



# COLBY FREE PRESS

## Dairy open house attracts near 1,000 people

By MAXINE NELSON

Colby Free Press

An estimated 1,000 people toured the McCarty Dairy on Sunday as part of its open house, which included walking tours, refreshments and door prizes.

"It was a nice day, and gave a lot of people a chance to see what we are attempting to do," said Tom McCarty, co-owner.

The dairy is located 5 1/2 miles southwest of Rexford on Highway 83.

The McCarty family began dairying in north-eastern Pennsylvania more than 100 years ago. In the fall of 1999 they sold their dairy herd in Pennsylvania and relocated to Thomas County. They began milking on April 3, 2000.

Ten full-time employees work at the dairy as well as four family members: Tom and his wife Judy, and their two sons, Mike, the oldest, who lives in Oakley, and Clay who lives in Colby. Two other sons are attending Kansas State



Many tours were conducted at McCarty Dairy on Sunday in order to give visitors a better idea of how the dairy business works.

University where David is a senior, and Ken a freshman, with both majoring in dairy science.

McCarty's have around 1,200 to 1,225 cows, primarily Holsteins, and are milking close to

1,000. Each cow, according to Tom McCarty, produces an average of a little under 80 pounds,

or nine gallons of milk per day. He explained that cows are milked 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and each cow is milked three times a day.

Milking is done in a double 16-cow parallel parlor, enabling them to milk 32 cows at a time, he said.

The cows are housed in a 740 by 100-foot free-stall barn and the barn is cleaned with a flush system using lagoon water. McCarty said the beds in the free-stalls are bedded with recycled sand.

He said that one tractor/trailer of milk is shipped to and processed in Nebraska every 18 hours.

Other interesting facts about the dairy as shared by McCarty:

- Twenty calves are born each week.
- Each cow eats an average of 100 pounds of feed per day or \$1,000 worth of feed each year.
- Each cow consumes 50 pounds of corn silage per day or 18,250 pounds per year.

## Sixteen years of telling stories ends

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Sixteen years of telling stories will come to an end for an employee of Colby's Pioneer Memorial Library on Friday.

Sheryl Goossen, children's librarian, will be honored with a farewell reception from 2-4 p.m. on her final day at the library and everyone in the community is invited. "Sheryl has provided story times, summer reading activities and other special programs for children of all ages," said JoAnne Sunderman, librarian.

"I really have loved working at the library. It was just the perfect place for me," Goossen said.

"I have felt so blessed and privileged to have worked with all of the children that have come through the library. It has just been a real joy of my life to be part of the life of the children, and sharing stories with them. I'm really going to miss my little ones," she said.

Before she started working at the library, Goossen was a housewife while her children were in grade school.

Before that, she taught kindergarten and 1st grade at the Christian School that was at the College Drive Assembly of God during the 1978-79, and 1979-80 school years.

Goossen was born in Colorado, the daughter of a Baptist minister who moved every three or four years. She was raised in Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado.

Goossen was hired as children's librarian in 1985. The biggest change she has seen has been the remodeling of the library. "The remodeling of the



MAXINE NELSON/Colby Free Press

Sheryl Goossen, children's librarian at Pioneer Memorial Library, read her final story to the children this week. She has provided programs and story times for children for the past 16 years.

building and new children's addition was actually a dream. Before the new addition, the children met in a little room with no windows.

"My dream was always to have a room where the children had windows," Goossen said. "We have a wonderful addition with lots of windows for the children. It has been fun seeing that come to life. Lots of people have worked here and left before they saw the dream come to fruition. That's been exciting," she said.

Before she was hired, Sunderman, Margaret McBride and Donna Greenlee served as children's librarians, said Goossen.

"Colby has been a real progressive in the area of making children a priority in the community. A lot of libraries do not have a special person on staff that works with children. It speaks very highly of the community and our library," she said.

Rosa Lee Waterman will take over

as children's librarian when Goossen leaves. Waterman has experience working with children in former jobs and is currently working at the front desk on a part-time basis. On Oct. 1 she will begin working full-time and dividing her time between working at the front desk and working with children's programming. Goossen said that she, and her husband, Andrew, will be looking at relocating and exploring new avenues in the near future.

## Staffing shortages hit agencies hard

WICHITA (AP) — The recent mobilization of the National Guard and reserves in the wake of the terrorist attacks has left law enforcement agencies scrambling to cover staffing shortages.

Since many police departments actively recruit from military bases, they may face greater impact than other employers. And some are especially vulnerable because recruiters encourage officers to join the reserves as a way to supplement their pay and benefits.

The Kansas Highway Patrol targets military personnel in its recruiting efforts — going to job fairs at military bases throughout Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas, said recruiter Al Raia.

"They are proud to wear a uniform," said Raia. "There is a very strong parallel between the military and law enforcement in general."

At least 33 of the patrol's 452 troopers are subject to recall, Raia said.

With starting salaries for the patrol \$28,400 a year, Raia also encourages troopers to join the reserves or National Guard as a way to get additional pay and benefits the state doesn't provide — and for the patrol to get staff training it can't afford to provide itself.

"We need people who have clean records," said Jim Lejedal, spokesman for the Broward County Sheriff's Department in Florida.

"We need people who do not abuse drugs, people that have never been arrested, people that are American citizens, people that can perform in a paramilitary organization — people that understand rank and chain of command — and military people fit the bill real well."

Of 4,600 officers in the Broward County department, 98 are members of the reserve. ^

## Club tries sobering image

MANHATTAN (AP) — In its bid to gain official recognition at Kansas State University, the party club that calls itself the K-State Underground has tried to sober up its image.

No longer does it proclaim "getting drunk" as its mission, and the "Alcohol Consumption Hall of Fame" is gone from its Web site. But it remains underground for now, although its 600-plus members know who they are.

Started in 1995, the club first existed in cyberspace as an exchange of notices among students about parties. By 1997 it had gained hundreds of members, and its goals for this year included raising membership even higher and becoming involved in campus politics.

Its efforts to go mainstream have hit a snag, however. When members approached a sporting goods store recently about printing the club's Internet address on promotional T-shirts, the store called the university. The problem was that the Internet address included the phrase "kstate." And whenever someone wants to use a reference to the university that includes alcohol, the store's screen printing department alerts the administration, a store manager said.

John Fairman, university relations, said the club's lack of official recognition by the Student Activities and Services office bars it from using the university's name.

## Topeka nurse charged with adulterating drug; linked to 120 deaths

TOPEKA (AP) — State officials are dealing with an alleged case of misuse of deadly pain medication that has been linked to more than 120 deaths nationwide.

Known as OxyContin, the drug is designed to relieve patients dealing with chronic pain. A Topeka nurse faces charges of diluting the drug with water and replacing pills with a different medication.

Kinta Marie Hayes, 43, was charged Monday in Jefferson County District Court with one count of possession of OxyContin, two counts of adulterating

a drug, one count of mistreatment of a dependent adult, one count of attempted mistreatment of an adult and one count of theft.

Hayes was a nurse at the Hickory Pointe Care and Rehabilitation Center in Oskaloosa, a community of about 1,200 residents 25 miles northeast of Topeka. Hickory Pointe is licensed to house 70 residents and has 65.

The charges were a result of an investigation by Attorney General Carla Stovall's Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Division. Hayes posted \$3,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in court Oct.

8. The district court clerk's office said Hayes does not yet have an attorney. No one answered the phone listed under K.M. Hayes in Topeka, and no one was home at the address under that name. Authorities would not speculate on possible motives for the alleged theft and dilution.

Cherly Thomas, regional director Hickory Pointe, said an internal review lead to the discovery of the alleged dilution of drugs. The care center notified the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, which brought in Stovall's office. Thomas said Hayes is no

longer working at Hickory Pointe but declined to discuss the circumstances of her departure.

"The facility has a stance of zero tolerance for any illegal drug activity, and we were grateful in having law enforcement's assistance in getting this important message out within our facility and our community," she said.

In Kansas City, Mo., pharmacist Robert R. Courtney faces 20 federal counts alleging that he diluted chemotherapy drugs and more than 50 civil lawsuits on behalf of cancer patients or their families. He has pleaded not

guilty and is being held in jail pending trial. But Hayes' case is the first case of diluted drugs in Kansas, said Mark Ohlmeier a spokesman for Stovall.

Diana Glynn, a practice specialist with the Kansas Board of Nursing, said that there have been cases of nurses diverting OxyContin before, but it is unusual for a nurse to dilute a drug.

Glynn said that nurses who are abusing drugs typically check out too much of a certain drug, "one pill instead of two," give the patient the proper dose and keep the rest.

The Kansas Board of Nursing offers

a treatment and monitoring program for nurses with addictions.

According to the Kansas Department of Health and the Environment, pharmacy regulations do not apply to licensed practical nurses who administer drugs after they have been prescribed. Nurses cannot write prescriptions. OxyContin is America's best-selling narcotic painkiller and has been called a wonder drug by those who suffer chronic pain, but its heroin-like effect when chewed, snorted or injected has increased the pill's popularity among illicit drug users.

## Briefly

### Weather: Continued nice

This nice fall weather will continue through the weekend, the National Weather Service said. Tonight, expect clear skies, lows around 50 and southeast winds 5-15 mph, becoming light. Thursday, sunny, highs 75-80 and light winds becoming easterly 5-15 mph. Thursday night, clear, low near 50. Friday, sunny, highs near 75. Saturday and Sunday, partly cloudy, lows in the upper 40s and highs near 80. Colby's high Tuesday was 74 and the overnight low this morning was 42. Precipitation remains at 3.03 inches for the month. The soil temperature at the four-inch depth is averaging 65 degrees. The records for Sept. 26: 95 in 1901 and 21 in 1942 (ties the record low of 21 for the date set in 1926). (The daily temperatures, precipitation and records are provided by the Northwest Kansas Research-Extension Center, Colby.)

### IRS offers tax relief

The Internal Revenue Service said Tuesday that it has established a toll-free number for taxpayers whose ability to meet their federal tax obligations has been affected by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. People with tax issues related to the attacks can call 1-866-562-5227. Officials are asking that English inquiries call between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m., Monday through Friday. For those speaking Spanish, call between 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Those with questions unrelated to the terrorist attacks can call the regular toll-free number at 1-800-829-1040.

### High school has scholarships

Colby High School released scholarship information this week and Joni Clark-Leiker, counselor, encourages parents and students to consider applying for one or more of the

programs available. Included is a vocational technical education scholarship designed to provide financial assistance to full-time students who enroll in designated one or two year vocational programs. Deadline for application testing is Wednesday, Oct. 3, with testing on Nov. 3. Others are Colby College Satellite Seminars \$1,200 scholarship; Society of Automotive Engineering scholarships; Kansas State College of Engineering and fine arts scholarships, which include writing, dance, music and theater; Pittsburg State University honors college; and Prudential spirit of community awards. For information, call the career center at the high school, 465-5300.

### Diplomats plan luncheon

The Colby Chamber of Commerce Diplomats are hosting their annual Ladies Luncheon, Oct. 10 at Ramada Inn

at noon. This year's theme is "United We Stand." All women are invited and employers are encouraged to send their lady employees to this luncheon. Cost is \$10 which includes a luncheon, entertainment and fellowship. Reservations are due by Thursday, Oct. 4. Call 785-462-3401.

### Remember to help

Residents are again reminded of the canisters in various locations in Colby to benefit relief efforts following attacks by terrorists on Sept. 11. The Colby Free Press, a member of Nor'west Newspapers, has supplied all Colby banks with canisters and also has a canister on its front counter. Donations of any amount are appreciated, and those depositing checks in the canisters are asked to make the check out to the American Red Cross and in the Memo at the bottom of the check note Disaster Relief Fund.

