

Family

Educators recognize college instructor

Colby Community College band instructor Tony Schroer has been recognized by his peers for his contribution to music education.

Schroer received the Outstanding College Music Educator Award for the Northwest District of the Kansas Music Educators Association on Dec. 11 in Hays.

Schroer, who is in his third year at the college, was recognized during a performance by the district high school honor band on the Fort Hays State University campus. He was nominated by vocal music instructor Dr. Phillip Shuman.

A graduate of Colby High School, Schroer attended Colby College and Oklahoma Panhandle State University in Goodwell,

earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in music education.

He will complete work this summer to receive his master's degree from Kansas State University.

Before accepting the job here, Schroer was the band instructor at Elkhart High School for eight years. He and his wife Tara have two children: 9-year-old Paige and 6-year-old Jade.

Schroer is the director for the college Concert, Pep and Jazz bands. The Pep Band plays at all home basketball games, while the Concert and Jazz bands perform at two concerts in Colby each year. For information about the music program, call Schroer at (785) 460-5519.



Tony Schroer

Scholarships awarded

More than 8,500 Kansas State University students have received academic scholarships for the 2010-2011 school year, including 12 from Thomas County. In all, K-State students have received more than \$16 million in financial aid.

Thomas County students receiving scholarships totaling more than \$1,000 include:

Colby: Mitchell Gregory Gatz, Gib and Brenda Compton Construction Science Scholarship; Gerald Joseph Hutfles, Arts and Sciences Excellence; Henry Lamm, Clarence S. and Jane Clay Physics Scholarship; Dane Hansen Foundation Scholarship and Donald E. Wick Scholarship; Taylor Nicole McLeMore, Borck Leadership

Scholars and Tomorrow's Teacher Scholarship; Jedediah James Oesterreich, Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship; Matthew David Oesterreich, Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship; Jacob Andrew Rose, Foundation Scholarship; Levi Joseph Schlick, Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship; Cody A Wark, Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship; Logan Marie Wark, Dane Hansen Foundation Scholarship and Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship; Spencer Charles Young, Transfer Academic Scholarship

Gem: Todd Matthew Ziegelmeier, John M. Cranor, Jr. Memorial Scholarship and Transfer Scholarship

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.71
Corn (bushel)	\$5.30
Milo (hundredweight)	\$8.96
Soybeans (bushel)	\$11.73

Cards to help celebrate 80th

Jerry (Gerald) Green will be celebrating his 80th birthday with family Tuesday, Dec. 28, in Topeka. Cards will reach him at 305 S. Mission Ridge, Colby, Kan., 67701.

Kansas skips white Christmas

If you, like many other Americans, are dreaming of a white Christmas this year, chances are you may be disappointed.

Although popular culture has made Christmas almost synonymous with snow, in northeast Kansas a white Christmas comes only about once every five years, says State Climatologist Mary Knapp with Kansas State University Research and Extension.

"December is really a dry month," Knapp said. "Epic, or large, snow storms are usually early or late in the season, meaning November or February and March."

While most of Kansas averages an 11 to 21 percent chance of snowfall on Christmas Eve or Christmas day, Knapp said the Flint Hills area does fare better,

with a 26 to 40 percent chance of snowfall.

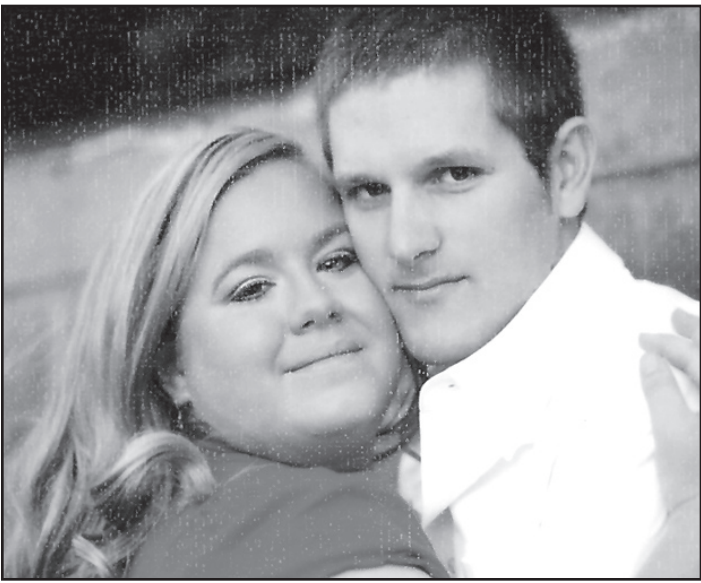
MOVIE PASSES

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:

COLBY FREE PRESS



Janet Elise Kochenower and Quentin Walter Bear

Brewster couple plans New Year's wedding

Janet Elise Kochenower and Quentin Walter Bear of Brewster plan to marry Saturday, Jan. 1, 2011, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Okarche, Okla.

The bride is the daughter of Rodney and Elise Kochenower of Kingfisher, Okla., and the granddaughter of Margaret and Dewain Kochenower of Okarche and Janet and Ervin Young of Dover, Okla.

She graduated in 2002 from Okarche High School and from Oklahoma Panhandle State University in 2007 with bachelor's degrees in ag business, agrono-

my and ag economics. She is a grain merchandiser with Frontier Ag in Goodland.

The groom is the son of Lyman and Dorothy Bear of Brewster. He is the grandson of the late Lloyd and Lorraine Bear of Brewster and the late Dorothy and Fred Bourquin of Gem.

He is a 2004 graduate of Brewster High School. He graduated from Garden City Community College in 2006 with an associate's degree in applied science. He is a service technician with Colby Implement.

Corrections

The caption of a photo of a girls basketball practice at Colby High on Page 10 of the Thursday, Dec. 16, Colby Free Press incorrectly identified the person with the ball as freshman Haley Mengel. It was her twin, Morgan Mengel. This was an error in information given

to the paper.

☆☆☆☆☆
The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Deaths

Norine L. (Young) Lehocky

Norine L. (Young) Lehocky, 92, Naperville, Ill., a homemaker and sister of Rita (Armun) Jones of Colby, died Thursday, Nov. 18, 2010, at Edward Hospital in Naperville.

She was born Aug. 26, 1919, in Colby, the daughter of Clyde and Margaret (Flood) Young. She graduated from Colby High School and moved to Chicago, where she worked for several years before her marriage to John Lehocky on Feb. 16, 1946.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Bob

Young and Bill Young.

Survivors also include her husband, Naperville; three children, John (Karen) Lehocky and Robert (Lark) Lehocky of Naperville; and Mary (Frank) Hayden, of Carpentersville, Ill.; a sister, Delma Voisin, Ashland, Ore.; and three grandchildren.

Services were Nov. 22, 2010, at St. Patrick's Residence in Naperville, with burial in Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside, Ill.

The family suggests memorials to the residence, 1400 Brookdale Rd., Naperville, Ill., 60540.

Allergic to real trees?

A heated part of the fake-versus-real Christmas tree debate is likely to center on whether real trees trigger allergies. Winter itself can cause allergy-like symptoms by combining low humidity with closed-tight buildings, "trapped" pollutants, and colds and flu.

"Ironically, most allergists agree that the problem won't be the real tree," said Amy Jordan, horticulturist with Kansas State University Research and Extension. "But, it could be the dust and mold a real tree may bring inside. Of course, allergists also say much the same about artificial trees stored in their original container in attic, basement or garage. In that kind of storage, even the cardboard box can get dusty and moldy."

She recommends hosing down any tree outdoors before setting it up inside.

"To be extra safe, also wash down real trees' trunk with a 5 percent bleach solution. Then, while your tree dries completely, check how clean your ornaments are," Jordan advised, adding two provisos:

• To keep mold in check and minimize needle drop, make sure real trees exit the house in a timely

manner, determined by the tree's age and how well you keep it hydrated – including how hot your furnace is running.

• Store ornaments and artificial trees in sealed plastic containers.

Jordan said evergreen trees vary by species and variety – not only in looks but also in how they smell. People's reactions to smells vary, too. Horticulturists often recommend the Leland cypress as the least likely to inspire sneezes.

"I'm sure it's no comfort, but an evergreen's odor is an irritant, not an allergen," she added. "It causes the same kind of reaction that some people get from Christmas potpourris, scented candles and fireplace smoke.... air cleaner(s) might provide some relief."

Tree pollen is highly unlikely to be a wintertime allergy trigger in Kansas, Jordan said. The allergen-producing mountain cedar (Ashe juniper) is about the only Christmas tree species known to pollinate in winter, and it occurs south of Kansas, mostly in central Texas.

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America provides holiday tips at www.aafa.org/display.cfm?id=9&sub=18&cont=230.

* Celebrate the New Year with the *

MAMA'S BOYS BAND

JORDAN SHARP • RUSTY HELIN • BROCK WAGONER • BLAKE & BRANDON MCLEMORE

Dinner/Dance/Entertainment

80's & 90's Rock and Country

Friday, Dec. 31, 2010 • City Limits Convention Center

Evening Includes: *Buffet style meal 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. with entertainment by Marshal Allen Bailey and the Silver Bullets & Larry Booth

Concert/Dance with the Mama's Boys 9 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

* Door Prizes every half hour *

Champagne toast at midnight and a "Rockin' Good Time!"

Tickets: \$35

Available at: City Limits, Chamber of Commerce, F&M Branch Bank at Dillons

PARTY TABLES (8 seats) may be reserved for \$250 call: 785-460-2311 or 785-443-0992

Proceeds go to Pickin' On The Plains Bluegrass Festival Seating limited to 350 - Reserve now!

Wishing you a Christmas warm with happiness, and a New Year filled with joy!

CERSOVSKY INSURANCE

Cindy Cersovsky
Tonya Sager and Mary Zerr
370 N. Franklin, Colby
785-462-7544

"Customer Service is our Policy"

Fluorescent NO HUNTING SIGNS

50¢ or 3 for \$1

COLBY FREE PRESS

155 W. Fifth, Colby KS • 785.462.3963

Hope you have a wonderful holiday season!

Our office will be closing Friday, Dec. 24 for Christmas Eve and Friday, Dec. 31 for New Years Eve.

THERE WILL BE NO PAPER DEC. 24 OR DEC. 31!

Deadlines: Country Advocate for Dec. 22 is Friday, Dec. 17, at noon and Dec. 29 is Thursday, Dec. 23, at noon.

Colby Free Press: Dec. 27 paper deadline is Thursday, Dec. 23, by noon. Jan. 5 paper deadline is Thursday, Dec. 23, by noon.

We will be back to serve you on Monday, Dec. 27!

THANKS FOR YOUR BUSINESS THIS PAST YEAR!

COLBY FREE PRESS

155 W. Fifth Colby, KS, 462-3963