



# COLBY FREE PRESS

## Illegal dumping won't be tolerated, county warns

By MAXINE NELSON

Colby Free Press

The Thomas County Commissioners are not tolerant of illegal dumping and will be vigilant in their quest to catch the culprits, said Commissioner Glen Kersenbrock at their Monday meeting at the courthouse.

Larry Jumper, landfill supervisor, reported that several people had dumped trash in the ditches, and some in the road near the landfill. He said the sheriff's deputies caught a couple of people who were dumping, and notified them they could either pick it up, or be prosecuted.

Jumper said the landfill was averaging about 15 tons per day of municipal solid waste, well under the 20 tons allowed to keep the landfill open.

He said contamination at the monitoring well at the landfill was improving. It has gone from .0041 to .00341. The contamination is believed to be solvents but is well within tolerance, he said.

The landfill could be closed if the count were too high; however, the county is closing the contaminated pit, and will be opening another pit within the year. Contents of the new pit will be carefully monitored to prevent contamination, Jumper said.

Jumper said he was looking at a used road grader which belongs to the city of McDonald, which he hopes to buy to use at the landfill. The landfill has been borrowing a road grader from Colby, but "we can't count on borrowing the city's grader," said Commission Chair Ron Evans.

Jumper said from Jan. 1 to May 31, the landfill received and processed: 294 appliances; 840 loads of construction and demolition material (795 tons); 131 loads of concrete (487 tons); 828 loads of metal (213 tons); 2,947 loads of municipal solid waste (2,232 tons); 1,560 gallons of used oil; 366 used tires; 1,719 loads of trees (421 tons); 576 loads of yard waste (204 tons); 36 loads of grain (96 tons); and 24 loads of grain dust (56 tons).

The landfill gave away 91 tons of compost, Jumper said. Total waste processed at the landfill was 4,820 tons, which was 31.9 tons per day average.

In other business:

- Jim Carpenter, Esther Eicher and

Jim and Janet Christiansen brought a complaint about prairie dogs around Brewster. Carpenter said he had been battling the problem for years, but had neighbors who apparently don't care about the dogs, and the animals keep coming over onto his land.

Commissioner Evans took the names of the owners and legal descriptions of the land and will have the county attorney contact the landowner. If the landowner does not eradicate the rodents, the county can take action, and either bill the landowner or put it on his taxes, Evans said.

- Sheriff Tom Jones said he had attempted to contact the owner of the vehicles parked illegally on the shoulder of 4th Street in Levant, but was unable to contact him. He said he had heard he was in the hospital, and wanted to give him a chance to get home and take care of the problem. East Hale Township board member Dan McKiski had discussed the problem with the commissioners at the May 31 meeting.

- Commissioner Kersenbrock said he was concerned about the shoulder of the viaduct detour on Country Club Drive and Veteran's Memorial Drive. There had been a misunderstanding between the state and the county about who was to do the shoulder and it was decided the county would do the shoulder after the asphalt was laid. Kersenbrock said he thought they should get the shoulder in place before harvest.

- County Clerk Tracey Perkins said she had received a petition from Rovohl Township to have the county take over the township roads. She is checking to be sure the signatures are valid, and if so, the citizens of Rovohl Township will vote on it at the next election. East Hale and North Randall Townships have already turned their roads over to the county for maintenance, as provided by the legislature.

- The commissioners appointed Tom McCarty as a trustee for Smith Township to replace Hulda Wark, and Bill Draper to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

- They said a farewell party was being held at 1:30 p.m. that day for Thomas County Extension Agent Dennis Chandler who has resigned effective

June 18. He will be taking a position with RC&D in Holbrook, Ariz.

- Police Chief Randy Jones and Sally Tibbles of the City of Colby brought a communications agreement between the county and the city for the furnishing of communications for the county-wide E-911 system, Thomas County ambulance service, sheriff's department, county road department and the citizens of the county. The city will furnish 24-hour communications service, and the county agreed to pay \$53,064.90.

- Randy Dick of Kaw Valley Insurance reported on the county's health insurance which is with Central Benefits. He said Central Benefits wants 10 months of figures before releasing a renewal.

- Sheriff Jones and John Cranston, fair board member, talked about who will pay for security at the fair. They will discuss it at the fair board meeting.

- BJ Melvin and Ross Rodenbeck brought the deed for the right-of-way from Rodenbeck to the county for the road south of the Comfort Inn which will connect the South Range and South Country Club exits. Rodenbeck transferred a 100-foot right of way.

- The Commissioners approved an updated version of the Drug and Alcohol Policy for county employees.

- They signed an agreement with ONEOK Energy Marketing for natural gas at a fixed price of 4.30 per MMBtu, plus applicable KMI fuel charges, delivered to the city gate.

- Vera Sloan suggested the old Menlo United Methodist Church might be a good addition to the fair grounds. It is being offered free to a non-profit organization which will move it. The commissioners said they would look into the cost of moving it.

- The county road department did the following work in May: Grading on County Road 364 east (north of Rexford) continued. The road was elevated and a culvert installed. One thousand and twenty cubic yards of gravel were hauled from Sears Pit and scattered on the road.

Heft and Sons produced 15,500 tons of cold mix at Fulwider Pit. The county hauled water for them and moved some mix. Meier Construction stripped overburden at Tole Pit. A culvert pipe



MICHELLE HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

Dennis Chandler, Thomas County Extension agent, smiled as he read one of the cards he received at a farewell reception for him Monday afternoon. He will be taking employment with RC&D in Holbrook, Ariz. Also pictured, left, is Becky Donelan, director of the Thomas County Community Foundation.

was installed and the pit area leveled.

Hand patching was done on County Road 391 north and south of Brewster, old Highway 24, Veteran's Memorial Drive, and County Road 407 north of Levant. Blade patching began on County Road 407 south of Levant and washouts were repaired.

Roads were bladed in North Randall and East Hale Townships.

Other work consisted of: set up new sign pickup; hauled millings to the office complex; hauled water for Morgan Township; painted and installed culvert markers; two employees attended drug/alcohol training; mowed; bladed

roads; checked and put up traffic signs; checked and put up 911 signs; serviced and repaired vehicles and equipment.

The next meeting will be a 9 a.m. Monday, June 17. First on the agenda is a farewell for Maxine Nelson who is retiring from the Colby Free Press after nearly 20 years of service.

### Lonnie D. Wilson files

## Commissioner Evans faces opposition in primary

By MAXINE NELSON

Colby Free Press

Incumbent Thomas County Commissioner Ron Evans faces a test in his quest for reelection, according to information released this week by Tracey Perkins, county clerk/election officer.

Evans, a Republican representing Commissioner District #1 is being contested by fellow Republican Lonnie D. Wilson in the Aug. 6 primary. No Democrat has filed thus the August victor could lay claim to the office, unless the Democrats mount a write-in attempt.

Noon Monday was the filing deadline for local candidates.

Perkins also released the following list of candidates for other local offices.

Township clerks include: Ken Kammer, West Hale, Republican; Daniel L. McKiski, East Hale, Republican; Loren E. Guill, Menlo, Republican; Wilburn Holloway, Barrett, Republican; Byron Sowers, North Randall, Republican; Pete Ziegelmeier, Lacey, Democrat; Grant Ostmeier, South Randall, Democrat; Arnold R. Wehkamp, Rovohl, Republican; and Vernon Vance, Smith, Republican.

Precinct committeeman/committeewoman are: Ward 1 — William V. (Bill) Adams, Republican, Max H. Embree, Democrat and Pat Embree, Democrat; Ward 2 — Maurice L. Sloan, Democrat, Vera L. Sloan, Democrat and Judy R. Kistler, Republican; Ward 3 — Diane L. Williams, Democrat, Alvin Koenig, Republican, Karen K. Koenig, Republican and Brent M. Wiedeman, Republican; Ward 4 — Sharon Walker, Republican, Boyd Walker, Republican, Tracey Perkins, Democrat, Phyllis O. Elliott, Republican and Paul M. Steele, Re-

publican; West Hale — Mike Baughn, Republican; East Hale — Rosalie Seemann, Democrat, Ernst G. Seemann, Democrat, David P. Tole, Republican and Peg Tole, Republican; South Randall — Ruth Clark, Republican and Stan Clark, Republican; North Randall — Lonnie D. Wilson, Republican and Lori A. Wilson, Republican; West Morgan — Lisa Schroeder, Republican and Lon Frahm, Republican; and East Morgan — John N. Sears, Democrat, Judith Sears, Democrat and Kay Weston, Republican.

## Harvest for Health tournament extends deadline

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

There are still plenty of openings and lots of time left to participate in this year's Harvest For Health Golf Tournament, sponsored annually by Citizens Foundation, said Tama Unger, director of fund development.

The tournament is Friday, June 21, at the Colby Country Club and the deadline for entry has been extended until Thursday, June 20, she said.

"This is a fun event with all proceeds going back into the community or for

**Citizens Foundation tries to do things that help our community..."**

Tama Unger, director fund development

health care needs in general," she said.

"There are lots of great auction items and door prizes as well," she said. Highlighting some of those items, Unger said there would be a football signed by Bill Synder, coach at K-State; a Nebraska football signed by

the players; umbrellas, chairs, and golf shaggers; flight prizes and hole-in-one rewards.

Now in its twelfth year, the fundraiser has generated more than \$150,000, which has made it possible for Citizens Medical Center to pur-

chase a pediatric crash cart, defibrillator and other equipment over the years.

"Citizens Foundation tries to do things that help our community and this event is one of the foundation's annual appeals for support in those endeavors," she said.

The cost of the tournament is \$75 per person or \$85 for those wanting to rent a golf cart

For questions or to register, call Unger at 462-1214 or 462-7511.

People can also stop by Citizens Medical Center, 100 College Dr.

### Briefly

#### Thunderstorms, 70s

The Colby region should enjoy daytime temperatures in the 70s for the rest of the week, says the National Weather Service. Tonight, mostly cloudy, a 50 percent chance for thunderstorms, lows 55-60 and northeast winds 10-20 mph. Wednesday, mostly cloudy, a 20 percent chance for thunderstorms, highs in the mid-70s and east winds 10-15 mph. Wednesday night, mostly cloudy, a 30 percent chance for thunderstorms and lows near 60. Thursday through Friday night, partly cloudy, highs in the mid-70s and lows in the mid- to upper 50s. Colby's high Monday was 88 and the overnight low this morning was 65. Precipitation remains at 0.56 inches. The soil temperature at the 4-inch depth is

averaging 80 degrees. The records for June 11: 104 in 1918 and 35 in 1903. *(The temperatures and precipitation are provided by the Northwest Kansas Research-Extension Center, Colby.)*

#### Barbershop singers wanted

The Tumbleweed Chorus of Northwest Kansas and Eastern Colorado is looking for men of all ages who would like to sing. In an effort to raise awareness about the singing group, chorus members are sponsoring a cook-out on Thursday, June 13, at 6:30 p.m., at the Colby United Methodist Church. "This will be a good opportunity for people to find out what barbershop harmony is all about," said John

Collett, president of the chorus. "We have a great time and would like you to be included," he said. For information or questions, call Collett at (785) 899-7531.

#### Center takes phone books

The Thomas County Recycling Center is taking old telephone books at its collection site, 720 E. College Dr. in Colby. Those wanting to drop off the books should use the magazine bins, coordinators said.

#### Carnival on board's mind

The Thomas County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. Thursday in the 4-H Building at the fairgrounds. Everyone inter-

ested in a Thomas County home-owned carnival is invited to attend, with the intent of getting a carnival in place for next year. The board will discuss plans for this year's carnival. The meeting is open to the public.

#### Parking regulations revisited

The City of Colby is reminding its citizens that no truck, motor vehicle, camper, trailer, machinery or equipment can be parked on any street or alley within the city in excess of 48 hours, officials said. The police department is authorized to remove and impound any of these types of vehicles that would be in violation of this regulation, said Carolyn Armstrong, city manager.

