



# COLBY FREE PRESS

## Drapers

### Colby family wins ‘Friends of 4-H’ honor

By **PATTY DECKER**  
*Free Press Editor*

Two Thomas County families were honored Saturday at the annual 4-H Achievement Banquet for their exceptional contributions to the organization.

The event was held in the 4-H Building at the Thomas County fairgrounds with more than 150 people acknowledging the Mike Bremenkamp family as the “4-H Family of the Year,” and the Bill Draper family as “Friends of 4-H” honorees, said D’Ette Scholtz, extension agent.

Both families were recognized for their dedication and involvement and for the Draper family much of the club’s success was done behind the scenes.

Erin Carney and Elaine Bremenkamp presented the award to the Draper family during the banquet noted that Sue, Bill’s wife, had her “first taste” of 4-H when she was 8 years old and remained an active member for the next 10 years.

“After a few years away from 4-H,” Bremenkamp said, “Sue became involved again when Tanya (the oldest daughter) joined the Abilene Hustlers in 1989.”

During the banquet, Bremenkamp said that Sue served as project leader in the beginning, but when the club needed a co-community leader, she volunteered.

In addition, Sue has served as project leader for sewing, foods, crafts, horse,

photography and woodworking.

Her committee experience included 4-H Council, 4-H Sunday, 4-H Week, county fashion revue, trash pick up, day camp, district horse planning, Kansas Award Application training and judging, trophy committee, coordinating and announcing horse shows and leading sessions, along with taking 4-Hers to the Horse Panorama.

When Tanya was in 4-H, Bremenkamp said that Bill, too, was involved in many different ways, ranging from serving as a horse and wood-working leader to finding time to help woodworking members make group projects that helped the club or county.

Examples of those projects were champion animal signs, mini-booths, benches to relax on during the fair and the horse club trail bridge.

“Bill opened up his shop many times to assist a 4-Her with a woodworking project and helped his wife by attending all the horse shows that both Tanya and his younger daughter, Shanda, participated in,” she said.

Both Tanya and Shanda joined 4-H when they were 7 and continued to be active members for the next 11 years. Tanya held every club office and was 4-H Council Secretary and President, as did her sister, Shanda.

“Tanya believed that if she was going to be in 4-H, she was going to be involved,” Bremenkamp said. “Shanda took leading roles as well in the club’s citizenship and conservation projects for many years.”

Like their mother, both girls served on a variety of committees and received many achievements and awards for their efforts.

Tanya served on the committees such as fashion revue, county clothing, district horse, achievement banquet, county club day and county day came. She was also the fair superintendent for many projects and organized and taught horsemanship clinics.

Shanda, Bremenkamp said during the presentation, also served on many of the same committees, along with being recognized statewide in horsemanship. She earned the 2000 State Kansas Award Application Horse winner and was honored with the National 4-H Congress trip to Atlanta, Ga. “Through tremendous commitment of time, keeping the good of the whole program in focus,” Bremenkamp said, “the Drapers have made a positive impact on the future leaders of our county in ways that they themselves are not even aware of.”

On behalf of the entire organization, Bremenkamp thanked the family for all the “little things” they have done in making 4-H better over the past 17 years.

*Editor’s note: Details about the Bremenkamp family receiving the “4-H Family of the Year” award was highlighted in the Monday, Nov. 17 edition of the Colby Free Press. Other individual achievement pins and project awards from the banquet will follow later in the week.*

## Duty calls, magazine put on hold

AUGUSTA (AP) — Kansas National Guardsman Mike Wallace delivered the latest issue of the Butler County Chronicle last week before preparing to go to Bosnia as a weapons inspector.

It will be the last issue his readers get for at least a year.

Wallace, the monthly news magazine’s only full-time employee, left Saturday for Leavenworth for training and then to a peacekeeping mission as a U.S. Army captain in Bosnia.

About 120 Kansas soldiers with the First Battalion, 108th Aviation, a Topeka helicopter unit, are training in Fort Riley, said Joy Moser, Kansas National Guard spokeswoman.

More soldiers from the 35th Infantry Division will join them later in Bosnia. About 200 Kansans will likely

replace other units stationed in Bosnia, Moser said.

Wallace started the Butler County Chronicle in 1997, when he returned from his last service in Bosnia. The retired Kansas Army National Guard member has put the magazine together from his home in rural Augusta for the past six years.

He said he prints several thousand issues each month, and plans to bring the magazine back when he returns.

Moser said Wallace’s situation is not unusual, and soldiers who are small-business owners often must put their businesses on hold.

“It’s an example of the sacrifices that people make to serve their country,” Moser said.

Wallace will also be leaving behind his wife, Teresa, and their three children, Lenora, Katina, and Heath.

## K.U. study shows

### Foreign students big help to economy

LAWRENCE (AP) — College students who come to Kansas from other nations, beyond adding diversity to campus and classroom life, contribute more than \$100 million annually to the state economy, according to researchers.

“Having international students in the classroom with domestic students provides dialogue about the issue that just wouldn’t be possible if they weren’t there,” said Joe Potts, the international student services director at the University of Kansas, where there are 1,677 students enrolled this year from abroad.

But, Potts added, “the financial stuff is great, too.”

The New York-based Institute of International Education, in an annual report released Monday, listed Kansas

25th in the nation this academic year with 7,244 international students at public and private colleges.

Their estimated net financial contribution is about \$130 million, the institute said.

A more focused look at Kansas was provided in a report presented to the Board of Regents last week by Keith Geiger, the 2001-2002 Jones Distinguished Professor at Emporia State University.

Through surveys and visits to 50 colleges and universities in Kansas, Geiger concluded that international students contributed a net total of \$113.1 million to the state’s economy last year. That includes money for tuition and fees and living expenses with dependents.

Geiger reported that 6,537 interna-

tional students attended public and private institutions in Kansas in the 2000-2001 academic year, up from 6,050 in the previous year. Most of the students come from India, China and Japan.

Geiger, who oversaw the Fulbright Fellowship program in the State Department during the Clinton administration, said many of the students he interviewed for his study told him their families believed they were safer studying in Kansas rather than on the East or West Coast.

“I’m guessing the numbers of international students in the heartland will increase,” said Geiger, a Michigan native and former president of the National Education Association.

“They associate the center part of the United States with laid-back, caring people and security,” Geiger said.



DARREL PATILLO/Colby Free Press

City of Colby worker Robert Taylor hung Christmas decorations on Franklin Avenue in downtown Colby this morning. Taylor said the job takes a couple of weeks.

## All is on target

By **MICHELLE L. HAWKINS**  
*Colby Free Press*

It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas — everywhere you go — in Colby!

That’s right, preparation has begun for the famous December holiday, and according to various city officials, the decorating will soon be complete.

As city workers continued today to hang holiday decorations throughout the city, Jerry Bieker, public works director, said they have been working hard and are hoping to have everything complete by next Wednesday.

Each year the decorations are hung and in place before Thanksgiving. Although Bieker said people are constantly telling him it is “too soon,” he said the decorations must be in place for the beginning of the holiday shopping season, which is the day after Thanksgiving.

Bieker said each year the city puts up a variety of holiday ornamentation. This year, as in years past, the Christmas banners and poles will be up and lining the streets of Colby, here will be wreaths hanging near the stop lights and the major intersections, and lights on Candy Cane Lane, the street leading into Santa City, will be put up.

He said projects such as the Christmas tree atop the swimming pool, lights on the gazebos at the city park and the Christmas tree by the tourism building, will be finished as time allows.

## Hospital’s attorney files notice

### Goodland judge’s decision being challenged to a higher court

By **PATTY DECKER**  
*Free Press Editor*

District Judge Jack Burr’s decision regarding an injunction prohibiting the Colby hospital from enforcing a suspension on a local physician’s privileges at that facility is being challenged to a higher court.

The notice of appeal was filed late last week in the Thomas County District Court by Carol Bonebrake of Topeka, who represents Citizens Medical Center, Inc.

In the appeal notice, Bonebrake is seeking the Court of Appeals of the State of Kansas to allow the hospital the right to enforce the suspension against Dr. Victor H. Hildyard and comes some five weeks after the judge’s decision to deny the injunction following arguments from both sides.

In Burr’s early October decision, he overruled the hospital’s attempt to bar Hildyard from seeing patients at Citizens Medical Center and further instructed that administrative remedies pursuant to medical staff and hospital

by-laws be exhausted, at which time the restraining order would automatically dissolve.

In that same decision, Burr also denied a bond request from Bonebrake on behalf of Citizens Medical Center, Inc. which she believed was necessary in the event damages were made against the hospital.

Within the next few days, Bonebrake is expected to file documents with the Court of Appeals on this issue.

Along with the pending appeal to the state, an administrative hearing is also planned this week involving allegations of misconduct based, in part, on testimony from Margaret Ann Staats, a hospital employee, against Dr. Hildyard. Staats, who within days, recanted her allegations, is now asking for damages from Dr. Hildyard in another civil matter. In that civil suit and in regard to other allegations of misconduct, Dr. Hildyard has and continues to deny allegations of misconduct.

Michael O’Neal of Hutchinson, Hildyard’s attorney, said today that

while the hearing will not be open to the general public, he did say that it is scheduled for Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the conference room of Prairie Senior Living Complex in Colby.

“There is also a pre-hearing conference tonight beginning at 7 p.m.,” O’Neal said. The purpose of the pre-hearing conference, he said, is to get all the parties together in a more informal setting and allow the chairman of the proceedings, who O’Neal said is from Salina, along with those involved, an opportunity to review and establish the amount of time that might be needed for the actual hearing on Wednesday.

Even though the public is not invited to the administrative hearing at Prairie Senior Living Complex, a group of people have organized a rally in support of Dr. Hildyard that will take place in the parking lot area of Lantern Park Manor between 3 and 6 p.m. on Wednesday. The director of Lantern Park Manor, Monti Montgomery, a rally spokesperson said today, did agree to allow the rally to take place.

## WeatherWatch Colby-Oakley area

**The numbers**  
Monday’s high, 56  
Low this morning, 29  
Year ago today, 50 and 20  
Temperature at 11:15 today, 53  
Soil temperature, 45  
Records for Nov. 19: 78 in 1897, 4 in 1937  
**The forecast**  
Tonight, partly cloudy, lows in the lower 30s, northwest winds up to 15 mph. Wednesday, cloudy and breezy, highs in the lower 60s, northwest winds 15-25 mph, gusting to 35. Wednesday night, partly cloudy, lows near 30.  
Thursday, sunny, highs in the mid 50s.

## Briefly

### Orchestra set to open season

The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra will be opening its 22nd season beginning at 3:30 p.m. (CST), Sunday in the Colby High School auditorium. The concert is entitled, “We Celebrate the Season.” The orchestra is supported by its many Friends of the Orchestra. Admission to the concert will be by Friends of the Orchestra membership with Randi Olson the contact person.

For questions or membership, call Olson at 465-9125. Tickets will also be available at the door.

### Mass to honor special people

Sacred Heart Church and the Colby Council of the Knights of Columbus will hold a special *Blue Mass* on Sunday, Nov. 24 at 10 a.m. This Mass is a way of reaching out in thanksgiving for the superior job that our police officers, sheriff’s deputies, highway patrol troopers, firefighters and EMT’s do every day to serve and protect the citizens of Thomas County. These groups have been invited and asked to be dressed in their respective uniforms.

### Ag profitability conference announced

Producers wanting to learn more about machinery investment decisions, the grain market situation, crop insurance, competing for ag labor, buying and owning farmland, along with other topics, are encouraged to attend the ag profitability conference next week. The deadline for registration is Friday with a \$15 fee that includes lunch, said D’Ette Scholtz, Thomas County Extension agent. The conference will be held at the City Limits Convention Center in Colby beginning at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 26, concluding at 3:30 p.m. For questions or to register, call 462-4582.

### School board meeting Thursday

The Colby Public Schools board of education meeting originally scheduled Monday has been rescheduled to Thursday at 7 p.m. in the board room, 210 S. Range Ave.

### Farm safety course planned

Thomas County farmers and their families are encouraged to

attend a farm safety program planned for Monday, Nov. 25, beginning at 5 p.m. at the 4-H Building in Colby. The program, AgraSafe, will provide information on-the-farm emergencies and how to prevent accidents, said D’Ette Scholtz, extension agent. “This is a free program for the entire family and a meal is included,” she said. The registration deadline is Thursday, and for those interested in attending, call 462-4582 to make a reservation.

### Businesses asked to participate

With the Wellness Fair nearing, businesses are being asked to take part in promoting community health and wellness by covering the cost of the fair registration and or health screenings for their employees who may want to participate. The fair will be held on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the student union on the Colby Community College campus. Blood work will be done on Saturdays, Jan. 4 and 11. The registration fee is \$5, with the addition fees for some of the tests. For more information about business coupons for the Wellness Fair call Wanda Davis at (785) 462-4797.

