

# Governor names member of newly formed '3R' commission

TOPEKA— Governor Kathleen Sebelius announced last week the members of the Kansas Criminal Recodification, Rehabilitation and Restoration Project, the 3R Commission.

The Commission, she said, was created by the 2004 Legislature to undertake a comprehensive review

of the state's criminal statutes and procedures, as well as the Kansas Sentencing Guidelines.

"Despite declining crime rates, our prison population is growing at an alarming rate. This comprehensive and long-overdue study will help us better understand the forces driving that increase so we can set

policy that allows us to both manage our prison population and protect the safety of law-abiding Kansans," Sebelius said.

The legislation that created the commission requires it to file an interim report to Sebelius by February, 2005. A final report and recommendations must be submitted

before Jan. 9, 2006.

The law requires the commission members include representatives of the law enforcement community, the judiciary, the defense bar, the state's two law schools, the Legislature, the faith-based community, and the general public.

The attorney general, secretary of

corrections, commissioner of the Juvenile Justice Authority, and secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services — or their designees — will serve as ex officio members of the Commission.

As part of its recodification charge, the committee will analyze and review all criminal statutes and procedures; study and make recommendations concerning the statutory definitions of crimes and criminal penalties; and review an determine the severity of the Kansas sentencing policies in relation to other states and review possible adjustments which may relieve prison capacity. The Commission's rehabilitation requires it to identify ways to prepare prisoners to re-enter the community. The Commission also will identify ways to re-

store offenders to productive lives.

Governor Sebelius has asked Corrections Secretary Roger Werholtz to serve as acting chairperson and convene the first meeting, which has been scheduled for Monday, August 16 at 10:00 AM in the Fatzler Courtroom in the state Judicial Center.

Members of the 3R Commission include Sen. Derek Schmidt, Independence; Tom Stacey, Lawrence; Sen. David Haley, Kansas City; William Rich, Topeka Rep. Eric Carter, Overland Park; Marilyn Cook, Wichita; Rep. Jim Ward, Wichita; Judge Ernie Johnson, Kansas City; Justice Marla Luckert, Topeka; Christian Hauck, Hays; Ed Collister, Lawrence; Rep. Ward Loyd, Garden City and Nola Foulston, Wichita.

## Two Colby students attend band camp

Jasmine Brown and April McAdams, students from Colby High School, were selected to participate in the 21st Annual Kansas Masonic All-State High School Marching Band Camp at Emporia State University from July 27-31.

The two students attended the five day 225-member Band Camp

in Emporia with musicians from across the state of Kansas, officials said.

Marching and musical instructions were under the direction of Prof. Tracy Freeze and his E-State band staff.

The weeklong camp ended with a parade in the morning and a pre-

game and half time performance at the Kansas East-West Shrine Bowl Football Game on Saturday, July 31, Freeze said.

Both Brown and McAdams are two of over 3,200 young people who have performed in the Kansas Masonic All-State High School Marching Band since 1984.

The marching band is a project of the Kansas Masonic Foundation. Sponsorship for each student is paid by local Lodges and other affiliated bodies in their communities.

Monies left from band camp after expenses are donated to the Kansas Masonic Cancer Research Institute located at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City.

Net proceeds from the East-West Shrine Bowl Game are donated to the Shriner's Hospitals for Children, Freeze said.

## Man collapses, dies after helping woman

### Corrections officer pulls lady from burning wreckage

ELLSWORTH (AP) — An Ellsworth County corrections officer had a fatal heart attack Sunday morning after pulling a woman from the burning wreckage of her pickup truck, authorities said.

Kevin Shaw, 48, died at Ellsworth County Medical Center shortly after the accident and rescue, his nephew Tom Shaw told The Salina Journal. The woman survived.

The Kansas Highway Patrol said the woman was driving south on Kansas 14 near Interstate 70 when her pickup first drifted off the right shoulder and then crossed the highway and rolled over into a ditch.

The pickup was impaled on a limestone fence post and burst into flames, Ellsworth Fire Chief Bob

Kapka said.

Kevin Shaw and his wife were returning to Ellsworth from nearby Lake Wilson when they came upon the wreck, Tom Shaw said.

Kevin Shaw pulled the woman from the truck through the sliding rear window, then collapsed.

"He liked to step in when people needed help.

"He was one of those type of people who never expected anything in return," Tom Shaw told the newspaper.

"I guess today was his ultimate Good Samaritan act."

Tom Shaw said his uncle, who was 6-foot-1 and weighed about 230 pounds, had no prior heart trouble and had not mentioned being ill.

The 23-year-old Topeka woman was hospitalized in Ellsworth.

A nurse declined to release the woman's condition Sunday night, officials said.

Kevin Shaw had worked for the

Ellsworth County Sheriff's Department for about five years, his nephew said.

Some like it HOT, HOT, HOT... and some like to shop the COOL want ad way!!  
The Colby Free Press - 462-3963

## Lawmakers want to hold down spending

From "FOCUS," page 3

said. Officials should take that information and find ways to improve.

"I think we don't expect enough from our students or ourselves in doing the things we know will make a difference now," Johnson said.

Legislators loathe to increasing spending — currently \$2.7 billion in state revenues — have argued for years that schools are flush with cash and simply need to spend it wiser.

During the 2004 session, knowing that Shawnee County District Judge Terry Bullock found flaws with the school finance formula, legislators acknowledged that schools could use a little more money.

But for the first time in many sessions, legislators did not make an increase in districts' per-pupil budgets their top priority.

Instead, their goal was putting additional funds in programs for poor and minority students, marking a dramatic shift in the education debate.

Legislators decided to leave it to the Kansas Supreme Court to decide to what extent Bullock was right and how much more money — if any — schools need.

Recent results from the 2003-04 statewide assessments indicate that teachers are squeezing more out of their classrooms than before, especially with poor and minority students.

Results from Title I schools — those that receive federal money targeted to schools with significant numbers of poor students — show

some have improved in the last year. Six school districts and 15 schools failed to meet state goals for academic progress for 2003-04, compared with the previous year, when seven districts and 30 schools missed the mark.

Still, the number of schools on that list is expected to rise after results from Wichita schools are rechecked. Last year, four schools and the entire district missed the mark.

Results for non-Title I schools in Kansas will be released Oct. 12.

Being placed on the list incurs no financial sanctions. Educators hope the data points to groups of students who require additional support and strengthens pleas to legislators for more funds.

However, legislators also were given new ammunition in the continuing battle over school efficiency when the Topeka school district discovered that it had been scammed out of more than \$500,000. The disclosure renewed criticism that administrators collectively are running a loose ship, regardless of how well students perform.

The situation in Topeka looked so egregious that even State Board of Education members expressed outrage that such a problem could occur.

Meanwhile, improved test scores reinforce the idea that a focused school system can and will serve students, parents and taxpayers well.

But there's always the question of how much money schools need to remain focused, and as long as they manage amid tight budgets, legislators have a reason to resist providing a big funding increase.

# This is what THEY'RE ALL TALKING ABOUT!

- Local area news • Comics • Bridge • Crossword Puzzle
- Dear Abby • Weather • Sports • Features • Statehouse Coverage
- Diverse Editorial Page

Delivered by carrier in:

- Colby
- Brewster
- Oakley

**462-3963**  
155 W. 5th • Colby

**CARRIER RATES:**  
\$64 per year  
Over 55 - \$54 per year  
**BY MAIL NW Kansas\*:**  
\$72 per year  
Over 55 - \$65 per year

\* By mail in the following counties: Cheyenne, Decatur, Gove, Logan, Rawlins, Sheridan, Sherman, Wallace and Thomas counties.

DISCOUNT COUPON

**\$5.00 OFF** A NEW SUBSCRIPTION TO THE COLBY FREE PRESS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

By carrier: 4 mo.(\$32)  8 mo.(\$47)  12 mo.(\$64)

In area by mail: 4 mo. (\$44)  8 mo. (\$56)  12 mo. (\$72)

Mail coupon with your check to: **The Colby Free Press, 155 W. 5th, Colby, KS 67701.**

**BACK TO SCHOOL SALE**

Want to put a smile on the face of someone with the "First week of school" "Can't get out of bed" duldrums?

We've got a lot of great ways to make those eyes light up again!

Give us a call or stop by -

**Someplace Special**

Floral & Gifts

185 W. 4th St. • Colby, KS  
462-7136