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# COLBY FREE PRESS

## Republished budget okayed

By TISHA COX  
Colby Free Press

The Colby school board found out the district received more money from the state for the 2003-2004 school year than anticipated. The board held a public hearing on republishing the 2003-2004 general fund budget prior to their regular meeting Monday night.

The board received no public input on the budget, which was the reason for the hearing. A public hearing is part of the budget procedure.

District Financial Officer Jo DeYoung said the reason why the budget was republished was to get more money from the state. She said the district received \$6,954 more for special education because of high enrollment in the school.

"They sent the money last week so the money's been received already," DeYoung said.

The board approved the republishing of the budget, which was published in the Colby Free Press on Thursday, May 27. Janel Andrews, an executive assistant with the school district, said the budget had to be republished in the paper before the board could approve it.

Grade school and high school principals Terrel Harrison and Brian Kraus gave their reports. Harrison said the grade school is busy with finishing out the school year that just ended and getting ready for the fall.

Kraus said they're also finishing up end of year paperwork at the high school and searching for new vo-ag and Spanish teachers.

He said there are two vo-ag interviews scheduled but hasn't yet found anyone to interview for the Spanish position. The pool, he said, is small but there are options the school is exploring, including the visiting teachers from Spain program through Emporia State University.

Kraus said through the program, Spanish nationals qualified with teaching credentials come to the United States and teach. He said find a teacher is becoming a concern because the resignation of foreign language teacher Vanessa Eicher came late in the school year.

Board member asked if ITV would be possible but Kraus said it wouldn't be available to cover all of the Spanish classes and would require a teacher to be in the room with students.

Superintendent Kirk Nielsen also gave his report. He said Murray

**"You would be surprised what some people wear to school. We don't see every kid who comes in the door."**

Brian Kraus,  
high school principal

Roofing is working on the middle school roof and should be done soon. Also, he said the work to replace the track surface at Dennen Field should be done before fall.

The board also discussed changes in the 2004-2005 student handbooks.

Cellphones at school and disciplinary changes at the high school were two of the issues discussed.

Nielsen said it's "fair" for students to have the phones with them but they need to be turned off. Kraus said he doesn't want them in the high school but said students must leave them in their cars or lockers.

Harrison said they've even been a problem at the grade school.

On high school discipline, Kraus said there's been a "significant" change. He said a point system will be implemented this fall with different offenses having different point values assigned.

Kraus said more severe behavior will have more points assigned. He said he likes it because it's more quantifiable and students will know exactly where they stand.

Board member Joel Powell asked about the dress code and said last year, he heard comments that sometimes students weren't disciplined for breaking the rules while others were.

Kraus said the high school staff sometimes can't catch all the students.

"You would be surprised what some people wear to school," he said. "We don't see every kid that comes in the doors. The kids are resourceful. We try to be as consistent as we can."

The board also approved the resignations of Juliann Groom as high school band teacher, and the resignations of special education paraprofessionals Lacy Dumler, Maggie Dumler and Leigh McHatton and accompanist Nanette Kraus.

Also approved were the hirings of charter school instructor Kristen Vaughn, band and vocal teacher Jill Nickols and elementary teacher Krysti Terrel.

## Watermelon feed



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Dave Dickerson of Missouri and Fred Krebs of Mirriam enjoyed watermelon Thursday night at the Prairie Museum of Art and History during opening festivities for the Kansas Chautauqua,

"Bleeding Kansas: Where the Civil War Began." The two are reenactors who will be performing during the event, which runs through Tuesday at the museum.

## Three-way races for 40th District Senate

By TISHA COX  
Colby Free Press

Ralph Ostmeyer, Grinnell Republican, Dan Rasure, Goodland Republican and Tim Peterson, Monument Democrat are the three candidates hoping to earn voter approval to claim the 40th District seat in the Kansas Senate.

The seat was held by Sen. Stan Clark, Oakley Republican, who was killed in an accident on Interstate-70 on May 29 in a dirt storm.

Ostmeyer and Rasure will battle it out at the Aug. 3 primary.

That winner then faces Peterson in the Nov. 2 general election.

Ostmeyer had originally filed to retain his seat as 118th District House representative, but withdrew to enter the Senate race. He is completing his second term in the Kansas House.

Rasure is new at politics and Peterson is the chairman of the First District Democrats.

A Republican Convention will be held Saturday, June 19 at 6 p.m. in Colby at a location yet to be determined to select someone in the 40th District to serve out the remainder of Sen Clark's term, which expires in January.

As of the filing deadline at noon Thursday, here is the lineup:

County commissioner candidates are Bert Stramel, Republican,

District 3; Bill Miller, Jr., Republican, District 3; Ken Christiansen, Republican, District 3; Rosalie Seemann, Democrat, District 3; Richard Stefan, Democrat, District 2; Jim Cousins, Democrat, District 2; Paul M. Steele, Republican, District 2.

Sheriff — Republican Mike Baughn.

County clerk — Tracey Perkins, Democrat, and Shelly Harms, Republican.

County Attorney — Andrea M. Wyrick, Republican, and Laurence A. Taylor, Democrat, are running for county attorney.

County Register of Deeds — Maybelle Moore, Republican.

County Treasurer — Donita Applebury, Democrat.

Township trustees — Barrett Township Trustee Lyman Bear, Republican; Barrett Township Trustee, Tom Wallsmith, Democrat; Kingery Township Trustee, Robert L. Siruta and Kevin Ryan, both Republicans; Lacey Township Trustee, Jerry Baird, Independent, and Vernon L. Roemer, Republican; North Randall Township Trustee, Lonnie D. Wilson, Republican; South Randall Trustee, Jim Felthoelter, Republican; Rovohl Township Trustee, Wilbur F. Henry, Republican; Smith Township Trustee, Thomas M. McCarty, Republican; Summers Township Trustee, Barry

B. Kaaz, Republican; Summers Township Treasurer, Everett L. Theimer, Republican; Menlo Township Trustee, Jack Steiger, Republican; Menlo Township Treasurer, Susan Guill, Republican; Wendell Township Treasurer, Darrel K. Dible, Republican.

Ward committeeman/woman — Committeewoman Ward 1, Pat Embree, Democrat, Kathy Myers, Republican, Cathy Wieland, Republican; Committeeman Ward 1, Max Embree, Democrat, Stephen W. Myers, Republican, Scott Wieland, Republican; Committeewoman Ward 2, Judy Kistler, Republican, Peg Tole, Republican, Vera Sloan, Democrat; Committeeman Ward 2, Kenneth Frahm, Republican, Maurice S. Sloan, Democrat; Committeewoman Ward 3, Karen K. Koenig, Republican, Diane L. Williams, Democrat, Jeannene B. Brown, Republican; Committeeman Ward 3, Alvin Koenig, Republican, Calvin K. Williams, Democrat, Mike W. Brown, Republican; Committeewoman Ward 4, Tracey Perkins, Democrat, Jerrilee Shuman, Republican; Committeeman Ward 4, Paul M. Steele, Republican; Committeewoman Barrett, JoAnne Goetsch, Republican; Committeeman Barrett Lyman Goetsch, Republican; Committeewoman East Hale, Denny Burk, Republican,

Rosalie Seemann, Democrat; Committeeman East Hale, Ernst G. Seemann, Democrat, David P. Tole, Republican; Committeewoman Kingery, Lois E. Starns, Democrat; Committeeman West Hale, Mike Baughn, Republican; Committeewoman North Randall, Lori A. Wilson, Republican; Committeeman North Randall, Lonnie D. Wilson, Republican; Committeewoman South Randall, Ruth Clark, Republican; Committeewoman Rovohl, Shirley L. Bourquin, Democrat; Committeeman Rovohl, Daniel T. Bourquin, Republican; Committeewoman Smith, Joy Meserve, Republican; Committeeman Smith, Mike Meserve, Republican; Committeewoman Summers, Melissa Regier, Republican; Committeeman Summers, Randal Regier, Republican; Committeewoman East Morgan, Judith Sears, Democrat, Tamara Ziegelmeier, Republican; Committeeman East Morgan, John N. Sears, Democrat; Committeewoman West Morgan, Cathleen S. Gordon, Democrat, Janice Frahm, Republican, Lisa Schroeder, Republican; Committeeman West Morgan, Lon R. Frahm, Republican, William V. (Bill) Adams, Republican, Christopher T. Gordon, Democrat; Committeewoman Wendell, Kelly R. Riccitelli, Republican; Committeeman Wendell, Rob M. Riccitelli, Republican.

## Lawsuit against Colby physician by former nurse dropped

By PATTY DECKER  
Free Press Editor

A lawsuit filed 18 months ago by a former nurse at Citizens Medical Center alleging that a local doctor caused her emotional stress and damage has been dropped.

Margaret Ann Staats of Menlo through her attorney, Charles Worden of Norton, agreed to dismiss the case with prejudice against Dr. Victor Hildyard, a family practice physician at Colby Medical and Surgical Center.

"With prejudice means that Staats cannot come back later against Dr. Hildyard and, in exchange, Dr. Hildyard agreed not to countersue," said Mike O'Neal, the doctor's attorney from Hutchinson.

O'Neal said he had been trying to get Worden to sign the motion to dismiss, but it wasn't until the court made the order that the matter was resolved.

The lawsuit also came some six months after Staats originally filed a complaint of misconduct against Dr. Hildyard reporting him to Michael Boyles, then Citizens Medical Center's chief executive officer.

From that report, Hildyard was suspended and reinstated twice with the hospital. That ongoing situation eventually led to the hospital's

board of directors suspending his privileges indefinitely.

Staat's civil suit against Hildyard was also filed only weeks before an administrative hearing between selected Citizens Medical Center board members, a medical attorney, Hildyard, O'Neal and any witnesses that could appear to testify.

The purpose of the administrative hearing, which wasn't open to the public, was to address an injunction

against the doctor based on the findings of a panel as to whether or not Hildyard would be allowed to continue seeing his patients, according to a *Free Press* article at the time.

And at that time, the president of the Colby hospital board, Vern Schwanke said that the administrative hearing would only be subject to grievances from the original allegations made by Staats back in late April of 2002.

## Briefly

### Chautauqua events continue

Chautauqua activities continue on Monday and Tuesday. On Monday, Breakfast with Lincoln and Douglas at 7:30 a.m. at Starbucks in the Oasis Travel Center. A storyteller for kids in grades one through four will be at the Prairie Museum of Art and History at 9 a.m. Library lunch with John Brown and his judges will be at 11:30 a.m. at the Pioneer Memorial Library. A program on the underground railroad in Kansas is at 1 p.m. at the museum. "Abolitionist Rhetoric in Pre-Civil War Kansas" will be at 3 p.m. at the Fick Fossil Museum in Oakley. Evening entertainment starts at 5 p.m. at the Kid-Tauqua tent at the Prairie Museum of Art and history. The tent show starts at 7 p.m. with entertainment by the McLemore Family and at 7:30 p.m., David Atchison will take the stage. On Tuesday, June 15 Breakfast with Atchison and Brown will take place at 7:30 a.m. at Starbucks in the Oasis Travel Center. A Kids and Kaboodle program at 9 a.m. at the museum will be on "Following the Gourd" for kids in grades

one through four. At 10 a.m. a program will be offered on "Sound on the Goose" with David Dickerson in the Fireside Lounge at Colby Community College. A children's workshop on Abraham Lincoln is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Pioneer Memorial Library. The Sweet Adelines chorus will perform at 7 p.m. and the tent program starting at 7:30 p.m. will feature John Brown.

### Benefit garage sale

There will be a benefit garage and bake sale from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 19 at 1280 W. Sixth. Proceeds will benefit Kristi Pollonais, the daughter of Rich and Judy Epp. Kristi has been hospitalized and undergone surgery for a staph infection in her knee. Proceeds will help Kristi with medical bills and other expenses. If you would like to donate an item, please contact Mike and Jeanette Fortkamp at 460-0352.

### Commissioners to meet

The Thomas County Commissioners will meet at 9 a.m.


Monday at the courthouse. Items on the agenda include Dan O'Brien from the Northwest Area Research-Extension Center with a 2005 budget request.

### Video concert at Colby Wesleyan

Gaither video concerts will return to the Colby Wesleyan Church this Sunday evening. This Sunday's concert will begin at 6 p.m. and will feature Bill and Gloria Gaither's 90-minute concert in Atlanta called "Colorado Homecoming."

### Cemetery mowing starts Friday

Officials at Beulah Cemetery in Colby are reminding everyone who may have floral or other types of arrangements on the grounds to remove them by Sunday. The only exception would be items attached to the headstones. The purpose for removing the items is so that the caretaker, Paul Baird, can resume mowing.



### 80s and 50s

**Colby-Oakley-Hoxie Tonight...**Partly cloudy. Lows in the 50s. North winds 5 to 10 mph. **Saturday...**Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s. Northeast winds 10 mph. **Saturday night...**Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the 50s. Southeast winds around 10 mph. **Sunday...**Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s. South winds 5-10 mph

**The numbers:** Wednesday's high, NA; Low this morning, NA; Records for June 11, 104 in 1918 and 35 in 1903; Year ago today, 91 and 55; Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00; June total, 0.68; Soil temperature, NA

**Water use**

- The water production for Thursday was 2.454 million gallons.

**Water advisories**

- Water **Watch** is 3.5 million gallons for 3 consecutive days.
- Water **Warning** is 4.0 million gallons for 3 consecutive days.
- Water **Emergency** is 4.5 million gallons for 3 consecutive days.



