug

Saturday's answer 3-10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15								16		
			17				18	19		
20	21	22			23					
24				25				26	27	
28				29				30	31	
	32	33					34			
				35			36			
37	38	39					40			
41				42	43			44	45	46
47				48						
49				50				51		

Classifieds

To place your classified ad, mail (155 W. Fifth), fax (785-462-7749), phone (785-462-3963), or stop by our office at 155 W. Fifth

Notices

The next 10 week course of Divorce Recovery for women will begin March 17, 2014 and go through May 19, 2014. Classes are held each Monday evening 6:30 - 8 p.m. At the Colby United Methodist Church Email lynetteball@yahoo.com for information. 785-675-8606
---2/21---3/13---

Dan is back! Dan Geschwentner. Small remodeling and repair jobs. Call 785-443-3673.
---12/15---TFN---

Classified ad deadlines (word ads only). Noon the day before publication (noon Friday for Monday paper). Ads going into the Country Advocate need to be in on Thursdays. Please check your ad the first time it runs. If you find an error, please call at (785) 462-3963 so it can be corrected, since we will not be responsible for errors after that first day. The Colby Free Press.
---3/1---TFN---

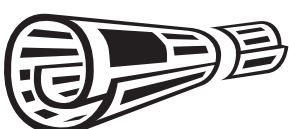
Help Wanted

We're accepting applications for Housekeepers. Salary to be determined based upon qualifications. Apply in person and pick up applications at the Sleep Inn & Suites, 2075 Sewell Ave., Colby, KS.
---3/7---3/20---

Registered Nurses Needed - One full time and one part time position available; night shift; twelve hour shifts. Successful applicants will possess a positive attitude, strong communication skills, and basic computer knowledge. Holiday and weekend rotation required. Cheyenne County Hospital offers competitive wages, paid CEUs, support for educational growth, and a comprehensive benefit package. Call or go online to learn more! www.cheyennecountyhospital.com 785-332-2104 ext. 116 - Human Resources, Cheyenne County Hospital, 210 W. First, St. Francis, KS 67756.
---3/6---3/12---

OTR Livestock Hauler needed. Must have valid CDL and good driving record. Pre-employment drug screening required. Only serious applicants need apply. Call (785) 626-5293.
---3/5---3/31---

Looking for a way to increase your income working a few hours a week from home. Ask me about the Nerium opportunity and I can help you get started. Call 785-443-1458 or visit www.mitch2014.nerium.com.
---3/5---3/10---



Keep up with all the local and area news, plus any upcoming events with a subscription to The Colby Free Press!

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THE COLBY FREE PRESS
155 W. 5th, Colby
785-462-3963

Help Wanted

Elevator Worker - Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM), a world leader in agricultural processing, is currently seeking candidates for positions as elevator workers at our Oakley, KS location. Elevator workers will unload grain, perform clean-up work, perform some maintenance, and assist in other areas of grain handling. Flexibility to work overtime and weekends is required. Successful completion of a pre-employment drug screen, physical and background check is required. Please apply online at www.adm.com/jobs. ADM is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.
---3/3---3/14---

Great part time job with full time health, dental, and life insurance benefits, excellent college funding - call SGT Joe Leroux in Colby at 316-213-3806 Kansas Army National Guard.
---2/24---3/21---

CDL Driver Needed - Oakley based hopper bottom trucking company hauling DDGs grain and more. Monday through Friday, paid weekly. Cell 785-953-7012.
---2/21---3/13---

City of Winona needing full time help with city maintenance work. Send application to City of Winona P.O. Box 262 Winona KS 67764. For any questions phone 785-846-7442.
---2/17---3/14---

The Team at Kansasland Tire of Norton has an immediate opening for a service truck operator/general service person. Must have a valid drivers license. Competitive wages, 401k, insurance, & uniforms. Experience preferred, but not necessary we will train. Please stop by at 11101 Rd E1, Norton and pick up an application or call 785-877-5181 EOE.
---2/12---TFN---

Great Western Tire of Colby, Inc., 1170 S. Country Club Drive, is now accepting applications for all shop positions. Positions included, but not limited to, lube oil & tire, truck tire, service call, and alignment technicians. Experience required, but will train the right person. Valid driver's license is a requirement. Full time position includes competitive salary and benefits. Apply in person, EOE. Questions please call 785.462.2100.
---1/8---TFN---

Help Wanted

Carrier wanted for morning delivery of the Salina Journal in Colby - early morning hours. For more information call 1-800-827-6363 Ext. 300.
---2/27---3/12---

PSI Transport, LLC, is always looking for good company livestock and grain haulers as well as shop mechanics. Competitive pay life/health/dental benefit and bonus program available. EOE (785) 675-3477
---7/13---TFN---

Carriers needed to deliver the Colby Free Press! Great for someone needing extra income. A few hours a day, 4 days a week. Bonus after 3 months. To apply please stop by the office at 155 W. Fifth St., Colby or for questions call 785-462-3963.
---3/21---TFN---

Office Space for Rent

Downtown office space for rent, corner location, utilities included with rent. Call Thomas County Insurance 785-462-3939.
---10/3---TFN---

Storage for Rent

Storage Units For Rent - Different sizes available. Call 785-443-8658.
---3/6---4/17---

Mobile Home for Rent

Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath, storage shed, available now 785-462-1047.
---3/6---3/12---

Houses for Sale

For sale or trade. 3 bedroom home in Brewster, 106 Nebraska. \$39,000 OBO. Contact Kenny at 719-740-1072.
---1/30---3/19---

Misc. for Sale

Mark Williams Spicer 12 bolt differential, 6.14 to 1 ratio. \$500 O.B.O., Colby 325-338-2555. Also New spool for 12 bolt Spicer \$50.
---3/10---3/21---

Help Wanted

Pebble Embossed Plastic Banquetrolls 40'x300' (white) \$30 + tax. Can be purchased at the Colby Free Press, 155 W. 5th St.
---3/21---TFN---

Lost & Found

Lost - Female Brown Standard Poodle, white on chest. Last seen 4 miles east of Oasis Travel Center. Anyone with information please call Colby Animal Clinic 785-460-8621.
---3/5---3/10---

Vehicles for Sale

2000 3500HD Chevy 1Ton, 68,000 one owner Arizona miles, 454 5 speed, 10' flatbed, 15,000 GVW. \$8,500.00; 2000 3500 Chevy 1Ton dually, 145,000 miles, new NAPA 454, Rebuilt automatic transmission, crewcab, 4x4, nice PU, \$9,500; 1999 29' Wildcat 3 axle flatbed trailer, beavertail, \$4,500; 454 Duerst Natural gas irrigation engines, water cooled exhaust, oil cooler, big oil pan, murphy's, need valve job. 350 Chev natural gas irrigation engine, runs great. May do some trading on engines. Call Paul 520-975-3312, Levant, KS.
---3/7---3/13---

1997 Ford Taurus, white, 4-door, in good condition, runs good - in Colby. Call 970-459-0733.
---3/6---3/12---

Call us before you pay your next insurance premium. American Family Insurance - Rita Peters Agency - Colby 785-462-8246.
---1/18---TFN---

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- Min. 3-5 years field technician exp. req.
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Help Wanted

Bookkeeper Position Available at Brewster, KS

This is a full-time position with competitive wages and a full benefits package.



EOE

Please send resume to:

CHS Inc. PO Box 39, Brewster, KS 67732

E-mail: travis.goodheart@chsinc.com or

Apply in person at CHS-Brewster

181 Hwy 24, Brewster, Kansas

The City of COLBY HELP WANTED

The City of Colby and the Recreation Department are hiring American Red Cross certified lifeguards, swim instructors and concessions/admissions workers for the 2014 summer season. All guards must be at least 15 years of age and certified in Lifeguard, First Aid and CPR training. Guard salary will be \$8-\$11, based on experience. Concessions/admissions employees must be at least 16 years of age, and salary will be \$7.50-\$7.85/hour. Colby Community College is offering recertification classes in March and certification classes in May. Contact the Admissions offices at 460.4690 for class information. Employees are eligible for certification reimbursement. New employees must fill out an application which can be obtained at City Hall or the Colby Rec Department. Returning personnel may request that their previous application be considered. All applications and request for consideration must be turned into the Rec office at 285 E 5th Street or contacted at 460.4440 by Friday, March 14. Application review will begin March 18th, 2014. Please contact Dane Olofson at the Rec Department (460.4440) for more information. EOE



Special Investigator I

The West Region Department for Children & Families (DCF), Colby Service Center is now recruiting a Special Investigator I. This is a full-time benefit eligible position with hourly wage of \$15.75. Primary functions of this position are to meet service needs of children in families where abuse or neglect is suspected or are at risk for abuse and neglect. **Minimum requirement:** Have a high school diploma or equivalent and one year investigating, fact finding or enforcing state or federal laws and regulations. Education in communications, psychology, social work, public or business administration, criminal justice or law may be substituted for experience as determined relevant by the agency. An application is required and must be submitted by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, March 18, 2014. This can be done at www.jobs.ks.gov Submit to DCF - West Region, Requisition number 176379. For more information send an email to: WestJobs@dcf.ks.gov
Tax Clearance: Each applicant applying for a State of Kansas job vacancy must obtain a State Tax Clearance Certificate by accessing the Kansas Department of Revenue's website at <http://www.ksrevenue.org/taxclearance.html>. A Tax Clearance is a comprehensive tax account review to determine and ensure that an individual's account is compliant with all primary Kansas Tax Laws. A Tax Clearance expires every 90 days. Applicants are responsible for submitting their certificate with all other application materials to the hiring agency. This is in accordance with Executive Order 2004-03. A tax clearance must be submitted to be considered for an interview.

described real estate, fixtures and personal property situated in Thomas County, Kansas, all as directed by the Court, to-wit:

WESTERN STATE BANK, a Kansas Banking Corporation, Plaintiff,

vs.

MEDICAL ARTS, INCORPORATED; COLBY MEDICAL & SURGICAL CENTER; ESTATE OF VICTOR H. HILDYARD II, DECEASED, BRENDA HILDYARD, ADMINISTRATOR; BRENDA HILDYARD, Title to Real Estate Involved PEOPLES STATE BANK; CARDINAL HEALTH; THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA through its agent INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; SANDRA SQUIBB; RICK DEINES; LOGAN COUNTY HOSPITAL; STATE OF KANSAS, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; HTB ARCHITECTS, PLLC; CAROLYN YARD AND WILLIAM V. HALE, CO-EXECUTORS OF THE ESTATE OF FRANCES D. ZOBBERST, DECEASED. Defendants.

Case No. 12-CV-48

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

TO: All persons who are or may be concerned.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued and directed out of the above entitled Court pursuant to the judgment and decree entered therein, wherein the Western State Bank was Plaintiff, and Medical Arts, Inc., and Colby Medical & Surgical Center and others were Defendants, the same being case number 12-CV-48, and to me, the undersigned Sheriff of Thomas County, Kansas, directed: I will on the 20th day of March, 2014, at 10:00am, central time of said day, offer for sale and sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in hand at the front door of the Court House in the City of Colby, Thomas County, Kansas, the following

ALL OF LOT ELEVEN (11), TWELVE (12), THIRTEEN (13), FOURTEEN (14), FIFTEEN (15), SIXTEEN (16), SEVENTEEN (17), EIGHTEEN (18), AND NINETEEN (19), IN BLOCK SEVEN (7), SOUTH PARK ADDITION TO THE CITY OF COLBY, THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS AS SHOWN BY THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF,

(A/K/A 785 West Webster, Colby, Kansas)

AND LOT TWO (2), THREE (3), FOUR (4), FIVE (5), SIX (6), SEVEN (7), EIGHT (8), NINE (9), AND TEN (10), BLOCK EIGHT (8), SOUTH PARK ADDITION TO THE CITY OF COLBY, THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS, AS SHOWN BY THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF. LESS AND EXCEPT A TRACT OF LAND IN LOTS 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9, AND 10 IN BLOCK EIGHT (8), SOUTH PARK ADDITION TO THE CITY OF COLBY, KANSAS, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 2, THENCE EAST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 0.6 FEET; THENCE SOUTH TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID 8, 0.8 FEET EAST OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT; THENCE EAST ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE 0.5 FEET; THENCE SOUTH TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE 1.4 FEET EAST OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 10; THENCE WEST 1.4 FEET ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID BLOCK 8; THENCE NORTH ALONG SAID WEST LINE TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.

(A/K/A 175 South Range, Colby, Kansas)

Services

Tree Service: Call Abel Tree Service LLC for tree spraying, tree removal, stump grinding, and trimming. Equipped with a bucket truck. In the Colby area now. Call 785-871-7275 now for free estimates. Satisfaction guaranteed.
---2/13---3/12---

Do you have weeds every year? Want a great looking yard? Call JM Tree & Lawn Service to fill ALL of your needs this year. We offer full tree care and sprinkler system maintenance/installs as well. Call today to get a free quote. 785-462-6908.
---5/13---TFN---

Do Your Feet Hurt? We can help with I-Step Technology. We also provide medicare approved diabetic shoes up to size 15 with doctors prescription by appointment only. Currier Drug, Inc, Atwood. 1-800-696-3214.
---4/22---TFN---

Have a leaking roof and need it repaired? Look no further. Murray Roofing & Construction, LLC will give you a free estimate and roof inspection. We specialize in residential and commercial roofing systems. Call our office to schedule an inspection. 785-462-6908.
---3/11---TFN---



Woofter Construction & Irrigation is looking for a full time **Irrigation Service Technician**. Background with electricity & welding. Benefits include paid vacation & 401K. Contact Sean Lydon @ 785-462-7441

NOW HIRING ALL POSITIONS

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2215 S. Range Ave.
Colby, KS 67701
785-460-6683

Public Notice

Including all improvements, appurtenances and fixtures thereon. All equipment of whatever kind and nature, including medical equipment, office equipment and office furniture, contained within either or both of the above described parcels of real property, including but not limited to the following:

Exam Table; Computer Hardware; Goose neck exam table; Fax Machine; Stool on rollers; Cardiac Rehab; Blood pressure cuff; Quinton; Otoscope; HPSC; Chair; CT system; Baby scale; Bone Density; 4- Adult scales; Ultrasound; Del Gendex rad system; Mammography; Reman Kodak MM Processor; Nuclear medicine; Computer Software

The said property being taken as the property of Defendants Medical Arts, Inc., and/or Colby Medical & Surgical Center, and will be sold as a single unit, pursuant to the findings and order of the court made on September 9, 2013, filed January 30, 2014, in the above captioned proceedings, and to satisfy the lien of Plaintiff and judgments rendered as reflected therein, and for any taxes that may be due and owing upon the premises, and for costs of suit and sale, and accruing costs of suit, and further that the above described property shall be sold without appraisal or redemption.

ROD TAYLOR
Sheriff of Thomas County, Kansas

E. Edward Brown #06559
CALIHAN, BROWN, BURGARDT & DOUGLASS, P.A.
212 W. Pine St., P.O. Box 1016
Garden City, Kansas 67846
(620) 276-2381
ebrown@odscg.net
Attorneys for Plaintiff

(Published in the Colby Free Press on February 28, March 5, and 10, 2014)

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785-462-3963

They're back! 'Dogs are craving state title

By R.B. Headley
Colby Free Press
rbheadley@nwks.com

Wildly good times are only starting around Rexford if the Golden Plains girls deliver a long-awaited super celebration.

"We're going for the championship. No more third places," happy senior Jordan Christensen declared after the Golden Plains Bulldogs won another substate title Saturday night in Grainfield.

Christensen's eyes never sparkled brighter than when she spotted four-year starting teammate Hailee Spresser cutting to the hoop.

Her pinpoint pass and Spresser's layup put the final touches on Golden Plains' 47-34 win over top-five rated rival Triplains-Brewster.

Spresser (19 points) and Christensen (15) matched Triplains-Brewster's entire team score. The same Titans who played Golden Plains three other times this season — with none decided by more than three points.

Yet a Titans offense coming off 72 points in Friday's semifinals was held below half that total on Saturday.

"Hailee and Jordan did what four-year starters are supposed to do, but a lot of other girls contributed," coach Parker Christensen said. "Like the defense (sophomore) Kami Miller played on Shayna Rogge. I think she (Rogge) scored four points tonight."

Rogge was averaging 15 points per game for the Titans (18-5 final



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press Golden Plains senior Hailee Spresser pulled down this rebound in front of Triplains-Brewster's Dara Roulier (15) and April Mays (13) Saturday night. Spresser tallied a game-high 19 points and 15 boards.

record), who went 17-2 against everyone not named Golden Plains.

However, Rogge ran into foul trouble Saturday night and the Titans' offense stumbled after a tight 22-21 first half.

The Bulldogs outscored their big rivals, 16-4, during what was a decisive third quarter.

"Two calls against Shayna were huge in this game, and they both could have gone either way," Ti-

tans coach Kent Gfeller said. "She sat down and we lost our composure a bit."

The Titans turned to full-court pressure and caused some late chaos.

Yet they never drew closer than 10, partly because of two missed layups along with some errant passes.

"We're disappointed. We were in this spot last year, but we didn't really expect to win," Gfeller admitted. "This year, we expected to win."

Senior Brittany Plummer finished her Titans career one night after hitting 1,000 career points in the 73-52 semifinal win over Northern Valley.

Plummer's 11 points on Saturday mainly arrived in the first half. Both she and junior Alicia Barrie hit three-pointers to turn an early 10-4 deficit into a 10-10 tie through one period.

Junior Dara Roulier's offensive putback put TP-B ahead 14-13, but it would be the Titans' last lead.

MiKayla Lobato and Maddy Walz both scores to offset two more Barrie baskets before halftime.

The Bulldogs (20-3 record) really unleashed their teeth during a 8-2 run starting that second half. Christensen's smooth three-pointer zipped through the net for Golden Plains' first double-digit lead of 36-25.

A chance to improve on last year's third-place state finish was now clearly in sight.

"Going to state two years in a



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press Golden Plains High became back-to-back substate champs and celebrate after defeating rival Triplains-Brewster Saturday night at Grainfield in a showdown of 1A Division II top five-rated teams. The Bulldogs begin state tournament play on Thursday.

row, that's not easy to do," coach Parker Christensen admitted. "Injuries and a lot of things can happen."

"It's just awesome. I woke up this morning ready to go," Jordan Christensen added.

"I just feel so blessed to be part of such a great team," Spresser

concluded.

The Bulldogs begin 1A Division II state tourney play on Thursday (4:45 p.m.) against No. 6-seed Wilson (17-6). Complete pairings are featured below.

Golden Plains (47) — Hailee Spresser 19, Jordan Christensen 15, MiKayla Lobato 6, Maddie

Walz 4, Kami Miller 3. Rebounds leader: Spresser 15. Steals: Christensen 3.

Triplains-Brewster (34) — Brittany Plummer 11, Alicia Barrie 10, Dara Roulier 8, Shayna Rogge 4, Kelly Lamb 1. Rebound leaders: Roulier 9. Assists: Plummer 3. Steals: C.J. Lewellan 3.

Titans denied state spot

By R.B. Headley
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One team owned an eight-game winning streak while the other had just stopped a six-game slide.

Yet as every good sports fan knows, only one game matters at basketball playoff time.

A 25-9 second half meant Saturday night's 1A substate title game belonged to the Northern Valley Huskies.

"It just wasn't our night," Triplains-Brewster coach Michael Collett said about the Titans' 44-27 season-ending defeat at Grainfield.

The Titans (13-9 final record) had reeled off eight consecutive wins since Feb. 11, including a 40-39 thriller over Northern Valley just one weekend ago.

Saturday's rematch looked good again early, especially when TP-B took an 11-4 lead on senior Seth Smith's three-pointer.

Sophomore Coleton Rogge also connected from long distance during this early 11-0 Titan flurry. Northern Plains (12-10 record) had scored the game's first four points.

The Titans continued hitting timely threes as sophomore Justin Schmidt's "triple" maintained a



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press Triplains-Brewster's Ryan Gfeller looked for an open teammate around Northern Valley defender Jordan Baird (23) in the 1A substate title at Grainfield Saturday night.

14-9 advantage.

A see-saw contest soon developed with junior C.J. Felzien's two free throws giving Triplains-Brewster one more lead of 18-17.

Yet after hitting another basket, third-quarter troubles struck the Titan boys just like Saturday's first title game for Triplains-Brewster's girls.

The Titans only tallied three points while falling behind 30-21 through three periods.

Although sophomore Ryan Gfeller hit one more three-pointer, the Huskies' momentum soon turned into a commanding double-digit margin. The Huskies qualified for state just two nights after halting a six-game losing streak.

Explosive duo shot Titans into final

Junior Shayna Rogge tallied 25 points and senior Brittany Plummer added 18 during the Triplains-Brewster girls' 73-52 substate semifinal win over Northern Valley Friday evening.

The Titans advance into their final showdown with rival Golden Plains behind this high-powered attack.

Both top scorers hit better than 50 percent of their shots: Rogge finished 11 for 20 (55 percent) and Plummer drilled seven of 13 (54 percent).

The Titans featured several others who hit multiple baskets led by senior C.J. Lewallen's eight points.

Others in the scoring column were junior Dara Roulier (six points), sophomore Kelly Lamb (six), junior Alicia Barrie (five), sophomore Tayl'r Cheatum (three) and senior April Mays (two points).

Cheatum hit her one attempt from beyond the three-point arc.

Plummer buried a trio of triples while Barrie and Lewellan both connected from long distance.

When Rogge wasn't scoring her 25 points, she also pulled down 15 rebounds and made three steals. Roulier joined her in dominating the glass with 10 boards.

Plummer's four steals were another team-leading total.

Titan highlights also included Lamb's eight rebounds (five offensive) and a blocked shot.

The Titans netted at least 18 points in all four quarters.

Golden Plains, the substate's No. 1 seed, had a tougher semifinal against No. 4-seed Wheatland-Grinnell.

However, the Bulldogs did score a 46-40 victory which continued their quest to be repeat substate champs. Golden Plains finished that goal Saturday night.



R.B. HEADLEY/Colby Free Press Triplains-Brewster senior Brittany Plummer fired up a jumper earlier this season. She reached 1,000 career points during her 18-point effort against Northern Valley Friday evening.

Leave it to mighty Beavers as they end Eagles' season

By R.B. Headley
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Perhaps Scott City will send its entire boys basketball team to Wichita State University someday.

Yet that day didn't arrive soon enough for any 4A sub-state opponent at Goodland last weekend.

While former Beaver Ron Baker was helping the Wichita State Shockers win their first Missouri Valley Conference tournament since 1987, Scott City was doing what's become an annual event: winning a substate title en route to another state championship shot.

A 26-point first quarter began the Beavers' quest Friday night, and they never really looked back while defeating Colby, 64-29, at Goodland's Max Jones Field House.

The Eagles (2-19 final record) still kept battling and actually featured as many double-digit scorers (two) as Scott City.

Seniors Cameron Brown (11 points) and Luke Cox (10) combined for 21 points during their final high school hoops games.

"I am very proud of this team. They competed from the start of the season to the end," Colby first-year coach Kevin Brown said. "I couldn't have hoped for a better group of young men to work with."

Cox shot 75 percent from two-point range (three for four) and also buried one three.

Brown hit a team-high five points, and he followed his first two points by swatting away Scott City's next attempt.

Senior Connor Schwanke fired an excellent assist to Cox for another inside score.

Cox and Brown both drilled



ROD HAXTUN/Scott City Record Colby High junior Ashton Russ created trouble for Scott City freshman Justin Faurot during the 4A substate semifinal in Goodland Friday evening. Another Eagle player pictured at left is Connor Mountford.

second-half triples, with Brown arching a beautiful shot through the Goodland High net. Senior Marc Bremenkamp also battled for rebounds and contested Beaver shots throughout his basketball finale.

However, the Beavers built a 40-11 halftime lead behind 22 points from senior all-stater Trey O'Neill. Scott City (19-3 record) took care of business in Saturday

night's substate final, knocking out Goodland 57-45 and avenging an earlier upset loss.

Colby (29) — Cameron Brown 11 points, Luke Cox 10, Austin Russ 4, Ashton Russ 2, Chandler Comfort 2. Rebound leaders: Cox 6, Brown 5. Assists: Brown 4. Steals: five Eagles with 1 each.

Scott City (64) — Trey O'Neill's 22 points paced the Beavers with Brett Meyer adding 11.

Bulldogs seeded third at state

The Golden Plains High girls are seeded third entering this weekend's 1A Division II state basketball tournament as they attempt to improve on last year's No. 3 finish.

A glance at the entire tournament schedule in Fort Hays University's Gross Coliseum. More details appear later this week.

Thursday's first round
No. 2 Bucklin (20-3 record) vs. No. 7 Beloit/St. John's-Tipton (17-7); No. 3 Golden Plains (20-3) vs. No. 6 Wilson (17-6), 4:45 p.m.; No. 1 Baileyville B&B (21-

3) vs. No. 8 Attica (15-8); No. 4 Argonia (19-4) vs. No. 5 Dighton (17-5).

Friday's semifinals, 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Saturday's final round: third place at noon; championship game at 4 p.m.

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Shockers raise record to 34-0

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Wichita State's still perfect. And proudly awaiting a No. 1 seed.

After the nation's only unbeaten made another put-away run in the Missouri Valley Conference tournament title game, guard Fred

VanVleet fired back at doubters who cast aspersions on a schedule ranked 113th in the nation.

"You can debate what you want to debate. Facts are facts, truth is truth," VanVleet, the conference player of the year, said after the

second-ranked Shockers beat Indiana State 83-69 on Sunday to go to 34-0.

VanVleet scored 22 points including several key baskets late and the Shockers got their typical strong ensemble effort.