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A dip of each, please



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby High student Seth Bredemeier served Colby Postmaster Kenton Krehbiel on Thursday during a fund-raising soup dinner put on by the forensics and debate team at Colby High School. Helping him serve were (from right) Keegan Strange, Kayla Sloan and Madison Gawaith.

Seats open on college, school boards

Three positions up for election on Colby panels

By Andy Heintz

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School and college board elections will be Tuesday, April 7, and if necessary, a primary will be held on Tuesday, March 3.

Thomas County voters will have a say in the Colby School District and Colby Community College district, and for those in outlying areas, the Golden Plains School District in Rexford and Selden, Triplains School District in Winona and the Grinnell, Oakley and Brewster school districts.

Seats up for grabs include:
Three in the Oakley district, cur-

rently held by Edwin Burris, Scott Maurath and Sherry Taylor.

Three for Colby Community College, now held by Cindy Black, owner of High Plains Printing; lawyer Cleona Flipse; and Colby Postmaster Kenton Krehbiel.

Three in Colby, now occupied by Janis Frahm, Gerald Fulwider and Tracy Rogers.

Four in Winona, now occupied by Dan Moser, Molly Lamb, Mark Hanson and Shawn Plummer.

Four open in Grinnell in Gove County, held by Melissa Shupe, Duane Vollbracht, Don Albers and Ben Dickman.

Three in Brewster, now held by Ed Ackerman, Leisha Carpenter and Carrie Starns.

Three in Golden Plains, now held by Dennis Allison, Terri Brantley and Lane Purcell.

Thomas County Clerk Shelly Harms said no one has filed for office in any of the races.

Citizens interested in running for a board seat must file for the position by noon on Tuesday, Jan. 27, said Harms. She said anyone who is of voting age and lives in the district can run for a seat.

Harms said candidates must pay a \$5 filing fee or have a petition signed by 50 qualified electors (registered voters) of the person's district. She said a primary is held only if more than a specified number of candidates file for a given race. If fewer file, they are put on the ballot for the general election.

Illinois House votes to impeach indicted governor

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — The Illinois House voted overwhelmingly today to impeach Gov. Rod Blagojevich, an unprecedented action that sets up a Senate trial on whether he should be thrown out for abuse of power, including allegations that he tried to sell President-elect Barack Obama's vacant Senate seat.

Impeachment required just 60 votes. The final result was 114-1.

Legislators accused the second-term Democratic governor of letting down the people of Illinois by letting ego and ambition drive his decisions.

"It's our duty to clean up the mess and stop the freak show that's become Illinois government," said Rep. Jack D. Franks, a Democrat.

Blagojevich was out jogging in his Chicago neighborhood when the vote came

down. His office declined to comment, but said he would issue a statement this afternoon.

During the House's 90-minute debate on impeachment, no one spoke up to defend the governor. But Rep. Milton Patterson, a Chicago Democrat, made the sole vote against impeaching Blagojevich.

Patterson said he read the impeachment committee's report and wasn't comfort-

able voting against the governor. "I have no firsthand knowledge of any of the evidence," he said.

"I went by my own gut feeling, it's as simple as that," he said. "I read the report. If the government is going to indict him, let them go ahead and do that. That's their job and I'm doing my job."

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Grandmother mixes up a little business with dips

By Andy Heintz

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Patty Drake, grandmother of five, never expected to be a small business entrepreneur.

Here she is, though, the owner of Nana's Foods, a business that sells different kinds of dip and soup mix and "meal makers."

Before she started her business in November 2007, Drake said, she had been trying to think of a way to make some extra money. She credits God for helping her find her way to her current enterprise.

"God said, 'Don't despise small beginnings,'" she said. "I'm just going wherever this takes me."

She also credits God with helping her discover some of her most popular mixes.

"He showed me step-by-step how to do the spinach and chipotle dip," said Drake. "Those are now my two best sellers."

Drake says she has loyal friends and family members who help her run the business. She calls her husband Jim her biggest supporter.

"He believes I can do anything," Drake said.

She gets occasional help helped from her daughter, Amber Dennis, and a good friend, Linda Mahorney.

Drake's customers drop by her house to pick up their products, or Drake delivers or mails her prod-

ucts to her customers. She said she stores her products at an office in her home or at a state-approved kitchen at the Southwind Plaza.

Drake said she went to her first craft show on Nov. 1, 2007. Since then she has sold 2,800 packages of dip.

She also sells her products through Williams Brothers Grocery in Atwood, the Almond Tree in Goodland, the Prairie Museum of Art and History and the Kansas Country Store in Colby and Food Town in Plainville.

In order to be able to sell products to retail establishments, Drake said, she was to get a state food-processing license. She received her's last April.

The dip mixes Drake sells include dill mix, Mexican fiesta, bacon, onion cheese, spicy salsa, chili cheese and bacon, peppercorn ranch, smoky chipotle ranch, spinach and red pepper, vegetable and french onion. The dips sell for \$3 each. Drake also sells seasoning blends, such as Nana's Meat Sub, Cajun Spice Blend, Herbs D' Provence and Pizza/Pasta Blend. The blends, packaged in a reusable 5-ounce shaker jar, cost \$6.

All the products are dry mixes.

Drake said she charges \$3 for the meal makers. They include blackened fish/chicken seasoning, Nana's stir-fry mix, Nana's fajita mix and Nana's sloppy joe mix. She also had Friendship Vegetable

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ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Patty Drake, Colby resident and owner of Nana's Comfort Foods, showed off her "homemade" bacon dip mix while spending time with her husband Jim and grandchildren Drew, 2, and Ashtyn Dennis, 5. Ashtyn and her sister Alexis often stay with Nana.

Briefly

Church offers gospel concert

The Colby Berean Church, 1000 S. Franklin, plans a free concert at 5:30 p.m. Sunday featuring the Ball Brothers, a southern gospel group. For information, call (785) 443-3590.

Group planning senior potluck

The group More Fun Together is looking for anyone over 50 who is widowed, divorced, separated, has a partner in nursing home, never married or otherwise lives alone. The group plans a potluck at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the Colby Presbyterian Church, 515 W. Fifth St. Table service and beverage will be provided.

The building is handicapped accessible, with an elevator at the east door. For questions, call 462-6342 or 460-3879.

Museum offers soup, thought

On the third Thursday of the next three months, the Prairie Museum of Art and History will offer Food for Thought programs with a soup lunch and history program from noon to 1 p.m. Different presentations will be offered this week, Feb. 19 and March 19, with presenters including Mike Baughn, Evelyn Hoyt-Ward, Doris Johnson and Ray Imhof. Call the museum at (785) 460-4590 for details.

Emergency medical class set

Thomas County Emergency Medical Services will be offering classes for the emergency medical technician B certificate, starting with an informa-

tion session at 7 p.m. Thursday at the EMS garage, 1275 S. Franklin. The first class will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, at the garage. Classes will run for 5 to 6 months; financial assistance is available. For information, call training coordinator Dawnelle Umberger at 460-4585 or 443-0176.

Dance team fixing soup, chili

The Colby High School dance team plans a soup supper from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16, at the Colby Community Building before the Eagles basketball games. On the menu are chili and cream of potato, homemade chicken-noodle and cream of broccoli soups, beverages, brownies and krispy-rice treats. Donations will be taken for the team.

Church to hold life seminar

A "Life Overflowing" seminar will be presented

by DVD with a brown bag lunch on Saturday, Jan. 17, at Redeeming Love Ministry, 345 N. Franklin. Bible College credit is available. For questions or reservations, call (785) 650-2375.

Heartland having barbecue

Heartland Christian School invites everyone to their annual barbecue pork dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, at the school, 1995 W. Fourth St. The menu includes pork, corn, salad, baked potato and dessert. Donation will go to the school.

Pets available for adoption

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a shepherd mix, a rat terrier, a Welsh corgi and a tiger-striped kitten available for adoption. Lost or strayed animals are also brought to the clinic. Call or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have current shots, and costs are minimal. For questions, call 460-8621.

