



Meeting the heroes



RIGHT: Sarah Zahradka tried on a Colby Fire Department uniform today during the vacation Bible school at Colby Berean Church. Students learned about the Colby Fire Department as



JOHN VAN NOSTRAND/Colby Free Press

part of the theme Rescue Heroes. The Berean church shared the school this week with Mingo Bible Church. **LEFT:** Students look at the fire department's ladder truck during a demonstration.

Amusement group needs volunteers

By Tisha Cox

Colby Free Press

The Thomas County Fair is two months away, but the Thomas County Amusement Association is preparing for it now.

Kerry Wark, president of the association, said the association plans on putting a concrete slab for the games tent this year. For 2008, they hope to get a building to permanently house the games, and to use as storage.

"It's so labor-intensive to set up and tear down, so that is our big push now," he said.

The proposed building will look like a storage unit building, with garage-type doors, to allow the games to be set up inside in space. All volunteers will have to do to get ready is roll up the door and set things up.

Storage will be easier, because all volunteers will do is shut the door and lock up.

"It takes many volunteers to make everything work, including the games and running rides during the fair," said secretary Wanda Brown.

The association scheduled a ride set-up night for Tuesday, July 10. The Colby Fire Department will help, but Brown said they can always use volunteers.

Another night is set for Tuesday, July 31 to help set up the game booths and prizes.

Help will also be needed Aug. 5 to take everything down.

"We always need volunteers,"

"It takes many volunteers to make everything work, including the games and running rides during the fair...We always need volunteers."

— Wanda Brown, secretary

Brown said.

The week before the fair, she is sometimes 80 volunteers short to run rides and games, but they always seem to get the help they need.

The amusement association formed in 2002 with the intent of organizing a home-owned carnival. They raised money to buy rides and amusements, and had rides ready to go for the first time during the 2003 Thomas County Free Fair.

Other association members are Damon Glover, vice president; Tina Harris, treasurer; Ron Donley; Tom Walsmith and Melinda Morton.

There are no plans to add any rides this year, or in 2008, but they are looking at what they can do after they get their building.

For information, or to volunteer, call Brown at 462-6132 or 462-5857 or any board member.

Logan County Hospital welcomes new administrator

Wallace County native returns to Kansas

By Jan Katz Ackerman

Colby Free Press

Staff members of Logan County Hospital and Logan County Manor welcomed their new administrator at receptions Tuesday.

Scott Buck assumed the duties of administrator of both Oakley facilities May 16. Buck replaces Kyle Hahn who left in December to become lab director at a medi-

cal facility in Ness City.

Since December, Doris Reed, manager of New Frontiers Health Services of Oakley, served as interim administrator.

Buck, along with his wife, Tina, moved their three children, Andrew, 8; Elizabeth, 6; and Emmalee, 5, to Oakley from Atlanta, Ga. He said the move to Logan County is a good fit for his career and his family.

"We wanted quality time with family," Buck said.

"With a one and one-half to two hour commute, Atlanta just wasn't worth it."

Buck is the son of Bruce and Kathryn Buck of Sharon Springs.

A graduate of Wallace County High School, Buck went to Barton County Community College where he earned a degree in nursing in 1990.

He received his masters' degree in health administration from Columbia Southern University in Orange Beach, Ala., and is a fellow of the Ameri-



Buck

can College of Health Executives.

Buck said he likes to develop strategic plans and help facilities grow by looking at the "big picture."

He said his background in nursing helps him empathize with staff members when it comes to providing quality healthcare to patients.

"I understand both sides (of the work)," he said. With 16 years in healthcare, Buck's background includes nursing in acute and long-term care settings, as well as that of being a surgical service supervisor and administrator.

"I have most recently been working as

an administrator for United Home Care, a division of the UHS-Pruitt Corporation, a regional healthcare provider in the southeast," he said.

Buck's medical experience dates back to the late 1980s when he served time in the military.

A member of the United States Marine Corp Reserves from 1987 to 1988, Buck from 1988 to 1991 serves in the Army Reserves both with the 338th MEDSOM Unit in Hays and as a medical nurse at Fort Riley during Operation Desert Storm, after which he was honorable discharged.

Where are the bargains?

Colby, Brewster plan city-wide garage sales

By Patty Decker

Free Press Editor

• U.S. Highway 24 (2.5 miles west of Colby)

After shoppers look at what's available in town, they might also want to stop in Brewster for its city-wide sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event, now in its third year, is sponsored by the Colby High Plains Lions Club in conjunction with the Highway 25 Association.

Bargain hunters will want to take advantage of Saturday's city-wide garage sale by starting out at the Thomas County Office Complex parking lot in Colby for a complete list of participating locations.

The Colby High Plains Lions Club will have a booth set up in the parking lot with all proceeds from their sale benefitting sight projects, but other groups or individuals are also welcome to set up stands.

In addition to vendors at the office complex parking lot, other locations planning garage sales include:

- 425 N. Range Ave.
- 915 W. Fourth St.
- 1860 W. Fifth St.
- 790 N. Chick
- 1165 Terrace Dr.
- 590 S. Cleveland
- 955 N. Brookside
- 15 Cottonwood Dr.

For questions, call Estes, 460-0557; Mary Hurtt, 443-1886; or Francis Britton, 460-6426 (evenings).

Editor's note: A map displaying the various places was to be published in today's edition; however since the numbers of garage sales is less, no map was necessary.

Hunting for clues

Angela Tinkham, background, watched her troop of sleuths, Brandon Johnson, Alex Zimmerman, Courtney Tinkham and Caitlin Tinkham, look for clues during a scavenger hunt at Pioneer Memorial Library Thursday. The hunt was part of the kick-off for the library's summer reading program.



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press