



COLBY FREE PRESS

Authorities place four under arrest

They are charged with burglaries and break-ins in Colby

By **PATTY DECKER**

Free Press Editor

The Colby Police Department has made four arrests in connection with two separate break-ins and burglaries in October, officials said.

In the Oct. 6 break-in at Palace Drug Store, 460 N. Franklin Ave., said Gary Shull, police investigator, two Colby men were charged with burglary, felony theft and felony criminal damage to property.

The two men, Jacob (Jake) Rasmussen, 18, and Larry Ryan Kreigshauser, 19, were taken into custody on Friday, Nov. 27, and are alleged to have committed those crimes.

Currently both Rasmussen and Kreigshauser are being held in the Thomas County jail in lieu of \$60,000 appearance bonds.

“Unrelated to the Palace Drug Store break-in, the two men have also been formally charged with felony criminal damage to at least 13 other structures or buildings in the area,” Shull said. The damage in most cases was painted graffiti on the buildings.

Along with Rasmussen and Kreigshauser facing burglary and theft charges, police officials are also looking into unrelated drug charges that could be expected in the near future, he said.

The second incident involved the Oct. 15 break-in at Woofter Construction, he said.

In this case, a resident of Colby and Atwood were also arrested on Friday, Shull said.

Leonard Malcolm Ramsey, 26, of Atwood and Joet (Joey) Elvin Ramsey, Jr. 22, of Colby were formally charged with burglary, felony theft, and criminal damage to property, Shull said.

Leonard Ramsey is being held in the Sherman County Jail and Joet Ramsey is facility at the Thomas County facility.

A \$50,000 appearance bond has been set for both Ramseys in connection with the Woofter break-in.

‘Let’s see, what else?’



MICHELLE L. HAWKINS/Colby Free Press

Ho! Ho! Ho! Jordan Hartwell of Colby, sat on Santa’s lap on Sunday at Santa City. The three-year-old confided in Santa that she wanted “babies” for Christmas this year. This coming Saturday and Sunday as well as Dec. 14 and 15, Santa City will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. Starting Dec. 16, it will be open from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and will be open from 1 to 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve for all the last minute wishes.

Everybody loves a

Parade

Sights and sounds of the season to come alive in Colby on Sunday

By **DARREL PATTILLO**

Colby Free Press

Everybody loves a parade and that romance will be rekindled in Colby this coming Sunday.

The annual Christmas parade takes place at 6 p.m. and the theme is “*Cruise to Colby this Christmas.*”

The parade will start near the former Boogaarts building on Franklin Ave. and end at Santa City in Fike Park.

“We encourage everyone to help us bring in the holiday season,” said Jada Tubbs, with the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce.

“The weather Sunday should be nice. Our goal this year is to get 40 entries for the parade. Right now we have about 20,” she said.

Parade entrants include the Abilene Hustlers, Southwind Plaza, churches, and several vintage automobiles.

“This year we’ll have four prize categories,” Tubbs said. “Best Lighted Vehicle, Best Organizational Float, Best of Show for Children, and Best Religious Organization,” she said. “There’ll be two prizes per category, a \$50 and \$25 gift certificate from the Chamber, which will be good anywhere in town.”

“Santa City will be open from 6:30 to 8 p.m., after the parade,” Tubbs said.

Any one interested in entering the parade can call the Colby Chamber office at 462-3401.

The parade this year is again sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the Colby Free Press.

“We, as a newspaper, enjoy participating in activities that benefit the entire community,” said Tom (TD) Dreiling, Free Press publisher.

“We feel privileged to hook up with the good folks at the Chamber of Commerce in sponsoring what is rapidly becoming one of the finest parades of its kind in our area.”

Dreiling encouraged involvement.

“Last year’s 30 entries produced some kind of record. We are hoping to top that this year and Jada at the Chamber office is shooting for 40. Let’s not disappoint her.”

Those participating in the parade are asked to be at the formation site in front of the old Boogaarts store no later than 5:30 p.m.

The lights and sounds of Christmas will most certainly excite every parade enthusiast, regardless of age, the publisher said.

Traffic wrecks claim three

By **The Associated Press**

At least three people have died on Kansas roads during the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, authorities said.

A 12-year-old girl who was a passenger in a truck died in a one-vehicle accident Saturday morning in Pawnee County.

She was identified as Nicole H. Rodriguez of Clio, Mich.

An Oxford woman died from injuries suffered in a one-car accident Friday morning.

Tina Catlin, 31, was thrown from her car when it overturned on U.S. 77 south of Arkansas City, Cowley County authorities said.

A Missouri woman was killed Wednesday in a two-car collision in Dickinson County. The patrol identified the victim as Di

ana Whitaker, 50, of Nixa, Mo.

She was driving east on Kansas 18 about 6:30 p.m. when another vehicle ran a stop sign on Kansas 15 and struck her car, the patrol said.

The wind and the sun Area couple has their own energy island

OAKLEY (AP) — The lights are on at Chuck Bonner and Barbara Shelton’s house, and that’s no small accomplishment.

For the past 17 years, the couple has powered their house and nearby business exclusively with wind and solar power.

The 1917-era limestone buildings on their one-acre tract were once the sanctuary and parsonage of Pilgrims’ Holiness Church of Pleasant Ridge.

They are just eight miles from the limestone formations called Monument Rocks, which are what bring people to their art gallery and fossil museum.

Bringing power to the property 26 miles south of Oakley would have required miles of poles.

“We are conveniently located in the middle of nowhere,” Bonner said. “We

have friends on wind power, and we’ve kind of always liked the idea of being independent,” Bonner said.

“We like being our own energy island. Plus, the place looks good as an island without poles,” Bonner said.

The couple’s system includes a wind charger mounted atop a windmill tower, a set of six six-volt batteries housed in an insulated box, an inverter to convert direct current to alternating current and enough wiring to supply electricity to their house and combination art studio, gift shop and museum.

The system cost about \$4,000 to install and costs about \$65 per year to run.

“We started with a wind charger, a car battery and one 12-volt trouble light, and from that we built on it.

“We literally started with shovels and cleaned out the debris and added a

new roof,” Shelton said about the earliest phase of the project.

Then, like now, their only source of electric power was the wind and the sun. Heat is provided by wood-burning stoves and a passive solar greenhouse they added to the south side of the house.

The wood stoves also are used for cooking and heating water used for bathing. In addition, Shelton has what she calls her “summer kitchen,” located on an enclosed porch. It includes a propane stove, but she said she rarely uses it.

The buildings are cooled mostly by their 20-inch thick limestone and plaster walls.

However, for added comfort for the 3,000 to 5,000 tourists who visit the site annually, a water cooler has been installed in the gallery.

Briefly

‘Coats for Kids’ drive underway

The Colby Jaycees are once again collecting coats for youth in need. Anyone in the community interested in donating good, clean winter coats in sizes from infant to adult are asked to drop them off at one of the two collection boxes in town, said Bonnie Lewis, one of the organizers. The boxes are located at Dillons and Pioneer Memorial Library beginning today. The actual distribution of the coats will be on Saturday, Dec. 21 at the Jaycee Center. For questions, call Lewis at 462-3627.

Citizens for Health Care to meet

The Area Citizens for Health Care will hold its open meeting on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Colby Community Building in the Little Theater. The public is invited and urged to attend.

Christmas basket project nears

The Genesis Thomas County Food Bank board will be work-

ing to get ready for its annual Christmas Basket project on Wednesday, Dec. 11, beginning at 4 p.m. at the 4-H Building. Then at 6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 13, the board and anyone interested in helping will fill the baskets.

Christmas basket distribution will then be available for those eligible on Saturday, Dec. 14, beginning at 10 a.m. at the 4-H Building.

Largest stockings waiting for youth

The Colby Fire Department is reminding everyone that in less than two weeks, the “World’s Largest Stockings” will be given away to one boy and one girl during the holiday season. For a \$1 donation, anyone can buy a chance at winning the stockings with tickets available at the Colby Fire Department, said Rick Dickman, assistant fire chief. For those wanting to see the stockings, there is one at Santa City and also at the fire department, 585 N. Franklin Ave.

The drawing will be held at 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 15, at Santa City, he said. For questions, call 462-4454.

Nothing left



SHEILA SMITH/Goodland Daily News

Stuckeys, 2 miles south of Brewster along I-70, was completely destroyed by fire on Saturday evening, said Mike Baughn, undersheriff with the Thomas County Sheriff’s Department. The first report of the fire, he said, came from a “911” call at 10:35 p.m., by the fire alarm company in the store. Baughn said today the reason or source of the fire was still under investigation and that the entire area had been secured as a crime scene for precautionary measures. Along with the sheriff’s office, the Brewster Fire Department, the Kansas State Fire Marshal and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation continued to search for answers.

Request for early lighting

Prairie Senior Living Complex is planning two evening tours so that residents at the facility can see the various Christmas lighting displays throughout Colby.

In order to make the excursion enjoyable, officials are asking that anyone with displays turn their lights on early the evenings of Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 17 and 18.

Women’s league sponsors brunch

The Colby Women’s League is sponsoring a holiday brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 5, at the Colby Country Club. The purpose of the event is to start the holiday season off by celebrating with friends, organizers said.

The cost of the brunch is free-will donation with proceeds donated to the Thomas County Home-Owned Carnival.

Organizers of the brunch include Pat Criss, Jan Haigler, Anita Hills, Sandy Kriss, Nancy Saddler, Judith Sears, Kay Weston, Becky White and Esther Woofter.

WeatherWatch Colby-Oakley area

The numbers
Sunday’s high, 62
Low this morning, 23
Year ago today, 62 and 21
Temperature at 11:20 a.m. today, 53
Records for Dec. 2: 75 in 1926, -6 in 1985
The forecast
Tonight, partly cloudy to cloudy, lows 20-25, southeast winds up to 10 mph. Tuesday, cloudy, flurries, highs 25-30, southeast winds up to 10 mph. Tuesday night, cloudy, flurries, lows 15-20. Wednesday, cloudy, light snow, highs 25-30. Wednesday night, cloudy, lows 10-15.

