



COLBY FREE PRESS

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City council to welcome new members

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

The Colby City Council will be swearing in two new council members, Bev Eicher and Jim Brown, along with recognizing Darrel Follis and Francis Britton, retiring members, during the regular meeting on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers, 585 N. Franklin.

Mayor Warren Hixson will also be sworn-in and a new council president will be selected.

Other items pending approval include the appointment of Eicher as one of the governing members to the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency, filling the unexpired term of Follis; approval of the animal petting and feeding display at Prairie Museum of Art and History from the end of April until October 5; and consider a request from the Colby Brownies to use the municipal airport facilities for a camping event on Friday and Saturday, May 9 and 10.

The council will also review two proposals for the law enforcement building on land purchased on Court and formerly owned by Cal Williams.

In addition, the council will discuss easement problems on Plum and Cherry on the east side of Franklin Ave., along with reviewing a report from Gerry Bieker, public works director, regarding that department.

The city's airport board recently negotiated a contract with Mark Ostmeier, airport manager, and the council is expected to take action on the recommendation.

Carolyn Armstrong, city manager, will also be talking with the council about bringing back Kansas

Kids Voting in Thomas County following Secretary of State Ron Thornburg's visit here last week. The idea behind the program, she said, is in developing young voters for the future. Should the city take part, its only involvement would be in setting up voting areas for the young people, Armstrong said.

Although Thornburg encourages the city's commitment, required curriculum in government classes would need to come from Colby Public Schools.

A request to operate golf carts on city streets during the Great Strides Cystic Fibrosis "Annual Walk" will need approval by the council, and the city's finance office has prepared a list of last year's charge-offs and set-offs with respect to uncollected debt.

Discussion items will include staffing and hours at the Colby Municipal Swimming Pool, a plan for spill prevention, control and countermeasures required by the Environmental Protection Agency, and appointment of council committees now that there are two new members.

Armstrong also plans to update the council on a myriad of activities to include the water rights contract, finalizing the water treatment plant, preliminary budget information, convening the vehicle committee to talk about changes in commercial sanitation, the new bleachers at the ballfields, the viaduct project and the resurfacing of Fourth Street from Franklin Ave. going east.

For questions or to receive an agenda, call Jo Strange, executive secretary to the city manager, at 462-4410.

All council meetings are open.

Kansas Marine is honored

ATCHISON (AP) — Marine Cpl. Travis Eichelberger was welcomed back home by more than 200 people, many waving flags and holding homemade banners wishing a quick recovery for the 20-year-old who was run over by an American tank in Iraq.

Eichelberger's father, Martin, pulled the family's pickup truck into a church parking lot to let his son address the crowd on Saturday.

Travis Eichelberger said he was humbled by the turnout and the cards and letters he had received. "This kind of thing will help him recover," Martin Eichelberger said.

Travis Eichelberger, a member of the 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines, suffered serious injuries to his lower body in the incident last month. Eichelberger was sleeping when another Marine pulled him partially out of the tank's path.



MICHELLE L. HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

Phillipsburg residents Marie and Charles Mayo attended the banquet honoring the Retired Senior Volunteer Program members last Wednesday at the American Legion in Colby. Mrs. Mayo was

honored for her 7,000 hours of volunteer service since she signed up for the program. More than 200 people attended the festivities where nearly 50 people were honored for their service.

Volunteers honored, celebrate

By MICHELLE L. HAWKINS

Colby Free Press

Close to 200 people involved with the Northwest Kansas Retired Senior Volunteer Program attended a banquet in their honor last Wednesday at the American Legion in Colby.

This year is the 30th anniversary of the program, which is sponsored locally by Colby Community College. The patriotic theme for the evening had participants donning red, white and blue. College officials — Joe Mildrexler, Dean of Community services and Kenton Krehbiel, chairman of the board of trustees — gave out 49 awards for those who had accumulated at least 1,000 hours of service since registering as an RSVP member.

College students in the classes of Mike McVay, Tom Moorhouse,

Krista Schoenfield and Carolyn May, served a meal prepared by Hubert Cooper. After dinner patriotic music was presented by Shad Sander and Pat Ziegelmeier, while volunteers marched in the "Spirit March."

All volunteers were given a 30th anniversary pin, flashlights and hats for their years of service.

Those honored and the number of hours they have volunteered were: Bob Coleman, Colby, 1,000; Edmund Dickman, Menlo, 1,000; Georgine Leiker, Colby, 1,000; John Rundle, Phillipsburg, 1,000; Myrna Porsch, Colby, 1,000; Phyllis Trembley, Colby, 1,000; Rex Kellogg, Phillipsburg, 1,000; Roberta Christie, Hoxie, 1,000; Walter Brouhard, Phillipsburg, 1,000; Carol Haselhorst, Colby, 2,000; Christa Nye, Colby, 6,000; Doneta Gates, Winona, 2,000;

Helen Schroeder, Levant, 2,000; Margot Trowbridge, Colby, 2,000; Maxine Jones, Colby, 2,000; Melda Moore, Colby, 4,000; Oscar Jones, Colby, 2,000; Rosemary Bange, Colby, 2,000; Rosemary Hagler, Colby, 2,000; Cordelia Jespersen, Colby, 3,000; Ester Lienberger, Phillipsburg, 3,000; Joan Adrian, Colby, 3,000; Louise Smith, Winona, 3,000; Marguerite Walz, Oakley, 3,000; Ralph Jones, Colby, 3,000; Roberta Luckert, Brewster, 3,000; Betty James, Colby, 4,000; Darlene Rumbaugh, Phillipsburg, 4,000; Dorothy Bourquin, Colby, 4,000; Dorothy Racette, Oakley, 4,000; Verna Dusin, Phillipsburg, 4,000; Barbara Springsteen, Brewster, 5,000; Jody Murray, Colby, 5,000; Mary Carman, Colby, 5,000; Mary Weed, Colby, 5,000; Lenora Haney, Colby, 6,000; Max Brewer, Colby, 6,000; Elva

Livingston, Colby, 7,000; Evelyn Ure, Oakley, 8,000; Lucille Hofaker, Phillipsburg, 7,000; Marie Mayo, 7,000; Mickey Siglinger, Phillipsburg, 7,000; James Edmundson, Colby, 8,000; Alma Lubbers, Grinnell, 11,000; Frank Gingles, Phillipsburg, 11,000; Marguerite Edmundson, 16,000; Josie West, Oakley, 20,000 and Ada Hudson, Colby, 23,000.

After the awards banquet, a dance was held for volunteers by the Ramblin' Andy Band from Hill City. Laura Withington, director of RSVP, said the program is a non-profit organization for senior citizens 55 years of age and over, who wish to volunteer their time in their community.

If anyone is interested in the program, they can contact Withington at 462-6744.

City, county join forces for clean up week

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

Thomas County and the City of Colby are combining efforts in this year's clean up by scheduling the event for the same week, May 5-10, said Carolyn Armstrong, city manager.

In addition to residents sprucing up their yards in May, the Thomas County Household Hazardous Waste facility at 190 W. 4th St., Colby, has also planned a clean up for Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.,

said Sandy Swob, director.

"The household hazardous waste facility is a free service for Thomas County households only and no business wastes can be accepted," Swob said. Items that can be dropped off at the facility include old paints, cleaning products, lawn and garden chemicals automotive products and batteries.

Used motor oils, she said, should be taken to the county landfill for recycling.

As for the city and county

cleanup, Armstrong encourages service clubs and church groups to commit their organizations to cleaning up public areas of the city.

"Among those areas that need special attention," she said, "are the parks, ballfields and all roadsides and entrances in the entire city."

Also if anyone is willing to volunteer their services to help the elderly and infirm, the city asks they call Jo Strange, executive secretary to the city manager, and leave their name.

"Those who need assistance should also call the office," Strange said, "and the city will then try to match up those who can help with those who need help."

City crews will be following the regularly scheduled routes for yard waste and trash pickup during this special week; however there will also be personnel available to hand the extra trash generated by clean up week.

Resident who have appliances, furniture or other large items that

are cluttering yards should call the city office at 462-4410.

Other trash during the cleanup should be boxed or bagged and placed at the street for pickup.

"Please remember that this clean up is for beautifying the outdoors," Armstrong said, "and not for cleaning out basements, garages, rental properties and storage buildings."

For questions or other details about Saturday's household hazardous waste collection, call Swob at 462-4525.

Briefly

Earth Day is Tuesday

Earth Day recognition will be on Tuesday and everyone in Thomas County is encouraged to practice recycling, re-using and renewing. For question or ways to celebrate Earth Day everyday, call the Thomas County Conservation District at (785) 462-7482.

Hamill to be honored

A reception for Matt Hamill, the 2003 Honorary Associate Degree recipient at Colby Community College, will be held April 30. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. The event will start at 3 p.m. in Room 108 in the Robert Burnett Memorial Student Union on campus.

Red Cross to offer classes

The Thomas County Red Cross is offering a first aid class on Monday, April 28, and on Monday, May 5 will hold an

adult, infant, child CPR class. All coursework will be held at Colby Community College with sign up beginning at 6 p.m. For questions or to register, call the Red Cross office at (785) 462-7161.

Dr. Jennings scholarship offered

Anyone who has ever graduated from a Thomas County high school to include Golden Plains, Brewster and Colby and, and wants to further their education for a career in rural medicine, are encouraged to apply for the Dr. Jeff Jennings scholarship, being made available through Citizens Foundation, the fund raising arm of Citizens Medical Center, Inc. The scholarship will be in the amount of \$1,000 and awarded in May. For questions call (785) 462-1215 or write: Citizens Foundation, 100 E. College Dr., Colby, Kan. 67701. Applications must be received by 3 p.m. on April 30.

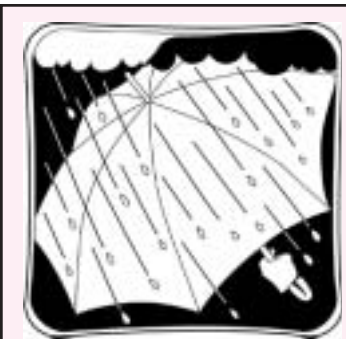
Barbershop Chorus to hold concert

The Tumbleweed Chorus will hold their annual concert on

Saturday. The choir will present "Dixieland Harmony" at both 3 and 7:30 p.m. at the Colby Community College Cultural Arts Center. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$8 or in advance for \$7. For tickets or information call 462-6552 or 460-8640. The concert will also feature guest appearances by Very Light Opera Company and Patent Pending.

Big name 'Hawks coming to town

Tickets are on sale for Kansas University "Barnstorming Tour" on Saturday with tip off at 8 p.m. in the Colby Community Building. The tour is sponsored by the Colby High School "All-Sports Booster Club" for raising money for the Dennen Field Track-Stadium Project. The basketball game will feature Nick Collison, Jeff Boschee, Kirk Hinrich and others playing against Northwest Kansas All-Stars with 3 of the 10 from Colby. Tickets can be purchased at The Sports Shoppe, Colby Recreation Department, Donelan Jewelry, Colby High School, Palace Drug Store or First National Bank until Thursday. Tickets will also be available at the door.



Wet forecast

Tonight...mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Southeast wind around 15 mph. Slight chance for showers.

Tuesday...cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms late. Windy. Highs in the upper 60s. South wind 10 to 20 mph increasing early to 20 to 30 mph with gusts reaching 40 mph. Chance of showers is set at 20 percent.

Tuesday night...mostly cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 40s. Chance of rain 50 percent.

Wednesday...showers and thunderstorms likely. Highs in the upper 60s. Chance of rain 60 percent.

The numbers

Sunday's high, 63
Low this morning, 31
Year ago, 65 and 34
24-hour precipitation, 0.00
Month's precipitation, 0.93
Records, 89 in 1989 and 13 in 1899

