



## All Colby schools get passing marks

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Colby schools got passing grades on their state report cards with the release of the latest Adequate Yearly Progress results, district leaders says, but test scores are down from last year.

Schools and districts have to show progress each year—required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act—based on state-written standardized tests, test participation, attendance and graduation rates, said Curriculum Director Diana Wieland. The test scores are from the 2009-2010 school year.

Wieland told the Colby School Board on Monday that the district and all three schools met or ex-

ceeded the progress goals in math and reading with two exceptions. Students scored slightly below the progress level in two categories, high school reading and middle school math, but were within the margin allowed by the state, Wieland said.

### Reading

- Districtwide, 85.7 percent of Colby students met or exceeded state standards. The goal was 81.3 percent.

- At Colby Grade School, 86.7 percent met or exceeded standards. The goal was 83.7.

- At Colby Middle School, 87.4 percent met or exceeded standards. The goal was 83.7.

- At Colby High School, 79.8 percent met or exceeded standards. The goal was 81.3.

The reading test is given in three sessions, which take about 45 minutes each, Wieland said. Depending on grade level, the test includes 58 to 84 multiple-choice questions.

### Math

- District wide, 82.6 percent met or exceeded standards. The goal was 76.4.

- At the grade school, 85.3 percent met or exceeded standards. The goal was 82.3.

- At the middle school, 80.8 percent met or exceeded standards. The goal was 82.3.

- At the high school, 83.1 percent met or exceeded standards. The goal was 76.4.

The math test is also given in

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## County to hold tax sale

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The big news at the Thomas County commissioners' meeting on Monday was that the delinquent tax sale, which has been on the agenda for nearly a year, is finally going to happen.

Chairman Ken Christiansen reported County Attorney Bruce Flipse told him two weeks ago that he would have the information for the tax sale ready to go for publication this month, and the sale would be set for November.

Records show it has been 10 years since the last delinquent tax sale. The commissioners said earlier in the year they wanted to have one before the year is over to "keep the county up to speed." After this, they hope to hold a smaller sale every year if needed.

The county signed an agreement with the Southwest Kansas Juvenile Detention group in Garden City to take juvenile offenders when they must be

locked up. A privately run juvenile facility in Wa-Keeney that had planned to reopen in late summer didn't receive enough interest from the northwest counties to support it, commissioners said.

Undersheriff Mark Finley said the numbers of juveniles taken to the lockup varies. The commissioners said the \$145-per-day charge at Garden City is not bad because the county uses the service so little.

In a written report, regional recycling director Lynette Koon said the e-waste pilot program ended Oct. 1 with a total collection of 215 tons of old computers, televisions and the like. She said that had the state given them money for another two years of free collection, that figure could have been greatly increased.

She said that last Wednesday was the first day in Colby where they had to charge for e-waste collection. Of the seven people who brought e-waste, five paid the fee and left their stuff. Two took their stuff

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## Longtime Colby car dealer plans anniversary celebration

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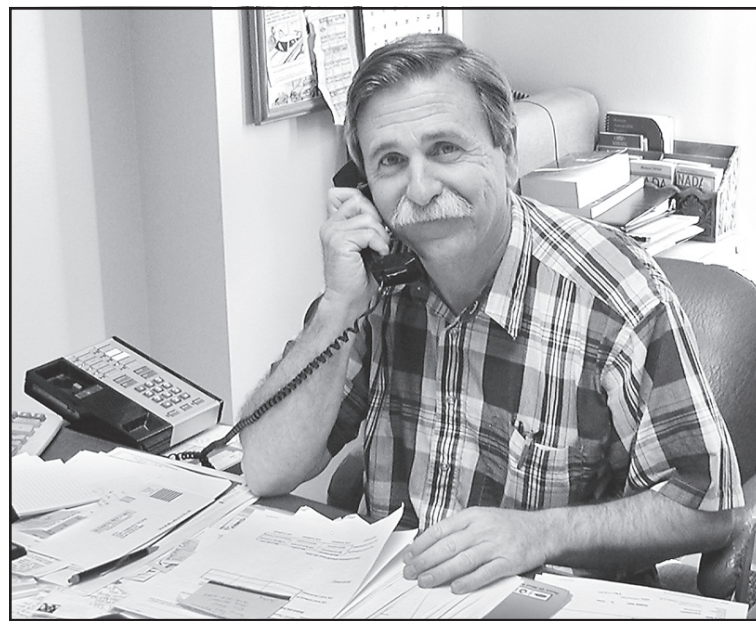
If you like coffee and donuts, ham and beans, new cars and trucks, then Tubbs and Son's Ford Sales in Colby is where you'll want to be on Friday.

To celebrate being in business for 52 years, owners Mike and Jim Tubbs said, they want to say thanks to the public for supporting them all these years and honor the memory of their dad, George Tubbs, whose birthday was Oct. 22.

They will begin serving free coffee and donuts at 10 a.m. and a ham-and-beans lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the dealership, 810 S. Range Ave. KRQD Radio station will be there, doing a remote broadcast.

Mike said the dealership actually got its start in Levant after his dad returned from military service in World War II. He built a gas station and garage for car repairs on U.S. 24 in Levant, calling it "The Corner Garage."

Meantime, Otto Boesch, a top



VERA SLOAN/Colby Free Press

Mike Tubbs, co-owner of Tubbs and Sons Ford Sales, said he and his brother Jim are planning to honor their dad's birthday on Friday, Oct. 22, with an open house.

car salesman who had worked for Barker Motor Co., then the Ford dealer in Colby, had moved to Los Angeles. He became the top salesman out of 40 to 50 salesmen there, but longed to return to

northwest Kansas.

He returned to Colby and approached Tubbs, who he had known for a long time, asking

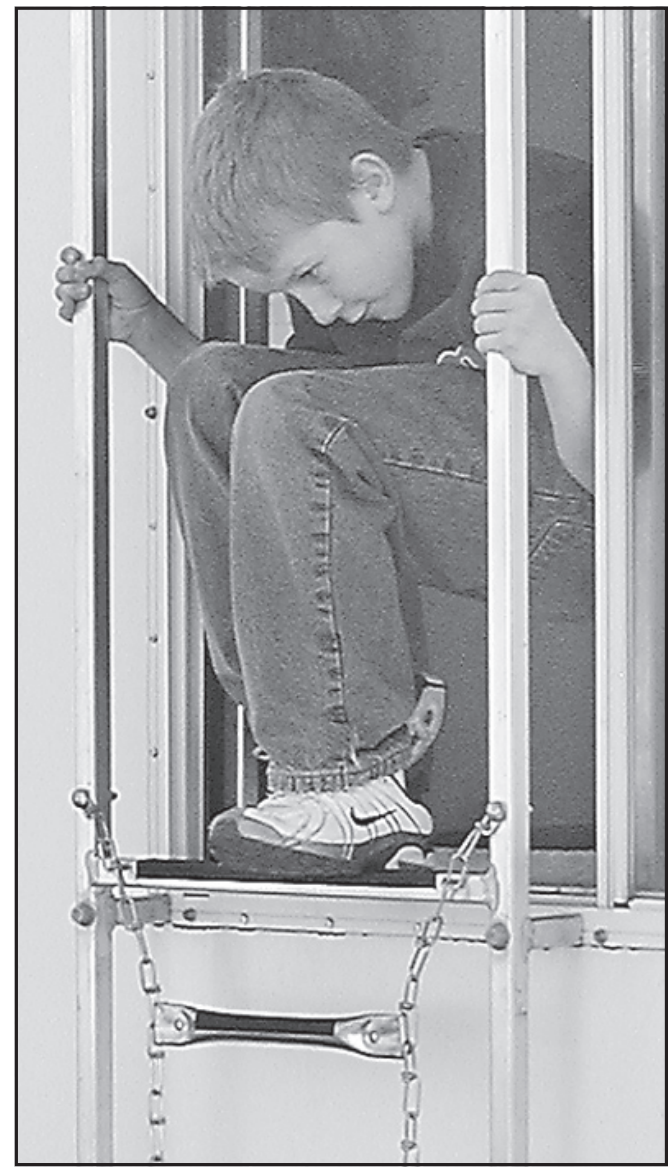
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KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

## Kids get fire safety instruction

Sacred Heart Catholic School fourth graders Seth Huffles (above, front) and Dylan Seiwert got a good look at the inside of one of Colby's fire engines Tuesday as firefighter Scott Hilbrink supervised. Each class at Sacred Heart got a chance to look at the big pumper and learn some fire safety. Firefighters also took the kids through a smoke-filled room in their demonstration trailer, showing them how to get low to avoid smoke and find the exits. Assistant Chief Sean Hankin helped A.J. Reed get over the window sill and down the ladder (right). Hankin said he and other firefighters have already visited Colby Public Schools and Heartland Christian School for Fire Safety Week and will go to Brewster and Golden Plains before the end of October.



## Briefly

### Church focusing on mission work

The Colby Berean Church will have a talk by Martin and Sharon Huyett about their mission work at 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. Sunday at the church, 1000 S. Franklin Ave. Steve Bender of Baptist Bible Fellowship International in Springfield, Mo., will also speak about his mission experience, all part of the church's Missions Month. For information, call 460-2763.

### Blood drive planned for Nov. 4

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 4, in the student union at Colby Community College. Schedule an appointment online at redcrossblood.org or call Trudy Wildeman in the college Health Science Building at (785) 460-4797. Walk-ins are welcome.

### Women's group to sell greenery

The Colby Presbyterian Women are selling fresh

Christmas greenery to raise money for mission projects. Items include wreaths, swags, garlands, holly, table decorations and more. Order by Sunday, Oct. 31, for delivery the first week of December. Call the church at 462-6342, Mary Smith at 462-3387 or JoAnne Sunderman at 460-2476.

### Genesis needs names for baskets

Genesis-Thomas County food bank plans once again to help area families during the holiday season. Forms are available for families in need who would like to receive a food basket. Come to the office, 350 S. Range Ave., Suite 13, from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays by Tuesday, Nov. 9. For information, call 460-7930.

### Pets available for adoption

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a 1- to 2-year-old female vizsla (a Hungarian retriever breed), a small 1- to 2-year-old black-and-white male

mixed-breed dog and several kittens available for adoption. Lost or strayed animals are often 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.

### Berean Church to study Esther

The Colby Berean Church will be doing the Beth Moore study "Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman" and a six-week Crown Money Map Seminar from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Sundays starting Oct. 31. Enrollment for Esther will end Friday so books can be ordered. For questions or to register, call the church office at 460-2763. For information on the money seminar, contact Jerry Barton at jerrybarton@st-tel.net or call (785) 443-3680.

### District Music Concert is Oct. 25

The Colby Schools' District Music Concert will be at 7:30 p.m. Monday at the Community Build-

ing. This free event, open to the public, will feature musicians from the grade, middle school and high schools. For information, call music teacher Jennifer Koel at 460-5100.

### Massage class needs clients

The Therapeutic Massage Program at Colby Community College is offering massages by students in the Massage Clinic I class from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays. For an appointment, call (785) 460-5427. The fee is \$5. Any gratuities will be put into the Massage Therapy Club fund to help students pay for the National Certification Exam for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork, said Debra A. Waites, director of the program.

