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## How much is that doggy in the window?



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Ardath Beringer of Colby Photo looked at some of the items on display in her window for the Colby Community College Endowment Association Auction to be held Saturday at City Limits Conarships. The theme is "Hollywood on the Plains" and people will vention Center. Items are also on display at the His Shop. The have the chance to win a one-carat diamond. Tickets are still doors open at 4:45 p.m. and will be followed by a buffet dinner at available by calling 462-4684.

5:30 p.m. and a live auction at 7 p.m. Endowment Association Director Nick Wells said last year's event raised \$50,000 for schol-

# Colby High senior going to Caucus

Colby Free Press An interest in seeing democracy

at work is what got Colby High School senior Chris Gordon a place as a delegate to the First district Democratic Caucus at Ellsworth on Saturday. Gordon was



C. Gordon

chosen as a delegate during the 40th Senatorial District Caucus held in Colby on March 13. He said he was the youngest person there and was proud to be selected.

"I was very excited," he said. "I wasn't sure how the whole process works. I'm very obliged and grate-

He got interested in the election the delegates from the First Conprocess after watching what happened with the 2000 presidential election. Gordon said he was a little disappointed with the way it turned out, but he said it also showed that people can make a difference. "It showed every vote counted," he in Boston July 26-29. The First Dis-

When he turned 18, he decided to one alternate. get involved at the party level. Gorhis personality because he's always tional convention.

been opinionated and liberal. He said the party reflects that.

"I just thought I needed to get involved," he said. "I thought this would be a great way to do it."

Gordon has filled out his paperwork to become eligible as a national delegate but he'll have to wait and see what happens at Ellsworth on Saturday. He's also ready to sup-

port one candidate. "I'm putting my support behind (Sen. John) Kerry," Gordon said, adding he likes Kerry as a candidate because he has experience in the Senate and politics, was a war hero and has military experience and is

good on foreign policy. Gordon said his parents are behind him and his mother Cathy was also elected as a delegate. "We didn't intend it but we both got picked," he said.

gressional District, which includes Thomas County, at Ellsworth Elementary School. The doors open at 1 p.m. and the caucus starts at 2 p.m. Delegates will be chosen for the

He and his mother will be among

Democratic National Convention trict will elect five delegates and

Kansas will send a total of 41 deldon said the Democratic Party fits egates and six alternates to the na-

# Founder of many car dealerships in Kansas faces child sex charges

founded several car dealerships in Kansas nesday. has been charged with having a sexual relationship with a 15-year-old.

Rusty Eck, 75, of Wichita, faces one A co-defendant, John Profita, 47, of ing." three counts of aggravated indecent liber- tical counts. ties with a child.

The case was scheduled for a preliminary hearing April 13.

count of indecent liberties with a child and Wichita, was charged Tuesday with iden-

The charges were formally presented crimes occurred during January and Feb-

WICHITA(AP)—Aphilanthropist who during Eck's first court appearance Wed-ruary of this year and involved the same 15-His bond had been set at \$250,000. year-old victim.

The other three counts allege the men had dium after him in 1984. sexual intercourse with the teen, according According to the criminal complaint, the to information from the courts in Wichita.

Eck, the founder and former owner of One count alleges the men solicited the Wichita's Rusty Eck Ford dealership, do-father eight years ago, said that Rusty Eck teen to "engage in lewd fondling or touch-nated money to the Wichita State Univer-has an office at the dealership, but he spends

Adecade later, he and his wife gave \$1.75 million to Kansas Newman College — now Eck was released from jail on Tuesday. Newman University—and a new building

I wanted to continue to provide out-

on campus was named for them.

His son, Les Eck, who bought out his sity baseball program, which named its sta-80 percent of his time on a farm in Rice County.

"Obviously, it's embarrassing to the family and to the 200 employees," Les Eck



#### 60s for Friday Colby, Oakley, Hoxie area

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 30s to around 40. Southeast winds 10-20 miles per hour. **Friday**...Partly cloudy. Highs in the 60s. East winds 10-20 miles per hour. **Friday night**...Partly Cloudy. Patchy fog toward morning. Lows in the 30s. East winds 10-20 miler per hour, decreasing to 5-10. **Saturday**...Partly cloudy. Patchy fog early morning. Highs in the upper 50s to around 60. East winds 5-15 miles per hour.

#### The numbers

Colby)

Wednesday's high, 70 Low this morning, 30 Records for April 1, 87 in 1940 and -4 in 1936 (lowest April temperature on record for

Year ago today, 85 and 37 Precipitation past 24 hours,

April total, 0.00 April snowfall, 0 Soil temperature, 53 Total March precipitation,

#### Total March snowfall, 1 inch

The sources: The forecast is from the National Weather Service, and other numbers are from the Northwest Research-Extension Center, Colby. A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

# lew physical therapy clinic opens on Range Avenue

Colby Free Press The community has gained another new business.

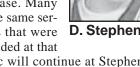
Called Northwest Kansas Physical Therapy, owned by physical tern Park only therapist Dawn Stephens, it is located in the former KLBY-TV building on Range Avenue.

for a therapy clinic housed at Lan- of the same sertern Park Manor in Colby, which has since closed.

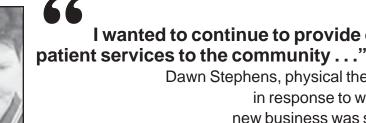
The closing prompted her to open her own business.

outpatient services to the community," she said.

Stephens said people thought the clinic at Lanworked with the nursing home but that wasn't Stephens said she used to work the case. Many vices that were provided at that



clinic will continue at Stephens' clinic, including sports injury reha-"I wanted to continue to provide bilitation, wound care, foot orthot-



Medicare patients, joint replacement therapy and foot pain.

Stephens said the clinic will ser- Keeney, Winona, Hoxie, Goodland,

Dawn Stephens, physical therapist, in response to why the new business was started

ics, worker's comp, pool therapy, vice all of northwest Kansas and she has patients from around the area, including Colby, Quinter, WaBrewster and Victoria.

She also wants people to know that they accept most insurance except Medicaid, which they are working on.

"It's a complicated process," Stephens said.

She said she's happy to have her own business and is also glad it's

been busy already. Stephens said she has a background in sports, explaining she played basketball at Penn State University and earned her master's degree in physical therapy from

Wichita State University.

## Briefly **Memory Walk set for Saturday**

The Alzheimer's Association is planning a "Memory Walk" in Colby starting at 1 p.m., Saturday, with registration and the walk beginning at 1:30 p.m. The event will be held in Fike Park for the purpose of raising awareness about Alzheimer's, said Rhonda Riedel. For questions or information, call her at 673-3149 or 800-487-2585.

#### Aviation safety seminar planned

There will be an aviation safety education seminar, Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Colby Senior Progress Center, 165 Fike Park. The seminar is a national program developed by the Federal Aviation Administration Central Region, said Mark Ostmeyer, manager of the Colby Municipal Airport. The program is designed to make using all types of airports, airways and other situations safe and fun. For questions, call Bruce Allred, (316) 941-1208 or Ostmeyer at (785) 462-4438.

#### Blood drive next Wednesday

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at Colby High School from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, April 7. Donors are asked to bring photo identification. Walk-ins are welcome or an appointment can be scheduled by calling 1-800-448-3543.

#### Singles dance Friday

The Colby Singles Group has planned a dance, Friday,

Swingin' Country from Imperial, Neb. will provide entertainment. All single people and alumni are invited to attend. For questions or other details, call Don Birzer, 462-2127.

#### **Easter Cantata scheduled**

A community-wide Easter Cantata will be performed at 7 p.m. on Good Friday (April 9) at the Berean Church in Colby. The public is invited to attend.

#### Career day planned next week

The Colby Grade School Site Council members are planning a career day for students on Thursday, April 8. For questions about career day, call the school at 460-5100.

### Senior dance planned

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program annual recognition night will be from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 21 at the American Legion in Colby. The dance is open to all seniors and the Ramblin' Andy Family Band will provide entertainment. Tickets are available at the RSVPOffice, P.O. Box 803, Colby, Kan. 67701 or call (785) 462-6744. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

#### Vendors wanted for Chautauqua

Food vendors are needed in June during Chautauqua, said Leilani Thomas, one of the committee members. Any groups or organizations looking for a fundraising event might want to consider this opportunity during the week of June 11 through June 15. Food service is needed each evening from from 8 p.m. to midnight at the American Legion in Colby. 5 to 7 p.m. with beverages and sandwiches offered. Groups

interested in being a Chautauqua vendor are asked to call the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau at 460-7643 or write to 350 S. Range #10.

#### Corn growers meeting next week

The Northwest Kansas Corn Growers Association will hold its annual meeting at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, in the Gem Community Building, Gem. For questions, call Julie Saddler at (785) 462-2237 or Steve Friesen at (785) 462-6343.

#### Class reunion scheduled

The Colby High School Class of 1984 has set its 20th reunion for July 2, 3, and 4, coordinators of the event said. In an effort to communicate with others in that class, a website has been set up. The address is: www.colbyhigh-1984.com

## Coaches needed for swim club

The Colby Swim Club is now taking applications for coaches for summer swim. For information, call Mark and Angie Goudy, Brewster, at 694-2599 or Tracy and Robyn Rogers, Colby, at 462-3128.

#### Free sports physicals offered in May

Colby Medical and Surgical Center, 175 S. Range, will offer free physical examinations for students in Colby, Rexford and Brewster for the 2004-05 school years. All physicals will be given on Tuesday, May 11 with students from Colby Middle School arriving by 5:30 p.m.; Colby High School by 6:15 p.m., and for Golden Plains and Brewster students, 7 p.m. For questions, call (785) 462-3332.