

Healthy living includes water, walking



MEGAN CARMICHAEL/Thomas County Coalition

Courtney McCarty, a dietician at Colby Medical Center, answered questions from Colby Grade School students as part of a healthy living assembly on Tuesday. McCarty portrayed water during the Beverage Buddies skit at the assembly. Tuesday was Walk/Bike to School Day, and students gathered at the TNT Jones parking lot before walking to school as a group.

Music department recycles, earns money from electronics

By Sam Dieter

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The music departments at Colby Public Schools are trying to out-do another school in Maine in a race to recycle printer cartridges and old electronics.

"That's how we can get the little things we need like microphone stands without having to bust our budget," music teacher Jennifer Koel said. "I've bought instruments with them."

The "Recycle Rumble" lasts from Feb. 16 to Monday, April 30, Koel said. Colby students are competing with a school district in Searsport, Maine, to see who can recycle more. The school that wins the rumble gets a 25 percent bonus in "points" earned by recycling, which translates to extra money. Funding Factory, an Erie, Penn.-based recycling company, pays schools to recycle, and paired Colby with Searsport for the rumble.

"They partner us with just a random school,"

Koel said. "I think they try to do it just the same demographics-wise."

Nonetheless, when she checked Monday, Koel said Colby was leading Searsport in the rumble, 216 points to zero, by Tuesday, when she was getting ready to drop off a load of 40 to 50 items to be counted. The school gets 40 cents for every point, she said, and won last year's rumble, earning \$308 during the competition, and \$381 which the bonus included.

Anyone who wants to help Colby music students can go to the music rooms of the grade school, middle school and high school to drop off old electronics. These include items like printer cartridges, cell phones, digital cameras, MP3 players, iPods, laptops and GPS devices.

Koel said the school has been recycling printer cartridges since she started working there in 2000 and switched to Funding Factory about five years ago.

Internship applications due soon

The deadline for college juniors, seniors, graduate and law students to apply for the Kansas Governor's Internship Program is fast approaching. Students have until Friday, March 15, to submit their applications for the summer internship program.

The program is designed to give students hands-on experience of working in state government and allow students the opportunity to contribute to improving Kansas.

Internship specialization opportunities in the governor's office

include positions in appointments, communications, constituent services, legal and other areas.

Each cabinet-level agency also offers opportunities for interns, these include: Labor, Commerce, Revenue, Transportation, Agriculture, Adjutant General, Aging and Disability Services, Highway Patrol, Administration, Securities Commission, Corrections, Juvenile Justice Authority, Children and Families, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, Health and Environment and the Kansas Department of

Education.

The summer internship program runs from May to August, and students are expected to work 30 hours per week. Some internships may be paid. All interested students must submit an internship application from the governor's website, along with a current resume, signed consent form, two letters of recommendation, a statement of interest and an optional writing sample.

Completed applications are due by March 15; applications received after this date will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Information about the program can be found at governor.ks.gov/office-internship-program.

'Bad rap' triggers lockdown

AMBRIDGE, Pa. (AP) - Now this is a story all about how a high school student's life got turned upside down. But it was all just a bad rap.

The teen's voicemail greeting triggered a lockdown at his Pennsylvania school after a receptionist misheard his rendition of "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" theme song.

While trying to confirm an ap-

pointment with 19-year-old Travis Clawson, the receptionist thought the message said "shooting people outside of the school." The line is actually "shooting some b-ball," a reference to basketball.

The receptionist called 911 and Economy police arrested Clawson a short time later at Ambridge Area High School, but released him once he explained the message.

Easter is approaching, so here's seasonal reading

The first week of March is upon us and everyone seems to be scurrying around to prepare for Easter. So, with this thought in mind, let me tell you about a few books that might fall into the Easter journey of some of you.

The first is a nonfiction book, "Follow Me: A Call to Die. A Call to Live," by David Platt and Francis Chan. This book discusses how the people of God, the church and its message operate in our personal and corporate lives. It challenges us to look at what believing is, following is and sharing is. At the end it asks questions of the reader and proposes suggested answers. Don't read this book without thinking it may challenge some concept of your walk.

A second book is, "The Storyteller," by Jodi Picoult. The author presents her audience with a thoughtful look at the decision of mercy killing. This fictional account presents protagonist Sage Singer as a young woman who is asked to assist in the killing of Josef Weber, who has been visiting the bakery where Sage works.

She has learned that he has been a teacher and a little league coach for years. Now elderly, he has lost the will to live because of the struggles and view of his past decisions in his life. He has been telling her she would be giving him his just desserts and others might be just as happy if he were dead. Sage must decide if she would even consider this request, and if so, in her mind is it murder? What is her decision on this dilemma?

The next fiction book has no analytical perspective on right and wrong. It is, "Easter Bunny Murder," by Leslie Meier, book 20 of the *Lucy Stone* series.

Free state park entrance day to introduce summer season

On Saturday, the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism will hold a free entrance day and open houses at all state parks. Visitors also will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of events at most parks.

During the open houses, park users can take advantage of low off-season camping permit prices. Sunday, March 31, is the last day annual camping permits are priced at off-season discounts. On Monday, April 1, the prices increase to their regular prime-season levels. Visitors can purchase annual camping permits and make cabin or campsite reservations during the open houses, as well. For pricing information and to purchase permits online, go to ksoutdoors.com. For online permit purchases, click the License/Permits icon. For campsite and cabin reservations, click the Reservations icon.

Kansas motor vehicle owners can now buy an annual park vehicle permit as part of their vehicle registration process. The permit - called a Kansas State Parks Passport - will cost \$15 (county treasurers can add a 50-cent



Melany Wilks

• Library Links

Lucy arrived at the Pine Point estate for the annual Pennysaver Easter egg hunt held for children of the elite in the area. Thinking she would encounter hostess Vivian Van Horst, she was greatly perplexed to find the gates locked. As she assessed the situation, a man dressed in an Easter Bunny suit comes to the gate. Believing he can help her with this mystery, she was swept into a full-fledged mystery. She and her 3-year-old grandson watched as the Easter Bunny dropped dead!

What was going on? She needed to talk with Vivian and try and find out what was happening in Pine Point. Lucy found out it was Vivian's grandson who has died and some of Vivian's children have been prying into Vivian's personal affairs. Lucy now needs to discover who the bad egg is in this Easter tragedy.

While I don't recommend giving children puppies, rabbits, chicks or kittens for Easter, if any of you are thinking about getting a puppy around Easter time, you might want to peruse the book, "The Genius of Dogs: How Dogs Are Smarter than You Think," by Brian Hare and Vanessa Woods.

Brian Hare is the founder of Duke Canine Cognition Center and he has done research for years on the intelligence of dogs, the way they have evolved into animals that adapted well to the needs of humans. He writes about

the congeniality of dogs, dogs as social animals, the smartest breed and training your dog. My cat would be especially jealous if she thought I was reading about such things, because she knows she is the smartest and the most wonderful animal alive on the planet. And sometimes I think she's right. Sorry, dog owners!

A few other nonfiction items we are adding are: "Practical Massage for Home Use," by Rafael Benjamin; "Complete Guide to Home Canning, Preserving and Freezing," by U.S. Department of Agriculture; "Practical Classics: 50 Reasons to Reread 50 Books You Haven't Touched Since High School," by Kevin Smokler; "Blindspot: Hidden Biases of Good People," by Mahzarin R. Banaji and Anthony G. Greenwald; and "Be Fruitful: The Essential Guide to Maximizing Fertility and Giving Birth to a Healthy Child," by Drs. Victoria Maizes and Andrew Weil.

This is the last week to be able to bid and win the great decorated chairs at the Pioneer Memorial Library. The bidding officially ends at 5 p.m. Monday. We will call the winners in the following days. The Friends of Pioneer Memorial Library want to thank you for your wonderful support with this special fund raiser and silent auction that we call "Art Friendsy-Chairish Your Library." By helping, you do show how much you cherish this library!

Our normal winter hours are now 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday.

See you in the library!

service fee). This lower-price, non-transferable permit will be available only during the vehicle registration process at a motor vehicle registration office, through the online vehicle registration site (www.kswebtags.org), or when registering by mail. The Passport will expire when the vehicle registration expires a year later.

Park entry is free on Saturday, but persons who would like to buy an annual park permit before they register their vehicles can do so, and then request a pro-rated refund for the difference in cost after purchasing their Kansas State Parks Passport.

Western Kansas state parks and special events are listed below:

- Cedar Bluff**
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open house. Park and cabin tours all day. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free hot dog feed. Refreshments served all day.
- Prairie Dog**
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open house. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cabin and adopt house tours.
- Lake Scott**
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open house and

- all events.
- Cookies and punch.
- Cabin tours.
- Slide show of park pictures.
- State Parks Passport information.
- Requirements for senior fishing licenses.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.78
Corn (bushel)	\$7.00
Milo (hundredweight)	\$11.88
Soybeans (bushel)	\$13.76

Corrections

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.

We want your local news: e-mail to colby.editor@nwkansas.com

GUN • COIN • ANTIQUE SHOW • COLBY COLLECTOR'S SHOW

Community Building
Colby, KS
March 9 & 10
Saturday • 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday • 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission • \$3
Information
308-995-2258



Career Opportunity

FULL TIME ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE

to join our team selling advertising for Nor'West Newspapers. The work week would be 40 hours with occasional evening and weekend duties. Computer skills with Excel, Photoshop, InDesign, and Acrobat helpful but not required. Must have good communication skills, excellent customer service skills with attention to detail, and enjoy a fast paced atmosphere.

Send a letter and resume to
Sharon Friedlander, Publisher, at 155 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kan., 67701
sfriedlander@nwkansas.com or apply in person. No calls please.

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