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COLBY FREE PRESS

75¢

Wednesday

October 6, 2010
Volume 121, Number 155
Serving Thomas County since 1888

College names interim leader

By Andy Heintz

Colby Free Press
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The Colby Community College board agreed to hire Dr. Max Heim to serve as interim president at a special meeting Monday morning at the student union on campus.

Heim, a retired college professor and school superintendent, will not only serve as president, but also help search for a permanent president.

The new leader said he was happy to be in Colby.

“People are so nice here,” Heim said. “This is a great place.”

Board attorney John Gatz said Heim’s contract may be terminated within 30 days with or without cause. He said the interim president will work for two or three days a week. He will receive \$80 an hour and \$50 per hour for travel time, Gatz said. Heim lives near Russell.

“His knowledge, experience and vast knowledge of rural communities makes

him a good fit,” said board President Cindy Black. She said the board is confident they made the right decision.

Black said the board received numerous applicants for the job. She said some were interested in being interim president while others were interested in becoming the permanent president. She said Heim has experience doing presidential searches.

The special meeting started at 7:30 a.m. Vice President Kenton Krehbiel made a motion for the board to go into closed session for 15 minutes to discuss personnel.

He requested the presence of Gatz, with the option of calling Dr. Paula Davis, vice president of academic affairs, into the session.

The board reconvened at 7:47 a.m. and Krehbiel immediately called for another executive session with Davis, vice president of student affairs Keegan Nichols and Gatz.

The board returned at 8:02 a.m. and Krehbiel made a motion to hire Heim, which was seconded by Treasurer Mark Winger.

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Dr. Max Heim

Commission locks in price for gas supply

By Vera Sloan

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A representative of Oneok, the Oklahoma City gas company that sells Thomas County gas for the courthouse and office complex, asked commissioners Monday to consider locking in a price for this winter’s supply and next year’s as well.

Vail Fruechting, a senior gas marketing representative, said in the near past, consumer gas prices were low because reserves have been high and storage was full. He said the price is still at a low point right now, and historically that’s a good time to lock in a price.

The commissioners approved a two-year lockin at \$4.20 per thousand cubic feet plus 65 cents for transportation.

Bob Marsh from the Computer Information Concepts software company and county treasurer Donita Applebury met with commissioners about sending out the 2010 tax statements on the firm’s forms.

Applebury reiterated her con-

cerns of the previous week, saying the staff was only to the letter “P” in the alphabet in comparing the information in the new software against the old list. She said they are finding lots of mistakes, and would feel more comfortable using the old system.

Marsh said he is here this week to help get the right information entered, and he is convinced the tax statements will go out on time and will be accurate. He said he will be here for 2 1/2 days this week, plus there will be another representative from the firm here next week.

The commissioners discussed contacting County Attorney Bruce Flipse to see if he had a date picked to get a tax sale on the calendar. Chairman Ken Christiansen said someone had asked him about it. Commissioner Ken Sowers said he wants to get the sale done and over with.

The commissioners agreed to attend a Kansas Department of Transportation meeting Oct. 12 in Norton about county rights of way. A meeting in Garden City has been rescheduled to February.

Oh, is that yucky!



JUDY ROGERS/Golden Plains High School

Senior football players (from left) Tate Preston, Devinn Ritter and Rilee Spreser found a slightly twisted Twister game a little disgusting during a community pep rally for Homecom-

ing Week at Golden Plains. The spots were filled with sticky condiments, (front to back) pickle relish, mustard, jelly and ketchup.

National award on wall

Sports editor wins photography contest

Andy Heintz, sports editor of the Colby Free Press, was one of three staff members of the Nor’West Newspapers group who collected awards for photography from the National Newspaper Association’s 2009 Better Newspapers Contest over the weekend.

Awards were given at the association’s 124th annual convention in Omaha on Saturday. Heintz had with him his mother, Ellie Heintz of Prairie Village, and her parents, Joe and Roy



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Aaron Platte of the third- and fourth-grade Colby Little League football team attempted to catch a pass last August.

Briefly

Hospital plans childbirth class

Citizens Medical Center will offer a four weeks of childbirth classes from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursdays starting this week. Women due to deliver before February should attend with their labor support partner. The next classes will begin Jan. 6. For information or to register, call Jeanene Brown at the hospital education department at (785) 460-4850.

School book fair is Thursday

Sacred Heart School will hold its annual Scholastic Book Fair from 1:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday and 9 a.m. to noon Friday. All proceeds go to the school library. For information, call Principal Dave Evert at 460-2813.

Senior center serving potatoes

The Senior Progress Center will have a potato

bar fund raiser from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the center. For information, call Kaila De Boer at 460-2901.

School office to close Friday

The Colby School District administration office will be closed Friday for building maintenance. The office will resume normal hours on Monday. For information, call Janel Andrews at 460-5000.

County to celebrate birthday

Thomas County’s 125th Anniversary Celebration will kick off at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Community Building with judging of the beard and bonnet contest. The main ceremony will start at 10 a.m. A free lunch will follow for those who get tickets at the ceremony. For information, call the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce at 460-3401.

Lutheran church to mark 75th anniversary Sunday

By Vera Sloan

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What began as part of a circuit ministry from 1890 to 1930 became a venture of faith that brought the Lutheran church a permanent place of worship in Thomas County 75 years ago.

Trinity Lutheran Church, on the corner of East Fifth Street and Country Club Drive, will be celebrating 75 years of “sharing and caring” at 10:30 Sunday with a special service and a catered noon meal. The Rev. Keith Kohlmeier of Topeka, president of the Kansas District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, will speak Sunday afternoon.

Former pastors Gordon Gross,

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Collection of VELMA RASMUSSEN

The 1936 Sunday school class included Victor Rasmussenn and his future bride, Velma Rall. Can anyone identify the others?

Organizations to join Saturday

The Colby and Atwood chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star will consolidate at a combined meeting to be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Atwood Masonic Temple. The meeting had previously been scheduled for Sunday. For information, call Joyce Gatlin 460-3656.

Have a student wash your pet

Colby Community College veterinary technology students will have a pet wash from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Stanley Carr Agricultural Center on campus. Cost for dogs will be \$8 to \$14, depending on weight. Cost for cats will \$5 for a brush and \$10 for a bath. For information, call Colleen Maisson at 460-5462 or Jennifer Martin at 460-5466.

Scouts to gather food Saturday

The Colby Girl Scouts will “trick or treat” for

nonperishable food for the Genesis-Thomas County food bank from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday. Leave food on the front porch. If the weather is bad, the Scouts will do the drive Sunday, Oct. 24. For information, call Elissa Zerr at 462-7489.

Baptists to mark third year

The Colby Independent Baptist Church will celebrate its third anniversary with a service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Sunday school will start at 9:30 a.m. and a pot luck lunch will follow worship. There will be no 6 p.m. service that day. For information, call 460-0313.



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