

## Senior Progress Center

The Senior Progress Center will have ice cream floats Wednesday.

Activities for the week: **Monday:** 10:30 a.m. Skip Bo. **Tuesday:** 10 a.m. exercise, 10:30 a.m. domino game. **Wednesday:** 11 a.m. ice cream floats, **Thursday:** 10 a.m. exercise, 10:30 a.m. pinochle. **Friday:** 10 a.m. exercise, 10:30 a.m. Wii game.

Menus for the week: **Monday:** tater tot casserole, mixed vegetables, pears. **Tuesday:** beef and noodles, green beans, tomato cucumber salad, peaches. **Wednesday:** pizza burger, broccoli cauliflower salad, cinnamon apple

slices, cook's choice complement. **Thursday:** pork roast, mashed potatoes with gravy, cantaloupe, birthday cake. **Friday:** turkey, sweet potatoes, pineapple, pudding.

The Thomas County Nutrition Center invites anyone 60 and older and guests to lunch Monday through Friday at the senior center. Home delivery is available, as is pick-up service. A contribution of \$3 per meal is suggested for seniors, \$5.25 for others. For anyone under 60, home delivery is \$5.75.

Make reservations at (784) 460-2901 by noon the day before.

## Office closing roils city

TOPEKA (AP) — Residents and city officials are trying to fight the state's decision to close the Lawrence office of the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, and they say a provision in the lease for the buildings that house the office might help their efforts.

Department Secretary Robert Siedlecki announced July 1 that the state will close nine offices across Kansas in response to a \$42 million cut to the agency's budget, including \$1 million in administrative expenses. The Lawrence office is by far the largest of the nine, serving thousands of people and with 87 employees.

Community meetings about the potential closure have attracted hundreds of angry residents and more events are planned, including a rally Saturday in South Park.

Supporters trying to keep the office open say a provision in the lease between the department and the owner of the two buildings that house the office might require the state to reverse the decision, the *Lawrence Journal-World* reported. The lease says the department "shall use its best efforts to obtain annual appropriations to satisfy its obligations under this lease."

"I think this puts an affirmative obligation on them to provide for the money in their budget," said House Minority Leader Paul Davis, D-Lawrence.

Davis said the department has discretionary spending that could, and should, be allocated to fulfill its contracts.

Siedlecki and his top staff said

this week they are confident they would be able to terminate the lease for the Lawrence office. They said they want to work with local leaders to find a way to provide free office space for a small number of department employees.

"We want to make sure it is an orderly process," Siedlecki said.

Siedlecki has said closing the Lawrence office will save the state \$413,385, including \$331,875 in rent. He and Gov. Sam Brownback have said that people needing department services in Lawrence can travel to Topeka, Overland Park and Ottawa, or use the Internet.

Social service advocates and law enforcement officials have responded that those ideas are not realistic and the closure will hurt many vulnerable citizens.

## On the Beat

### COLBY POLICE Wednesday

1:56 a.m. — Security check at the Aquatic Park.

2:48 a.m. — Security check at Fike Park.

6:18 a.m. — Unlocked building at Fike Park.

8:09 a.m. — Criminal damage to property: Caller reported toilet in men's restroom at Phillips Park broken. Report filed.

9:26 a.m. — Parking complaint: vehicle was moved.

11 a.m. — Five officers including chief assisted Highway Patrol with chase.

12:10 p.m. — Welfare check.

## Just relaxing



It didn't take much persuasion at all to get Wayne Lauritsen to give his honey Millie a hug as the senior group Sappa Strings kicked back and relaxed, visiting with friends and listening to the young folks jam Thursday night during the kickoff of Pickin' on the Plains.

MARIAN BALLARD/Colby Free Press

2:06 p.m. — Helped motorist in the 1600 block of S. Franklin.

2:17 p.m. — Caller requested officer because of theft. Report filed.

3:35 p.m. — Assisted Fire Department.

4:09 p.m. — Provided information to subject at station.

5:30 p.m. — Report filed on incident.

5:28 p.m. — Caller caught dog,

turned over to Colby Animal Clinic.

11:17 p.m. — Locked building at Fike Park.

### THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF Wednesday

4:55 a.m. — Report filed for Kansas Hot Files warrant arrest of Timothy C. Hepner by Augusta

Department of Safety

11 a.m. — Helped Highway Pa-

trol with chase.

3:41 p.m. — Booked Shaun M. Guard.

10:27 p.m. — Booked Timothy Hepner.



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