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Spooky drive in Trego County

Former *Colby Free Press* photographer Michelle Morris recorded this tornado dropping to the landscape in Trego County Thursday night. In addition to the tornado, Morris was also bombarded by large hail stones that eventually took their toll on her windshield. Michelle is owner of Fotogirl Photography in Colby. Yes, she was scared...and she was alone.



Board continues prep work for 2005 county fair

By Tisha Cox

Colby Free Press

Preparations for the 2005 Thomas County Fair are moving along smoothly. The fair board talked about the fair's progress at its Thursday night meeting.

Board president Stan Strange gave an update on the buildings and grounds. He said some repairs have been done to the inside of the commercial building.

He said a new gate for the race track was installed and work to put in a new fence on the west side of the fairgrounds hasn't begun yet.

Also, he said the swim club will be doing some work on its booth in the commercial building.

During the report, the board also approved the purchase of three eight-foot long picnic tables to start replacing some of the old ones around the grounds.

They will continue to buy two to three a year until all of the old tables are phased out.

Board member Justin Alexander gave his report on how planning for the parade and window painting contest are going.

The board discussed getting information to the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce to distribute to businesses and to the Thomas County Extension office to get the word out to county 4-H clubs about the contest.

They also talked about how much the prize money should be.

Strange suggested offering the incentive to attract more interest and participation for the window painting.

The board approved making available \$400 in prize money, with the winner receiving \$150; second, \$100; third, \$75; fourth, \$50; and fifth, \$25.

Because the window contest money was

raised, Alexander suggested raising the parade winnings also.

Board member Brad Skolout said it's something they should think about for next year.

"You raise one you're going to have to raise them all," said board member Marty Crampton.

Advertising was also on the agenda. They talked about and approved spending \$300 on an advertising package from S&T Communications that includes 100 30-second commercials.

They also will be taking an inventory of the banners for the fair and adding board members' names to the "Wall of Support."

The board also took a quick look at the fair books, which have been printed.

Board member Nancy Rundel found mistakes that lead to a discussion on how the board handles the fair book and its dead-

line. There was a change that should have made the shooting sports listed in open class instead under 4-H, and the board approved the change at the meeting Thursday night.

Secretary Audrey Hines said board member Mark Bredemeier told her the shooting sports should go under 4-H.

She said it was a change that should have been voted on and it wasn't.

Rundel wasn't happy with what she saw as a rule contradictory to the board's rules and it bothered her that one board member overruled them all without board approval.

Strange explained Hines didn't make the change on her own, but rather he shouldered the responsibility because Hines called him and asked him about it. He apologized to the board, the 4-H kids and the public.

Board member Darrell Dible said the

board needs to be careful about doing things outside its scope because it uses tax money and answers to the public.

"We've just got to be more careful," he said.

The board also approved three requests, one for chairs from the fairgrounds to be used at the Mark Schultz concert in August at the Community Building; for the Friends of Pioneer Memorial Library to put up a display of photos from its "Day in the Life of Thomas County" picture contest in the 4-H kitchen during the fair, and the High Plains Archaeology Club to put a booth in the Commercial Building during the fair.

In other business, the board approved:

- Bills in the amount of \$6,487.75.
- Getting a glass display case from Golden Plains School in Rexford.
- The purchase of four pitchers for the 4-H kitchen.

High profile gadget



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

A crane truck at Family Center for Healthcare has been gracing the Colby skyline the past week. The crane is being used in the work to expand the clinic, which is next door to Citizens Medical Center.

Rod Run festivities begin tonight

By Patty Decker

Free Press Editor

Car enthusiasts won't want to miss a nostalgic look at the past when Rod Run festivities begin tonight in Colby with the cruise-in at Montana Mike's and Sonic Drive-In.

Everyone is encouraged to stop by either location, said Jo Strange, publicity chair, and see the many cars that will be parked from 5 to 9 p.m.

"Please arrange your schedules so you can 'spare' the time to 'cruise' down Range Avenue and

take a 'pit stop' to watch the arrivals tonight," she said.

The Saturday events start with registration at 8:30 a.m., followed by the Show and Shine at 9 a.m.

"This is a time for visitors to walk around the perimeter of Fike Park and view the cars, but please remember to show respect to the owners by not touching the vehicles," she said.

Along with seeing the cars, many vendors will be available to offer food, drinks and other souvenirs to include: Mountain Man Candy, Nuts, etc., D & M Trike Conver-

sions, Denver Specialty (car items), Tubbs & Sons (an exhibit), Omeidea Productions (coasters, coffee mugs, mouse pads, etc. with Rod Run Logo) and Wark Embroidery (Rod Run T-shirts), J & B Meat Market (burgers, polish sausages, etc.), Gambino's and more.

At 4 p.m., she said, the Rodders will parade their cars through the Prairie Senior Living Complex and Lantern Park Manor, nursing home properties, for the enjoyment of the residents.

Activities continue on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. with the Show and Shine,

followed by a church service at 9 a.m., a Poker Walk at 10 a.m., and the award presentation at noon, she said.

The public is invited to stop by all of the locations to watch the fun, Strange said.

"We hope that everyone can 'race' on down to Fike Park for good food, interesting conversation, and lots of quality family time," she said today.

For questions or other details about the 2005 "Cruise to the Past" Rod Run, call Bev or Bill Biel at 460-2311.

Amended petition issued in doctor's case

By Jan Katz Ackerman

Colby Free Press

A Colby doctor scheduled for a hearing before the state's medical licensing board now faces more charges.

An amended petition obtained from the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts on Thursday lists seven additional allegations against Dr. Victor H. Hildyard.

The original petition filed with the Board of Healing Arts charged Hildyard with 12 violations against the Kansas Healing Arts Act alleged to have taken place between 1996 and 2003. All 12 counts allege the doctor committed acts which are inclusive "but not limited to professional incompetency and or unprofessional conduct."

Six of the new charges listed in the amended petition cite Hildyard with having from 2000 to 2004, administered injectible corticosteroids before less potentially harmful treatment options were attempted such as oral steroids.

He's also charged with "administering excessive injections of the drugs," allowing "steroid dependency" and failing to adhere to a standard of care to a degree constituting "ordinary negligence which is believed and alleged and will be disclosed upon proper discovery procedures in the course of the proceedings," the petition says.

Corticosteroids are any of a variety of adrenal-cortex steroids used as anti-inflammatory agents, such as a commonly known one called

cortisone. Illnesses listed in the petition for which the doctor allegedly prescribed the injections included, but were not limited to, allergies, asthma, chronic lung disease, generalized arthritis and osteoarthritis, irritable bowel syndrome, low back pain, and concussion.

The amended petition says the age of patient alleged to have received the injections ranged from 42- to 80-years-old. The amount of injections per patient during the four year period ranged as few as 30 injections to as many as 86 injections.

Hildyard is also charged with one count of allegedly administering 87 intramuscular narcotic injections to a 72-year-old patient for "chronic degenerative musculoskeletal

problems and intermittent trauma," the petition says.

That same patient, from 2000 to 2003, is alleged to have received 44 corticosteroids injections for "chronic lung disease and chronic musculoskeletal pain."

Hildyard will face these new charges, along with those filed in the original petition, during public hearings scheduled for October.

On Oct. 5, 6, and 7, the hearings will be in Colby at the Colby Municipal Airport meeting room. On Oct. 10 and 11, the hearings will move to Topeka at the Kansas Board of Healing Arts building located at 235 S. Topeka Blvd., and they will be back in Colby on Oct. 12, 13 and 14 at the airport. All hearings will begin at 9 a.m.

Colby man waives preliminary; pleads to felony burglary

By Patty Decker

Free Press Editor

A 19-year-old Colby man who pled guilty to three counts of felony burglary, criminal damage to property and theft was ordered to pay restitution during his sentencing at

the Thomas County Courthouse last week.

Levi Jones, who was initially charged with more than 50 crimes allegedly committed during the first part of January 2005, agreed at his sentencing to pay \$25,788 to the 10

victims involved in the burglary, said Thomas County Attorney Andrea Wyrick. He also agreed last week to waive his right to a preliminary hearing. Mattson Farms, Ferguson Farms, T-T Farms, Neal D. Rush, Ronald L. Haremza,

Charles D. Saddler, Colby Trap Club, Bartlett Grain and Sod Town, a grouping of sod structures just east of Colby, are victims in both cases. Damage included nearly \$30,000 to windows of five combines, trucks and tractors shot out by firearms.

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