By JOHN HANNA

change traffic signals.

tencing laws.

criminals.

existing ones and tinker with sen-

Sometimes, the proposals are of-

that point out flaws in laws enacted

in previous years. Other times, law-

makers are responding to groups or

individual victims. Often, they're

just trying to keep up with clever

the changing needs of society," said

Sen. Derek Schmidt, R-Indepen-

dence, who serves on the chamber's

didn't need laws against identity

theft 50 years ago."

Family

Deaths

Maxine (Thomas) Bohme Maxine (Thomas) Bohme, 75, of Atwood, died Thursday, Feb. 5, 2004 at her home in rural Atwood.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Atwood United Methodist Church with Rev. Terry McGuire officiating. Burial will follow at Lone Star Cemetery in rural southeast Rawlins County.

Visitation will be from 9 to 11 a.m. Tuesday at Brantley Funeral Home which is handling arrangements.

She was born July 21, 1928 in Morland to Joseph and Bessie (Maxwell) Thomas. She married Henry Otto Carl Bohme Feb. 27, 1948 at the Methodist Parsonage in Atwood. She was a farm wife and homemaker and a member of United Methodist Church of Atwood.

Mrs. Bohme is survived by three sons, Lawrence Francis Bohme of Wichita Falls, Texas, Carl Henry Bohme of Colby and Bruce Lee Bohme of Colby; two sisters, Marie Keith of WaKeeney and Iris Pancake of Atwood and two stepgrandchildren.

Memorials are suggested to Atwood United Methodist Church.

Carol K. (Denny) Gardiner

Carol K. (Denny) Gardiner, 63, of Phoenix, Ariz., died Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004 at Coronado House in Phoenix.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Beulah Cemetery in Colby. Friends are invited to the services and to greet the family at the Quality Inn in Colby following the service. Rev. James Mardock of Colby will officiate.

Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel in Colby is handling arrangements. She was born March 27, 2004 in

Colby and was an officer in a Phoenix bank.

Mrs. Gardiner is survived by her husband, Ted Gardiner and daughter Kate Gardiner, both of Phoenix; and two sisters, Connie Kreamer of Phoenix and Janice Linville of Colby.

Memorials are suggested in her name in care of the funeral home.



So far this year, committees and AP Political Writer individual legislators have spon-TOPEKA (AP) — One senator sored at least 40 bills on crime. They wants to stiffen penalties for holdrange from a measure to raise the ups at automated teller machines. A Senate committee is studying

fines for littering to a proposal creating a sentence of life in prison changes in the law against identity without parole as an alternative to theft. And the House has already the death penalty. decided that it should be illegal for After seeing a crush of House

motorists to use transmitters that bills in past sessions, Speaker Doug Mays last year created a new Cor-Every year, Kansas legislators rections and Juvenile Justice Comdefine new crimes, redefine some mittee to handle crime issues, leaving only changes in civil law to the Judiciary Committee.

"Politicians have figured out fered in response to court decisions that's a topic their constituents relate to," said Sen. John Vratil, R-Leawood, who chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Some bills are prompted by court decisions that highlight problems - such as inconsistencies — in "The law has to evolve to meet Kansas' existing statutes.

Last month, for example, the Kansas Supreme Court ruled that an Anderson County man was improp-Judiciary Committee member. "We erly sentenced to more than 11 years in prison for conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

two laws on manufacturing drugs, one with a minimum sentence of 11 1/2 years and the other with a minimum sentence of 14 months. If two laws apply to a crime, the lesser sentence must be imposed, the court said

Legislators continue tinkering with criminal code

In another recent decision, the Supreme Court sided with a man sentenced to 13 years for involuntary manslaughter in a fatal drunken driving wreck in Allen County.

The court ordered a resentencing — and a shorter prison term prison —because of a flaw in the 1996 law under which the defendant was convicted.

Bills addressing those decisions have been introduced in the House. We give things our best shot, and

sometimes the courts say we didn't get something just right, and we have the opportunity to fix it," said Schmidt, who is an attorney.

Proposals come from other sources outside the Legislature as well. For example, Attorney General Phill Kline has a raft of initiatives

The court noted that Kansas has for strengthening public safety, and is also advocating an expansion of the state's maximum-security prison near El Dorado.

Last week, the Senate Judiciary Committee heard testimony on a bill allowing for state compensation to Kansans victimized by crimes outside the United States. One witness was Jeanette Stauffer, whose daughter—23-year-oldUniversity of Kansas student Shannon Martin - was murdered in 2001 while in Costa Rica under a school program.

Rep. Jan Pauls, who is a former district court judge, said enacting new laws also can send messages about the state's priorities.

For example, in 2001, the state classified domestic battery as a crime, separate from simple battery.

Lawmakers sometimes pursue 'crime-of-the-month club" bills, said Pauls, D-Hutchinson.

In 1998, when lawmakers began hearing about "date rape" drugs, they created the crime of unlawfully administering a substance to another person.

In 2000, when business owners complained about a rash of cases of people driving off without paying for gasoline, the Legislature created the new crime of failing to pay for motor fuel.

This year, Sen. Phil Journey, R-Haysville, wants to create the crime of automated teller machine robbery, adding nine months to the maximum sentence of 34 months on a first offense of simple robbery. Journey said when an ATM is involved, criminals often kidnap and

Sweetheart Special

Steak & Shrimp Dinner...\$14

Complementary Champagne

terrorize their victims for a while.

Journey's district includes part of Wichita, where two brothers were sentenced to death for abducting and terrorizing five people in a townhouse, making them withdraw money from ATMs and shooting them in the head.

Four died.

However, a few lawmakers wonder whether the annual legislating clutters Kansas' criminal code.

"I've yet to find out where an identity theft isn't a forgery, theft by deception or making a false writing. or all three," said Sen. Ed Pugh, R-Wamego, an attorney and Judiciary Committee member, listing three crimes already prohibited when identity theft became a separate crime in 1998.

But most legislators do not share Pugh's caution. Even if a bushel of new crime laws are enacted this year, lawmakers are likely to have a bushel more to consider next year.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Capitol Correspondent John Hanna has covered state government and politics since



Come check out

our new menu!

Enjoy **FREE**

Horsd'oeuvres on Thursday

nights from 5:30 - 6:30

<u> AC</u>

.....

Colby Rotary projects are many

The Colby Rotary Club meeting held on Feb. 3 was presided by President Jerry Arensdorf. Jerry started the club's meeting off by speaking of current projects the club is working on. These projects consist of the Cruise drawing in conjunction with credit for Paul Harris Fellows Awards, Camp Alridge and the upcoming Annual Soup Supper to be held next Tuesday, Feb. 17 at the Community Building during the Colby versus Goodland basketball games. The soups being served are chili and potato for this occasion.

Mike Tubbs clarified comments made during last week's meeting. Sure wish I was at last week's meeting. It sounded like they had a good reading on Mike. Members have filled out these sheets telling truths and not-quite truths about themselves. Then members in attendance guess which is the false statement.

At last week's Rotary meeting years. students for the months of December, January and February were in

attendance. The students were Erica Erickson, Matt Hull and Taylor Miller. Each student gives a brief report on what they have accomplished throughout their high school education and if they have future plans for college.

Scott Gawith presented Les Brown with this year's Thumb Wrestling Award and Title Belt. He fought it thumb to thumb with Jim Stanley, taking the championship away from Jim. Jim said it happened due to an injury he acquired right before the match and he cannot wait until next year's match. If you see Les ask to see his Wrestling Title Belt.

This week's program was the high school wrestling coach Mitch Biems. The high school wrestling team is now in the post-season. Mitch presented the club with sheets showing records on each team member. It had records of some wrestling students in previous

He highlighted the team ranks and accomplishments. Daniel Tubbs is ranked third in state. This will be Travis Powell's second time to be a state qualifier. Evan Mainus has been improving his ability throughout the year. Cole Garcia will be wrestling for fourth at state. Taylor Finley was not taken down during the first half of the season. Schuyler Sharpe has gone to state three years now, he is

a hard worker in the coach's eyes. Mitch is proud of his team members and all the hard work they have achieved throughout the years of wrestling. Colby's Rotary Club wishes the wrestling team good luck in future matches.





1987.

👾 Valentine's Day Dance 🕬

Saturday, February 14th, 9-12

Featuring DJ - Tucker Stover





Come

Colby I mplement has been in business celebrating their 20th Anniversary! February 12th Come in and join us for Anniversary cake, coffee & soda!

Drawings ~ Register to win Prizes!!!

Register to Win a..

- ~ Free use of a John Deere Tractor for 20 hours
 - ~ JD Cordless Screwdriver
- ~ Free Tractor or Combine Service Inspection

Colby Implement



2106 US 24 ~ 462-3391



Just in Time for Planting!

Head in for special savings on our most popular farm filters includes many oil, air and fuel filters for these and other farm equipment makes:

 John Deere Case Ford Massey Ferguson International Harvester Allis Chalmers Case/LH. INPA DUP

75% OFF FILTER SALE • FEBRUARY 12 & 13 Sloppy Joes & Pepsi - February 12 & 13 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



STAN'S 425 Martin Colby AUTOMOTIVE 785-462-6741