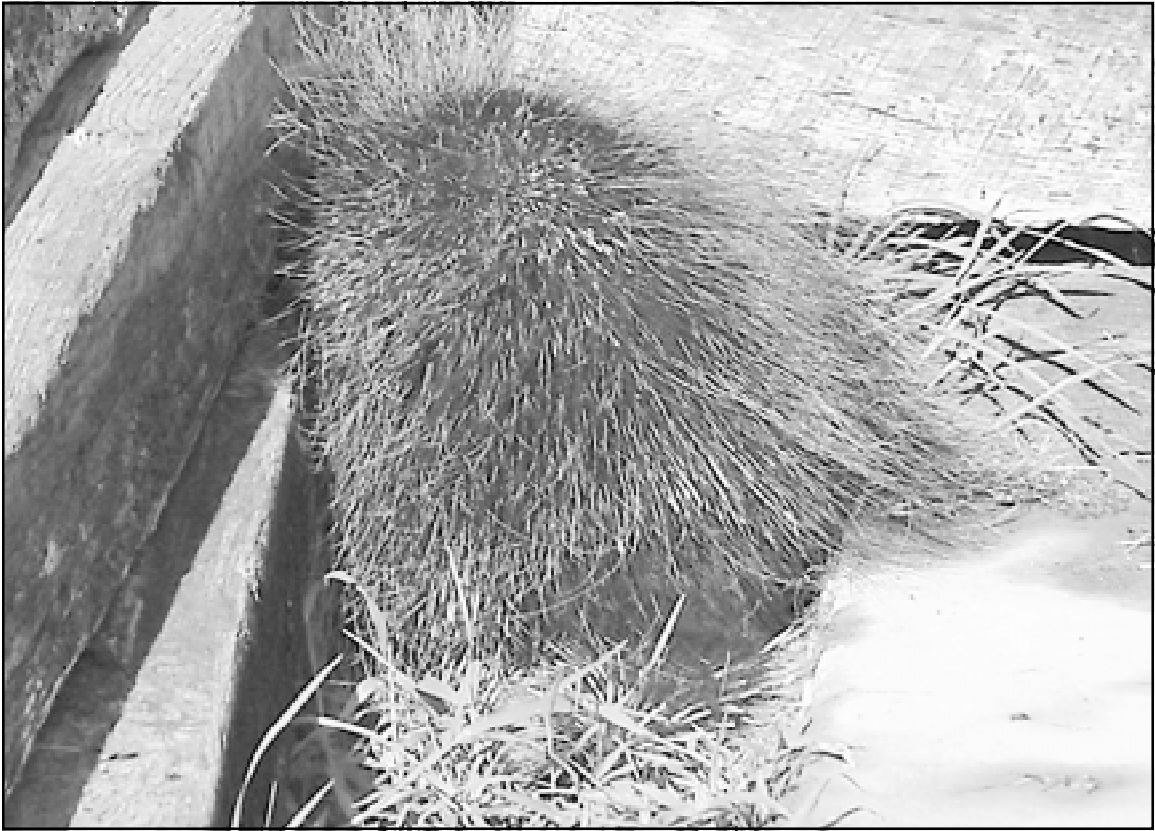


Family



Gary Shull/Colby Police photo

The Colby Police Department responded to an animal complaint last week and discovered the porcupine in the 600 block of North Chick.

Police experience prickly situation

By **PATTY DECKER**
Free Press Editor

Colby Police officers handled a prickly situation last week when a resident called to complain about a porcupine in the neighborhood.

Officers Kevin Diercks and Scott Sitton were the first on the scene to discover the 25-pound animal nestled snugly between two fences and appearing to be in no hurry to move, Colby Police Chief Randy Jones said this week.

"He was relatively easy to catch, after officers reached down and tapped on his tail coaxing him to waddle right into the cage," he said.

The area where the porcupine was spotted was in the 600 block of N. Chick. Of course, then the next problem to solve was in what to do with the 25-pound prickly little friend?

Helping to solve that problem, Thomas County Sheriff's Deputy Kathi Hapke offered to assist. "In larger areas," she said, "the porcupine probably would have just been shot, but nobody here wanted to see that happen."

Instead, she agreed to take the porcupine to an area

north of Rexford and let him go there.

Prior to hauling the animal to its new, more suitable home, Benny Young, with Kansas Wildlife and Parks, was consulted.

Young agreed that the area would be a good location for the displaced porcupine.

"I used to see a lot of porcupines when I was a kid," she said, "but it's been a long time since I have seen a live one in town like this."

Officials speculated that the animal might have come into town for food or water with drier conditions in fields recently.

As for the porcupine's trip out of the city, Hapke said it went well.

"He (the porcupine) was a little obnoxious and wouldn't get out of the cage at first," she said. "He did finally back out and then walked slowly and nonchalantly toward the trees."

Once the animal was a safe distance away, Hapke said she loaded up the cage and looked around to see quills in the car, cage and on the ground. Fortunately, though, the porcupine had not been injured, nor injured anyone in the capture.

It's not too late to sign up for classes

It's not too late to sign up for the exercise and dance classes. Paint class will begin in October with Fritz Ostmeyer teaching. Beginners are welcome and if you'd like more information about this class call Fritz at 462-6221.

The following activities have been scheduled at the Senior Progress Center for the week of Aug. 27-31. Monday - Shuffleboard at 10 a.m.; Cards at 1 p.m. Tuesday - Low impact exercise class at 9:30 a.m.; Shuffleboard at 10 a.m.; Cards at 1 p.m. Wednesday - Line dance class at 10 a.m.; Cards at 1 p.m. Thursday - Low impact exercise class at 9:30 a.m.; Shuffleboard at 10 a.m.; Senior Bridge at 1 p.m. Friday - Share-a-Memory/Coffee Time at 9:30 a.m. Shuffleboard at 10 a.m.

Indoor walking, snooker, pool, puzzles and cards are available whenever the center is open... and the coffee pot is always on! Planning a party?



Lois Myers

• Senior Savvy

Hosting a family reunion? You do not need to be a senior to rent the center. Call Deb at 462-2901 for more information.

Homestead Nutrition Aug. 27-31. Monday - Meat loaf, baked potato w/ toppings, mixed vegetables, bread, pineapple. Tuesday - BBQ'd chicken, potato salad, pork and beans, rolls or bread, watermelon. Wednesday - Tuna melt or tuna salad, vegetable soup, citrus salad, bread, bread pudding w/ raisins. Thursday - Baked spaghetti, corn, tossed salad, bread sticks, peach cup. Friday - Sausage gravy, mashed pota-

toes, California mixed vegetables, bread, applesauce. Meal reservations need to be made before noon, 24 hours in advance at 462-2901. Cancellations should be called in as soon as possible. Menus are subject to change.

Senior Ponderings - If a mountain of nutritional advice has gotten you down... don't give up. Did you know half of all premature deaths are due to lifestyle choices... including what we eat. In the next several weeks we will explore the 10 most important things you can do to boost your health and live longer. (According to Jean Carper *USA Weekend*.) 1. Use olive oil. People who use olive oil in their diet have better cholesterol and blood pressure readings. They also have less heart disease, cancer and arthritis. 2. Eat whole grains. Unlike refined grains, whole grains deliver loads of fiber, antioxidants, anti-cancer agents, cholesterol reducers and clot blockers; plus essential minerals. Good examples of whole grains are: oatmeal, shredded wheat, whole-grain bread, brown rice, and popcorn.

Next week's subjects are fish and nuts.

Commodities redistribution

Anyone who missed the USDA commodity distribution on Aug. 20 may still pick up commodities at the RSVP office in the Senior Progress Center. Please call the RSVP office at 462-6744 to make arrangements for pick up.

The Thomas County Health Department will be doing blood pressures at the following places and times. Meadowlark Manor on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; the Senior Progress Center on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:30 to noon; Rexford at the Red Barn on the second Thursday of the month from 9 to 10 a.m.; Brewster at the Senior Center on the third Tuesday of the month from 10 to 11:30 p.m.

RSVP volunteers need donations of baby yarn to make baby booties for new babies at the hospital. It can be left over or partial pieces of yarn. Leave it at the Senior Progress Center. This is a continuous project. RSVP will be mak-

Happenings

ing booties as well as caps, which they have donated to new babies for many years.

The general transportation van is available to anyone in Thomas County for trips to the doctor, to visit friends, to the meal sites, etc., from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For reservations call 462-2901 by 11 a.m. the previous business day if possible.

We want your local news; 462-3963.

Hospital

CITIZENS MEDICAL CENTER
Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2001

Admissions

Martin Heyen, Oakley
Lawrence Bultman, S. Holland, Ill.
Marjorie Ebright, Colby
John Weir Ostmeyer, Grinnell

Dismissals

Anda Young, Colby
Joan Harwerth, Colby
Jodi Touslee, Colby

Anderson family meets

Descendants of Andrew and Marie Elda Monson Anderson enjoyed the 52nd Anderson Family Reunion Sunday, Aug. 12, 2001, at the Colby Community Building with 51 descendants present. John Anderson, descendent of Richard and Villa Anderson catered the meal. Merlin Nichols, descendant of Lewis Elda and Edith Anderson Nichols, gave the invocation.

President John Anderson conducted the meeting. Darla Nichols was congratulated for making the Anderson celebration sign. Lorna Nichols read the minutes. Announcement included that Mrs. LeeRay Falk and LeeRay were not present because she had fallen and broke her hip. Leon and Judy Tucker Falk were congratulated observed their 40th wedding anniversary and Jerry and Rhonda Bretz Nichols observed their 10th wedding anniversary.

A brief program was presented with Mrs. Arden Kirkendall (Madeline Black) giving the *Older Person's Prayer*, and Mrs. Dennis Hansen (Sandra Falk) telling how 8-year-olds explain God and a recitation, *Have You Lived*. Nearly everyone present received a door prize.

Officers reelected for next year were: John Anderson, president; Jerry Nichols, vice-president; Lorna Nichols, secretary-treasurer. The next meeting is planned for the same location the second Sunday in August. Attending were: Maxine Bray McCoy, Pat Kelley, Salem, Ore.; Bruce and Kelly Hancock, Joan Black, Des Moines, Iowa; Merlin and Katie Smith Nichols, Culbertson, Neb.; Nolan Packard, Kristine and Ty, Perry; Harry and Verna Nichols Krueger, Halstead; Sharon Mead, Wichita; Thomas L and Margaret Black, Independence.

Club News

COLBY COUNTRY CLUB
Bridge Winners from Aug. 14 were: 1st, Helen Donelan; 2nd, Joy Davis; 3rd, Lyle Worthy.

Bridge Winners from Aug. 21 were: 1st, Mary Molstad; 2nd, Helen Donelan; 3rd, Joy Davis.

Golf game was blind holes. Winners were: First flight - 1st, 3-way tie, Audrey Hines, Anita Hills and Joanne Dumler

Second Flight - 1st, Christy Kern; 2nd, 3-way tie, Pat Criss, Anne Siemsen and Esther Touslee

Next week's game will be Low Net. Hostesses are: Barb Highland and Joy Davis.

Community Calendar

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

Sunday Morning Alcoholics Anonymous, Ramada Inn, 9 a.m.
Higher Ground, High School Youth Group, Berean Church, 6 p.m.
New Hope Narcotics Anonymous, City Hall Basement, 8 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 27

First Day of School, Sacred Heart School
Duplicate Bridge, airport, 1 p.m.
Quit smoking support group, 775 E. College Drive, 1 p.m.
Monday Afternoon Bridge, Meadowlark Manor, 1 p.m.
Hospice, Sacred Heart Church basement, 4:30 p.m.
High Plains Lions, Ramada Inn, 7 p.m.
Take Off Pounds Sensibly, United Methodist Church, 7 p.m.; weigh-in, 6-6:30 p.m.
Rexford Lions, Rexford Cafe, 7 p.m. (2nd & 4th Mondays)
Pride of the Prairie Orchestra practice, Colby Community College Band Room, Cultural Arts Center, 7:30-9 p.m.
St. Thomas Lodge, 215 N. Franklin, 8 p.m.
Colby Jaycees, East Highway 24, 8 p.m.
Downtown Alcoholics Anonymous, (smoking), City Hall Basement, 8:30 p.m.
Al Anon, (nonsmoking), 1275 W. 6th, 8:30 p.m.

DIET DRUG SETTLEMENT

Fen-Phen: The once popular diet drug combination known as Fen-Phen, Pondimin and Redux caused many to suffer heart and/or lung damage. If you have been diagnosed with serious heart or lung damage following use of these diet drugs, we can help.

Individuals who used these drugs may be entitled to monetary benefits from a National Settlement. Benefits can range from \$6,000 to over \$1,000,000 per person.

We can evaluate claims for you or your loved ones.

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Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day
Hi-Plains Co-op

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Corn	\$2.02
Milo	\$3.16

NOTICE:

We will be **CLOSED** on Saturday, August 25th to attend Christmas Market.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. Please place orders early.



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