

# Kiwanis gives award to college radio instructor

Colby Community College radio instructor Joe Vyzourek was recognized Monday evening during the Board of Trustees regular meeting as the recipient of a prestigious award from the Kiwanis organization.

Vyzourek was selected to receive the 2011 Kansas Kiwanis Peter John Loux Achievement Award. Board Chair Kenton Krehbiel acknowledged Vyzourek for the plaque and monetary award presented by the Colby Kiwanis organization this summer.

The award is an endowed gift established by the late R.C. "Pete" Loux in memory of his son, Peter John Loux (1958-1962), who was fatally injured in an auto accident. Loux was a lifelong advocate for people with disabilities. He used his influence as minority leader of the Kansas House of Representatives to help the nation's first manufacturing facility provide employment for individuals with disabilities. Loux also served on the Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas Board of Directors from 1972-2004.

"Joe was nominated for the award by the Colby Kiwanis organization," said Krehbiel. "He was chosen from all state nominees and received the award at the district meeting in Hays."

The award is given to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional desire and dedication in overcoming the difficulties presented by congenital physical or neurological disabilities.

Vyzourek, a native of Atwood, has been blind since the age of 3 due to complications of a premature birth. In addition to his teaching career, he is a respected radio broadcaster who has received numerous industry awards for his announcing and production skills. He has been named Small Market DJ of the Year three times. After graduating from Colby Community College with a degree in broadcasting, Vyzourek began working at KXXX/KRDQ.

He served as operations manager for seven years at KXXX and continues to be the on-air talent from 6 to 9 a.m. weekdays. In addition, he and his wife Becca started a mobile DJ service in 1988.

"I was surrounded by very helpful people," said Vyzourek. "My parents were supportive and I had several teachers in Atwood who encouraged me along the way. Becca and my children continue to encourage me in my teaching career and other endeavors."

"I don't give much thought to Joe not being able to see," said college President Steve Vacik. "His skill set is so polished and varied. He reads radio copy, operates and engineers equipment and instructs students, and does these things consistently better than others. To paraphrase something he said at the board meeting, Joe is exceptional not because he is blind but because he is simply Joe – and that's someone others would do well to emulate."

Being blind did not prevent Vyzourek from participating in many activities in elementary and high school. He was a member of FFA and Student Council. In addition, he played first trumpet in the band and wrestled for the Buffaloes. Vyzourek also helped on his parents' farm with all the usual chores.

"I've always loved electronics and gadgets," explained Vyzourek. "I actually put together a small transmitter and broadcast around our family farm from the basement beginning in third grade. A few years later I had a two-watt transmitter and continued to have fun being on the radio."

Vyzourek enrolled at Colby after graduating from Atwood High School. His college instructors for the radio program were Jon Burlew and Chris Thompson.

Vyzourek and his wife Rebecca, who is also a graduate of Colby, have two young children.



DEBBIE SCHWANKE/Colby Community College

Colby Community College Board Chair Kenton Krehbiel congratulated Joe Vyzourek for his achievement award from the Kansas Kiwanis.

## Income Tax Institute to be in Colby

Kansas State University will hold the 63rd Annual Kansas Income Tax Institute in eight locations including Colby.

The two-day institute is designed for bankers, accountants, attorneys, farmers, ranchers, government employees, and tax and law firm employees – anyone who wants to learn more about tax issues as they pertain to agriculture.

The institute is a cooperative effort of the K-State Department of Agricultural Economics, K-State Research and Extension, the Internal Revenue Service and the Kansas Department of Revenue.

In Colby, the institute will be on Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 9 and 10, at the Comfort Inn, 2227 S. Range (I-70 and Kansas Highway 25).

Scheduled sessions include: new legislation; rulings and cases; individual taxpayer problems; retire-

ment; long-term care; international tax issues; Kansas state tax issues; ethics; Internal Revenue Service update; agricultural and rural taxation issues; small business problems; estate planning for 2011-2012; depreciation; and partnerships.

Continuing education credits will be available through several professional organizations.

The registration fee for the full two-day institute is \$245 if paid at least two weeks ahead and \$270 if received later than that or at the door. The one-day fee is \$190 if paid at least two weeks prior to the institute and \$215 after that.

Information, including other sites and dates, and registration are available on the web: [www.agmanager.info/](http://www.agmanager.info/) (click on "2011 Kansas Income Tax Institute") or contact Rich Llewellyn at (785) 532-1504 or [rvl@ksu.edu](mailto:rvl@ksu.edu).

## On the Beat

### COLBY POLICE

#### Sunday

1:20 p.m. – Walk through at Colby Aquatic Park.

2:35 p.m. – Caller reported subject seen driving recklessly. Will attempt to contact suspect.

5:04 p.m. – Walk through at Fike Park.

5:36 p.m. – Civil stand-by.

8:58 p.m. – Caller reported possible stolen item. Everything was OK.

9:02 p.m. – Helped sheriff's office at Bosselman's.

9:54 p.m. – Caller reported erratic driver on E. Fourth. Not found.

#### Monday

6:13 a.m. – Unlocked building at Fike Park

9:18 a.m. – Caller reported dog at large in the parking lot of the courthouse. Not found.

12:26 p.m. – Caller reported three dogs at large. Not found.

12:46 p.m. – Caller had caught three dogs from earlier complaint. Turned over to Colby Animal Clinic.

1:11 p.m. – Caller reported dog at large caught. Turned over to animal clinic.

1:26 p.m. – Provided directions for motorist.

3:34 p.m. – Criminal threat report filed.

4:20 p.m. – Report filed for juveniles carving on picnic tables at Fike Park.

4:26 p.m. – Criminal damage to property: caller reported subject drew name in new concrete. Report filed.

4:51 p.m. – Traffic control for subjects moving trailer out of Friendly Acres.

6:16 p.m. – Walk-through at Walmart.

6:19 p.m. – Provided information about protection from abuse order.

#### Tuesday

2:14 a.m. – Light on in building – reflection off of glass doors, building secured.

6:19 a.m. – Unlocked building at Fike Park.

8:25 a.m. – Caller requested welfare check. Subjects moved.

8:32 a.m. – Caller reported farm implements blocking view at Sherman and Fourth. Subject was called to move equipment.

8:39 a.m. – Helped motorist at I-70 exit 53 on ramp.

10:05 a.m. – Subject reported receiving threatening text messages. Spoke to reporting party and made contact with subject that called him; no report.

11:03 a.m. – Caller reported suspended driver, vehicle parked. Never saw her drive.

3:14 p.m. – Report filed on stolen vehicle out of Sterling, Colo.

### THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF

#### Monday

12:16 p.m. – Caller reported being bitten by neighbor's dog. Report filed.

12:51 p.m. – Helped Highway Patrol on traffic stop at eastbound I-70 rest area.

4:41 p.m. – Aggravated assault: Atwood Sheriff's Office advised of traffic complaint at K-25 mile 212. Report filed on traffic stop at K-25 mile 198.

#### Tuesday

1:26 a.m. – Received a call wanting a subject removed from house. Report filed for miscellaneous information.

1:05 p.m. – Vehicle keyed in the 1300 block of First St. Annex. Report filed.

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