



COLBY FREE PRESS

12 pages

Nearly 55,000 tickets in drum \$3,050 at stake in Saturday drawing

By TOM (TD) DREILING

Free Press Publisher

Saturday is the big day for the third annual Colby Christmas on Us! retail promotion.

Three people will go home from the drawing at the Colby Community Building with \$50, \$500 or \$2,500 in scrip money to spend at any of the 28 participating businesses.

The drawing will begin at 1 p.m. and doors will open at 12:30. The gymnasium in the building will be used this year, permitting those attending to sit during the drawing.

During the promotion, which started in November, 28 merchants signed on to give shoppers a numbered ticket for each \$10 worth of merchandise purchased.

Of course with all such promotions in Kansas, no purchase was necessary to participate, a stipulation that was clearly set out in the rules of the promotion and published each week.

Also, 9 people were declared instant winners and awarded \$50 each. The final and 10th instant winner will be someone attending the Saturday drawing.

The number of tickets given out by the participating businesses is a record 54,936.

If each of those tickets represent a \$10 purchase, math will tell you how many Christmas shopping dollars stayed in Colby this year. Some businesses may have given tickets for less than a \$10 purchase, and some may

*Christmas
ON US!*

have given tickets without a purchase being made, but overall a lot of money was spent here this Christmas season, due to this contest.

The 9 instant winners of \$50 each were Diane Williams, Geri Landry, Cindy Cersovsky, Terry Rasmussen, Dan Fetzer, Jack Johnson, Lyman Goetsch, Vida Toburen and Jay Black. They are also eligible for the \$500 second place prize and the \$2,500 grand prize.

Participating businesses are: Stan's Automotive, Sears, T.O. Haas Tire, Northwest Kansas Decorating Center, CK Lumber & Supply Co., Colby Bowl & Fun Center, Colby True Value, The Sports Shoppe, Dougherty Implement Co. Inc., Someplace Special Floral & Gifts, Tri-Central Office Supply Inc., Colby Photo, Golden Hardware, Dillons, Bankwest, Colby Glass Company, City Limits, Great Western Tire, Tubbs & Sons Ford, Office Works & Home Furnishings, Hot Topics/Oo-Oz Spas/Computer Solutions, Beringer Hardware, Colby Ag Center, Colby Implement, First National Bank, Stephens Construction Inc., Amy's Fashions/ANX and Colby Free Press.



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Students at Heartland Christian School in Mingo looked over their stories that were recently published into books. Pictured are: (back row, left to right) Ariel Regier, 3rd grade; Adam Maurath, 4th grade; Kellan

Ziegelmeier, 2nd grade; Alexi Regier, 1st grade; and (front row, left to right) Ben Burgess, 7th grade; Michelle Myers, 8th grade; Brittany Sowers, 6th grade; and Haley Kistler, 5th grade.

Mingo school is not short of authors

By MAXINE NELSON

Colby Free Press

The children at Heartland Christian School have been writing their own books as a memoir of the school's past seven years at its present location at Mingo. The school will be moving to Colby next year, to the former Colby Plaza on West Fourth Street.

"The title of the books are all the same, *Little School in the Country*," said Rhonda Myers, librarian, who coordinated the project. Classes worked together to produce four books of their memories of school in Mingo. All of the books are hard-cover bound.

"Each student was given topics to write a few sentences about. They were: 'The day Began...'; 'Lunchtime...'; 'Recess fun'; 'I remember when...'; and

'My favorite Mingo memory,' said Myers.

They were also given a special page provided by the publisher on which to draw a picture. A student from each class group was chosen to draw the cover picture. A snapshot picture of each class will also be included on the cover. Myers then assembled each class book and shipped them to Nationwide Learning Resources in Topeka. They have provided the original copy of each book, free to the school, and parents can order a copy for themselves if they choose. A copy of each class book will also be put in the school library for checkout.

"The kids enjoy reading what everyone wrote.

"This is the first time we have done something like this. I was very pleased with how it turned out," said Myers.

A true to life, long-distance 'Mac attack'

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

There's someone stranded in Colby who would like nothing better than to get back home before Christmas, but he needs a ride to Denver.

And that's only part of the story.

It's an unusual situation, but one that could only happen during the holiday season. It involves a Scottish Terrier named Mac, who ended up in Colby just after the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Kami Bowers, registered veterinarian technician and office manager at Colby Animal Clinic, said Mac was picked up on Sunday, Nov. 25 by the Colby Police Department as a stray.

"When we looked at his rabies tag there was a telephone number of the owner in Centralia, Wash.," she said. Bowers called the owner, Peggy

Millar, who was ecstatic that her dog was found.

During the telephone conversation, Millar had told Bowers that her boyfriend had left Washington in her motor home and the dog was apparently inside.

While making a short stop here, Bowers said, the dog must have broke free from where he was tethered because the leash was still attached when the police brought him in.

The problem then was in figuring out how to get Mac back to Washington and Millar told Bowers that she had contacted the Scottish Terrier Rescue organization in her state for help.

In turn, Millar said the group in Washington called the rescue organization in Colorado Springs, Colo., and asked if anyone knew someone in Colby that could transport the animal

to Denver.

The Colorado organization then called Bette Green, who is the director of the Old English Sheep Dog Rescue Service in Colorado Springs and is also the daughter of Lois Myers of Colby.

Green said she knew somebody in Colby that might be able to get the word out and immediately called her mother.

"If there's anyone that might be heading for Denver in the next week or so, the owner of Mac and the Colby Animal Clinic would sure appreciate the help," Myers said on Thursday.

Bowers added that someone has volunteered to take Mac to Denver on either Dec. 22 or 23, but if he could get there sooner it would be even better.

"We aren't going to kick him (Mac) out, but as the Christmas holiday rolls around, our clinic gets filled with other

boarders," she said.

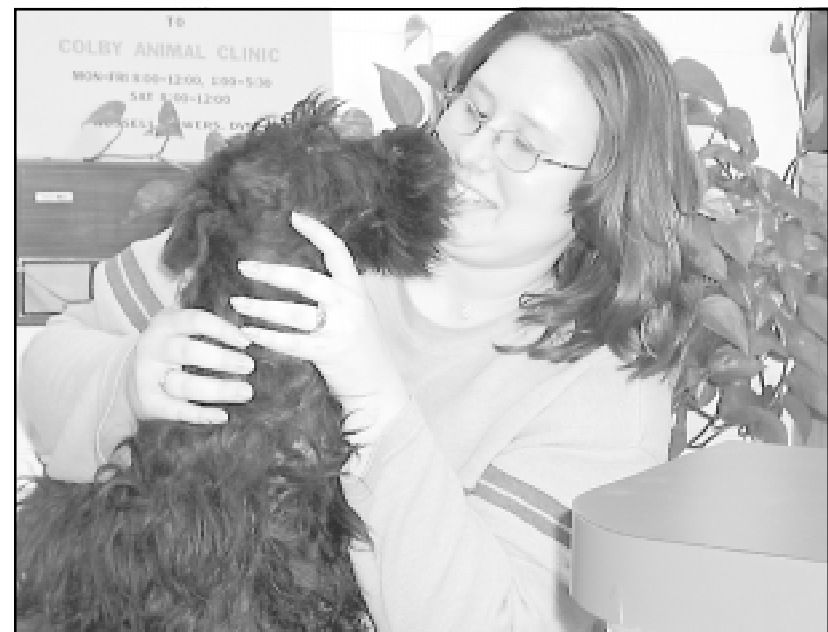
If interested in helping Mac, Bowers asks that they call the clinic, 462-8621 or Myers at 462-7820.

Rescue organizations for animals have been in existence for many years, with the mission of keeping good breeds from being destroyed.

"Sometimes people will buy an expensive dog and keep it for six months to a year and then will get tired of them and just leave them stranded," Myers said. "These rescue organizations will then try to either find homes or get the animal back to its owners."

In Mac's situation, the owner has paid all the boarding fees in Colby and plans to reimburse the organization when her animal is returned.

Once Mac is in Denver, he will be crated and flown back to Washington, Bowers said.



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Kami Bowers of the Colby Animal Clinic consoled Mac, a Scottish Terrier, on Thursday afternoon as rescue efforts are underway to return him to his owner in Centralia, Wash.

Awaiting her cue



Kayla Williams, a fifth grade band student at Colby Elementary School, was one of many participating in Thursday night's "Sounds of the Season" concert. The event featured the Colby High School concert band, Colby Elementary 5th grade band students and the Colby High School concert choir. Many well-known Christmas favorites were performed with the highlight of the concert being the high school band's rendition of the bombing of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, followed by Irving Berlin's "God Bless America."

PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

I-70 accident kills Colorado couple

By JAY KELLEY

Colby Free Press

A Denver couple was killed in a rollover accident at 6:30 a.m. today on I-70 at the Logan/Thomas County line.

According to the Kansas Highway Patrol, George Clayborne, 64, and Mary Clayborne, 71 were killed when the 1993 GMC they were riding in rolled over and they were ejected.

The driver, 53-year-old Larry Tuggle, of Aurora, Colo. drove into the median and overcorrected, according to the report.

The eastbound car went back into the eastbound lane, then entered the median again and rolled, coming to rest on its side, facing north in the westbound lane, the report continued.

Tuggle was airlifted to a Denver

hospital with critical injuries, according to the patrol report.

None of the three was wearing seatbelts. The Claybornes were taken to Kennedy Koster Funeral Home in Oakley. The car was totaled.

Emergency Medical Services and sheriff's deputies from Logan and Thomas County also responded. The interstate was closed until after 8 a.m.

Extra excitement tonight at Colby game

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

It's not too late to buy tickets for a chance at winning a 56" color television, with the lucky person's name being announced at tonight's Colby/Oakley boys basketball game in the Colby Community building.

For those who would like to buy a

chance, said Brian Staats, chairperson of the giveaway, tickets will continue to be sold tonight and just shortly after the boys game begins around 8 p.m.

The giveaway is being sponsored by the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce as one of its fund-raising activities, said Gerry Fulwider, executive director. The announcement will

be made at half-time, Staats said, and the lucky person need not be present to win. A booth will be set up at tonight's game with middle school students involved in the Technology Student Association selling the tickets for \$5 each.

"The 56" television is valued at \$1,799 and was purchased at Beringer Hardware," Staats said.

Briefly

Weather: Mixed bag

A mixed bag of weather awaits the Colby region now through Monday, advises the National Weather Service. Tonight, partly cloudy, lows 25-30 and south winds 10-20 mph. Saturday, hold onto your hats and wear lots of warm clothing as cloud cover will increase, there is a 20 percent chance of light snow, the high will reach 40, but fall rapidly in the afternoon and southwest winds 10-20 mph will turn to the north 20-30 mph. Saturday night and Sunday, decreasing clouds, lows 15-20 and highs in the lower 40s. Monday, partly cloudy, lows 15-20 and highs 50-55. Colby's high Thursday was 44 and the overnight low this morning was 15. Precipitation remains at 0.07 inches for the month. The soil temperature at the four-inch depth is

averaging 34 degrees. The records for Dec. 14: 72 in 1988 and -16 in 1901. (The daily temperatures, precipitation and records are provided by the Northwest Kansas Research-Extension Center, Colby.)

Commissioners' agenda noted

The Thomas County Commissioners will meet at 9 a.m. Monday in the commissioners room of the courthouse. Roads Supervisor Chris Bieker and trustees of the East Hale Township will meet at 9 a.m. to discuss maintenance of the roads in East Hale, which was taken over by the county by popular vote. Corina Cox, Northwest Kansas Planning and Development of Hill City, will be there for a performance hearing of the Rexford fire truck at 10 a.m. EMS Director

Josh Buffington and Assistant Director Martin Rinehart will report at 10:15 a.m. Undersheriff Mike Baughn will follow up on plumbing problems at the jail at 10:30 a.m.

Board to consider contract

The Colby School Board will decide whether or not to renew a contract with the Regional Prevention Center of Northwest Kansas for Janet Worthy to continue as drug-free schools coordinator at their regular meeting Monday at 7 p.m. in the Administration Building boardroom. Superintendent Kirk Nielsen said Worthy had been doing "an excellent job for several years" and the contract was an annual requirement.

The school system has received a Safe and Drug-Free

Schools and Communities grant from the Kansas Board of Education to pay for the contract. The center will receive \$4,000 from the school system and Worthy will continue to coordinate tobacco, alcohol and drug abuse prevention services for the school system.

College board to meet Monday

The Colby Community College Board of Trustees will meet at 5 p.m. Monday in the board room of Thomas Hall. They will tour a campus area, then meet with the insurance committee. Bills will be paid, and any other item of business considered which any member wishes to present. The board may go into executive session to discuss negotiations. The meeting is open to the public.

