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SAM DIETER and HEATHER ALWIN/Colby Free Press Schools around the area started up this week, getting a mixed reception from the students. Colby school kids had their first day of school today, and Ron and Krista Alexander (top) walked with his kids Jacob (from right), a kindergartner, seventh-grader Brooke and second grader Bailee as Eugene Roberts directed traffic. Kids brought a variety of things along, ranging even to the family dog Reuben Hargraves-Alden (left) had with him. Brewster Schools' first day was Tuesday: kindergartner Dane Moore (below right) adjusted to the new school year with the help of cookies and juice at snack time., while teacher Chris Hoyt (below left) refreshed the memory of seventh grader Nick Casper during an algebra lesson.

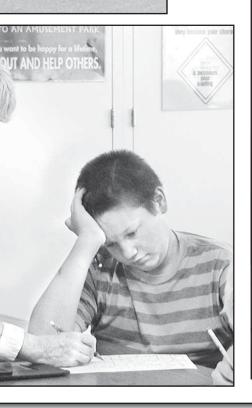
School

new challenges today as another school

year is underway throughout Thomas today's paper profiles new teachers for New staff members in every school

Both students and teachers are facing you to meet them in turn.

To help everyone get acquainted, Brewster, Heartland, Sacred Heart and Golden Plains. Profiles for Colby Public are meeting students for the first time, Schools and Colby Community College and the Colby Free Press would like will appear tomorrow.





Jail study to be done

By Heather Alwin

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County efforts at building a new jail - and possibly a new courthouse or office complex - moved a small step forward Monday after thought a demographic study was the Thomas County commissioners agreed to spend an estimated \$19,196 for a jail study. However, no contracts were signed.

The study, proposed by Justice Concepts Inc., includes a demographic study to forecast jail cally as you could by hiring a sogrowth and a functional analysis called expert." to review the proposed design, drafted by architect Glen Strait.

prove the studies after discussions County unless there is a major with Strait, who also sought out the proposal from Justice Concepts. The company bills itself as a consultant that helps architectural firms who do not specialize process is that there should have in jail construction compete with been a feasibility study done long other firms who do.

Though other architectural firms include these studies as part of their planning phase of a new jail construction project, Strait's the ins and outs." firm does not.

count his fees, estimated at chitectural firm to involve all the \$738,000 or 6.5 percent of the project cost, by \$6,126 to pay for the building. the functional analysis from the company, said Commissioner Paul ing contains a jail plus space for Steele. The analysis would meet part of the peer review process architects are required to complete.

Though the county does not have such an agreement in writing, Commissioner Baughn said addendum to his contract.

The commissioners did not actually sign a contract with Justice firm sends another copy or the lost copy is found rather than tabling it for the next commissioners' meet-

continue to table contracts, and I would like to get some movement," he said.

contract without a written proposal in hand, but Steele called Strait Topeka for the project. Schiffon his cell phone. Strait briefed Steele over the phone, recom-

mending the studies the commis-Colby Free Press sion ultimately approved.

During the discussion of whether to hire the company, Baughn expressed doubt about the need for a formal jail study.

"I had one (constituent) who just throwing your money down a rat hole," Baughn said. "If you had a group of people who could assess how the community has grown and project expectations. you could probably do as good lo-

Baughn said he does not expect a major shift in the number of in-The commissioners voted to ap- mate spaces needed in Thomas shift in the county's economic base such as a new major manufacturing component.

"My objection to the whole before we ever came up with the plans," he said. "What we really need to sell it to the public is a focus group or team that looks at all

A community or team approach Strait verbally agreed to dis- had been suggested by another arstakeholders in decisions about

The currently proposed buildall the offices and courtrooms now contained at the historic county courthouse. But Baughn mentioned other possibilities as well, including constructing only a jail or constructing a larger facility to they plan to ask Strait to sign an house the jail, office complex and courthouse functions.

Architectural Services

Although he ultimately voted Concepts at their meeting since for the jail study, Baughn said, the most recent proposal had been "I hesitate to incur additional exlost. Steele plans to sign it on be-pense on our contract with Mr. half of the commission once the Strait. The agreement has expanded far beyond the jail. I think we're getting the cart before the

Strait's contract was part of the 'I'm kind of concerned that we discussion at the commissioners' Monday meeting.

The board received an e-mail from Judge Glenn Schiffner ear-Baughn hesitated to approve a lier this month encouraging them to consider Treanor Architects of

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Music teacher starts at Brewster

Brewster's Public Schools wel- students and a new music session comed new music teacher Derek for Brewster's on-site preschool. Best to the school's staff

this year. Best will teach music for kindergarten through high school students, including band and vocal music for fifth grade and higher and music education for fourth grade and

Superintendent Janci Mills said Best will

class for Brewster's high school

Best, who last taught in El Dorado, is a graduate of Wichita High School and Wichita State University. This is his fifth year of teaching.

Best lives in Colby with his wife, Vanessa, and their two small children. Vanessa's grandmother lives in Sharon Springs, so they are

teach a new music appreciation pleased to be closer to family.

Heartland Christian School adds four teachers to lineup

Renee Schmeiser

Heartland Christian School rschmeiser@hcscolby.org

Heartland Christian school has four new teachers this year.

Christa Zapfe will be our preschool teacher this year. She has a master's in Christian ministries and has taught preschool, as well as Bible classes for various age groups. Zapfe came to Colby from Greensburg.



Christa Zapfe



Michael Quist will be teach- geometry, computer apps, speech

ing high school Bible, history, and journalism and drama. He is





moved to Colby from Colorado. Mark Gundlach will be teaching in sixth through 12th grade.

working on his doctorate in edu- classes. Gundlach moved to Col- cently returned.

cation and has taught various levby from Flower Mound, Texas. els and courses in the past. Quist Lisa Delzeit will be teaching sixth grade this year, as well as seventh and eighth grade history and our high school life skills His classes include Bible, science class. She has her bachelor's deand math; as well as a medical ter- gree in interior architecture. She minology course at Colby Com- has home schooled three of her munity College. He has his Doc- children for nine years and has tor of Chiropractic and master's in lead many leadership classes. teaching and has taught many sec- Delzeit grew up in Colby, moved ondary math, science and Bible away for several years and has re-

We are excited to have each of these wonderful teachers on our staff this year. We look forward to what God has in store for Heartland Christian School.



