


Weather
Corner



Windy

The forecast

Tonight — Partly cloudy with a low around 36. Breezy with a north wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Tuesday — Partly cloudy with a high near 57. Breezy with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Tuesday night — Partly cloudy with a low around 29. North wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Wednesday — Partly cloudy with a high near 51. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southeast.

Wednesday night — A slight chance of rain, mixing with snow after 4 a.m. Partly cloudy with a low around 32. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Thursday — A slight chance of rain and snow showers before 9 a.m., then a slight chance of rain showers. Cloudy with a high near 48. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Temperatures

Sunday's high, 69

Low this morning, Records for this date, 87 in 1940, -4 in 1936

Briefly

College basketball fundraiser

The second annual Colby Community College men's basketball duck races will be held 7:30 p.m., April 14 at Twister's Bar and Grill. Ducks will be available for purchase at 5:30 p.m.

Prizes will be awarded to those who own the winning ducks. Food and entertainment will be available. All proceeds benefit the men's basketball program.

City to pick up grass clippings

The City of Colby will begin picking up grass clippings Monday, April 9. Grass clippings must be bagged or canned, and separated from all trash.

Tree limbs must be separated and tied together in bundles, less than 4 feet long and less than 50 pounds. All collections must be at curbside by 8 a.m.

Easter Egg hunt planned

Colby's Assembly of God Church is sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt from 1 to 2:15 p.m., Saturday, at its facility, 245 W. College Dr.

The hunt is open to children ages infant to 10 years old. Children under 6, should be accompanied by a parent. For questions, call 462-8234.

Youth horseback riders wanted

The Logan County Equestrian Drill Team will meet at 7 p.m., Sunday, at the 4-H Building in Oakley, said Ashley Moser, coordinator. "We are looking for interested youth riders from ages 7-18 to participate in the drill team," she said. For questions, call Moser at (785) 462-0261.

Park permit prices going up

The Thomas County Clerk's office staff reminds residents beginning Sunday, April 1, park vehicle permits will go up in to \$24.35 annually. For senior or disabled people, the price will be \$13.25.

Childbirth education classes planned

Citizens Medical Center, Inc. will hold a four-week series of childbirth education classes. The series will start at 7 p.m. Thursday, and will continue on April 12, 19, 26. Expectant mothers in their last trimester are encouraged to attend, said Jeanene Brown, RN at Citizens Medical Center and coordinator of the classes. The labor support partner who will be with the mother in labor is also encouraged to attend classes.

The next series of classes will be in July. For quesitons or to register, call Brown at (785) 460-4850.

Alzheimer's town hall meeting

A town hall meeting on Alzheimer's awareness and advocacy will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 25 at the Quality Inn conference room in Colby. Dr. Richard T. Brittingham will be the speaker. The event is sponsored by Northwest Kansas Medical Provders and the Alzheimer's Association Central and Western Kansas Office. For information, call 1-800-272-3900.

Museum presentation enlightens on women in farming

By Tisha Cox
Colby Free Press

Many farms dot the landscape of western Kansas and there are many women on those farms. But the question of why those women are not farmers was the source of a presentation March 25 at the Prairie Museum of Art and History.

Historian Ann Birney explained the role of women in farming as part of Women's History Month promoted by the musuem.

Birney is a historian and presenter with Ride Into History, a

A. Birney

group that gives history presentations.

"Few women today are involved in farming. They are involved in different aspects," she said.

While writing her dissertation, Birney noticed girls who grew up on farms, didn't necessarily take over the family farms.

"Why aren't there more women who are farming?" she said.

Birney, while talking with other librarians while working in Emporia, found some answers. Birney said it is common for small town librarians to be women. She asked some of those women, during their childhood, what their parents' expectations of them were growing up on a farm.

"One said it was a physical line, but another said because she had no brothers, she became her father's

son," Birney said. "Because there were no brothers, the father needed help, so the daughter got to help with farm work."

After that, Birney started reviewing 4-H records.

Birney lived in Lyon County but researched adjacent Chase County because it had a smaller, more rural population.

In the extension reports, she found pictures of the livestock clubs with almost all boys. Sometimes there would be one girl.

Shee found 10 women to interview, and discovered the first few joined 4-H because they thought it would be fun, and they could meet other kids.

"However," as she went on, "I learned that in some cases, the extension agent came and asked for a daughter to be allowed to join. That

agent needed a boy from every home," she said.

Birney said 4-H was started with farm development in mind, not youth development. It was thought that if the kids could learn new practices, they could show their parents.

As she researched, she found a pattern. In families with all girls, or the girls as the eldest child, the oldest daughter would sometimes follow in the father's profession, if it was a business. On the farm, first daughters would become their mother's helper while second daughters, many times, became their father's sons.

"Though allowed to help around the farm, they weren't allowed to take over the family operation," Birney said. Because of the risk involved, fathers thought it was inappropriate, or just wanted to shelter

their daughters from it.

The trends she found also reminded her of the work patterns of World War II. With men in the military, women stepped into the workforce, filling factory jobs and more.

"There's been a lot written about the factories but not the farms," Birney said. "They could be their father's boys but they couldn't be a man. Even now, there are few, if any women in their 20s or 30s who are becoming farmers. I hope daughters are given the opportunity to farm if they want to," Birney said.

Sue Taylor, museum director, said Women's History Month is important.

"It is to recognize the accomplishments of women and give younger women aspirations to look forward to," she said.

Prevention center headed to schools

April is Alcohol Awareness Month and in response to this serious problem, Brewster Elementary, Colby Elementary, Sacred Heart, Heartland Christian, Regional Prevention Center, and the Colby High School Students Against Destructive Decisions, also known as SADD, have agreed to support a community-based event for the third year in Thomas County called "Reach Out Now Teach-In," said Dian Organ with Regional Prevention Center.

"These important events will be held in all 50 states and the District of Columbia during the month of April and in our communities on the following dates: Brewster and Sacred Heart, Wednesday, April 11; at Colby Elementary, Thursday, April 19; and Heartland Christian School, Friday, April 13.

"The event's primary goal is to foster a conversation with fifth grade students on the dangers of early alcohol use," Organ said.

"The secondary goal is to increase the number of youth who understand the health risks associated with alcohol use and empower them to resist the pressure to drink they often get from peers and media messages."

All members of our community need to recognize the serious consequences of underage drinking. It makes our highways less safe, our schools less effective, and our future less certain.

"Our community is joining others in our nation who are taking action and presenting a program supported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and your local Regional Prevention Center," she said.

"Let's make it less acceptable and more difficult for youth to drink since too many young people die everyday in alcohol-related car crashes."

For questions, call Organ at the Northwest Kansas Regional Prevention Center (785) 460-8177.

Former students remember classes with teacher

From "TEACHER" page 1

said. "I get along well with him now, and highly respect him."

He got to know Crabtree better when a class sponsor on his daughter's senior trip. Jon also spent 12 years on the school board.

Crabtree also impacted Jon's future career choice. Jon majored in engineering for three years in college, but eventually chose banking. He is the branch manager at Farmers Bank and Trust in Brewster.

"My children still remember having Crabtree, and I'm glad at least one grandchild is getting a chance to learn from him too," he said.

Crabtree said he has only 20 hours on his contract, but he works more than that. The technology he sees every day is one of the reasons for more hours.

"New things in technology pique my interest, and integrating them into the curriculum," Crabtree said.

Besides technology, the school has also changed.

The number of students has declined. At one time it was not un-

PHOTO PROVIDED

Willis Crabtree, 78, talked to his freshman Algebra I class recently. Crabtree has been teaching 51 years.

usual for the high school to have 80 students. Now it has about half that. There were 26 students in Jon Eicher's class in the 1960s.

Another big change is the num-

ber of rural students attending the school.

"Most of the kids used to live in the country," Crabtree said. "Now most of them live in town."

Though the school has changed, and the advent of technology has had an impact, kids have stayed the same.

"They're no different — it's still high school," Crabtree said.

Sherri Edmundson, Brewster superintendent, has known Crabtree for 20 years.

She met Crabtree while teaching in Rexford, and has been his boss at Brewster for six years now.

"It's wonderful because no matter what I need to know, he's got the knowledge base to pull from," she said.

"He's a very valuable asset."

He and his wife Joyce have three daughters, Bonnie Holm, Tanya Gray and Mary Crabtree. They have eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Joyce also taught, but retired several years ago.

Crabtree plans on teaching as long as he can.

"I'll teach until it's no longer fun," he said. "If it weren't, I wouldn't do it."

HELP WANTED

We will work around YOUR schedule!

All shifts available.

Apply in person at:
2005 S. Range, Colby

Write in

Kevan Taylor

for Colby School Board!

Paid for by Kevan Taylor.

Serving Traditional

EASTER BUFFET

Sunday, April 8th
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Reservations are recommended.

462-6565

**MOVIE
PASSES**

Watch for your
name in the
Wednesday movie
listings
for 2
free passes.

(Passes must be used within 7 days.)

Pick up your passes at your:

VOTE FOR

☒ **MARK A. WINGER** ☒

Colby Community College Board of Trustees

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Colby Community College Graduate
- Kansas State University Masters Degree
- Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership (KARL) Program, Graduate and Vice Chairman on the Board
- CCC Endowment Foundation, Past President
- Colby/Thomas County Area Chamber of Commerce, Past President
- Leadership Thomas County Graduate
- Over 18 Years Banking Experience
- Husband and Father of Three Boys
- Active Community Volunteer

Political Ad Paid for by Mark A. Winger

Vote April 3rd for Arlen Leiker

I WILL BE AN
ADVOCATE FOR:

- Growth
- Technology
- Academic Programs of Study
- Student Activities
- Athletics

For

**Colby Community
College
Board Of Trustees**

Your Vote Will Be Appreciated!

Political ad paid for by Arlen Leiker

Vote for Jim Smith For Mayor

Jim is a long time resident of Colby and has the public interests in mind. He has been self employed since high school besides holding outside jobs, some of which are mechanic, city policeman and postal employee. He owned and operated his own trucking company before becoming a licensed real estate sales person and then becoming a real estate broker and auctioneer and opening his own office. In running for the office of mayor of the City of Colby, he believes that the elected mayor and council people of the city should be more responsible to their constituents. If elected to mayor his door will be open to all the residents of the city and will encourage the council members to listen to the people who elected them to office from their respective wards. A vote for Jim Smith will bring you closer to having a say about Colby. He encourages everyone to attend city council meetings and let their feelings be known and see what their council representatives are voting for and against.

Jim will appreciate your vote on April 3rd.

Political ad paid for by Citizens for Mayor Committee.