

## Briefly

### Fair board to meet

The Thomas County Fair Board will meet at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at the 4-H Building at the Thomas County Fairgrounds. Items on the agenda include: Thomas County extension agent report; bills and financial report; committee reports on the buildings and grounds, carnival, rodeo, parade, demolition derby, races, fair book and advertising income/expenses; discussions on the fair barbecue and event sponsor contract and display cases for open class. The meeting is open to the public.

### College swim hours revisited

Swimming pool hours at Colby Community College. Debbie Schwanke, public information officer, said the hours for open swim are: Monday and Wednesday from 4-8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday from 4-7 p.m.; Friday from 4-6 p.m.;

Saturday from 1-5 p.m.; and Sunday from 1-3 p.m. Information previously released was incorrect. In addition to the open swim hours, other hours include: lap swimming, the hours are from 5 to 7 a.m., Monday through Friday and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Exerciser hours run from 6 to 7 a.m., Monday through Friday and 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

### Open house planned April 28

Colby Sacred Heart Preschool, 1150 W. Sixth, will be holding an open house from 1 to 6 p.m., Friday, April 28. The public is invited.

### Physicals scheduled for May

Colby Medical and Surgical Center, 175 S. Range Ave., is

once again providing free sports physicals on Tuesday, May 9, for middle school and high school students planning to participate in sports next fall. Students are asked to bring physical forms with them. Colby High School students will be seen at 5:30 p.m.; Colby Middle School at 6 p.m.; and Brewster and Golden Plains at 6:30 p.m. For questions, call Patti Stephens, (785) 462-3332.

### Public transportation available

The general transportation van is available to anyone in Thomas County for trips to the doctor, visiting friends, going to a meal site and more, said Shelly Harms, county clerk. The van services are provided to Colby, Brewster, Gem, Menlo, Rexford and a portion of Oakley as needed from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For reservations, call 460-2901 or 443-9208 by 11 a.m. the previous business day.

## Weather Corner



## Summer-like warmth

### The forecast

**Tonight** — Mostly clear with a low around 49. South wind between 10 and 15 mph. **Thursday** — Sunny with a high near 90. West wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Thursday night** — Clear with a low near 49. South wind 5 to 15 mph becoming west. **Friday** — Mostly sunny with a high around 86. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south. **Friday night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 53. **Saturday** — Partly cloudy and windy with a high around 80. **Saturday night** — Partly cloudy and breezy with a high around 43. **Sunday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 74.

### Temperatures

Tuesday's high, 73  
Low this morning, 37  
Records for this date, 89 in 1899, 11 in 1940  
Precipitation past 24 hours to 8 a.m. today, 0.00  
April's precipitation, .44  
A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-TEMP.

## Board considers abstinence education

WICHITA (AP) — The Kansas State Board of Education is considering a proposal that would require public schools to teach sexual abstinence until marriage or risk losing their accreditation.

The board listened to two hours of public comment and expert presentations Tuesday, but took no action and plans to rehash the issue again.

Board members appeared confused about whether such a plan would allow school districts to also offer comprehensive sex education that includes information about birth control methods and protection against sexually transmitted diseases for students who may become sexually active.

Board member Kathy Martin, who proposed the sexual abstinence mandate, said some Kansas schools were not upholding societal values.

"We need to be the ones to say, 'This is the right thing to teach,'" she said.

She said the board already ties accreditation to other subjects such as math and science.

But other board members questioned whether the state board needed to get involved, noting that 75 percent of Kansas school districts offer comprehensive sex education courses that already teach abstinence.

"We as a state board should not be mandating this from a state level," board member Janet Waugh said, adding that every local school board should have the right to make its own decision according to its own needs.

Board member Carol Rupe suggested the board could make a recommendation to teach abstinence before marriage, but said it was wrong to change state regulations to mandate it. She noted Kansas laws already requires physical education that includes health and human sexuality.

"This is much larger, more fraught with danger," board member Sue Gamble said, warning it would set a precedent to tie abstinence to accreditation.

## Old and new



JOHN VAN NOSTRAND/Colby Free Press  
Country music performer Mel McDaniel entertained the crowd Friday at the Colby Community Building. McDaniel blended his old and new material during the show.

## Abducted teen found

INDEPENDENCE, Kan. (AP) — A missing 16-year-old girl who was reportedly abducted Tuesday morning has been found unharmed, police said.

"She's in good physical condition," Police Chief Lee Bynum said late Tuesday. "She appears to be fine."

Kelsey Lynn Stelting disappeared around 6:30 a.m. while getting ready for school, said her mother, Kelly Cox, earlier in the day. The softball player was getting a bag of softball bats from the family car and did not return to the house, Cox said.

During a news conference near the teen's home, Bynum said Stelting walked up to a home in Independence just before 10 p.m. The

occupant, whom she did not know, then called police.

Bynum said authorities did not know whether she was dropped off in front of the house, and he declined to speculate about whether she had escaped.

Kelsey was taken to police headquarters at City Hall and was still being questioned late Tuesday.

No one has been arrested, and law enforcement continued to search late Tuesday for a suspect. The white van that reportedly was linked to the kidnapping was not immediately recovered.

Bynum said he had little information about what took place during the more than 15 hours the teen was missing. "It's just too early to have that kind of information," he said.

## Guard spokesperson retiring

TOPEKA (AP) — After 30 years of service, Joy Moser is retiring in June as spokeswoman for the Kansas National Guard and the Division of Emergency Management.

The retirement was announced Monday by Maj. Gen. Tod Bunting, adjutant general for Kansas. Bunting said Moser had been an invaluable staff member through incredible times.

"Joy has calmly and steadfastly guided our community relations through to the dynamic agency we are today," Bunting said.

There was no mention when a replacement will be named for Moser, who leaves on June 17.

Moser, 63, said that the time had come for her to switch to a slower pace, relax and rest. She has worked for seven adjutant generals, governors and through countless tornadoes, floods, ice storms and two wars in Iraq in which Kansas Guard troops were deployed.

### "Hemorrhoids? Here's what my doctor recommended."

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5-9 days	17¢/word
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\*Price reflects 15 word minimum ad. Ads must be in our office by 12:00 noon the day before. In case of error, call us the FIRST day your ads run since we will not be responsible for errors after the first day/week.

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Your ad will run 1 time in the Advocate and 1 week in the sister paper of your choice.

ADS MUST BE IN THE OFFICE BY 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY.

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