

Weather Corner



Cooler temps this week

The forecast
Tonight—Mostly clear in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Lows around 60. South winds 10 to 20 mph with gusts to around 35 mph. **Tuesday** —Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s. South winds 10 to 20 mph. **Tuesday night** —Colder...Breezy. Mostly cloudy. A chance of thunderstorms in the evening...Then a slight chance of showers after midnight. Lows in the mid 40s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the north 15 to 25 mph after midnight. Chance of rain 30 percent. **Wednesday** —Much cooler. Breezy. Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing. Highs around 60. North winds 15 to 25 mph. **Wednesday night** —Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s. **Temperatures**
Friday's high, 87 — low, 46
Saturday's high, 86 — low, 49
Sunday's high, 95 — low, 57
Low this morning, 65
Records for Saturday, 96 in 1899, 21 in 1985
Records for Sunday, 93 in 1938; 25 in 1985
Records for Monday, 94 in 1916; 26 in 1899
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0
October's precipitation, 0
A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119.

Briefly

Where's the sign?

The Northwest Kansas Prevention Center is sponsoring an "It's OK to say No Way" contest, which will require locating the six foot "No Way" banner somewhere in Colby. The first person to call the Prevention Center at 460-8177 will win a "No Way" hoodie.

Hospital to host diabetes program

Citizens Medical Center is hosting a program on diabetes with Dr. Richard Guthrie speaking on, "Diabetes Update," starting at 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 7 in the hospital cafeteria. Anyone interested in learning more about diabetes care is welcome to attend this free program.

Donations sought for church auction

Plans are underway for this year's Sacred Heart Parish/School annual benefit auction with the theme, "South of the Border." As in year's past, Sacred Heart officials will reach out to the business community asking for whatever support they can provide.

Anyone interested in giving cash, items or service, is encouraged to stop by the church office, 585 N. French, Colby, Kan. 67701 and fill out an auction donation form. The auc-

tion date will be Saturday, Oct. 15, at the TNT Building. For questions or information, call 462-2179.

Pancake feed scheduled Saturday

The Colby American Legion is sponsoring its annual pancake feed/sausage feed from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 8, at the club, 1850 W. 4th. All proceeds go toward youth activities, such as the baseball team and more.

Protecting nest eggs talk this week

The Colby Senior Progress Center is hosting Bonnie Lynch, Kansas Office of the Securities Commission in Topeka, Wednesday, at 11:30 a.m. to talk about protecting "nest eggs" from con artists. The 30-minute presentation is open to everyone and specifically to those more vulnerable to cons to include older Americans, disabled persons or women. The meeting is open to everyone. For those wanting lunch reservation, are asked to call 460-2901 by noon the day before.

Potato bar slated Oct. 12

The Senior Progress Center is planning its annual potato bar fundraising event, Wednesday, Oct. 12, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the center, 165 Fike Park, Colby.

Grade school plans book fair

The Colby Grade School Parent-Teacher Organization will host a scholastic book fair on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in Room 202. Hours for the fair on Tuesday and Thursday will be from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend the fair. For questions, call Mary Bates, 460-5100.

Book fair slated at Sacred Heart

A Scholastic Book Fair is planned during the parent-teacher conferences at Sacred Heart School on Tuesday from 5:30 to 9 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 6, from 2 to 9 p.m.

Tootsie roll drive nears

The Colby Council of the Knights of Columbus will be handing out "specially marked" Tootsie Rolls on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Oct. 14-16, while seeking donations for those people with intellectual disabilities, said Dick Parnell, chairman for the drive. For those who are not contacted by a Knights of Columbus member, donations may also be sent to: Tootsie Roll Program Fund, c/o Dick Parnell, Tootsie Roll chairman; 2820 N. Range Ave., Colby, Kan. 67701. All donations are tax deductible.

Sheridan County searches for new director

By JAN KATZ ACKERMAN
Colby Free Press

The search for a new development director continues in Sheridan County.

Jacque Boultinghouse, president of Sheridan County Development, said the board of directors continues to take applications to fill the vacant director position.

It has been four months since Bert Mosier resigned as director of the development corporation. Mosier,

who has relocated to Nevada, had worked for the corporation for 4 1/2 years.

"The board is actually taking care of the business as it comes our way," Boultinghouse said.

Board members Leanna Sloan, Rick Leiker, Ron Schamberger, Harold Timken and Wanda Sealock assist Boultinghouse with the work of finding a new director.

"We are just not going as openly or as visible as Bert was, but we are

working on it," Boultinghouse said about the ongoing operations.

Shortly after Mosier resigned, board members approached funding sources about continued money to pay a new director.

Of the money the development corporation receives, \$30,000 of it comes from the county, \$15,500 comes from the city of Hoxie, and the city of Selden contributes 25 percent of its monthly sales tax income.

Two teenagers injured Friday

By Jan Katz Ackerman
Colby Free Press

Two teens injured in a weekend rollover accident have been released from a Colorado hospital.

Linda L. Trevino, 17, Rexford, was northbound on a Thomas County road 10 miles north and 3 miles east of Oakley when she lost control of the 1990 Ford passenger car she was driving, according to a

report filed by the Kansas Highway Patrol on Friday.

After hitting a dip in the road, the car entered the west ditch and rolled three times before coming to rest upright about 5:30 p.m., Friday.

Trevino was taken to Logan County Hospital in Oakley and then flown to Swedish Medical Center in Englewood, Colo.

She was treated in the emergency

room and released.

A passenger in the car, James Schippers, 16, Colby, was also flown from the hospital in Oakley to Swedish Medical Center.

A spokesman for the center on Monday morning said Schippers was released from the facility on Saturday. It's unknown if either Trevino or Schippers was wearing a seat belt, according to the report.

House restored as anniversary of deadly fire nears

OLATHE (AP) — A year after a fire at their home took the lives of nearly all their family, the two surviving siblings hardly recognize what has been rebuilt.

The house has new windows and a modified layout, and more than 100 volunteers gathered Saturday to fix the exterior of the house and clean up debris from the yard.

"It's very weird — the house looks different. It's odd, but not uncomfortable," said Kameron Orr. "We so greatly appreciate everyone's help."

Last Oct. 16, a fire swept through the home in the middle of the night. Kameron and her brother, Justin, lost their parents, Matt and Rebecca Orr, both 46; and brothers, Benjamin, 18, Jeremiah, 16, and Kyle, 14.

Test results on electrical equipment turned up no leads and the cause was officially listed as undetermined.

Investigators said the house had three smoke alarms, but two of them didn't work properly the night of the fire.

Justin heard an alarm and escaped through a basement window. Smoke and fire prevented him from alerting the rest of his family. Kameron was in Lawrence the night of the fire.

The siblings plan sell the family once it is finished and split the money.

Justin, 24, attends Johnson County Community College and was married in January. He and his wife are buying a house in Olathe.

Kameron, 20, lives in Overland Park and commutes to the Univer-

sity of Kansas, where she's studying elementary education.

Saturday's "Day of Caring" was organized by family friend Ken Ross and the home's builder, Phoenix Renovation and Restoration Inc. Many of the volunteers were from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Olathe, which Kameron credits for helping her through the tragedy.

"The biggest thing for me has been my faith. Understanding what I believe has helped me the most," she said.

Mistaken \$1 million payment to pharmacy brings Medicaid changes

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — When the DeFever-Osborn Drug store in Independence received a \$1 million payment from Medicaid, employees tried to return the mistaken payment but were told they couldn't send the check back.

Instead, employees were first told by the state's Medicaid billing

contractor to deposit the check in the store's bank account, and future Medicaid payments to the store would be drawn from that deposit. That policy was later changed, and the mistake will be discussed during a legislative hearing Monday.

"This has just been a nightmare, and I'm sure Medicaid is scram-

bling to try to figure out how it happened and why it wasn't caught," Wendy Derrick, manager of the DeFever-Osborn Drug store, told The Wichita Eagle.

State officials, the state's billing contractor and lawmakers are trying to figure out what went wrong. All the parties involved say no

money is missing.

The problem began when the pharmacy tried to bill Medicaid for a single bottle of eyedrops.

But what came out on the Medicaid end was a bill for 99,999 bottles — at a cost of \$999,999.99.

And Medicaid sent a \$1 million check to the store.

In April, the store received the

check for \$1,020,523, said store owner Steve DeFever. The check included the eyepod payment and several other billings. Normally, the pharmacy receives weekly Medicaid checks ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000, he said.

The store employee who handles Medicaid billing called Electronic Data Systems, the state's billing contractor, asking how to return the check.

But the employee was told there was no procedure for returning the check, DeFever said. Instead, he said, she was told to deposit the check in the store's bank account and future Medicaid payments to the store would be drawn from that

account until the money was used.

Carol Pangborn, who manages the Kansas account for EDS, said that is normal procedure to subtract overpayments from future billings. Since the \$1 million mistake, she said, the company has created a policy to accept refunds on large overpayments.

"This is the most bizarre thing I've ever seen," said Pangborn, who has worked with Medicaid payments for 18 years.

Medicaid claims are submitted to EDS via the Internet. According to EDS' records, Pangborn said, DeFever-Osborn submitted a Medicaid claim for 999,999 bottles of eyedrops, billed at a cost of \$999,999.99.

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Your choice of Potato and Salad

COLBY VFW **MEMBERS & GUESTS WELCOME!**