



# COLBY FREE PRESS



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Rodney and Danette Ryan looked over some of the items included in the annual Sacred Heart auction. The event, an annual fund raiser for the school and church, brought in about \$35,000.

## Parish auction raises \$35,000

By TISHA COX  
Colby Free Press

Sacred Hearth parish's annual fund-raiser brought in approximately \$35,000 Saturday night. The theme for the fifth annual event held at the Colby Community Building was "A Night at the Movies."

Jennifer Van Eaton, parish secretary and auction coordinator, said 310 people attended the event, which featured a live and silent auction and dinner.

"It is down from years past but we're pleased with how it went,"

she said, considering the drought and economic conditions.

She was also pleased with the turnout.

The money raised will go for general operating expenses for the school and church.

Van Eaton said the silent auction was larger than the live auction and was divided into four sections. During both auctions combined, 325 items were sold.

A custom harvest package was sold off for \$900.

The item that generated the most interest was a doll house, which was

sold twice. It was bought once, donated back and resold. It brought in \$775.

Incidentally, A play house sold for the same amount — \$775.

"I think everybody went theme with something," she said.

This was the fifth year for the event which was started as a fund raiser for the church and school.

Van Eaton said the church appreciated TNT and Bob Jones Auction for their services during the auction and all of the people who donated and bought items at the event.

## County's ambulance service has busy 2003

By TISHA COX  
Colby Free Press

Ambulance runs in the county are up.

That's what the Thomas County Commissioners found out during a county emergency medical services update at their meeting today.

Martin Rinehart and Kathi Wright, with Thomas County Emergency Medical Services, gave the report, which included the number of runs over the past four years and how they compare.

For example, from January to September of 2002, there were 486 ambulance runs compared to 577 through the same time period this year, a difference of 91.

Commissioner Ron Evans asked how much the base price for an ambulance transport is. Rinehart said it's \$230 and \$7.50 a mile, either in or out of the county.

"We're probably the cheapest one," he said, when compared to the rest of the counties in northwest Kansas.

Evans also said medical services is on top of getting paid for their services.

"They're very effective in getting their collections," he said. "They do a good job."

Evans said that includes collecting from Medicare and Medicaid and private insurance.

He also asked when they would purchase their next ambulance. Rinehart said it would be late in 2004 for delivery in early 2005.

One of the two ambulances in Colby would then go to Brewster, Evans said.

In other business, there was a short discussion on the landfill progress.

Larry Jumper, landfill superin-

tendent, said they will be able to continue to operate the way they are now.

However, Evans said he's not comfortable after two years of wrangling that they don't have to do what they thought they had to.

Commissioner Glen Kersenbrock said officials at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment could change their minds again.

Evans said he just wants to see in writing what they can or can't do.

"It's not terribly clear what we're supposed to do," he said. "We're making headway."

Other items on the agenda included appointing Mark Bredemeier to the fair board and approving workers compensation quotes for courthouse custodians and the Thomas County Office Complex.

### Greyhound (dog) that is, brings \$70,000

ABILENE (AP)— For \$70,000, you'd think the sale of a greyhound involved a bus.

But it was a greyhound of the fast, four-legged kind that drew the hefty winning bid — a record — at the semiannual auction of the National Greyhound Association in Abilene.

The 16-month-old dog, named Rooftop Gizmo, was bred and raised by Emporia resident James Potter, who had several dogs up for bid Saturday.

Potter sold 10 dogs for a total \$274,200, including \$45,000 for

Gizmo's littermate Rooftop Rip Cord.

Gizmo showed his stuff a few days before the auction in the National Greyhound Association Fall Meet. The NGA, which is the official registry of racing greyhounds in North America, holds meets and auctions twice a year for young pups that have not officially raced at a pari-mutuel facility.

The organization's spring and fall auctions are the only greyhound auctions in the industry.

## Temporary post at hospital filled

By PATTY DECKER  
Free Press Editor

Citizens Medical Center recently hired a permanent physical therapist after having a traveling-type therapist for the past eight months.

Jason L. Konrade, a Kansas native, was welcomed last week to the physical therapy department.

Prior to his arrival, Jerry Mitchell, also a physical therapist, was temporarily located at the hospital through a Texas firm specializing in "traveling" medical personnel following Barry Marshall, who had been the physical therapist, until January of 2003.

Konrade said it is great to be in Colby and having grown up in Abilene, he enjoys rural Kansas very much.

In 1993, Konrade said he completed his undergraduate training in biology at Saint Mary of the Plains College in Dodge City. He then went on to earn his master's degree in physical therapy at the University of Kansas Medical Center in 1995.

After graduation, Konrade said his first job was as a physical therapist at North Kansas City Hospital. Over the next three years, he completed 200 hours of coursework in different manual approaches to the treatment of the human body.

In 1998, he said he took his first course in Integrative Manual Therapy, which is a new and original system of manual medicine, founded by Sharon Weiselfish Giammatteo, PhD., P.T.

During the next four years, Konrade complete more than 500 hours of training in this new therapy.

Patients with chronic pain might consider talking with Konrade if they have tried other treatments that haven't seemed to provide relief.

He also plans to focus more on preventative therapy and outpatient services.

Konrade's wife, Monica, is also

in the healthcare field as a registered nurse. The couple were married in March of this year.

He said he enjoys his friends and family and in his free time likes to fish.

Services provided at the Citizens Medical Center physical therapy department include wound care, hands-on treatment, therapeutic exercises, ergonomic assessments, posture and physical health screens.



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Jason Konrade, the new physical therapist at Citizens Medical Center, looked at a patient's range of motion, making an assessment on the shoulder. Konrade said he and his wife are very glad to be back in a rural setting.

## Teacher becomes mayor

TOPEKA (AP) — Duane Pomeroy teaches government at Topeka High School. Now, he'll be running a government, at least for a while.

Pomeroy, who is Topeka's deputy mayor and serves on the City Council, acquired a new status — acting mayor — after a judge suspended Mayor Butch Felker from office pending an ouster trial tied to an alleged campaign finance violation.

The suspension of Felker and the change in his own situation had Pomeroy, 51, somewhat at sea in the hours after he heard the news Friday.

"Butch is a personal friend and

this is the worst possible way for me to be mayor," he told *The Topeka Capital Journal* on Friday from Wichita, where he was coaching the Topeka High School tennis squad at the state tournament.

Pomeroy said he would rely on the department heads to help keep the city running, and he scheduled a meeting with them today.

Pomeroy isn't sure if he will need to take a leave of absence from Topeka Unified School District 501, which has been his employer for about 12 years.

"I might teach my morning classes and take a leave of absence for the afternoon classes," he said.



Don't forget to cast your Ugly vote

Just dial 462-6111

Details were on page 3 of Thursday's Colby Free Press  
Deadline to vote is Oct. 21

## Briefly

### Fall concert planned Tuesday

The choral departments of Colby Middle School and High School will present their fall concert on Tuesday beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Groups performing at the concert include the 7th and 8th grade mixed choir, 6th grade vocal, Colby High School Women's Chorus and the Concert Chorus. The event is free to everyone. For questions, call Amanda McGee, 460-5300.

### Red Cross plans November class

The Thomas County American Red Cross has scheduled an adult, infant and child CPR class starting at 6 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 3. The class will be held at the Red Cross facility, 350 S. Range Ave., Colby, and is open to everyone. In addition, this class will benefit many people to include teachers, bus drivers, daycare workers, construction and utility workers who need to have current certification for employment. For questions call 462-7161.

### Seniors to hand out candy

Residents of Prairie Senior Living Complex will hand out candy to trick-or-treaters on Halloween evening from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Some will dress up in costume and wait for kids to drop by for treats. For information, call 462-8295 and ask for Activities.

### Music booster cards available

Music Booster Cards are on sale now until Oct. 23 for \$5 each. If you have not been contacted by a vocal or band student, you can purchase one from Shelly Bielser at 462-7492.

### Genesis seeks names for gift baskets

Genesis Thomas County is again planning to distribute Christmas baskets and would like to help residents of Thomas County. To submit names for food baskets, send a card to: Genesis Thomas County, P.O. Box 214, Colby, Kan. 67701.

### College offering certification courses

Colby Community College is offering certification courses for social service designees. The courses will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Oct. 20, 22, Nov. 3 and 10 in the Robert Burnett Memorial Student Union.

Four college credits and two certificates will be awarded for attendance at all eight classes. Two college credits and one certificate will be awarded for six classes.

To enroll or for more information, call (785) 462-3984, Ext. 286.

### Popcorn fund raiser continues

Colby area Cub and Boy Scouts are selling Trails End Gourmet Popcorn again as part of their annual fund raiser. Orders will be taken this month and money is collected when the popcorn is delivered in mid-November.

Contact Mark Goudy at 694-2599, or Alan and Tonya Sager at 462-7361 or 460-8088. The funds go toward local scouting needs.



### Colby shatters old record high

Colby smashed the record high for Oct. 19, when the mercury climbed to 95 Sunday afternoon. The old record was 90 set in 1903.

**Colby, Oakley, Hoxie forecast**

**Tonight...**Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 40s. Northeast winds around 10 mph shifting to the northwest after midnight. **Tuesday...**Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Highs in the mid 80s. West winds around 10 mph. **Tuesday night...**Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 40s. Northwest winds 5 to 10 mph. **Wednesday...**Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s. Northwest winds 5 to 10 mph. **Wednesday night through Thursday night...**Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s. Lows in the lower 40s. **Friday...**Partly cloudy in the morning then becoming mostly cloudy. Breezy...Cooler. Highs in the mid 60s.

Sunday's high, 95  
Low this morning, 52  
Records for Oct. 20, 92 in 1947 and 8 in 1905  
Year ago today, 69 and 30  
24-hour precipitation to 8 a.m. today, 0.00  
Month's precipitation, 0.21  
Year's precipitation to date, 14.23  
2002's precipitation to date, 10.64  
Soil temperature, 59  
The forecast is from the National Weather Service, and other numbers are from the Northwest Research-Extension Center, Colby.



