

Family

Choice of mayor important

Why should you care about who is mayor of Colby?

The mayor sets a tone and can help create vision for a city. Our mayor breaks ties with a decision of the City Council.

Under the city code, the mayor "from time to time communicates to the City Council such information and recommends such measures as he or she may deem advisable." The mayor also "signs the commissions and appointments of all officers elected or appointed." This official "endorses the approval of the governing body on all official bonds." The mayor has "the power to approve or veto any ordinance as the laws of the state shall prescribe," and "...has the superintending control of all officers and affairs of the City" [Article 2. Governing Body, 1-205 Powers of the Mayor].

The mayor is "...bound to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this State and to carry out impartially the laws of the nation, state, and city and thus to foster respect for all government. They are bound to observe in their official acts the highest standards of morality and to discharge faithfully the duties of their office regardless of personal considerations, recognizing that the long term public interest must be their primary concern. Their



Melany Wilks

Library Links

conduct in both their official and private affairs should be above reproach" [Article 2. Governing Body, 1-212 Code of Ethics].

With this in mind, the Pioneer Memorial Library and the *Colby Free Press* invite you to come and hear the three candidates answer questions at a "Meet Your Mayoral Candidates" forum at 7 p.m. tonight in the basement of the library. All three candidates are looking forward to participating and getting their thoughts across to you. We have some good questions for them to answer. We think you will go away informed and ready to make your vote in April.

Another event we will be holding is a book review on "Hollowing Out the Middle" by Patrick J. Carr and Maria J. Kefalas. Carr will be coming to Colby Community College for a Max Pickerill lecture in April. The library will hold a book review at 7 p.m. next Thursday at the library. I have read about six other books on the

topic and may throw in some insights from these. If we take the literature as a whole, we may be better prepared to really consider the problems Carr writes about.

Since tax season is upon us, I want you to be aware of several books we have added that may help you manage your money for the 2010 tax year. The first item is "Ernst & Young Tax Guide 2011: Preparing Your 2010 Taxes," by LLP Ernst & Young. This 1,008-page 26th edition explains many relevant issues for your 2010 tax year.

The nice thing about this guide is that it provides tax planning guides for special situations: family, homeowners, investors, real estate investors, self employed entrepreneurs, business executives, senior citizens and members of the armed forces. This book also gives an itemization of changes to the tax law, followed by a list of reminders for filing and 50 of the most easily overlooked deductions (p. xvii).

Another great tax help book is "J.K. Lasser's 1001 Deductions and Tax Breaks 2011: Your Complete Guide to Everything Deductible," by Barbara Weltman. Because this book is about deductions, it discusses such things as medical expenses, education costs, your home, retirement sav-

ings, charitable gifts, travel, investing, autos, real estate, entertainment, borrowing and interest, insurance, your job or business and other items.

One other interesting book is "The 60-Minute Money Workout: An Easy Step-by-Step Guide to Getting Your Finances into Shape," by Ellie Kay. This is a book written in a friendly spirit that allows you to look at your debt, analyze your large and small purchases, charitable giving, business advice, and how couples can discuss finances in a fair and easy manner so they do not become enemies. Kay invites readers to visit her website and use numerous calculators for debt payoff, mortgage and various types of loans, and rent vs. buying calculator (p. 70).

Two other books we added are "Save Big: Cut Your Top 5 Costs and Save Thousands," by Elisabeth Leamy, Diane Sawyer and Robin Roberts and "Social Security, Medicare & Government Pensions: Get the Most Out of Your Retirement & Medical Benefits," by Joseph Matthews, attorney, and Dorothy Matthews Berman.

Remember we have Internet access and computers for your use. We are also your free Wi-Fi resource here in Colby. See you in the library!



Corey Cassaw and Katharine Herl

Colby grads plan Kansas City wedding

Corey Cassaw and Katharine Herl plan to marry Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011, in downtown Kansas City, Mo.

The bride is the daughter of Kristy and Jay Herl of Colby. She is a 2000 graduate of Colby High School and graduated from the Art Institute of Colorado in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in interior design. She is a designer with Twigs Interiors

in Overland Park.

The groom is the son of Donna and Terry Roberts of Colby and the late Ronald Cassaw.

He is a 1998 graduate of Colby High School and graduated from Fort Hays State University in 2002 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design. He is a senior art director for VML in Kansas City.

High Plains Art Club

At the Feb. 11 meeting of the High Plains Art Club at the Colby United Methodist Church, eight members were present, including Alice Wolf, who came as a guest and joined. The meeting, had been rescheduled from Feb. 8 because of weather.

The group worked on projects in the morning and had lunch at Quiznos.

Co-president Bev Kern conducted the business meeting in the afternoon. Tom Peyton invited the members to be guests of the Colby Rotary Club at noon on March 15 and to bring items to talk about.

Kern reminded the group of the art walk from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, April 22. Members are invited to bring items to display in downtown stores. Kern showed a video on painting.

On March 15, the club met at the

church, again having rescheduled the meeting because of weather. Present were co-presidents Ruth Hughes and Kern, secretary Maxine Nelson, historian Marj Brown, Mary McNutt, Tom and Kathie Peyton, Marlene Carpenter, Fritz Ostmeier and Karen Reed. Barbara Highland was a guest.

Hughes conducted the meeting. The group worked on projects in the morning and went to lunch together.

Peyton gave the program about "Accidental Artists," famous artists who had started as something else. Terry Redlin planned to become a forest ranger but lost a leg in a motorcycle accident. He retired in 2008 and his works are available at the Redlin Art Center in Watertown, S.D.

Vincent Van Gogh started out to be a minister, Tom said, but after

he adopted the lifestyle of those among whom he ministered he was fired and became an artist. He only sold one picture while alive.

Grandma Moses started out working with thread and material. She began painting when she was older and found it easier to create with paint than thread.

Robert Henri, American impressionist and realist, was born Robert Henry Cozad. His father was a founder of Cozad, Neb.

Peyton brought books to illustrate the works of each artist.

Communications were passed around at the business meeting.

Several members are planning to attend the High Plains ArtFest Friday through Sunday, April 15 to 17, at The Gateway in Oberlin.

Ideas for an art workshop later in the year were discussed.

Members are encouraged to participate in the Colby Community College art show April 22, Instructor Rebel Jay is organizing the show with area artists.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 12. Mary will be the hostess and Margaret Deneleer will have the program.

— Maxine Nelson, secretary

Teacher fair coming

Fort Hays State University is having its annual teacher career fair from 9 a.m. to noon Monday, April 11, in the Memorial Union Ballroom.

The fair provides candidates, inexperienced as well as experienced, a one-stop opportunity to meet face-to-face with representatives of school districts to initiate the application process. A list of

districts attending is available at www.fhsu.edu/career/fairs/tcf/.

The fair brings together school administrators and candidates from all over the state in all educational fields. Most districts sending representatives will be from Kansas and surrounding states.

For information, contact Career Services at careers@fhsu.edu or (785) 628-4260.

Bat steals scene at opera house in Kentucky

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — The Lexington Opera House is haunted not by a phantom, but by a bat nicknamed Bruce.

The bat's most recent public appearance came during a Beatles

tribute show, reports WKYT-TV.

Opera House program director Luanne Franklin says the staff calls the bat Bruce after Bruce Wayne — alter ego, Batman.

Franklin says some other build-

ings in downtown Lexington have bats, so it wasn't surprising when Bruce settled in at the Opera House. The bat showed up at a Randy Newman concert and fans whooped and hollered.

Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Markets

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Send a letter and resume to Steve Haynes, Publisher, at 155 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kan., 67701 or s.haynes@nwkansas.com

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