



COLBY FREE PRESS

Parish takes request for alcohol to council

By **PATTY DECKER**

Free Press Editor

Organizers of this year's Sacred Heart Church "Benefit Auction" met with Colby City Council members to ask for a change or to find out options on how they can again serve alcohol at the yearly function during the council meeting on Tuesday night.

"The community building is a wonderful place to have our auction," said Jennifer Van Eaton. "It is large enough to fit our crowd, the kitchen facilities are ideal for food preparation and many enjoy the smoke-free atmosphere and staff."

The reason for coming to the council this year, she said, is because the group was informed that the ordinance states a liquor license may be served only by those holding a cater's liquor license.

For the past two years, she said, the benefit auction has served alcohol with Mike Woofter, who at that time had the cater's liquor license.

However, Van Eaton said it was their understanding that he

didn't plan to renew the license since it was used very little.

In contacting the state's ABC agent for this area, Alan Hunningman, the only areas with catering services are through Fort Hays State University and Meridy's in Russell, she said.

Mayor Warren Hixson said he believed that Woofter could do up to six catering events each year off premises, but other council members were not sure if that was a possibility.

One suggestion was for the Sacred Heart auction committee to go back to Woofter and see if his current license would be sufficient.

Another council member, John Bremerkamp, said he thought the "six events" would be specific to one area.

For example, if Woofter were to serve at the community building, the other five events would need to be done there as well.

Carolyn Armstrong, city manager, told Van Eaton and Jeanne Schroeder that if they wanted to obtain a temporary license, she would need to see that license and a special form would be required.

"If you should decide to get a license (which is good for 3.2 beer only)," said Eugene Wieland, council president, "then you would be good to go."

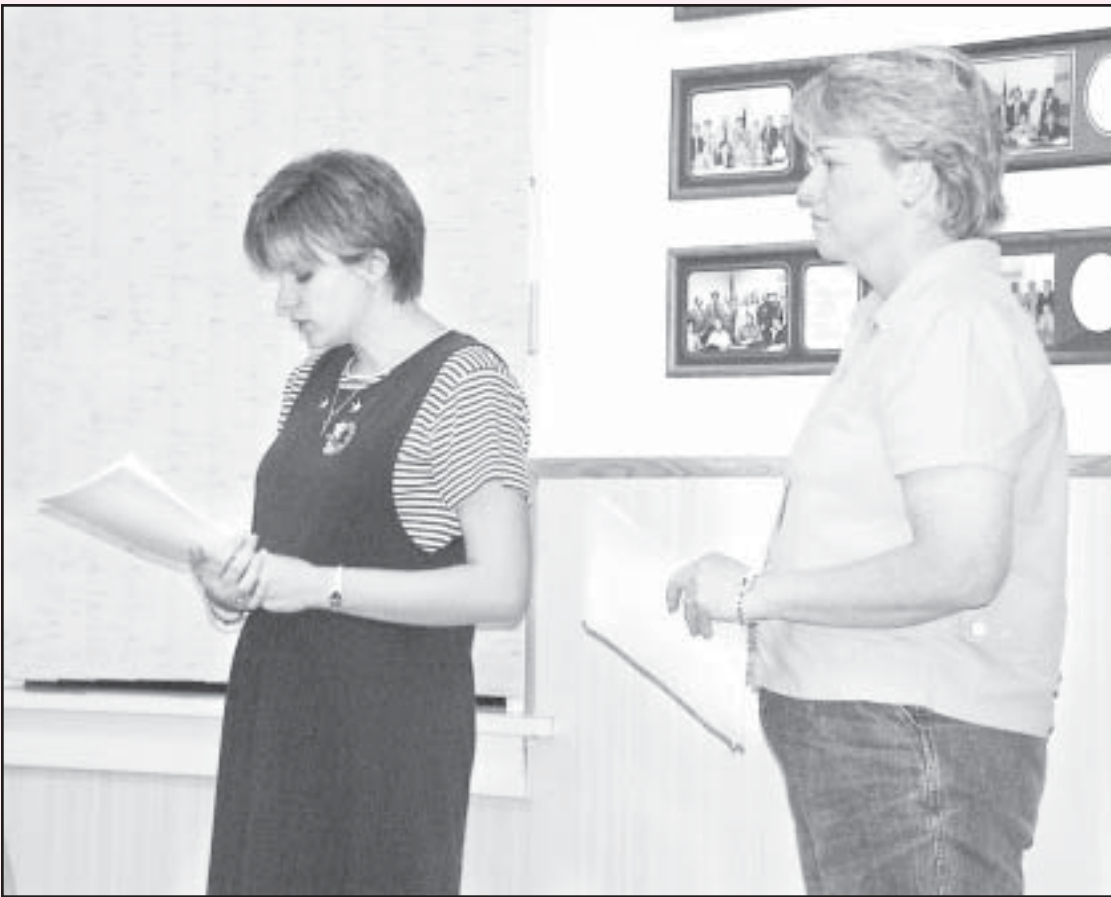
The council left the decision in the hands of the auction committee as to whether or not they could fulfill the minimum requirements.

In the event the group can get a permit, the benefit committee is suggesting that the Knights of Columbus, the men's organization with the Catholic Church, serve the alcohol.

Van Eaton also said that if it could be worked out that Woofter's license extends to this function, they would be more than satisfied with that as well.

"In the past," Van Eaton said, "the members and guests of Sacred Heart have proven they can be responsible and not allow things to get out of control."

The evening usually concludes at 10:30 p.m. and most have left the premises by 11 p.m." She said that no one has ever been arrested, disorderly or damaged anything, to her knowledge, either the year of the auction.



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Jennifer Van Eaton and Jeanne Schroeder, representing Sacred Heart Catholic Church and its annual auction, spoke with Colby City Council members on Tuesday to request a change in the requirements for a catering license to serve alcohol at the Colby Community Building.

This year's annual auction is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 18, and with the information provided by the council, the auction committee will look into the matter and make

decisions soon on how they will proceed. The council's biggest concern was in not setting a precedent for the auction that could cause problems with other groups later on.

Either route the group decides to go, further discussion is expected to be handled by the auction organizers and the city manager.

Sheriff Jones says:

'Half-million dollars no small thing'

By **TISHA COX**

Colby Free Press

The Thomas County Sheriff's Office is about to get a little richer.

Sheriff Tom Jones said his office is getting close to \$500,000 from a drug seizure about a year and a half ago.

Deputies made a routine traffic stop and seized a large amount of money, \$701,440 to be exact.

Jones said the money was seized

because there was so much of it and also because the department's K-9 unit detected a small amount of drugs.

The sheriff's office is getting the half-million dollars because it settled out of court with the person the money was taken from.

Jones said the individual was trying to get the money back and had already taken the office to court.

"The settlement we agreed to and

we reached would give \$100,000 back to the person," he said. "So it's very close to \$500,000 if you add the interest back on it."

Jones said the department has gotten money from seizures in the past and has used it on things like brand new bullet-proof vests for every deputy and technology upgrades, like radios, computers and surveillance equipment.

"For a small department we keep

very up to date and as modern as we can," he said.

The money could also be used on new vehicles or anything to do with law enforcement.

Jones said he's happy the sheriff's office is getting the money.

"To me it's a win-win for the people of Thomas County," he said. "A half-million dollars in Thomas County is no small thing. Overall, I'm pleased."

Board gets a good look at technology equipment

By **TISHA COX**

Colby Free Press

The Colby School Board got a good look at some of the equipment Colby High School students are using to get ahead of the job market before they even graduate.

The board and Superintendent Kirk Nielsen were given a demonstration on the school's Cisco and technology labs during Monday night's school board meeting.

Andy Boell, who teaches the Cisco and Computer Aided Drawing classes, explained what the equipment in the lab was for and what students learn.

He showed off the routers the students program and said they spend the first semester learning to program them. They also learn about all the other equipment.

Boell said it's all "top of the line everything for the most part."

School board member Tracy Rogers asked if students can get certified in high school and then get a job. At the end of four semesters, students can take a test to become Cisco certified, which enables them to be responsible for up to 500 com-

puters.

Nielsen said Colby is one of many schools offering Cisco certification to high school students.

"It's pretty tough to take those tests to get certified," he said, adding that many do.

The board also got a closer look at the high school's technology lab.

Nielsen said teachers Gordon Rasmussen and Lamoreaux Fulwider gave presentations.

Middle school and high school students showed off what the lab has to offer and school board members got a chance to mingle to get a closer look.

"It's more than a computer lab," Nielsen said. "It's a technology lab. It's pretty interesting."

He said it has a wind tunnel, musical component and other areas that are integrated into the school's other curriculum areas. It's used to supplement what students learn in their other classes and can even be used as an addition to classes like social studies and English.

In other business, the board approved emergency substitute licenses.

Norton man gets 12 years

NORTON (AP) — A judge has sentenced a northwest Kansas man to 12 years in prison for his role in the May death of his stepfather.

Jimmy D. Williams, 21, also will serve a three-year post-release probation.

He pleaded guilty last month to second-degree murder.

The autopsy report indicated Bill H. Masden, 53, was struck in the head with a claw hammer 12 or 13 times.

Additionally, his throat had been slit with a kitchen knife.

Witnesses, including William's mother, testified during the sentencing hearing that Masden was abusive toward Williams and had threatened to kill him on several occasions.

But District Judge William B. Elliott, who sentenced Williams on Monday, said he could have reported the threats and sought help from law enforcement officials.

Thanks!

TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Gary Morsch, a doctor and president of Docs Who Care, spoke Monday during a community appreciation day for the area at City Limits Convention Center in Colby. The event was to say thank you to the community and a chance for the members of Docs Who Care to meet with people from the community. Tama Unger, of Citizens Medical Center said about 75 people showed up for the event. She said Docs Who Care, an organization from Wichita, has provided the equivalent of a full-time physician for the past 13 months with four doctors in rotation. They will continue to do so in some capacity when Dr. Gary Slavens starts his practice in Colby later in the fall.



Briefly

Piano recital Sunday

The students of Sharon Kriss will perform at 4 p.m. on Sunday, at the Colby United Methodist Church.

"An Afternoon of Piano Pops" will feature selections from many Broadway musicals, movies, and television shows as well as the flavor of a little rock 'n roll along the way, Kriss said.

Please plan to attend and watch these talented musicians perform", she said..

Grade school plans open house

There will be an open house at Colby Grade School on Monday, said Terrel Harrison, principal.

Parents are invited to attend class with their child and participate in a language arts/reading lesson.

A schedule will be sent home with each student this week, she said.

For questions, call the grade school at 460-5100.

College to offer certification courses

Colby Community College will offer certification courses for social service designees and activity directors starting on Monday, Sept. 22.

The courses will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 22, Nov. 3 and 10 in the Robert Burnett Memorial Student Union. Four college credits and two certificates will be awarded for attendance at all eight classes.

Two college credits and one certificate will be awarded for six classes.

To enroll or for more information, call (785) 462-3984, Ext. 286.

Learning center enrolling

The Thomas County Learning Center, 305 N. Franklin in Colby, is now taking enrollment applications. One function of the center is to give students a chance to get their high school diploma.

For those wanting to enroll or for eligibility information, call 465-7900.

Job Service open over noon hour

The Colby Work Force office (formerly known as Job Service) at 485 N. Chick is staying open during the lunch hour. Linda Groff, local supervisor, said the change went into effect last week and is expected to be a permanent situation.

For questions or information about how the Colby Work Force office can help people find jobs, call the office at (785) 462-6862.

'Childbirth classes underway

Colby Childbirth Education classes are being held on Thursdays from 7 to 10 p.m.. This is a four-week series and is held at Colby Community College in the Health Science Building.

Call Amy Hutfles at 460-4344 for information.



Somewhat cooler

Colby, Oakley, Hoxie area Tonight...Partly cloudy. A slight chance of showers from late evening on. Breezy. Lows in the mid 40s. West wind 15 to 25 mph with gusts to 35 mph becoming north late this evening. Chance of rain 20 percent.
Thursday...Mostly sunny and cooler. Highs in the lower 60s. North wind 10 to 20 mph.
Thursday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s.
Friday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s.
Friday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 40s.
Saturday...A chance of showers and thunderstorms during the night. Highs in the upper 70s.

By the numbers
Tuesday's high, 87
Low this morning, 50
24-hour precipitation to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
Month's precipitation, 0.02
Year's precipitation to date, 14.02
2002's precipitation to date, 9.92

Water Usage/Colby
Sept. 16 = 2.836 million gallons

The forecast is from the National Weather Service, and other numbers are from the Northwest Research-Extension Center, Colby and the Colby Public Works Department..

