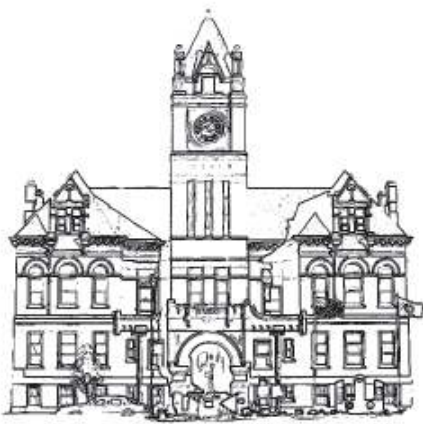




Court move postponed by asbestos

By Deitra Wedd
Colby Free Press
dwedd@nwkanas.com

Thomas County commissioners got an update Monday on the courthouse remodeling project, which will move the commissioners into the courtroom once the district court is moved to its new office at Southwind Plaza.

"I did speak to Judge (Kevin) Berens and everything is going accordingly," Chairman Mike Baughn said. "They do still have some records stored in the vault in the former (court) clerk's office. The rest of the third floor is taken care of."

He said the judge's bench has been removed so they can build a platform for the commissioners, where they can sit there with a half moon table.

"That's been accomplished," Baughn said. "That's being done by the county road department."

A man in the audience asked if the county was planning on doing anything with the jury box.

"We're going to leave it where it is," Baughn said.

He said the plans are to build a level platform for commissioners with the clerk over on the east end.

"Everything else," he added, "the jury box, the seating will remain. Most of the books will remain. We'll take some to the new (justice) center, but a lot of that's gone electronic now, so a lot of them are historic. In 1949, there was one book that contained every law in the state."

The move into the courtroom has been postponed to April due to the need to remove some asbestos.

Federal lawsuit: man run over

By Roxana Hegeman
Associated Press

The dashcam video captured a horrific scene: a Kansas sheriff's deputy in a patrol truck mowing down a Black man who was running, shirtless, across a field in the summer darkness after fleeing a traffic stop.

Lionel Womack — a 35-year-old former police detective from Kansas City, Kansas — alleges in an excessive force lawsuit filed Thursday that he sustained serious injuries when Kiowa County Sheriff's Deputy Jeremy Rodriguez intentionally drove over him during the Aug. 15 encounter.

Womack said in a statement that he hadn't been speeding nor was he under the influence of anything when he was initially pulled over. His driver's license, insurance and registration were up to date.

"When the first officer turned his lights on, I pulled over and complied ... exactly as you're supposed to. But when three additional vehicles pulled up quickly and started to surround my car, I freaked out. That's when I took off, it was a 'fight or flight' moment and I was going to live," he said. "I felt like I was in danger. This was out in the country, late at night, and it was dark. So I ran for my life. That's what you see in the

dashcam video. I'm running in an open field, and I'm scared."

The graphic video is at the crux of the federal civil rights case filed by attorney Michael Kuckelman against the deputy in U.S. District Court in Kansas. The lawsuit argues that Rodriguez used excessive force and was "callously indifferent" to Womack's civil rights.

Womack had left the police department earlier in August with hopes of growing his own security business. He was on his way back home from a business trip to California when a Kansas Highway Patrol officer in western Kansas initiated a chase over "an alleged traffic violation," according to the lawsuit. Sheriff's deputies from Pratt County and Kiowa County joined in the chase.

The car chase eventually ended on a dirt road, and Womack took off on foot across a nearby farm field.

The dashcam footage from a Pratt County sheriff's deputy's vehicle shows Rodriguez using his patrol truck to catch up to Womack, who was unarmed.

Rodriguez swerves his truck to hit Womack, knocking him to the ground and running over him. Womack rolls out from under the

See "LAWSUIT," Page 2



Families get needed help

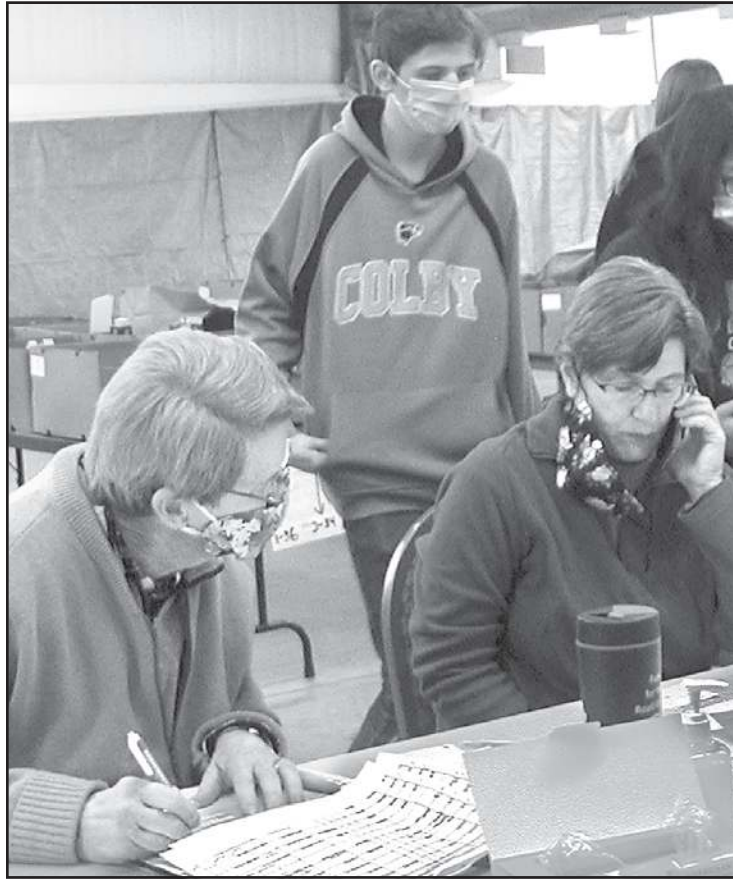


The annual Christmas Box program came to a climax Saturday morning with volunteers delivering toys, bikes and boxes of food to clients of the Genesis-Thomas County Food Bank.

Boxes were lined up on tables, waiting for volunteers to hustle them out as people arrived. Each box of staples also included a Christmas card hand decorated by the Abilene Hustlers 4-H Club. The Colby Fire Department collected and refurbished 31 bikes (below) for the kids, and the Kiwanis Club donated 130 toys.

By 10:30 a.m., most of the boxes had been picked up and volunteers (below) worked the phones to warn those who had not yet arrived that the doors would close soon. In all, about 150 families got a food box, with some getting two or three, depending on the number of mouths to feed.

EVAN BARNUM and MARIAN BALLARD/Colby Free Press



Legion Riders have breakfast to go

A drive-through breakfast put on by the American Legion Riders raised about \$3,000 for medical expenses for the Ben Myers family. Biscuits and gravy with hash browns and scrambled eggs were served up early in December by volunteers like Brette Hankin, who handed off the to-go boxes to Ashly Albers. The Myers family was involved in a serious auto accident this fall.

EVAN BARNUM
Colby Free Press



People die as shots arrive

By John Hanna
Associated Press

TOPEKA — Covid-19 deaths have surged in Kansas in the past week and nearly every part of the state has lost people to the disease caused by the corona virus, health statistics show.

Kansas averaged a record 45 new reported Covid-19 deaths per day for the seven days that ended Wednesday, according to state Department of Health and Environment data. The department reported 144 new deaths since Monday, pushing the state's pandemic death toll to 2,253.

Like other states, Kansas received its first shipment of a vaccine made by Pfizer on Monday and began getting it to health care workers, prison workers and nursing home staff and residents.

State officials hope Kansas will receive its first shipment of a vaccine made by Moderna next week, if the U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorizes its emergency use this week, as expected. But Gov. Laura Kelly said Wednesday that the vaccine won't be available to all adults for months, until the end of next spring.

People have died in at least 103 of the state's 105 counties, according to a Covid-19 dashboard operated by Reno County in southern Kansas.

"We must not become numb to rising cases and deaths, not forget that each statistic represents a real person — a friend, a neighbor, a loved one," Kelly said during a Statehouse news conference.

Despite the growing number of deaths and cases — and a doubling of deaths locally in less than a

month — the all-Republican Reno County Commission was expected to repeal a local mask mandate.

A health order including a mask mandate and a 10-person limit on gatherings is due to expire Friday. Commissioner Ron Hirst indicated Tuesday that he wants to drop the mask mandate and he likely has the support of interim Commissioner Mark Steffen, though Steffen would like to go further and rescind the health order, *The Hutchinson News* reported.

Interim Reno County Health Officer Karen Hammersmith told the commission Tuesday that she plans to issue a new order Friday

See "COVID," Page 2



Weather

National Weather Service
Tonight: Increasing clouds, with a low around 24. South wind 10 to 15 mph becoming west after midnight.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 41. Breezy, with a west wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 16. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 43. West wind 5 to 15 mph.
Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 22.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 50.
Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 29.
Monday: Sunny, with a high near 52.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 24.
Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 49.
Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 23.
Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 38. Breezy.

Wednesday: High, 39; Low 11
Precip: Wednesday None
Month: 0.45 inches
Year: 13.58 inches
Normal: 19.95 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
Friday 7:59 a.m. 5:23 p.m.
(NOAA Solar Calculator)

Society pitches in at Genesis

Many volunteers were needed to pull off the annual Christmas Box distribution at the Genesis-Thomas County Food Bank. Saturday morning, families stopped by to pick up boxes, and members of the Colby High Chapter of the National Honor Society were there, hauling boxes out to the cars.
EVAN BARNUM
Colby Free Press



Lawsuit: Black man run over

From “LAWSUIT,” Page 1

truck, his arms and legs flailing on the ground as someone on the video shouts, “lie down, lie down.” A deputy in the second patrol truck can be heard uttering an expletive as he watches what is happening.
Womack alleges in his lawsuit that he sustained serious injuries to his back, pelvis and thigh as well as to his right knee, ankle and foot.
“The dashcam video is disturbing,” Kuckelman said. “It is impossible to watch a video of a deputy driving his truck over Mr. Womack without feeling sick. There was nowhere for Mr. Womack to go. It was an open field, and he was trapped, yet the deputy drove his truck over him anyway.”
Neither Kiowa County Sheriff Chris Tedder nor his attorney has responded to Associated Press requests for comment. No one has explained why Rodriguez chose to run Womack down. The deputy’s race is unclear.
Kuckelman urged Tedder

in person and in letters to fire Rodriguez, and the sheriff has refused. Rodriguez remains on patrol. Kuckelman also wants Rodriguez charged criminally and has accused the sheriff of engaging in a coverup of the deputy’s conduct.
Four months later, Womack remains jailed on felony charges of attempting to elude a law enforcement officer by engaging in reckless driving and interference with a law enforcement officer. Court records show he is also charged with several misdemeanor traffic citations, including failure to drive in the right lane on a four-lane highway, improper signal and driving without headlights.
Zee Womack said her husband is still in jail because of an unrelated extradition request from Oklahoma. Online court records show Lionel Womack was charged in Texas County, Oklahoma, with endangering others while eluding or attempting to elude police on Aug. 12, just days before his encounter with law enforcement officers in Kansas.

The records show Womack was arrested by a police officer in the town of Tyrone, less than five miles south of the Kansas state line.
Womack comes from a law enforcement family. His wife and his mother are police officers with the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department. His stepfather retired from police work as a sergeant there. Two aunts are police dispatchers.
Zee Womack watched the video of her husband being run over for the first time on Wednesday, replaying it four times as she struggled to understand why the deputy felt justified in using such force. Her husband is lucky to be alive, she said.
“I am a police officer as well, and I feel like especially right now it is a really difficult time to be a police officer. We don’t always get the support, I guess, that would be helpful in this occupation,” she said shortly after watching the video. “And this makes it a lot more difficult to be an officer.”
An officer who is capable of making decisions like that, she said, should not have a badge.
“To me it showed a blatant disregard for human life,” she said. Zee Womack filed a federal lawsuit last year alleging “rampant racism and sexism” in the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department.
Lionel Womack said in his statement that most police officers are good and that he believes in the “blue brotherhood.”
“But we have to hold law enforcement accountable when they cross the line,” he said “These rogue law enforcement officers give a bad name to the good officers, and we have to stop them. I never imagined that I would someday be the victim of excessive force by a fellow law enforcement officer. He could have easily killed me.”

Briefly

The deadline for Briefly is noon the day before.

Free drive-thru Covid tests available

A state contractor, TourHealth, offers free drive-thru Covid-19 testing in Colby in front of the Thomas County Office Complex at 350 S. Range Ave. Hours from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through Thursday, Dec. 31. The site has the PCR test used by hospitals, so results may take several days. For information, call the county Health Department at (785) 460-4596.

Trash crews will take three holidays off

City of Colby sanitation trucks will not run either Christmas Eve, next Thursday, or Christmas Day. Thursday’s residential trash route will be picked up next Wednesday, while Friday’s route will be picked up on Monday, Dec. 28.

The next week, trucks will not run Friday, Jan. 1, because of the New Year’s Day holiday. Residential trash will be picked up on Thursday, Dec. 31.

Please have all tipper cans to the curb by 8 a.m. For questions, contact Omar Weber at the Public Works Department, (785) 460-4420.

Santa City in drive-thru mode at Fike Park

Everyone is invited to drive through Fike Park, admire the Christmas decorations and stop for a curbside visit with Santa. See the holiday lights, enjoy a candy cane and sugar cookie from Mrs. Claus and tell Santa what you want for Christmas. Times include 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. daily through Friday; 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; and 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. from Monday to Wednesday. For questions, call the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau, (785) 460-7643.

Farmers Bank & Trust tree benefits meals on wheels

Farmers Bank & Trust’s Colby branch is getting in the holiday spirit with its Giving Tree at the bank, 2080 S. Franklin Ave. Customers can pick an ornament that represents a donation amount and all funds collected will go to the local Meals on Wheels program. For questions, call the bank at (875) 460-2251.

Colby Rec plans ‘Ugly Sweater’ Cornhole

Colby Recreation will hold its first “Bells and Bags Ugly Sweater Cornhole Tournament” at 2 p.m. Saturday<d19> at the Community Building. Prizes will be awarded to the top finishing teams, as well as for the best-dressed team. Teams can be same gender or coed. An ugly Christmas sweater or other Christmas attire is strongly encouraged. This is an adults-only event. Entry is \$30 per team. To register, call (785) 460-4440, go to secure.rec1.com/KS/colby-ks/catalog or stop by the community building.

Library accepting food to settle fines

The Pioneer Memorial Library has a Christmas present for its customers: until Wednesday, anyone with a fine can settle their debt with a nonperishable food item. Food should be in date, have labels intact and be in good condition. For questions, call (785) 460-4470.

Genesis food bank needs donations now

With so many people out of work, Genesis-Thomas County food bank needs donations, either nonperishable food and personal hygiene items or money, which may be dropped off from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays at the office, 350 S. Range Ave. Mail checks to Genesis-Thomas County, Box 214, Colby, Kan., 67701. Anyone planning a food drive should leave a message at 460-7930. For information, call Donna Henry at (785) 462-6553.

Citizens Heath Expo spread out this year

This year’s pandemic-version Citizens Health Expo continues as Citizens offers discounted lab draws Monday to Friday until Dec. 31. If you want do draws, complete the Expo registration form found at www.cmciks.com and bring it along with payment to the hospital. For questions, call Megan at (785) 460-1214.

Covid-19 Updates Dec. 17

County	Active	Hospital	Hospital	Deaths	Total cases	Recovered
	(KDHE*local)	Total		(KDHE*local)		
Thomas	41	6	67*78	6	810*858	811
Sherman	19	21		7	520*520	494
Cheyenne	14	10*1		10	243*223	206
Rawlins		7			237	
Decatur	4	9*0		1	223	219
Norton	15	21*0		24	1,116*1,146	
Sheridan		25			352	
Logan		17			263	
Gove	17	5	75	20	316*299	
Wallace		6			153	
Statewide	6,050		2,253		194,569	

Numbers are those posted most recently by county and for state health officials.

Numbers are those posted most recently by county and/or state health officials.

Covid deaths rise amid shots

From “COVID,” Page 1

that would remain in place for another month. But Steffen attacked the county’s mitigation efforts as “not moving the needle.”
Reno County reported 81 Covid-19 deaths as of Wednesday, up from 40 on Nov. 20. The state health department said it had 6,377 confirmed and probable cases, up 20 percent over two weeks, to one case for every 10 residents.
“Your health order doesn’t do nothing,” Steffen said. “It’s an imposition on free will and individual rights. We don’t need it and it’s not changing a thing. It would make a lot of people happy to not have it.”
But Kelly responded: “The research dictates very clearly that masks work. Other mitigation efforts add to that, so, you know, we just need to look at the facts.”

The state health department on Wednesday added 4,551 confirmed and probable corona-virus cases to the state’s pandemic tally since Monday, increasing it by 2.4 percent to 194,569, or one case for every 15 Kansas residents. The state averaged 2,109 new cases per day for the seven days that ended Wednesday.
Kelly, a Democrat, told the Associated Press after her news conference that the Republican-controlled Legislature should “think very carefully” about convening in-person at the Statehouse in January for its annual, 90-day session, as opposed to meeting remotely. GOP lawmakers have regularly not worn masks at meetings this summer and fall.
“There’s no way in this building (the Statehouse) to have those meetings without close proximity to each other,” Kelly said. “We really need to look at a different way of doing this.”

LOCAL TV LISTINGS sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

THURSDAY EVENING

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
BROADCAST	ABC Station 19 (TV14) (N)	Grey's Anatomy (N)	A Million Little Things	Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Nightline				
CBS	Young (N)	B Positive	Mom (N)	Unicorn	Star Trek: Discovery	Local	(35) Late Show (TV14)	Corden (N)		
NBC	Dolly Parton's Coat of Many Colors (15, NR)		(01) Dateline NBC (N)	Local	(35) Tonight Show (N)	Late Night				
FOX	Thursday Night Football: Los Angeles Chargers at Las Vegas Raiders (Live)			Local	Local Programs (TV14)					
ION	Chicago P.D. (TVPG)	Chicago P.D. (TV14)	Chicago P.D. (TV14)	Chicago P.D. (TV14)	Chicago P.D. (TV14)	Chicago P.D. (TV14)				
CABLE	A&E The First 48 (TV14)	The First 48 (TV14)	Killer Cases (TV14) (N)	The First 48 : "Missing"	The First 48 (TV14)					
AMC	The Polar Express (04, G)	★★★ Tom Hanks.	Scrooged (88, PG-13) ★★★	Bill Murray.	Without Santa (TV G)					
ANIMAL	Gold Rush: Alaska	Gold Rush: Alaska	Gold Rush: Alaska	Gold Rush: Alaska	Gold Rush: Alaska					
BET	(5:00) Movie	Movie			Martin	Martin				
BRAVO	Southern Charm (N)	Southern Charm (N)	Watch What	Salt Lake City	Southern Charm	Don't Be				
CARTOON	Gumball	Gumball	Burgers	Burgers	Dad	Fam Guy	Fam Guy	Rick Morty	Lazor Wulf	
CMT	Jeff Dunham (TV14)	Jeff Dunham: Controlled Chaos	Movie							
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360°	Cuomo Prime Time (N)	CNN Tonight (N)	CNN Tonight (N)	Anderson Cooper 360°					
COMEDY	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Daily	The Office	(19) South Park (TV14)			
DISCOVERY	BattleBots : "Stop! Hammer Time!" (TVPG) (N)	Rocket Around (N)	Rocket Around (N)	Rocket Around (N)	BattleBots (TVPG)					
DISNEY	Raven	BUNK'D	Jessie	BUNK'D	BUNK'D	Sydney	Sydney	Jessie	Jessie	
E!	Total Bellas (TV14)	Total Bellas (TV14) (N)	Nightly (N)	Sex & City	Sex & City	Sex & City	Sex & City	Sex & City	Sex & City	
ESPN	(6:00) College Bball	NBA Preseason Basketball: Golden State vs Sacramento	UFC Unleashed (TV14)	E60	Unleashed					
ESPN2	UFC 240: Holloway vs. Edgar	Max Holloway vs. Frankie Edgar. (Replay)								
FOOD	Christmas (TV G)	Christmas (TV G)	Christmas (TV G)	Christmas (TV G)	Christmas (TV G)					
FREEFORM	(20) Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (32, PG) ★★★½	Macaulay Culkin.	The 700 Club (TV G)	Life-Size 2 (18) ★★						
FX	FX's A Christmas Carol (19, NR)	Guy Pearce, Andy Serkis.	FX's A Christmas Carol (19, NR)							
HGTV	Flipping Across (TV G)	Flip/Flop	Flip/Flop	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Flip/Flop	Flip/Flop		
HISTORY	Swamp People (TVPG)	Swamp People (N)	Swamp People (TVPG)	Swamp People (TVPG)	Swamp People (TVPG)					
LIFETIME	Rediscovering Christmas (19) Jessica Lowndes.	(03) The Christmas Temp (19) ★★	Sara Canning.	(01) Rediscovering (19)						
MTV	Jersey Shore (TV14) (N)	Delicious	Delicious	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	
NICK	All That	Unleashed	Young	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
PARMT	(6:00) Con Air (97, R) Nicolas Cage.	The A-Team (10, PG-13) ★★★	Liam Neeson, Bradley Cooper.	Movie Show	Red 2 (13, PG-13) ★★★	Bruce Willis.	Con Air			
SYFY	Red 2 (13)	(29) The Day After Tomorrow (04, PG-13) ★★½	Dennis Quaid.							
TBS	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Bang	Conan (N)	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Conan	
TCM	Going My Way (44, NR) ★★★	Bing Crosby.	(15) King of Kings (61, PG-13) ★★★	Jeffrey Hunter, Sophia Mckenna.						
TLC	Untold ER : "Diagnosis"	Untold ER (TV14)	Untold ER (TV14)	Untold ER (TV14)	Untold ER (TV14)					
TNT	A Christmas Carol (99) ★★★	Patrick Stewart.	A Christmas Carol (99) ★★★	Patrick Stewart.	Geostorm (17) ★★½					
TRAVEL	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures					
TV LAND	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens	
USA	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Miz & Mrs	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	
VH1	The Family That Preys (08, PG-13) ★★★	Kathy Bates.	Love & Basketball (00, PG-13) ★★★	Omar Epps.						
WGN	NewsNation	NewsNation	NewsNation	NewsNation	NewsNation					
PREM	HBO Billy Elliot (00, R) ★★★½	Julie Walters.	The Bee Gees: How Can You (20) Barry Gibb.	Industry : "Nutcracker"	Road (08)					
MAX	One Hour Photo (02, R) ★★★	(38) The Quarry (20, R) ★★	Shea Whigham.	Bounce (00, PG-13) ★★½	Ben Affleck.					
SHOW	The Gentlemen (20, R) Matthew McConaughey.	Your Honor : "Part Two"	DEUS &	Moonbase 8	Passenger 57 (92) ★★★½					

FRIDAY EVENING

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
BROADCAST	ABC Olaf's	Shrek Hall	(01) 20/20				Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Nightline	
CBS	MacGyver (TV14) (N)	Magnum P.I. (N)		Blue Bloods (TV14) (N)			Local	(35) Late Show (TV14)	Corden	
NBC	Weakest Link (TVPG)	Dateline NBC (N)					Local	Tonight Show (TV14)	Late Night	
FOX	College Football : "Teams TBA" (Live)						Local	Local Programs (TV14)		
ION	SVU : "Intimidation"	SVU : "Mother" (TV14)	SVU : "December"	SVU : "Parole" (TV14)	SVU : "Devastating"					
CABLE	A&E The First 48 (TV14)	Live Rescue : "Live Rescue - 12.18.20" (TV14) (N)								
AMC	Four Christmases (08, PG-13) Vince Vaughn.	Love Actually (03, R) ★★★	Hugh Grant, Liam Neeson.							
ANIMAL	River Monsters (TVPG)	River Monsters: Deadliest Man-eaters (N)	Big Cat Tales (N)	River Monsters (TVPG)						
BET	Movie		Tyler Perry's The Oval	American Soul (TV14)						
BRAVO	(11) Fifty Shades of Grey (15, R) ★½	Jamie Dornan.	(47) Fifty Shades Darker (17, R) ★★	Dakota Johnson.						
CARTOON	Apple (N)	Burgers	Dad	Dad	Family Guy (TV14)	Robot	Robot			
CMT	Bar Rescue (TVPG)	Bar Rescue (TVPG)	Bar Rescue (TVPG)	Bar Rescue (TVPG)	Bar Rescue (TVPG)					
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360°	Cuomo Prime Time (N)	CNN Tonight (N)	CNN Tonight (N)	Anderson Cooper 360°					
COMEDY	Schitt's	Schitt's	Schitt's	Schitt's	S. Park	S. Park				
DISCOVERY	Gold Rush (TVPG) (N)		(15) Gold Rush: Dave	Gold Rush (TVPG)						
DISNEY	Raven (N)	(50) Music	Forgot	Raven	Disney	Raven's Home (TV G)	(50) Ruth	Jessie		
E!	Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit (93)	Movie								
ESPN	(6:30) College Football : "2020 MAC Championship" (Live)		NBA Preseason Basketball: Los Angeles vs Phoenix (Live)							
ESPN2	NBA Preseason Basketball: Brooklyn vs Boston (Live)		SportsCenter Sports news.	SportsCenter						
FOOD	Diners & Dives (TV G)	Diners & Dives (N)	Diners	Diners	Diners & Dives (TV G)	Diners & Dives (TV G)				
FREEFORM	Santa Clause 3 (06) ★½	Dr. Seuss' The Grinch (18, PG)		The Star (17, PG) ★★½	Steven Yeun.					
FX	Despicable Me 3 (17, PG) ★★½	Steve Carell.	Minions (15, PG) ★★★	Pierre Coffin.	Pixels (15, PG-13) ★★					
HGTV	My Lottery	Showdown (TV G)	Christmas (TV G) (N)	Hunters	Hunters	Showdown (TV G)				
HISTORY	Ancient Aliens (TVPG)	Ancient Aliens (N)	Ancient Aliens (TVPG)	Ancient Aliens (TVPG)	Ancient Aliens (TVPG)					
LIFETIME	Christmas on the Menu (20) Kim Shaw.		A Christmas in Tennessee (18) Rachel Boston.	(01) Christmas (20)						
MTV	Delicious	Delicious	Delicious	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	
NICK	Nicknames Spect. (TV G)	Young	Young	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
PARMT	(6:00) The Hitman's Bodyguard (17, R) ★★★	Liam Neeson.	The Hitman's Bodyguard (17, R) ★★★	Ryan Reynolds, Samuel L. Jackson.						
SYFY	Shrek (01)	(35) Shrek (01, PG) Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy.	(35) Noah (14, PG-13) ★★	Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly.						
TBS	Central Intelligence (16, PG-13) ★★★	Kevin Hart.	Let's Be Cops (14, R) ★★★	Jake Johnson.	ELEAGUE					
TCM	Remember the Night (40, NR) ★★½	(45) The Apartment (60, NR) ★★½	Jack Lemmon.		Desk Set (57, NR) ★★½					
TLC	90 Day Fiancé : "Shame on You" (TV14)		90 Day Fiancé (N)	90 Day Fiancé (TV14)						
TNT	Jingle All the Way (96, PG) ★★		(58) Shrek Forever After (10, PG) Mike Myers.	The Jungle Book (16)						
TRAVEL	The Osbournes Want to Believe (TV14)		Paranormal (TVPG) (N)	Paranormal (TVPG)	Osbourne's (TV14)					
TV LAND	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens	
USA	Chicago PD	Ant-Man (15, PG-13) ★★½	Paul Rudd, Evangeline Lilly.	Family	Family	Family				
VH1	Little Fockers (10) ★★	Dirty Grandpa (16, R) ★★½	Robert De Niro, Julianne Hough.	Identity Thief (13, R) ★★½						
WGN	NewsNation	NewsNation	NewsNation	NewsNation	NewsNation					
PREM	HBO The Chronicles of Riddick (04, PG-13) ★★½	Industry (TVMA)	(50) Euphoria (TVMA)	The Dead						
MAX	Surrogates (09, PG-13) ★★½	Safe House (12, R) ★★★	Denzel Washington.	(29) Requiem for a Dream (00, R)						
SHOW	(5:30) Armageddon (98)	Your Honor : "Part Two"	(05) The Turning (20, PG-13) ★½	Your Honor : "Part Two"	Couples					



The Golden Plains scholars bowl team prepared for another round at the Wallace County meet. The team, including Alisha Brantley (left), Emma Weiner, Wyatt McDonald, Ethan Weiner and Alex Gonzalez went undefeated for first place.

STEINER SCOTT

Bulldogs win meet in Wallace County

By Austin Miller
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plain Bulldogs went undefeated at the Wallace County scholars bowl to take first place. Team members competing Nov. 23 included Alisha Brantley, Wyatt McDonald, Lauren Patmon, Ethan Weiner, Alex Gonzalez and Emma Weiner.

The 'Dogs defeated Wheatland-Grinnell, Brewster, Colby, Rawlins County and Cheylin in pool play to advance to the semi-finals. In the semi-finals, they defeated St. Francis 40-10 to face off with Wallace County in the finals. The final round was close with the Bulldogs coming out on top, 20-10.

Loss comes in Tribune

By Austin Miller
Golden Plains High School

The Golden Plains Bulldogs headed to Tribune for their fifth scholars bowl this year. They won two of their seven rounds but did not get out of pool play at the meet Dec. 1. They lost the first four rounds

to Sharon Springs, Wheatland, Goodland and Weskan. Following a bye round to regroup, they defeated both Greeley County and Wichita County before losing to Quinter. Competing for Golden Plains at this meet were Alisha Brantley, Wyatt McDonald, Joshua Yanez, Memo Aragon and Mia Rogers.

Fun books tell Christmas stories

As we near Christmas and the new year, I want to tell you about two fun books. The first, by Debbie Macomber, is "Jingle All the Way." Macomber says in her note to the reader that she came up with the idea of this book while on a cruise up the Columbia River. She also says she has traveled up the Amazon and been to Antarctica. From her experience she has written this Christmas story.

Protagonist Everly Lancaster is co-owner of a major online real estate company, Easy Home. As the keynote speaker for a regional conference, when she opened her computer presentation at the podium, she found that her assistant had loaded the wrong material. Digging deep to remember her presentation, she felt it was the worst she had ever done. She would be firing that next day. Jack Campbell and chief executive of the company had asked Everly to hire his niece, Annette Howington. Everly found her incompetent and this was the last straw. She told Jack in no uncertain terms that she was firing Annette. Exhausted, Everly decided to go home and discuss it the following day. In the morning Jack asked her to keep Annette and insisted that Everly take a month's vacation. He asked Annette to arrange a two-week cruise in a warm, interesting environment. Annette got right to work on that. When Everly returned from lunch, Annette handed her airline tickets to Brazil and then onward to a cruise on the Amazon River. Everly decided she could still oversee things via Internet if the company needed her. Without consulting information on the specific cruise,



Melany Wilks
• Library Links

Everly got packed and ready to by Saturday. While feeling rushed, she decided this trip might just be what she needed – until she found that this was not the type of cruise she thought. Everly was not packed or ready for an excursion into the wilds of the Amazon. She immediately has a crisis and the crew members must respond. Needless to say, this is set up for a great read with lots of information about the environs of the Amazon River. Read it, I am sure you will love it. The second book I read was "A Dog's Perfect Christmas," by W. Bruce Cameron. While the first 89 pages will almost depress you, once you are hooked the story becomes interesting. The Gross family is struggling to keep it together. Juliana is mother of 3-year old twins and a teenage daughter with an attitude. Her husband Hunter is working too many hours; if this project fails, he may find himself unemployed. Sanders Gross, Hunter's father, lives in a room on the second floor. He is quite lost and depressed after losing his wife to cancer a year and half ago. His dog, Winstead, is the only thing that keeps Sanders going. Juliana tells her husband she is not happy and he should help with the twins and his dad. Hunter hears this as a step toward divorce

court. He tries to fix things. He asks Ello, the teenager, and Sanders to begin chipping in. They barely agree to be civil and pitch in. It is not until Grandpa and Ello have words with each other that the air is cleared for them. When Juliana becomes desperately ill the situation must change. Hunter leans more heavily on his dad and daughter. In the midst of this, Ello is adopted by a cute female puppy. She had been asking for a dog for a long time; the answer has always been no. However, since Mom is in the hospital and Hunter is trying to care for her and work at the same time, Grandpa is organizing the home front. Grandpa decides this is just what Ello and the family need. Grandpa finds that the puppy makes a huge difference in Ello's life. The very elderly dog Winstead also comes back to life. This is where the story just takes off. Read it and enjoy. You have five more days to pay your fines by participating in our annual "Food For Fines" campaign. It will end Wednesday, Dec. 23. Simply bring in canned foods to redeem the fines on your account. Call us at (785) 460-4470 if you have any questions. Our library holiday schedule looks like this: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday and Tuesday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday; closed next Thursday and Friday; open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26; and closed Sunday, Dec. 27. The following week we will be open 9 to 6 Monday to Wednesday, Dec. 28 to 30, and 9 to 5 Thursday, Dec. 31. We will close Friday, Jan. 1, then return to our regular schedule. See you in the library!

Two-drug treatment shown to help Covid-19

BOSTON (AP) – Doctors are reporting that a two-drug treatment is especially helpful for Covid-19 patients who need extra oxygen. Adding the anti-inflammatory drug baricitinib to the antiviral medicine remdesivir helped these patients recover eight days sooner, in 10 days on average

versus 18 for those given remdesivir alone, according to a study. The medicines have been recommended since September, when early results from the study suggested the combination shortened recovery time for hospitalized patients by a day. Full results published by the New England Journal of Medi-

cine show the benefit was even greater for those needing oxygen or other respiratory support short of a breathing machine. Serious side effects and new infections also were fewer. The study involved more than 1,000 Covid-19 patients. All were given Gilead Sciences' remdesivir, sold as Veklury, and

half also received baricitinib, a drug Eli Lilly sells as Olumiant to treat rheumatoid arthritis, the less common form of arthritis that occurs when a mistaken immune system attacks joints, causing inflammation. An over-active immune system also can lead to serious problems in some corona-virus patients.

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

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$5.23
Corn (bushel)	\$4.34
Milo (bushel)	\$5.44
Soybeans (bushel)	\$10.98



Keller Brothers

Keller Brothers was a responsible, legal, lawful and respectable business, composed of two men. The Keller Brothers were partners, brothers and life-long friends. Leslie J. (Les) and Benjamin J. (Ben), as the Keller Brothers entity, had a successful partnership for many years.

Those in business dealings with this firm in times past have had their voices silenced in death. My voice will not be silenced.

It behooves me, out of respect for truth, for honesty and lastly to honor my husband, Les Keller, and Ben Keller, his partner, as the Keller Brothers, and to submit this article for publication in the Colby Free Press.

Respectfully,
Jeri (Mrs. Leslie J.) Keller

Celebrating **5** years in business!

Have you been in yet?

New inventory arriving every day!
Stop in, there's something for everyone!

COLBY FLEA MARKET

305 N. Franklin, Colby, KS • (785) 443-0918 • Mon.-Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. CST
••Credit cards accepted!••

The Colby Free Press

Business Directory

Call The Colby Free Press today to place your business ad here! (785) 462-3963

KANSAS Insurance

INC

NOW OFFERING
Comparative Rating
Quote Multiple
Companies Faster!

• Home & Auto
• Farm & Crop
• Business Insurance
• Boat, Motorcycle, RV
• Life Insurance

Call us today!
785-462-3939

Dennis Tubbs, Agent
dtubbs@kansasins.com

Gidget Hartman, Agent
gidget@kansasins.com

490 N. Franklin, Colby, KS • www.kansasins.com

L&C Home Health Agency, Inc.

Where Love and Care come first

Medicare Certified • State Licensed

We're a non-profit organization, serving Northwest Kansas since 2001!

1175 S. Range Ave., Suite 1, Colby, KS 67701
Phone: (785) 465-7444 • Email: lchha@st-tel.net
Find us online at: landchomehealthagencyinc.com

PROFESSIONAL FENCING

Agricultural • Commercial • Residential

Treat Bugbee • 785-462-0640
FENCINGTREAT@GMAIL.COM

Meadow Lake Restaurant & Lounge

• Open to the Public •

Mondays \$1 Draws Saturday

Prime Rib Specials
Our kitchen is open Mon - Sat, 5 - 9 p.m.

MEADOW LAKE

GOLF COURSE & RESTAURANT
785-460-6443
1085 E Golf Club Rd. • Colby, KS

NEW SYSTEM WINDOW CLEANING

Commerical – Residential
Free Estimates – Hard Water Removal

785-462-6995
(800) 611-6735

www.mywindowcleaner.net

WATKINS REALTY AND INS. AGENCY, LLC

"Your Crop Insurance Headquarters"

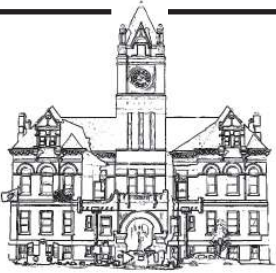
Steven A. Watkins, MBA – Crop Insurance Specialist

901 Trail Ave • P.O. Box 840 • Hoxie, KS 67740
Toll Free: 1-800-232-3239 • Office: 785-675-3239
Cell: 785-675-1017 • Night and Weekends
watkinscroptax@yahoo.com
www.watkinscropinsurance.com

Henry Millwright & Fabrication

Millwright Services • Mobile Welding and Repair
Grain Storage Equipment Sales & Service
Grain Handling Sales & Service

2022 County Road 11 • Levant, KS 67743
(785) 586 - 2263 (office) • (785) 443 - 5718 (cell)



Other Viewpoints

Share the numbers for senior care sites

We’ve known for some time that Covid-19 poses a great risk to those in long-term care facilities. Put simply, residents are likely to be older and diagnosed with significant health conditions, both of which can worsen coronavirus outcomes.

The toll has been substantial. *The Topeka Capital-Journal’s* India Yarborough reported last month that “70 percent of the county’s coronavirus-related deaths have been associated with long-term care facilities.”

That’s a stunning total. But it aligns with information from across the rest of the country.

The Kaiser Family Foundation has noted that “Nationwide, deaths in long-term care facilities account for 40 percent of all Covid-19 deaths.” In many states, those numbers are higher.

We know that senior facility staff have been working hard during the pandemic. We can only imagine the stress and strain of attempting to keep residents healthy while working and living in a communal, shared space.

Yet those running these facilities owe their communities attention and details. They must be transparent about their case numbers and deaths caused by the disease. The families of those in the facilities deserve it. If cases are hushed up, communities may not have a full picture of the virus’ toll at any one time.

What’s more, owners and managers set examples and expectations for those who work in the facilities. If workers are sick and still come in to work, they could be putting residents at risk. If proper masking and distancing procedures aren’t followed, they could be putting residents at risk. It may be difficult and expensive to do so, but it’s critical.

Too often, our society dismisses those who may live in long-term care facilities. How often do people joke about sending someone “to the home”? We don’t like to imagine that someday we may be infirm or need round-the-clock care.

But these folks deserve the same care and attention as any family, as any resident of a town. They’re part of our communities, and sources of tremendous experience and wisdom. They shouldn’t just be protected – they should be treasured.

Many residents at these facilities could be among the first vaccinated. That means that their lives could be transformed within the next month or so. But until that point, we should expect clarity and communication from those who care for them.

– *The Topeka Capital-Journal, via the Associated Press*

Where to write, call

U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, 109 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 224-4774 Website: roberts.senate.gov/public/

U.S. Sen. Jerry Moran, 521 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6521. Fax (202) 228-6966 Website: moran.senate.gov

U.S. Rep. Roger Marshall, 312 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. (202) 225-2715 or Fax (202) 225-5124. Website: marshall.house.gov

State Sen. Rick Billinger, State Capitol Building, 300 SW 10th St., Room 236-E, Topeka, Kan. 66612, (785) 296-7399 Rick.Billinger@senate.ks.gov

State Rep. Adam Smith, (120th District) State Capitol Building, 300 SW 10th St., Room 151C, Topeka, Kan., 66612, (785) 296-0715 Adam.Smith@house.ks.gov

State Rep. Don Hineman, (118th District) State Capitol Building, 300 SW 10th St., Room 372-W, Topeka, Kan., 66612, (785) 296-7384 don.hineman@house.ks.gov

COLBY FREE PRESS

155 W. Fifth St. (USPS 120-920) (785) 462-3963 Colby, Kan. 67701 fax (785) 462-7749

Send news to: colby.editor @ nwkansas.com

State award-winning newspaper, General Excellence, Design & Layout, Columns, Editorial Writing, Sports Columns, News, Photography. Official newspaper of Thomas County, Colby, Brewster and Rexford.

Steve Haynes - editor and publisher steve.haynes @ nwkansas.com

NEWS

Marian Ballard - copy editor mballard @ nwkansas.com

Deitra Wedd - reporter dwedd @ nwkansas.com

ADVERTISING

Kathryn Ballard - advertising representative kballard @ nwkansas.com

Melissa Edmondson - advertising representative medmondson @ nwkansas.com

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Evan Barnum - systems administrator support @ nwkansas.com

NOR’WEST PRESS

Jim Jackson, foreman

Chris Unruh, pressman, Dustin Pennington, helper

Mailing: Thomas Burnside, Debra Simon, Tracy Lucas, supervisor
THE COLBY FREE PRESS (USPS 120-920) is published every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, except the days observed for Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year’s Day, by Nor’West Newspaper, 155 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kan., 67701.

PERIODICALS POSTAGE paid at Colby, Kan. 67701, by additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to Colby Free Press, 1205 Main Ave., Goodland, Kan., 67735.

THE OFFICE at 155 W. Fifth is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday. MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, which is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news herein. Member Kansas Press Association and National Newspaper Association.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In Colby, Thomas County and Oakley: three months \$39, one year \$94. By mail to ZIP Codes beginning with 676 and 677: three months \$42, one year \$99. Elsewhere in the U.S., mailed once per week: three months \$42, one year \$94. Student rate, nine months, in Colby, Thomas County and Oakley, \$69; mailed once per week elsewhere in the U.S. \$79.



Santa letters have lots to say

One of my tasks at the newspaper is to type up some of the Letters to Santa and get them ready for publication in a special section we put together each year. We know this is a keep-sake section and type the copy exactly as it is written: misspelled words, family secrets and all.

In the 25 Years Ago section of the Yesteryear column in this week’s edition of *The Oberlin Herald*, we find the Christmas Letters to Santa written by some well-known local residents. How fun to have a little peek into their past.

This year, at the top of the Want Lists were hover boards (often spelled “hoover” board), LOL dolls, headphones, Legos, drones and in true country style, several wanted guns.

Many children had specific instructions for Santa. One little girl said her house looked like a farm, but “don’t go there ... go to Grandma’s.” Almost all said they would leave a treat, including pop tarts, gummy bears, cupcakes and very specific servings of white, chocolate or almond milk.

In this year of Covid, some letters to Santa were poignant. There were wishes for a happy family or for their family to be safe. One little boy worried about his anger and another worried about what happens if Rudolph dies.



Outback

• Carolyn Plotts

One boy said he was worried for his grandma, who gets shaky, and many asked for gifts for their friends, parents and siblings. Some complained about mistreatment from brothers and sisters, but one cautioned Santa to wear a mask and one hoped Santa would get a vacation.

I about fell off my chair laughing at one little girl’s letter. She told Santa she wanted a birthday party in Mexico. She went on to say she had kidnapped one of his elves and if he wanted her back, he’d better give her the trip to Mexico. An elf held for ransom? Oh, my.

Another girl was so eloquent in her letter to Santa. Oh, sure. She asked for the usual X-box stuff, headphones, Legos, a slime maker and a warm robe, but interspersed in her letter were the most heartfelt sentiments. She asked Santa to help with finding her a job in the future, for

good people to be successful, for money for the poor and for her to be able to learn how to cook in order to feed the poor, hungry and homeless.

At that point, I was having to blink away the tears as I typed. There’s more. She asked to have a loving, kind and courageous family and (I imagine in relationship to Covid) she asked that anyone who was stressed to be able to calm down and relax. She asked that her little brother be brave, kind and generous, for her sister not be bullied anymore and for racism to end. The kicker was her last line:

*** Some selfish, some selfless.***

For her parents to have raised such a compassionate child, I’m sure they recognize how special she is. Oh, that we all could have the heart of such a child.

Carolyn Plotts of Norcatur, proofreader at The Oberlin Herald, continues a family tradition of writing a weekly column with a homespun point of view. In her “spare” time, she works in a prison ministry, helps run a house for visiting families of prisoners, builds houses in Mexico, cooks and raises chickens and calves. And who knows what all else.

Screen size matters

Movie houses closed during coronavirus lockdowns. Some film producers are announcing that they will be shifting to streaming services. And some pundits are predicting that this will be the end of movies as we knew them.

To really understand why screen size matters, you need to have been to an IMAX theater. That might be one of the seven-stories-tall flat screen IMAX theaters or the rounded Omnimax versions often found at science museums.

When it comes to real life, these massive screens are the next best thing to “being there.” They fill up our field of vision. The audience sits in steeply-sloped rows of seats, so the person in front of you is mostly below your field of view and you block little of the view of the person behind you.

Today’s kids, from kindergarten to college, have not experienced the 35mm film projectors that teachers used into the early 1990s. In classrooms and movie houses, we used these films to project an image that was usually bigger than even today’s large screen TVs. Students generally paid attention. Moviegoers got out their hankies and cried along with the big screen drama. But in both cases, the edge of the film still reminded you that you were not really there.

But watching the IMAX screen puts you in the front seat of the race car or dangles you over the edge of the Grand Canyon with no visible edge to the scene. IMAX audience members dodge and duck and sometimes have to leave to go vomit.

Introduced in 1970, this Canadian technology became known for its convincing realism. Unlike the vertical 35mm reels, their 70mm film had to run sideways through a projector and held 10 times the image for higher resolution. Instead of two sound channels for stereo, IMAX uses six sound channels; a viewer’s ears can track the race car approaching and passing as if you were really at the track. By



John Richard Schrock

• Education Frontlines

1980, IMAX began converting to digital projection but this system remains the same.

In addition, IMAX introduced a genuine three-dimensional image, with two high-definition cameras filming a scene with their two lenses as far apart as a person’s eyes. These are then projected by two cameras in the theater. The two images are polarized and the IMAX customer wears polarized lenses allowing each eye to view what the camera’s “eyes” had seen. A regular two-dimensional movie screen always lacked the depth perception that told a viewer this wasn’t quite real, even if you moved up to where the edges were beyond your vision. Adding this high-resolution third dimension convinces a viewer’s brain that he or she is really, really there.

Lookout! Duck!

The distance the viewer sits from the screen is also important in comparing movies with television and smartphones. The old low-definition American televisions scanned 525 lines from top to bottom. It was recommended that you watch TV sitting back a distance that was seven times the height of the TV screen. The lines didn’t stand out but the little TV only made up about 10 percent of your visual field.

The first-generation high definition TV allowed a viewer to sit closer, about three times the picture height in front of the TV. And now our so-called 4K TV can be watched from a viewing distance of about one and a half times the screen height without noting the lines. That is still not as engaging as a regular movie screen, and pitiful compared to the IMAX. And compared to the pitifully-small screens

on hand-held devices held at handheld distance, it is no match.

Yes, there are virtual reality headsets. But they impress on their wearer their presence, and they lack the sharing-of-experience of movie-going. Movie companies are not moving that direction.

IMAX is a name formed from “image maximum.” Cell phones deserve the name IMIN for image minimum. Regular theater screens are halfway between.

There is the possibility that a young generation of smartphone addicts will settle for viewing future “movies” due to their limited experience with television and handheld screens. But as we have witnessed over these last years how often our youngsters “watch” television movies while also drifting away to scan their latest cell phone messages, we know that they already fail to recognize their lack of engagement.

Welcome to a future of (yawn) boredom.

John Richard Schrock, a retired professor of biology and department chair, lives in Emporia. He is editor of the Kansas School Naturalist and Entomotaxonomia.

Write us

The *Colby Free Press* encourages Letters to the Editor on any topic of general interest. Letters should be brief, clear and to the point. They must be signed and carry the address and phone number of the author.

We do not publish anonymous letters. We sign our opinions and expect readers to do likewise. Nor do we run form letters or letters about topics which do not pertain to our area.

Letters will not be censored, but will be read and edited for form and style, clarity, length and legality.

Mallard Fillmore

• Loren Fishman



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



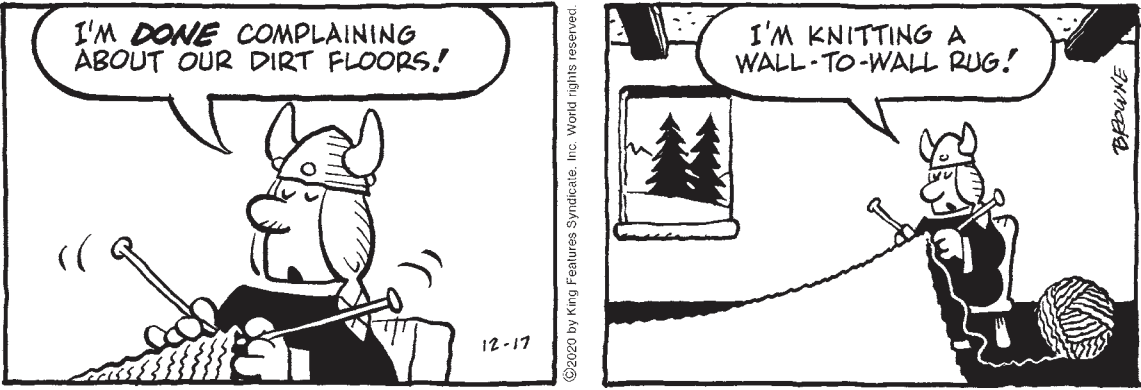
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



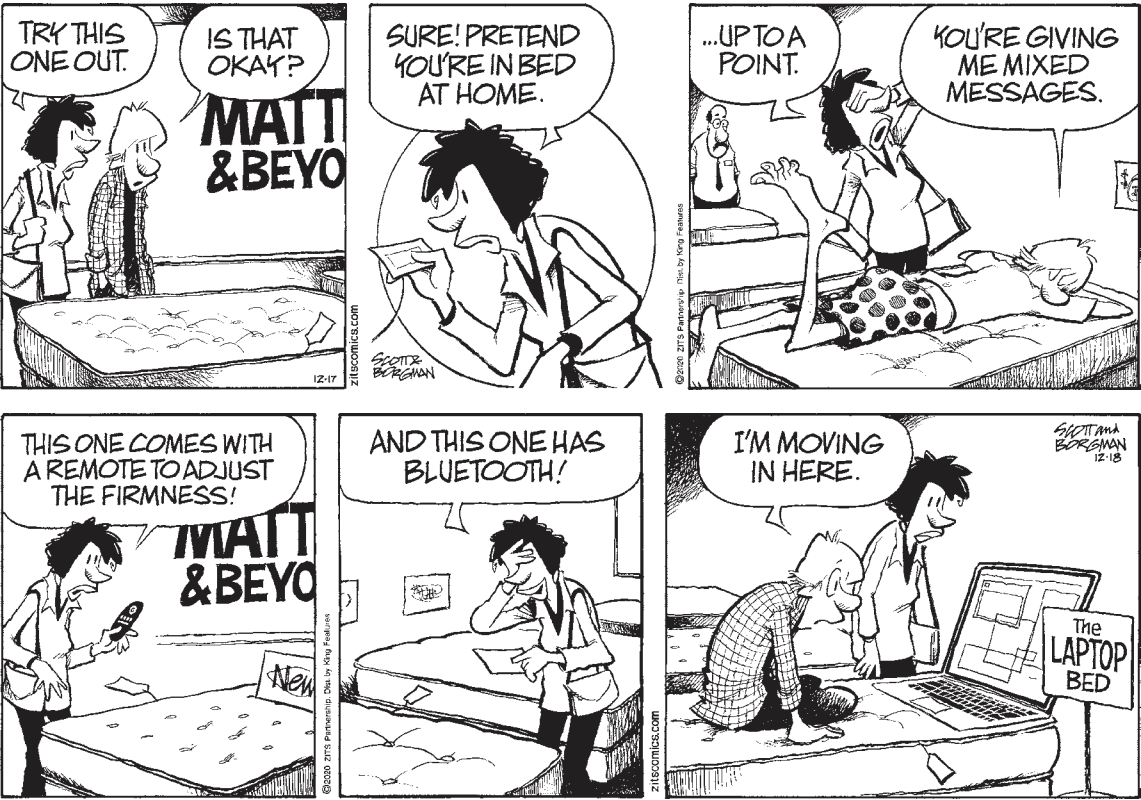
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

- Antiques and Collecting

Bookcases have multiple names

Q: My mother has a five-shelf bookcase made by the Globe-Wernicke Co. in Cincinnati. The stamp on the inside states the size is D-8 1/2 and the grade is 398. Can you tell us more about the bookcase and its worth?

A: Otto H.L. Wernicke was granted a patent for his stackable “sectional stock case for mercantile houses” in 1892 and founded the Wernicke Co. in Minneapolis in 1893. He patented his design for a bookcase of interchangeable sections, which collapsed for shipping, in 1896. The company moved to Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1897. It merged with the Globe Co. of Cincinnati in 1899, and the name became Globe-Wernicke. It was sold in 1955 and became Globe-Weis Systems Co. in 1963. The stackable bookcases, sometimes called “elastic bookcases” or “barrister book-cases,” were made with ash, mahogany, oak or walnut finish. The “grade 398” stamp indicates the finish is imitation medium dark mahogany on maple/red birch. It was used beginning about 1899. The “D-8 1/2” size stamp indicates they are 9 1/2-inches deep and 8 1/2-inches high. Retail value of your five-shelf bookcase is about \$900.

Q: While downsizing my parents’ home, I came across an old Argus C-3 camera my dad dearly loved and used all the time. Is it worth anything?

A: Almost 3 million Argus C-3 cameras were made by Argus of Ann Arbor, Michigan, between 1939 and 1966. The Argus C-3 was a relatively inexpensive camera and the company’s most popular model. It’s sometimes called “the brick” because of its weight and boxy shape. Argus was sold to Sylvania Electric Products Co. in 1957 and was resold several more times after that. By the 1960s, Argus cameras were being made in Japan and imported into the U.S. An Argus C-3 with its original leather case sells for under \$25.

Q: I have a water pitcher and four glasses made from cut glass. The set was a wedding gift to my grandmother in 1923. I have looked everywhere to identify the design. How can I identify the cut glass design?

A: The American Cut Glass Association, a nonprofit, national organization, has pictures of examples of many cut glass items with patterns identified. Some benefits are available to members of the association only, including reprints of old cut glass manufacturers’ catalogs and a pattern identification service. Check the association’s website, CutGlass.org, for information.

TIP: Store plates vertically in a rack or stack them with a felt plate protector between each plate.

Terry Kovel and Kim Kovel answer reader’s questions sent to the column. Send a letter with one question describing the size, material (glass, pottery) and what you know about the item. Include only two pictures, the object and a closeup of any marks or damage. Be sure your name and return address are included. Write to Kovels, (Colby Free Press), King Features Syndicate, 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803 or email us at collectorstgallery@kovels.com.

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ K 10 9 3
♥ 7 5
♦ A 9 3
♣ 10 8 4 2

WEST
♦ 8 5
♥ Q 10 6 4 3
♦ K J 8 4 2
♣ 3

EAST
♦ A 7
♥ J 9 2
♦ Q 10 6 5
♣ Q J 9 7

SOUTH
♦ Q J 6 4 2
♥ A K 8
♦ 7
♣ A K 6 5

The bidding:
South 1 ♣
West Pass
North 2 ♣
East Pass

Opening lead — three of clubs.

Bizarre – but correct
Occasionally, declarer may make a play that on its face appears totally bizarre, but when the play is later examined, it may well prove to be absolutely essential.

Take this deal where West led his singleton club, on which dummy played the deuce, East the seven and South the ace.

Declarer led a spade to the king, losing to the ace. Back came the queen of clubs from East. It was at this point that South showed his mettle by playing the five instead of the king!

As a result, he made the contract. When East continued with the nine of clubs, South followed low and West ruffed, but that was essentially the end of the line for the defense. Declarer’s only losers proved to be a spade, a club and a club ruff. Now let’s go back to trick three and see what would have happened had South played the king of clubs on the queen, which seems the normal thing to do. In that event, South would have finished down one, losing a spade, a club ruff and two more club tricks.

It is easy to prove that not covering the queen of clubs with the king is the right play. South cannot go down if he ducks the queen, regardless of how the clubs are divided, but he can go down if he plays the king and the opening lead was a singleton.

Since making the contract is always declarer’s first consideration, it must be right to let the queen hold at trick three. Declarer has everything to gain and nothing to lose.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

			3	5	7		1	
	1					8		2
							6	
2			1					6
3								5
5					8			4
	6							
4		9					2	
	7		6	4	1			

Difficulty Level ★★★

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

4	5	7	3	1	9	6	8	2
8	1	2	5	4	6	3	9	7
3	9	6	7	8	2	4	5	1
1	6	5	4	2	7	8	3	9
7	8	3	9	6	1	2	4	5
9	2	4	8	3	5	1	7	6
6	7	8	1	5	4	9	2	3
5	3	1	2	9	8	7	6	4
2	4	9	6	7	3	5	1	8

Cryptoquip

VJJZVJWEKTP OBCTEY CTZ

GJCWZY OKBDZ NO VCKMKT

MJ GD YSJJMIDZ VKMI WJNPI

OCODW: YCTZ-SD-ZJVTY.

Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: WHEN THE GYMNAST’S BUNGLED LANDING MADE HIM LOSE HIS BIG LEAD, HE AVOWED “IT’S ALL MY VAULT!”

Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: V equals W

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Netting
 - 5 Globe
 - 8 Skip
 - 12 Dull pain
 - 13 French article
 - 14 News reporter
 - 15 Streetcar
 - 16 — kwon do
 - 17 Nest egg
 - 18 Middle Eastern dip made from chickpeas
 - 20 Gorge
 - 22 Prefix with gram or center
 - 23 Pos. opposite
 - 24 Lettuce unit
 - 27 Protracts
 - 32 Happy hour venue
 - 33 List-end-ing abbr.
 - 34 Half of CXII
 - 35 Tirade
 - 38 Eve’s mate
 - 39 Antlered grazer
- DOWN**
- 6 Sixth sense
 - 42 Uses a blender
 - 45 Ladle
 - 49 “Would — to you?”
 - 50 Med. plan
 - 52 Stow cargo
 - 53 Must have
 - 54 Outback bird
 - 55 New York canal
 - 56 Hardy lass
 - 57 Favorite
 - 58 Ticked (off)
 - 1 Calc. or trig
 - 2 Beige
 - 3 Counterfeit
 - 4 Shortened, say
 - 5 One who’s not in the loop
 - 6 Genetic letters
 - 7 “Cheers” order
 - 8 Martini garnishes
 - 9 Bright yellow flower
 - 10 Tehran’s country
 - 11 Use a stun gun
 - 19 At bat
 - 21 Director Lee
 - 24 “Big Little Lies” airer
 - 25 — Claire, WI
 - 26 Blood lines
 - 28 ACLU concerns
 - 29 Misbehaved
 - 30 Sch. founded by
 - 31 Singer
 - 36 Isn’t colorfast
 - 37 Guitar’s kin
 - 38 Online program
 - 41 Yes, to Juan
 - 42 Ale measure
 - 43 Peter Fonda’s beekeeper role
 - 44 News anchor
 - 46 Use a fruit knife
 - 47 Actress Falco
 - 48 Marsh plant
 - 51 Bovary’s title (Abbr.)
- Solution time: 24 mins.**
- | | | | | | |
|--------|----------|------|--|--|--|
| SEAL | BBC | AGRA | | | |
| INLA | REA | HOUR | | | |
| GYM | SHOES | ESTE | | | |
| HASTE | AGATHA | | | | |
| | LYRE | ODE | | | |
| EGGY | TMHO | ABC | | | |
| REO | BOBIN | DUH | | | |
| SLO | USES | SYNE | | | |
| | DEB | RSVP | | | |
| ESSAYS | EAVES | | | | |
| BAHS | GIFTSETS | | | | |
| ALOE | TKO | MEAN | | | |
| YEWS | SEX | SSTS | | | |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19			20	21		
			22				23			
24	25	26		27	28	29			30	31
32				33					34	
35			36	37					38	
			39				40	41		
42	43			44	45			46	47	48
49				50	51			52		
53				54				55		
56				57				58		

Colby Middle School's memorable season comes to end

By Brad Weese

Colby Free Press

It's been a season to remember for the Colby Middle School girls basketball program, as both seventh- and eighth-grade girls claimed Great West Activities Conference titles.

The young lady Eagles finished out their season Monday in Colby

against Holcomb.

The eighth grade A-team game provided a little scare for the Colby team, who found themselves trailing 20-5 at the half. By the end of three quarters, they had cut into the lead while holding Holcomb scoreless, and were down 20-15. Colby tied the score at 22 as the clock ran out to send the game into overtime.

In the extra period, the Lady

Eagles shut out their opponents 7-0 to claim the game, 29-22. This was the 12th victory of the season compared to only one loss, which came on the road to Hays, a much bigger school.

The eighth-grade B-team game produced the same final score 29-22. The younger girls played with composure and dealt with a little adversity as well. These teams

knew how to take care of business when they had to this season.

The eighth-grade coaches, Ray Nolan and Wendy Weishaar, had 18 girls. They commented that this group worked hard every day at practice as well in the classroom. The girls showed a lot of respect for each other, which made for a great team environment.

The season proved ended with

an exciting day, which topped off a tremendous season.

In the seventh grade ballgames, the Colby A team won 27-17 to improve its overall record to 11-2, claiming the league championship. The B team lost 19-33, but finished the season with a 6-5 mark.

Coaches Travis Vaughn and Monica Kane said they were proud of how their girls performed this

season and said they hope they will get in the needed reps in over the spring and summer to continue to develop their game. The coaches said this group could even get better if they are willing to put in the work when nobody is watching. They were fun to work with, the coaches said, and their future looks bright.

Snow postpones ballgames

Due to snow and slick roads, the high school basketball games scheduled for the Colby Eagles on Tuesday in Holcomb were postponed.

The teams look to finish up the 2020 part

of their season at 4:30 p.m. Friday in leagues games in Scott City. Heading into these games, the Lady Eagles and Eagles both hold 2-2 records. — Brad Weese

K-State wins in Big 12 opener

AMES, Iowa (AP) — DaJuan Gordon scored 15 points, making all 11 free throws, Kansas State made seven of eight from the line in the last 41 seconds, turning aside a late Iowa State surge 74-65 Tuesday night in a Big 12 Conference opener.

Kansas State started three true freshman in a Big 12 game for the first time and the trio

came through. Davion Bradford scored 14 points, Nijel Pack and Selton Miguel each added eight points with three steals.

The teams each had eight steals and Kansas State made 17 turnovers to Iowa State's 18, but the Wildcats were able to score 24 points off turnovers to Iowa State's 14.

Classifieds

Notices

Oakley Cleaners has resumed picking up dry-cleaning in Colby at Purdy Petals, 185 E. 4th for all of your cleaning needs!
--5/14---TFN---

Help Wanted

Thomas County is seeking to hire a Building Maintenance and Custodial Director with an effective start date January 2021. The Director will work under the direction of the County Commissioners, supervision of custodians, coordinate the installation, maintenance and repair work in ALL county buildings. He/she will regularly inspect work sites, execute work as necessary, maintain inventory and arrange for contractors to perform non-routine repairs. Benefits include: health, dental, cancer and retirement benefits. Salary is negotiable. Thomas County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. To pick up a job application and description of duties contact the County Clerk at 785-460-4500, 300 N Court Ave., Colby, KS 67701.
---12/17---TFN---

Fairview Estates in Colby, an Assisted Living facility, is looking for CMAs LPNs for all shifts and CNAs for night shifts. Every other weekend off, every other holiday off. Please call 785-462-2154 or email at fairview@st-tel.net for an application.
---12/16---12/30---

The Rawlins County Road and Bridge Department is now accepting applications for a Heavy Equipment Operator. Applicant must have a valid CDL or be able to get one. Competitive pay with a great benefits package. Employees are subject to random drug and alcohol testing. Pick up an application or submit resume to the Rawlins County Shop at 12303n Highway 25, Atwood, KS. For more information contact Mark Loop at (785) 626-3726.
---12/2---TFN---

Great Western Tire of Colby, Inc., 1170 S. Country Club Drive, is now accepting applications for all positions. Positions included, but not limited to, lube oil & tire, truck tire, and service call. Experience required, but will train the right person. Valid driver's license is a requirement. Full time position includes competitive salary and benefits. Apply in person. EOE. Questions please call 785-462-2100.
---11/25---TFN---

Cashiers needed at 24/7 Travel Stores in Colby, KS. \$12.30/HR average with commission. Apply at 24-7stores.com/careers today!
---9/3---TFN---

Assistant Manager needed at 24/7 Travel Stores in Colby, KS. \$17/HR average with commission. Full benefits including BCBS insurance and 401(k) plans. Apply at 24-7stores.com/careers today!
---8/28---TFN---

The Team at Kansasland Tire of Norton has an immediate opening for a service truck operator/general service person. Must have a valid drivers license. Competitive wages, 401k, insurance, & uniforms. Experience preferred, but not necessary, we will train. Please stop by at 11101 Rd E1, Norton and pick up an application or call 785-877-5181 EOE.
---2/12---TFN---

Buildings for Sale

Vap Construction, Inc. - The Strongest Name in Post Frame Construction: Western Style Horse Barn Special. \$27,900.00 delivered and constructed. 30'x40'x12' with an 8'x40' Lean-to Shed. Includes 12' Split Slider: 2 Dutch Doors & 3'x3' Faux Bale Door with Cross Bucks; 3' Eave Lights on one side wall; 3' Cupola; Covered V-braces, Steel Walk Door, 3' Wainscoting. Constructed with 29-gauge Colored Metal, Nail-Lams on 8' centers, 30#/115mph Pre-engineered Trusses on 4' centers. For more information, call 866-492-1978 or visit www.vapconstruction.com. Vap Construction, Inc. - The Strongest Name in Post Frame Construction
---12/17---1/6---

Storage

Lock N Roll Storage units available. 10 x 24 and 15 x 30. Call 785-728-8089
---12/16---1/6---

Storage Units for Rent in Colby at 1364 E. College Drive. 10 x 10 for \$40 a month with a \$40 deposit and a 10 x 20 for \$65 a month and \$65 deposit. Call 719-349-0666.
---12/7---1/1---

Apartments for Rent

1 bedroom apartments for low income individuals that meet specific disability criteria. Rent and utilities subsidized. Applications available at 770 Dylan Dr., Colby, or call 785-462-3473. Rural Development, Equal Housing Opportunity.
---12/14---12/18---

2 bedroom basement apartment in Colby. Washer and dryer, A/C and all appliances provided. No smoking or pets. Call 785-460-0916 or 785-462-0274
---7/23---TFN---

Misc. for Sale

Meat and Bone Band Saw with Meat Grinder - \$250.00. New - Nyet Brand 5 used tires 275 x 650 - R18 - 12 ply aggressive \$25.00 each. 785-443-4221
---12/17---1/6---

Beef for Sale, available by the 1/8, quarter, half or whole. Also hamburger, steaks and roast sold separately. Premium whole beef hamburger ready now. Will take orders. Call Dale Oard 785-443-3386
---12/17---TFN---

Misc. for Sale

Corn-fed beef quarters or halves. Hamburger, steak, roast, processed at American Butcher's. Call Jonny Jones 785-675-8920.
---5/9---TFN---

Wanted

Failed Milo Fields to swath and bale on shares. Purchase considered. Call Dale Oard 785-443-3386. Colby.
---11/16---12/18---

Vehicles for Sale

2012 Monte Carlo Limited 48' 5th Wheel. Very nice, W/D, 3 AC's, all the amenities. Must sell. 785-460-0916 or 785-462-0274
---7/23---TFN---

Seed and Feed

2019 Irrigated corn stalk bails, some corn. \$60.00 per ton. Call 785-694-3200
---9/25---TFN---

Hay for sale. Nice grass hay, milo hay with grain and Kochia. Roundbales, net wrapped. Delivery available. Call Dale Oard 785-443-3386
---5/29---TFN---

Services

Handyman For Hire! If you are in need for some repairs around your house and yard, I would be willing to work for you!!! No job is too small. I can do minor electrical, plumbing, carpentry and yard work. I charge

Services

\$15.00/hr. I can work any day of the week. If you are interested: Jim Reeves 785-626-0343.
---9/5---TFN---

For all your electrical needs, Licensed and insured, call 785-821-2197 or legacyelectricks.com
---6/12---TFN---

Rawlins County Dental Clinic in Atwood, KS offers Comprehensive Dental Care with state of the art equipment. Dental Insurance accepted and sliding fee scale available. Call now 785-626-8290 to schedule your appointment.
---9/29---TFN---

Septic tank pumping and installation - Larry's Plumbing, Colby, KS 785-462-3458.
---1/8---TFN---

Do Your Feet Hurt? We can help with I-Step Technology. We also provide medicare approved diabetic shoes up to size 15 with doctors prescription by appointment only. Currier Drug, Inc, Atwood. 1-800-696-3214.
---4/22---TFN---

Pets/Supplies

AKC German Shephard Puppies in Colby. Ready for Christmas. All shots will be given. Call 785-460-6749 or 785-443-1337. Leave a message.
---12/4---12/21---

Use the *Classifieds!*

HELP WANTED

OPENING DUE TO RETIREMENT

Oakley Public Schools

Head of Maintenance Position, Experience in plumbing, electrical, Mechanical systems and HVAC preferred.

Full-time position, with benefits. Health Insurance; Life Insurance; KPERS Retirement; Paid Time Off, Uniforms, Salary Negotiable

Start Date is February 1, 2021
Applications due no later than January 15, 2021

If interested contact Ken Bockwindel, Supt. (785) 671-4588
Application available on our website at www.oakleyschools.com under the District Office Tab or at USD #274, 621 Center Ave. Suite 103, Oakley, KS 67748
Applications accepted until filled. USD 274 is an EOE.

HARRISON
REALTY & AUCTION

1210 W. 4th Street-Colby, KS 67701 785.460.7253

260 W. 3rd Street

410 N. Grand Ave.

OBERLIN

354 County Road G

BREWSTER

226 N. Stowe Ave.

SHARON SPRINGS

502 N. 4th Street

ATWOOD

1205 S. Country Club

475 N. Franklin Ave.

WHEAT CREEK, KS

Tom Harrison
785.443.0136

Wanted: LISTINGS!

Kristin Vaughn
785.443.0250

Help Wanted

Red River

COMMODITIES

is currently looking for dependable individuals to fill openings in its confection sunflower processing plant.

- Maintenance Department:** Experience in metal fabrication, welding and torch work required. Applicants should also possess experience in equipment operations and mechanical applications.
- Mill Operator:** Unique position requiring individual to be mechanically inclined.
- Production Associate:** Involvement in multiple aspects of Production and packaging.

Please apply in person at:

1320 E. College Dr.
in Colby, KS

Public Notice

BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

NOTICE OF FILING APPLICATION

RE: Slawson Exploration Co., Inc. - Application for a permit to authorize the enhanced recovery from the West Jimmy Unit and James AY #2, located in Thomas County, Kansas.

TO: All Oil & Gas Producers, Unleased Mineral Interest Owners, Landowners, and all persons whomsoever concerned.

You, and each of you, are hereby notified that Slawson Exploration Co., Inc. has filed an application to commence the injection of saltwater into the Lansing, Kansas City, Marmaton, Pawnee, Myrick Station, and Johnson formations at the West Jimmy Unit and James AY #2 located in the NW-SE-SW-SE Sec 23-10S-34W Thomas County, Kansas, with a maximum operating pressure of 1000 psig and a maximum injection rate of 1000 bbls per day.

Any persons who object to or protest this application shall be required to file their objections or protest with the Conservation Division of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas within thirty (30) days from the date of this publication. These protests shall be filed pursuant to Commission regulations and must state specific reasons why granting the application may cause waste, violate correlative rights or pollute the natural resources of the State of Kansas.

All persons interested or concerned shall take notice of the foregoing and shall govern themselves accordingly.

Slawson Exploration Co., Inc.
204 N. Robinson Ste 2300
OKC, OK 73102
405-232-0201

(Published in the Colby Free Press on Thursday, December 17, 2020)

"I NEED HOMES!"

THIS IS A STRONG SELLER'S MARKET WITH MINIMAL LISTINGS! LET ME VISIT WITH YOU AND TELL YOU WHY NOW IS THE TIME TO SELL.

Molly J. Oliver

"an agent on selling"
785 462-5203
785 460-7653
www.bigironrealty.com

BigIron Realty

BRING EVERYTHING YOU LOVE TOGETHER!

Blazing Fast Internet!

ADD TO YOUR PACKAGE FOR ONLY \$19.99/mo. where available

2-YEAR TV PRICE GUARANTEE

America's Top 120 Package

\$59.99 MO. for 12 Mos.

190 CHANNELS Including Local Channels!

CALL TODAY - For \$100 Gift Card Promo Code: DISH100

1-866-361-2453 Offer ends 1/31/21.

All offers require credit qualification, 24-month commitment with early termination fee and eAutoPay. Prices include Hopper Duo for qualifying customers. Hopper, Hopper w/Sling or Hopper 3 \$5/mo. more. Upfront fees may apply based on credit qualification.