

# After great year, start fresh with busy Colby January

New Year's is always a great time to reflect on the past and anticipate the future.

This has been an active year for Colby with the 125th Birthday Celebration for Thomas County. The Smithsonian Journeys exhibit opened in January at the Prairie Museum of Art and History.

Chautauqua, with stories from the Dust Bowl days, came to Colby in June with four evenings of tent shows and many workshops. Area youths portrayed some of the historical figures from Thomas County.

Finally, the grand 125th Birthday celebration was held in October with a free lunch, a historical fashion revue and video from early Thomas County.

These were just the special events added to our schedule of events held each year. We saw the opening of two new hotels and an increase in transient guest tax collection. It was a very good year.

We now look forward to 2011, and it appears that we have come full circle. Again we have a special exhibit opening at the museum in January: "Anne Frank: A History for Today" will be in Colby from Tuesday, Jan. 18, to Tuesday, Feb. 15. There will also be a new companion permanent exhibit, "Over Here! Over There! Honoring Those Who Serve." A Business After 5 will be held Wednesday, Jan. 26, called "In the Mood, A Red Cross Canteen" at the museum, where you may view both exhibits. It sounds like a great evening.



**Leilani Thomas**

• On the Road Again!

Basketball is big news during January. The Harlem Ambassadors will be taking on the Colby Challengers in a slam-dunk, high-energy game at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, at the Community Building. The players will also be talking about drug use in an assembly for Colby schools.

More amazing basketball will take place during the Paul Wintz/Tom Bowen Orange and Black Classic Thursday through Saturday, Jan. 20-22. Sixteen high school basketball teams will vie for the championship. This is a popular tournament and we encourage you to support this event.

Pheasants Forever is holding its annual dinner and auction at City Limits Convention Center at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29.

Northwest Kansas Travel Council members will be working two special shows during January. The Pheasant Fest is being held in Omaha from Thursday to Sunday, Jan. 27-30. I will be working the Denver Travel and Sports Show from Thursday to Sunday, Jan. 6 through 9 at the Convention Center. It is always crowded and a great show for promoting our northwest Kansas area.

So it's "out with the old" - it was a great journey, but now we anticipate "in with the new."

We wish each and every one of you a blessed, healthy and happy New Year.

*Leilani Thomas is director of the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau, a long-time civic volunteer and a passionate observer of the tourism industry.*

## University dean's honor roll released

Fort Hays State University has released names of undergraduate students who have been named to the fall 2010 Dean's Honor Roll. To qualify, a full-time student must have a 3.60 or better grade average for the semester.

### Thomas County

**Brewster:** Avery Dawn Schultz, senior, art education.

**Colby:** Ryan D. Baalman, senior, justice studies; Alexandra Jolen Barton, freshman, accounting; Tisha Noelle Bieker, senior, accounting; Laura A. Dougherty, junior, organizational leadership; Joshua Wayne Faber, junior, education; Jenna L. Johnson, senior, communication; Jordan E. Krzycki, freshman, psychology; Amanda Lynn McLnay, senior, early childhood education; Shea Justine McKee, junior, education; Matthew A. Perdue, junior, sociology; Ashley Michelle Schriener,

senior, general studies; Trevor John Siebert, senior, mathematics; Jennifer L. Thompson, senior, organizational leadership; Jordan Keith Voss, freshman, chemistry; Lindsey Leann Wilson, sophomore, agricultural business; Taylor Suzanne Young, sophomore, laboratory-medical biology.

**Menlo:** Caitlyn J. Moss, junior, nursing.

**Rexford:** Brandy L. Bussen, senior, elementary education; Melissa Lynae Rall, junior, physical science.

### Sheridan County

**Hoxie,** Nicole R. Brown, senior, radiologic technology; Brian John Feldt, senior, nursing; Carissa Anne Heim, senior, political science.

**Selden:** Isaac J. Broeckelman, freshman, mathematics; Stephanie Mae Spresser, senior, general studies.

### Logan County

**Oakley:** Linley J. Andersen, senior, radiologic technology; Megan Marie Baalman, junior, early childhood pre-education; Brittany A. Brenner, senior, nursing; Malory L. Joseph, senior, business education; Holly Lynn Younger, junior, English; Jackie A. Zerr, senior, elementary education.

### Winona: Jordan Russell Barrett, senior, recreation and sports management; Amberly L. Gfeller, sophomore, biology; Jerri D. Williams, freshman, health and human performance.

### Rawlins County

**Atwood:** Sara A. Miller, radiologic technology; Lacey Lee Sramek, senior, elementary education; Heidi Lynne Vrbas, junior, psychology; Carolyn Ann White, junior, tourism and hospitality management.

## On the Beat

### COLBY POLICE Tuesday, Dec. 21

8:39 a.m. - Walk through at Colby Grade School.

10:59 a.m. - Tool box in street in the 1100 block of S. Country Club Dr. Owner arrived; returned to him.

11:09 a.m. - Accident Monday at Colby High School.

11:57 a.m. - Wesley Louis Phillips arrested on warrant in Logan County.

12:06 p.m. - Caller requested attempt to locate sister. Report filed.

1 p.m. - Suspicious person reported walking around Uptown Style and then Colby Bearing. Not found.

6:18 p.m. - Items stolen from vehicle at Dillon's.

10:14 p.m. - Caller reported subject aggressively approaching them. Unable to locate.

### Last Wednesday

9:05 a.m. - Provided information to caller about incident in Wichita.

9:51 a.m. - Criminal damage to mailbox.

1:27 p.m. - Burglary/theft: subject came to station reporting lost wallet, check used in Hays. Report filed.

4:29 p.m. - Two subjects at Villa High Park walking on frozen pond told to stay off of ice and where to safely park vehicle.

5:13 p.m. - Vehicle driving erratically in 1600 block of W. Fourth St. Unable to locate.

6:38 p.m. - Caller reported red vehicle equipped with emergency lights and sirens spotlighting house. Unable to locate.

9:46 p.m. - Security check at Twister's.

10:59 p.m. - Caller reported group of teenagers dressed all in black in the area. Unable to locate.

11:09 p.m. - Security check at the B-Hive.

### Thursday

1:01 a.m. - Security check at Twisters.

4:18 p.m. - Christmas lights cut. No report.

6:34 p.m. - Report filed for computer theft related to complaint Wednesday about lost wallet.

7:19 p.m. - Report filed on traffic stop.

7:43 p.m. - Report filed on parking complaint at 1310 E. Ninth St.

8:25 p.m. - Harassment: caller reported subject threatening someone else. No report, information provided.

8:50 p.m. - Feline caught in trap. Turned over to Colby Animal Clinic.

11:05 p.m. - Caller reported three vehicles parked in private driveway. Spoke with subject; information provided.

### Friday

2:11 a.m. - Security check at Twister's.

3:14 a.m. - Report of subject is-

suing threats. Report filed.

11:09 a.m. - Caller reported subject with sign in southwest corner of Walmart parking lot. Checked, gave directions to Law Enforcement Center for assistance.

12:33 p.m. - Assisted ambulance crew.

1:32 p.m. - Caller reported man in the 1100 block of S. Court asking for money. Made contact; he moved on.

1:57 p.m. - Provided information to caller about child custody.

2:07 p.m. - Provided information to caller about traffic laws.

2:39 p.m. - Hit-and-run accident at Franklin and College Dr.

2:59 p.m. - Driving while suspended report filed on above accident.

6:04 p.m. - Hit and run accident in the 1900 block of S. Range.

### Saturday

12:20 p.m. - Caller reported three people on the ice at Villa High Pond. Spoke to them.

9:11 p.m. - Vehicle with lights on north of main gate inside Beulah Cemetery. Located vehicle; all OK.

### Sunday

10:44 a.m. - Woman transient and dog in ditch eastbound I-70 on-ramp at K-25. Spoke to her; all OK.

1:27 p.m. - Provided phone numbers for tire repair to motorist at Walmart.

3:12 p.m. - Suspicious person; caller requested officer. All OK.

4:47 p.m. - Walk through at Walmart.

4:47 p.m. - Caller requested welfare check on brother. Report filed.

5:18 p.m. - Caller reported Christmas lights cut again. Spoke to reporting party.

7:07 p.m. - Assisted Citizens Medical Center.

8:14 p.m. - Protective custody: Caller advised subject trying to leave; connected to call at 4:47. Report filed.

### Monday

10:22 a.m. - Michael D. Archer arrested on warrant.

11:25 a.m. - Barking dog complaint. Spoke to subjects.

12:10 p.m. - Dog at large between the 500 and 700 block of N. Copeland not found.

7:28 p.m. - Notified vehicle owner of flashers on at Village Inn.

9:25 p.m. - Caller reported two juveniles playing. Unable to locate.

11:39 p.m. - Security check at the airport.

### THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF Tuesday, Dec. 21

7:07 p.m. - Caller reported a large bull uncontained in the area of County Rds. 23 and Z. Unable to locate.

8:17 p.m. - Sherman County advised of vehicle spotlighting in in the area of the Sherman County line and Brewster. Handled by

Sherman County.

### Last Wednesday

11 a.m. - Assisted motorist on I-70 at mile 53 eastbound.

11:58 a.m. - Assisted motorist. 4:29 p.m. - Two people at Villa High Park walking on frozen pond. Assisted Colby Police.

4:46 p.m. - One vehicle roll-over injury accident at K-25 mile 181.

7:16 p.m. - Caller reported cat was dead from gunshot wound on front porch.

9:52 p.m. - One-vehicle roll-over accident on U.S. 24. Turned over to Highway Patrol.

### Thursday

12:13 a.m. - Sheridan County Sheriff's Office called requesting a deputy at Citizens Medical Center to assist in injury accident case. Items given to Highway Patrol.

3:31 p.m. - Arrested Donald Rasmussen on warrant.

3:31 p.m. - Arrested James Butler on warrant.

3:54 p.m. - Jeffrey Weiss arrested on warrant.

7:17 p.m. - Caller said it appeared someone had been trying to enter house. Report filed.

8 p.m. - Caller reported concern for malnourished horse across the street. No report.

### Friday

8:50 a.m. - Employee reported fence cut and item taken from Nex-Tech tower site at County Rds. S and 5. Report filed.

11:26 a.m. - Theft of four-wheeler from pasture reported.

### Saturday

2:14 p.m. - Assisted Highway Patrol at I-70 mile 64.5 westbound.

4:08 p.m. - Gave transient a ride from Colby to Mitten's Truck Stop, Oakley.

### Sunday

11:21 a.m. - Caller ran out of fuel on eastbound I-70 and mile 44. Gave ride into Colby and back with fuel.

5:11 p.m. - Assisted Colby Police on S. Franklin.

6:32 p.m. - Report of vehicle driving in Rexford with loud music. Not found.

8:38 p.m. - Caller needed help with flat tire on I-70 westbound 10 miles east of Colby. Highway Patrol arrived first, at mile 66.

8:52 p.m. - Caller advises that vehicle from call at 6:32 was back driving in Rexford with loud music. Deputy given vehicle description.

### Monday

12:24 a.m. - Report filed for driving under the influence on traffic stop on U.S. 83 at mile 178. 24/7 towed vehicle.

2:08 p.m. - Theft of fence batteries in the 1800 block of County Rd. 37. Report filed.

4:12 p.m. - Report filed for narcotics violation.

8:01 p.m. - Report filed for narcotics violation.

## Golden Plains High School aces drug test

By Judy Rogers

Golden Plains High School judy@usd316.org

Golden Plains High School is a drug-free school. That was reinforced early in December when the Thomas County Sheriff's Office and the Kansas Highway Patrol joined to conduct a random, unannounced search of the school in Rexford.

Superintendent Mary Ellen Welshhon said it was

just a routine search under school policy and that nothing had happened to prompt it. No one was suspected of having drugs at the school, she said.

During the search, students were in their classrooms as the drug dog, accompanied by officers, checked the vehicles in the parking lot, the locker rooms and gymnasium, lockers and student book bags.

"We are very proud of our students for choosing to live drug-free," Welshhon said.

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