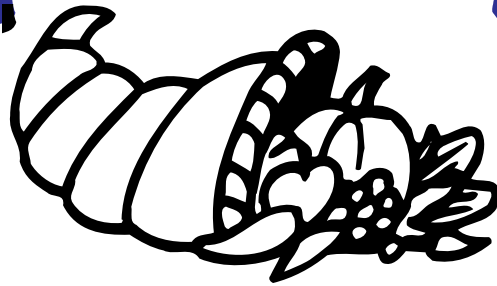




COLBY
FREE PRESS

12 pages

Happy Thanksgiving



Election numbers certified

From staff reports

The official vote tally for major offices on the Nov. 2 ballot have been certified by County Clerk Tracey Perkins following the canvass by the county commissioners. There were no significant changes to report.

Here are the numbers: President/Vice President — Bush and Cheney 3007, Kerry and Edwards 816, Nader and Camejo 28, Badnarik and Campagna 6 and Peroutka and Clymer 13. United States Senator — Sam Brownback 3189, Lee Jones 520, George Cook 35 and Steven A. Rosile 47.

• U. S. Representative District 1 — Jerry Moran 3519 and Jack Warner 238.

• State Senator District 40 — Ralph Ostmeier 2427 and Tim Peterson 1365.

• State Representative District 121 — Jim Morrison 3508 and Dannis Robison 252.

• District Court Judge — Glenn D. Schiffner, 3463.

• District Court Judge — Jack Burr 3228.

• District Magistrate Judge — Richard "Rick" Ress 3532.

• County Commissioner District 2 — Paul Steele 719, Jim Cousins 657 and write-in Richard Stefan 22.

• County Commissioner District 3 — Ken Christiansen 857 and Rosalie Seemann 372.

• County Sheriff — Mike Baughn 3001 and write-in Scott Sitton 603.

• County Attorney — Andrea Wyrick 2364 and Laurence A. Taylor 1448.

• County Clerk — Shelly Harms 2159 and Tracey Perkins 1636.

• County Treasurer — Donita Applebury 3342.

• Register of Deeds — Maybelle Moore 3534.

Helping others



CRYSTAL RUCKER/Colby Free Press

Sharon Shirley's preschool and pre-kindergarten classes at Sacred Heart Catholic Church collected food items for the Thomas County Genesis food bank. More than 300 items were donated, Shirley said. The classes do three service projects each year to include the food drive for Genesis, along with Pennies for the Poor and Emergency Pregnancy Services. From left to right: Patyn Pfeifer, Lynnsey Elling and Lucas Taylor helped place the canned goods on the shelves in the Genesis pantry.

First of the season

Area orchestra to perform in December

By PATTY DECKER

Free Press Editor

The community's orchestra will once again open its season on Sunday, Dec. 5 with the 2004-05 theme, "From Tuxes to T-shirts," said Sharon Kriss, publicity chair.

"The opening concert will present the 'Sounds of the Season,' which will be held in the Colby High School auditorium at 3:30 p.m.," she said.

The songs will include: "Winter Frolic," "Do You Hear What I Hear?" "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy," "Waltz of the Flowers," "Joy to the World," "A Christmas Festival," and "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen." In addition, the orchestra will also play the more traditional "Sinfonia," "Fugue in G minor," and will feature the strings in the "Brandenburg Concerto."

Andrew Salvador, Burlington, Colo. is the director of the The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra, and one of the songs performed in the concert has been arranged by him, Kriss said.

Other members participating in the December concert are: Donna Engel, Kathy Spencer, Nicole Aranci, Haley Kistler, Jessica Klemm, Kevin Seymour, Jan Wolf, David Younger, Carol Rohn, Mallory Younger, Bob Nicholas, Sharon Kriss, Leona Dickman, Chelle Shoemaker, Sharon Steele,

Birkley Barnes, Eileen Jones, John Tole, Randi Donley, Alisa Golden, Isabelle Hellerud, Jill Nickols, Juliann Groom, Leanna Larmer, Joey Nickols, Stacy Williams, Bruce Frahm, Tremon Kizer, Steve Golden, Chris Jordan, and Alex Vavra.

The orchestra will present three more concerts in the 2004-05 season, which Kriss said could be subject to changes. However; for now the dates and places include "Creative Musical Genes" on March 12, 2005, at the Colby High School auditorium starting 7:30 p.m. and repeated on March 13 in the Atwood High School auditorium at 3:30 p.m.

"These two concerts will be under the direction of Juliann Groom, Atwood High School Band Director.

The final concert of the season is scheduled for May 21, 2005, with both Groom and Salvador directing "Prisms of Music" in the Colby High School Commons at 7:30 p.m.

"The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra is supported by the Friends of the Orchestra," Kriss said, "and these concerts bring a quality of life to our area and an element of culture that is often lacking in much larger communities."

Admission to the concert will be by Friends of the Orchestra membership or tickets available at the door.

Newton couple free on bond in servitude case

By JOHN MILBURN

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA (AP) — A Newton couple charged in federal court with involuntary servitude will be allowed to post bond but must remain in their home and wear electronic monitoring devices, attorneys said Tuesday.

Arlan and Linda Kaufman were arrested last month and charged with a single count of involuntary servitude. The couple operate Kaufman House, a group home in

Newton for adults with mental disabilities. The charge stems from an allegation that residents of the home were forced to work in the nude at a Potwin farm in 1999.

The criminal charge is based on a law making it illegal to hold or sell another person into "any condition of involuntary servitude," which is prohibited by the 13th Amendment banning slavery. Violators can be sentenced to up to 20 years in prison.

Arlan Kaufman, 68, is a former

licensed social worker. His wife, 61, a nurse whose license has been suspended, was in charge of dispensing medication at the group home.

Bond for Arlan Kaufman was set at \$200,000 and \$150,000 for Linda Kaufman. U.S. District Judge Sam Crow has not set a date for their next hearing.

Jim Wyrch, attorney for the Kaufmans, said the couple posted their bond in Wichita and were expected to be released and return to Newton later Tuesday. As part of the

agreement, the couple will not be allowed to have contact with any of the former residents of Kaufman House or with the residents' families.

The Kaufmans have operated the Kaufman Treatment Center, also known as the Kaufman House Residential Group Treatment Center, since 1985. Prosecutors also allege that stun guns were used to shock residents in front of others, and residents' clothing was sometimes taken away as a punishment.

Briefly

No newspaper Thanksgiving Day

The Colby Free Press office will be closed Thursday and no newspaper will be published. The office will open Friday at its regular hours from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Publisher Tom Dreiling and the newspaper staff wish everyone a safe Thanksgiving holiday.

No trash pickup Thursday, Friday

The City of Colby Sanitation Department will not be operating on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 25-26 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. For those whose normal trash day is Thursday or Friday it will be picked up on Saturday. Please have all trash at curb by 8 a.m. For questions call the Public Works Department, 462-4420.

Hospital Auxiliary open house

The Citizens Medical Center Auxiliary will be hosting an open house and Shoparama on Tuesday, Nov. 30 and Wednesday, Dec. 1 in the board room at the hospital from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. The gift shop will also be offer-

ing a 25 percent discount on all ornaments during this time, and all Christmas items are now in. Proceeds from these two days go to the Auxiliary to further their volunteer efforts.

Commodity distribution Wednesday

United States Department of Agriculture commodities will be distributed on Wednesday, Dec. 1 from 8:30-10 a.m. at the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program office in the Senior Progress Center in Colby. Items include pork, peanut butter, pudding cups, potato flakes, raisins and orange juice. For information or questions, call 462-6744.

Names sought for 'Heart Tree'

Organizers of the "Heart Tree" are once again seeking names of children who could benefit from having their wish realized during the holiday season. The "Heart Tree" was established three years ago in remembrance of Dr. Jeff Jennings, who died suddenly at the age of 29 and prior to Christmas in 2001. The tree symbolizes Dr. Jennings' love for the holiday season, coordinators said. Anyone who might know of a child in need is asked to call Jennifer Van Eaton at Sacred Heart, 462-2179.

Colby
Hoxie
Oakley



Warm, then cold and snowy

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 20s. West winds 5 to 15 mph. **Thanksgiving Day...**Partly cloudy. Warmer. Highs in the lower 60s. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph with higher gusts. **Thursday night...**Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s. West winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the northwest 10 to 20 mph after midnight. **Friday...**Cloudy with a chance of rain turning to snow as the day progresses. Cooler. Highs in the upper 30s to lower 40s. North winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain and snow 30 percent. **Friday night...**Mostly cloudy. Cooler. Lows in the lower 20s. **Saturday...**Cloudy with a 20 percent chance of snow. Highs in the upper 30s. **Saturday night...**Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of snow. Lows in the lower 20s. **Sunday...**Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of snow. Highs in the mid 30s.

The numbers
Tuesday's high, 33
Low this morning, 23
Year ago today, 44 and 3
Records for this date, 75 in 1915 and 0 in 1950
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00
November total, 2.35 inches
November snowfall: 2.5 inches
Soil temperature, 39

The sources:
The forecast is from the National Weather Service, and other numbers are from the Northwest Research-Extension Center, Colby. A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

