

Family

Happenings

Conference cards mailed out
Parent-teacher conference cards were mailed for all Colby Public School students this week. The conferences are scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday, Feb. 10 and 12, at the respective buildings. For those who have not yet received a conference card for their student, they are asked to call the appropriate office. For grade school students, 460-5100; middle school students, 460-5200 and high school students, 460-5300.

Parents are also being reminded that kindergarten students will not have classes next Thursday.

Pancake feed planned
The Colby Knights of Columbus is having a pancake feed from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 21, in the Sacred Heart Church basement, 1065 W. 5th St. All proceeds will go to the Thomas County Amusement Association. Dick Parnell, one of the association's committee members, recently announced that the group will be acquiring a "Scrambler" ride, bringing the total number of rides to 10.

The Amusement Association is continually accepting donations in its efforts to bring the amusement rides to Thomas County. To make a donation, send checks payable to: Thomas County Amusement Association, care of Dick Parnell, 2820 N. Range, Colby, Kan. 67701.

Oakley sponsors regional free throw contest

Regional competition in the Knights of Columbus free throw contest continue Saturday at 1 p.m. in the Oakley Public Schools gymnasium. Last week the local contest was held in Colby. Winners from Colby are advancing to Oakley and from there will advance to Salina in March for the state competition.

'Book Lover's Sale' scheduled

Pioneer Memorial Library is sponsoring a "Book Lover's Sale," Saturday, Feb. 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the basement of the library, 375 W. 4th St. Prices range from 10¢ to a maximum of \$5. All proceeds will go to benefit the library.

Head Start enrollment continues

The Thomas County Head Start program is currently taking applications for the 2004-05 school year. The program is a federally funded preschool for children ages 3-4. For questions or information on application enrollment, call 462-6067.

Progress Center needs volunteers to deliver meals

The Senior Progress Center is in need of volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels on a permanent basis. We need two people every Tuesday from 10:45 a.m. to noon to deliver to the homebound.

This is a great service to reach the people in our community that are unable to get out of their homes for meals.

For information please call Donna at the Senior Progress Center at 460-2901 between 8 a.m. and noon,

Senior News

Monday through Friday.

There are plenty activities scheduled at the center, 165 Fike Park, for the week of Feb. 8-12, including Silly Challenges and Teasers at 11:45 a.m. Monday.

Exercise will be at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday and people should wear something really old to lunch.

There will also be a board meet-

ing at 1 p.m.

Line dancing with Deb Koon will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday and there will be income tax assistance from 1-3 p.m. Thursday exercise will be at 9:30 a.m. and it's Lincoln's birthday-bring a cane or walking stick to lunch. There is no exercise class on Friday and there will be a Valentine's Day party with special dinner.

Everyone over 60 is welcome to eat lunch at the center. Donna

Schielke, director of the center, says no special invitation is needed to join in the lunchtime fellowship and all are welcome. She did remind everyone that a reservation is needed by noon the previous day. The menu for the next week includes: Monday - ground beef Stroganoff, California mixed veggies, plums, noodles, crisp price bar. Tuesday - oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, bread, fruit mix. Wednesday - taco

salad, Dole tropical fruit, chips, fruit crisp.

Thursday - ham and beans, carrot and raisin salad, mandarin oranges, cornbread, cook's choice complement. Friday - roast pork, steamed cabbage, carrots and onions, cinnamon apple slices, bread, pudding cup.

The building is also available for rental for events.

For information or lunch reservations, call 460-2901.

Workshop, festival and organ recital planned this month

Dr. Jan Kraybill, formerly of Colby, will lead a weekend of music and worship on Saturday, Feb. 21 and Sunday, Feb. 22 in Colby.

The weekend is sponsored by the Western Plains Arts Association, Colby First Presbyterian Church

and the Colby United Methodist Church.

Saturday's events will include workshops for choral musicians and children, culminating in an interactive hymn festival called Hope, Love and Joy.

The hymn festival will take place at the Colby United Methodist Church, 950 S. Franklin, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday evening, organizers said.

An organ recital will be performed with Dr. Kraybill on Sunday

afternoon at 3 p.m. at Colby First Presbyterian Church, 515 W. Fourth.

Dr. Kraybill is the daughter of Gerry and the late Dick Anschutz of Colby.

She is the principal organist

and a worship specialist at Community of Christ Headquarters in Independence, Mo.

For information on the workshops, questions or to register, call Gerry Anschutz at (785) 462-2527 or Jan Wolf at (785) 460-3535.

Technical college to host 40th anniversary

Kenneth Clouse, Northwest Kansas Technical College president, has announced that the Goodland college is celebrating its 40th anniversary in June.

Clouse said the college began operation as the Goodland Vocational School in the summer of 1964 and expanded to their current status of technical college in 2001.

Northwest Kansas Technical College will be celebrating 40 years of excellence with a weekend of events on June 12-13.

Clouse said the weekend will include a car show, a hot air balloon launch, a golf tournament, music, trivia contest, fashion show and a hog roast on Saturday and a "coffee break" get-together and two-person

golf scramble on Sunday.

The event is free to all registered alumni whose dues are received by May 1. As an added incentive for early registration (before Feb. 13), alumni will receive a complimentary chance on the endowment association's 1965 Mustang to be given away the evening of June 12.

Clouse indicated that current and retired instructors/staff, Area Board of Control, and Endowment Association members, and avid supporters of the college will be invited to attend the celebration. More information is provided on the college's Web site, www.nwktc.org.

The Northwest Kansas Technical College Alumni Association's phone number is (785) 899-7630.

Bill would raise state minimum wage to \$7.50 over next few years

TOPEKA (AP) — The state's \$2.65-an-hour minimum wage would rise to \$7.50 an hour within three years under legislation being considered by the House Commerce and Labor Committee.

Kansas established its minimum wage in 1977, at \$1.60 an hour, and raised it to the current level in 1988.

A minimum-wage bill of some sort has been introduced in the Legislature every year since then, officials said.

This year's measure, sponsored by Rep. Ted Powers, would raise the wage to \$5.50 an hour next January, \$6.50 an hour the following January and \$7.50 an hour in January 2007.

The state minimum wage applies only to non-agricultural workers who don't fall under federal minimum-wage guidelines.

They primarily are employees of small "mom-and-pop" businesses in rural communities.

Powers, R-Mulvane, told the committee Wednesday that raising the wage would help pull people out of poverty.

States that offer a minimum wage higher than the federal minimum — now \$5.15 an hour — show that they care about workers, and people are more likely to stay in such states, he said.

But opponents said the marketplace, rather than the state, should determine what a person is paid. They suggested Kansas go the way of seven other states and do away with its minimum wage altogether.

Terry Leatherman, a spokesman for the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the chamber opposes any increase in the minimum wage, and would recommend repealing it.

Leatherman said most people in the state already earn more than the federal minimum, and a state minimum is unnecessary.

Community Calendar

FRIDAY, Feb. 6

Share sign up, State Farm Insurance office-Colby
Thomas County Red Cross first aid/CPR class, 1:30 p.m.
Last day to order Girl Scout cookies, call 460-6662
Wings Upon the Prairie drop-in center, 485 N. Franklin, 5-8 p.m.
New Hope Narcotics Anonymous, City Hall Basement, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, Feb. 7

Oddfellows/Rebekah pancake feed, CCB, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Wings Upon the Prairie drop-in center, 485 N. Franklin, 5-8 p.m.
Regional piano music festival at Fort Hays State University
Sixth Street Alcoholics Anonymous, 1275 West 6th, 8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, Feb. 8

Sunday Morning Sixth Street Alcoholics Anonymous, 9:30 a.m.
Higher Ground, High School Youth Group, Berean Church, 6 p.m.
New Hope Narcotics Anonymous, City Hall Basement, 8 p.m.

Markets

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