



COLBY  
FREE PRESS

# Attorney: Colby doctor has license until August

By **Patty Decker**  
*Free Press Editor*

The revocation of a Colby doctor's medical license has been delayed until the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts meets in August.

By a unanimous vote, the board of healing arts, the agency which regulates physician licenses, said at its June 10 meeting it would revoke Dr. Victor H. Hildyard's license in two to four weeks.

"They (the board) don't meet again until August and are saying now they won't have their final



Name here

written order until then," said Hildyard's attorney, Mike O'Neal of Hutchinson.

The board's decision to stop proceedings against Hildyard was prompted by O'Neal filing an order to stay the revocation. O'Neal said today he wanted to make sure his application was in place so that as soon as the board served its final notice to Hildyard, O'Neal could request the application for stay be heard by the district court and thus allowing Hildyard to continue practicing until all appeals were exhausted.

Board's general counsel, Mark Stafford, told O'Neal regarding the application for a stay and the final order could all be determined in August.

"We are in limbo at this time," O'Neal said. "They (the board) has

issued a verbal order revoking Dr. Hildyard's privileges, but no final written order has been made — and without the final written order we have no access to a judge."

O'Neal said it will take the board until August to make up their reasons for not following the January ruling of Edward Gaschler. Gaschler is the board's hearing officer who initially cleared Hildyard of 16 medical-related violations. He found three non-medical violations had warrant.

"The board is out of time noting that it had 30 days to render a final order following Gaschler's initial order dated Jan. 30, 2006," O'Neal said. The board tabled the decision during its April meeting.

For more than four years, Hildyard has been under some type of litigation. The following is a

timeline — April 2002: Hildyard suspended from Citizens Medical Center, reinstated by District Judge Jack Burr, Goodland. Sept. 2002: Hildyard suspended from CMC reinstated by Burr.

April 2003: Hildyard's due process hearing at CMC.

April 10, 2003: Hildyard barred from the hospital by the seven-member governing board.

Aug. 13 2004: Petition filed against doctor by Kansas State Board of Healing Arts, Topeka.

Feb. 14 2005: Amended petition filed by Board of Healing Arts.

Oct. 2005: Hearing begins.

June 2006: Board of Healing Arts decides to revoke Hildyard's medical license.

## Murder suspect caught in Colby

By **Jan Katz Ackerman**  
*Colby Free Press*

A central-Kansas murder suspect was arrested Sunday in Colby after asking for assistance at a local station.

According to Thomas County Jail records, Hector Gallegos, 42, residence unknown, was arrested by an officer of the Colby Police Department at 10:29 a.m.

Colby Police Chief Randy Jones was not available for comment. Thomas County Sheriff Mike Baughn said this morning he knew little about the case other than the fact Gallegos was arrested in Colby.

Lyons Police Chief Chris Detmer said some of his officers

responded to a report of a shooting at 4 a.m. Sunday in Lyons.

"Upon their arrival they found a male shot, the apparent victim of a homicide," Detmer wrote in a written release issued this morning. "This investigation is underway currently by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, the Lyons Police Department and the Rice County Sheriff's Office."

After Gallegos' name was run through the National Crime Information Center's database, Thomas County officials were alerted Gallegos was a murder suspect and contacted officials in Rice County.

Gallegos was turned over to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation Sunday.

# Customers may value the meal but restaurants value employees

By **John Van Nostrand**  
*Colby Free Press*

Want to make a fast buck in Colby? Try fast food.

Colby's fast-food restaurants' demand for employees this year has been greater than in recent years. Restaurants are now dangling the carrots, along with the fries, to get potential employees.

"This year, the need was so great," said Jeff Krzycki, owner of Taco John's.

Krzycki said the reason for the need was the opening of Wal-Mart Supercenter in May. Wal-Mart's new building and additional departments required more employees. The new store opened May 17.

"Wal-Mart sucked it dry," Krzycki said. "There were not enough people to go around."

Krzycki, who has owned Taco John's since 1990, said he took drastic measures to attract applicants. He increased the starting

wage by \$1 and has offered paid vacations, childcare and tuition assistance.

"That is what people are looking for," he said. "Now, we are loaded with applications."

Krzycki said Taco John's number of employees was at its lowest in April and May, about the same time Wal-Mart Supercenter employees were being trained.

"It was really tough," he said.

Since then, Taco John's has filled its positions.

Sonic managing partner Shannon Martin knows how Krzycki feels.

"I've been here the last five years and it usually works out," he said. "Maybe it was worse this year because of Wal-Mart. I was expecting that to happen, to a degree."

Martin said, at one time this spring he would have considered anybody who walked in the door asking about a job. But he knows fast-food work is not for just anybody. "This line of work is better the

younger you are. Young people seem to have the energy for it," he said.

In Sonic's case, employees take orders, prepare food or take food to customers. During the peak times of the day, that work could be for dozens of people in just a matter of minutes. Employees are always on their feet and usually smell like the food when heading for home.

"It's not strenuous, in terms of physical labor, but it is fast paced," he said. Always being ready for fast-paced work is important said Arby's General Manager Darlene Selley.

"You have got to be ready and ready to work hard when we get hit," she said.

Selley, who has been with Arby's for eight years, said her restaurant is "a little understaffed." She also said Wal-Mart Supercenter is a main reason for the need in employees.

But Selley said those busy lunch



JOHN VAN NOSTRAND/Colby Free Press

Sonic employee Aaron Mead checked on a customer Friday. The demand for employees at Colby's fast-food restaurants has increased since the opening of the Wal-Mart Supercenter in May.

and dinner hours can be easier for employees to get through knowing the kind of people they work with.

Fast-food employees learn the fundamentals and enjoy the rewards of teamwork. "I have had employees

tell me it is fun to work here and how easy we all get along and we have a nice atmosphere."

# Center helps troubled youth

By **Tisha Cox**  
*Colby Free Press*

Today's western Kansas kids are talking about the new video game, going to a friend's birthday party and the fight they saw in their own home.

Children in northwest Kansas who have witnessed or been victims of violent crime have help from the Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center in Colby.

Kelly Robbins is a co-founder and co-director of the center. She is an interviewer and retired Kansas Bureau of Investigation investigator.

"We've heard horrific stories from an 11- and 13-year-old," she said. "And after talking with them, and helping them, we decided making such an impact would be worthwhile."

And the centers were born.

David Fyler, a forensic interviewer and therapist, co-founded the centers with Robbins. Robbins retired from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation last August, where she worked as an investigator.

The center's first office opened in Sublette in 2004 and has since expanded to Scott City and in February in Colby.

Christy Kirk, child-family advocate with the center, said from 190 interviews done, in 187 of them, the act of abuse was done by a family member or someone known by the child. The center has done 19 interviews at the Colby center since it opened.

The largest age groups the centers deal with range from 4- to 6-years-old. They work with youth up to 18

years old.

Many of the center's clients come from referrals, either from law enforcement or Social Rehabilitative Services.

"The teenagers seem to be the hardest group to talk to, but we have had a good success rate with them," Robbins said.

Robbins said domestic violence and violent crime have always been around, but the way they are viewed is changing.

"It's being brought out in the open," she said. "It's being reported more often."

With physical abuse, symptoms are marks on the body. However, Robbins said, with sexual abuse, symptoms are not as easy to detect.

"It has had a stigma in the past, where people don't want to believe it happens, and there is pressure not to expose it when it happens," she said.

With more incidents being reported and understanding of how to deal with it, Robbins said the stigma is fading.

Robbins said it is tough because children can still love the person who abuses them, and it's hard for society to understand why.

"They don't want anything to happen to them, they just want the abuse to stop," she said.

Robbins said it's common for a child's parents to not want to discuss the issues, but the purpose of the center is to talk with the child.

Staff first interacts with a child, to get them to relax and will move into the interview process.

Forensic interview techniques are used, which are neutral and geared toward fact-finding.

**Child center receives grant**

The Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center received a \$9,620 grant from the Pete Henry Foundation.

The grant will be used to help start the Stewards of Children program. It will teach adults how to detect and prevent child abuse.

"This takes that stress away," she said.

"We try to get one interview so the child doesn't have to tell the same story over and over again," Fyler said.

Efforts are made to not re-traumatize the child so the healing process can begin.

Fyler said the main focus is to give them a safe environment and help minimize the trauma that can tear apart a family. They try to get the child's own words so the interview will stand up in court, if needed.

Domestic violence and abuse can also impact a community.

"A community might not realize the child knows the person, and sometimes the truthfulness of abuse claims might be doubted," Fyler said.

"Abuse exists," Fyler said. "It hasn't gone away, but the way it's viewed and handled is changing."

In addition to providing the services already offered, the center will soon offer a new prevention program. For information, call (620) 872-3706.

## Air Time



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Ham radios were in operation Saturday during the annual Trojan Amateur Radio Club's field day at Colby Municipal Airport. Nathan Reitchcheck (from left to right) Bob McLemore, Gary Shull and Jeff Morrison, standing, checked out one of several radios set up. The club was participating in an exercise contacting other ham radio operators around the country, something they would do during a real emergency.