



COLBY FREE PRESS

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Colby doctor hearing date rescheduled

By Jan Katz Ackerman
Colby Free Press

For the second time this year a hearing for the Colby doctor being investigated by the Kansas Board of Healing Arts has been changed.

Larry Buening, executive director of the Board of Healing Arts in Topeka said this morning that Dr. Victor Hildyard's hearing has been rescheduled due to conflicts with his attorney's schedule.

"Judge Gaschler pre-empted (the Board of Healing Arts) yesterday with scheduling a trial with Dr. Hildyard's attorney on an unrelated case.

"I assume they'll have to find a mutually agreeable time, maybe in October," Buening said.

Michael R. O'Neal, Hutchinson, represents Hildyard.

A hearing set for February was moved to June, now it's been moved again.

District Judge Edward Gaschler, presiding officer for the case, said this morning the hearing will last eight days and will take place in Oct. 5 to Oct. 14. Sessions of the

hearing set for Colby will take place at the airport meeting room and will start at 9 a.m. each day.

"The hearing will take place in Colby on Oct. 5, 6, and 7, in Topeka on Oct. 10 and 11, and back in Colby on Oct. 12, 13 and 14," he said.

Gaschler said all sessions of the hearing will be open to the public unless he determines patient issues need to be heard in closed session.

He said a good example of how the hearing will work would be to compare it to a city or county meeting which was open, then closed for an executive session, and reopened to the public.

A petition filed with the Board of Healing Arts in August 2004, charges Hildyard with 12 violations against the Kansas Healing Arts Act alleged to have taken place between 1996 and 2003. All 12 counts allege the doctor committed acts which are inclusive "but not limited to professional incompetency and or unprofessional conduct."

The board could revoke, suspend, censure, fine or otherwise limit Hildyard's medical license.

Ten guardsmen sent to Fort Riley

By Tisha Cox
Colby Free Press

Members of the Kansas Army National Guard in the Colby area were called up for active duty on May 23. 1st Sgt. Manuel Rubio with the Detachment 2-107th Maintenance Company, said today 39 soldiers from the 170th were called up for duty with the 995 Maintenance Company.

About 10 of the soldiers are from the Colby area.

The 995 is a sister battalion to the 170th and covers the area from Phillipsburg to Belleville.

Rubio said the soldiers were originally to be sent to Yakima, Wash., but were assigned to Fort Riley instead. The soldiers are on a six-month tour of duty to do maintenance and repair work on equipment coming back from Afghanistan and Iraq.

"We had to supplement them with some specialized jobs," Rubio said. "We sent them 39 soldiers."

Of the 170th's approximately 150 soldiers, more than 90 are still at home and of those, about 20 are new

recruits who have yet to finish basic training this summer or others who recently completed their training.

Rubio said the chance always exists the entire detachment might be called up, but it's slim.

A more likely scenario is more soldiers being called up to serve in other units.

"We've been tasking soldiers out to all these other units," he said, and members from the 170th are currently serving from Bosnia to Iraq to Fort Riley.

Rubio said there will be a family support group meeting for spouses and families of the newly-deployed personnel this weekend in Salina.

He said having them serving on active duty in the state is a little easier on the families than having someone overseas and several were even able to come home over the Memorial Day holiday.

He added even though they're orders are for a six-month deployment, they could be home sooner, but he cautioned orders could be changed.



PATTY DECKER/Colby Free Press

Ivan Lee of Colby was busy buffing his wife's cruiser for the Rod Run activities beginning Friday, June 10. Leta has a 1963 Nova SS with a six cylinder engine. In the foreground is Ivan's mint turquoise muscle car, which is a 1965 Nova SS with V-8 engine.

Ivan said he has been working on his "hobby" ever since he got the car in 1999. Leta bought her 1963 version of the same car in 2000. Ivan enjoys old cars and hopes they bring back memories or spark interest to others attending the show.

The family pit stop

Rod Run gears up for next week

By Patty Decker
Free Press Editor

More than 80 cars are registered for the 12th annual Cruise to the Past Rod Run next weekend, which is set for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 10, 11 and 12, said Bev Biel, co-coordinator.

"The amount of vehicles registered is normal for this time and we have cars coming from Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, and even Texas," she said.

In addition to all the familiar activities planned this year, the Rod Run committee has created a pick-up class.

"We had several pick-ups enter and we were able to procure a

sponsor for these awards," she said.

The fun starts Friday evening, said Jo Strange, publicity chair, with a DJ playing old favorite songs from the "hot rod" era in the Sonic and Montana Mike's parking lots from 5 to 9 p.m.

"Also on Friday," Biel said, "Warks Embroidery will be giving away a jacket to a lucky car participant and the Sonic manager will be making a car choice and giving \$100 cash."

Then on Saturday, the *Show and Shine* begins at 8 a.m. in Fike Park.

"There will be lots of food vendors throughout the day including the local Lions Club serving hamburgers, J and B Meat Market providing hamburgers, polish sausages

and other food, Gambino's Kettle Korn, Mountain Man Candy, and lots more," Biel said.

Tubbs and Sons will have a display, and as always, the public is invited to come see the "beautiful cars" and visit with the owners.

"We do ask that visitors don't touch the vehicles, and keep a close watch on children," she said.

Other exhibitors will include D & M Trike Conversions, Ivan Parks, Elmer Frick, Denver Specialty (car items), and Omeidea Productions plans on selling coasters, coffee mugs, mouse pads, and other miscellaneous items with Rod Run logo.

Also on Saturday, a parade begins at 4 p.m., offering many residents

otherwise unable to attend, can get a look.

Biel said the parade will go by Lantern Park Manor, Prairie Senior Living Complex and down Franklin Avenue.

Sunday morning a church service starting at 9 a.m. in Fike Park, with fellow rodder for Christ, Ron Palmer of Colorado Springs, will be featured and the cars will once again be on display until noon when the awards are given out.

"We are looking forward to as big a show as in the past," Biel said.

For questions or for general information, call her at (785) 460-2311.

Break-in at Hoxie hospital reported

Jan Katz Ackerman
Colby Free Press

HOXIE — Authorities are investigating an overnight break-in at the hospital in Hoxie.

Interim administrator ReChelle Kennedy said she was called to the hospital last night with a report there was an unauthorized person inside the clinic.

"I was notified about 11:30 p.m. by nursing staff that there was a

stranger in the building," Kennedy said.

She said a registered nurse and nurses' aid identified the alleged suspect of the break-in as former administrator Paul Hammeke.

Hammeke on Tuesday was fired from the position as administrator, having been on staff for four weeks. In addition to his firing, his wife, Dr. Margarita Hammeke was also fired.

After being called, Kennedy, ac-

companied by her husband, Scott Kennedy, and hospital board chairman Richard Krannawitter, went to investigate the incident.

"After I arrived here I made a call to Verle Miller our maintenance director. He came and changed the codes to the building and we made a sweep of it and found no one. After that, we called the sheriff's office and Undersheriff Brian Fenner came to the hospital," Kennedy

said.

The Sheridan County Sheriff's Office was contacted this morning about the incident, but Fenner was on a day off. Deputy Hessel Anderson said the incident is under investigation, but was not able to furnish any other details. Kennedy said surveillance tapes monitor the hospital, long-term care unit and medical clinic and those tapes are under review.

Commissioners informed

County road project delayed

By Tisha Cox
Colby Free Press

A Thomas County road project will have to wait another year. County road department supervisor Clair Schrock gave an update on the Willow Road project at the Tuesday Thomas County commissioners meeting.

The commissioners agreed to wait another year to finish the asphalt overlay on the project.

Schrock presented prices for asphalt for the county's part of the project, which would include a seven-inch thick, 30-foot wide overlay.

He said they could get asphalt from Victor Klotz who is also doing

the city's part of the project, for the same price the city is receiving.

The price would be \$52 per ton on 3,350 tons of asphalt. The total for the job would be \$174,200.

Ritchie Paving was another possibility, with the price of \$40.50/ton for a total of \$135,675.

The savings would have been \$38,525.

He said there was one problem with the lower price. Ritchie Paving, who offered the lower price, is only in the area until the end of June because it's working on a project on I-70. That posed a problem with engineering plans because Penco Engineering wouldn't have adequate time to work them up.

Schrock suggested waiting a year and possibly have the opportunity to save some money. He said the county will save a little money by not doing the project this year and will ensure getting it done properly without having to hurry.

The commissioners agreed that was the best route to take and advised Schrock to get in touch with the Marc Gillman and Carolyn Armstrong at the city as soon as possible to let them know what was going on.

Commissioner Paul Steele asked how important plans are to a project.

Schrock explained they need plans for the changed angles and curbs and also plans on the new right-of-way.

Chairman Ron Evans also told Schrock he would like to see his department budget and the budgets from other departments so they can start to get an idea of how much they might need for next year's budget.

A sign of progress



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

An employee from Sporer Land Development, Inc. in Oakley worked on grading Willow in front of Bourquin's Old Depot Restaurant and RV Park this morning. The company is doing improvements to Willow and South Franklin for the city of Colby. Next year, the county will be doing work on its half of the road where it joins with County Club Drive.

K-18 program expands
See Sports, page 8

