

Briefly

Remote control car races Sunday

First Baptist Church of Colby, 615 W. Webster, is holding remote control car races Sunday at the church from 2 to 5 p.m.

The event is free and open to all middle and high school age students.

For those wanting to participate, but don't have a remote control car, organizers said cars are available for use.

Tree deadline changed

The Thomas County Conservation District has changed the deadline for tree orders, as well as the day for delivery. Orders will be taken through Friday, March 23, and Tree Day will be held Saturday, April 14, at the Thomas County 4-H Building from 8 to 11 a.m. Please contact Danielle Freeman at 462-7482 Ext. 303 for order information.

Green eggs and ham brunch

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, Queen Mary Circle of Sa-

cred Heart Church is having its annual green eggs and ham breakfast brunch from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday at the church basement, 1065 W. Fifth. A free will offering will be accepted to support special needs in the parish and community.

Chamber luncheon Friday

The Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce luncheon will be at noon Friday at Colby Country Club. The speaker is Jennifer Van Eaton with the American Cancer Society.

Health department closed Friday

Thomas County Health Dept. will be closed this Friday due to continuing education.

They will reopen with regular business hours on Monday.

Farm Bureau plans seminar

"The Ten Top Stupid Things Families Do To Break Up

Their Business," will be presented at 6:30 p.m., Monday, March 26, in the Colby High School auditorium.

The speaker is Jolene Brown, certified speaking professional, who also is a grain farmer in eastern Iowa.

The seminar is free and sponsored by the 10th District of the Kansas Farm Bureau, along with other sponsors. Refreshments will be served and everyone is welcome to attend.

Square dance Saturday

The Golden Buckle Square Dance group has scheduled a dance at 8 p.m., Saturday, in the Colby Community Building. Anyone interested in square dancing.

Judging team plans fundraiser

The Colby Community College Livestock Judging Team is taking orders for homemade cinnamon rolls to raise money to attend the annual "Cow Palace" judging contest in San Francisco, Calif.

The cost \$10 and anyone interesting in placing orders should call McKenzie Chambers at (303) 775-9506.

Consumers must be treated fairly by law

By Paul Morrison
Attorney General

Consumer Corner

Dear Kansas Consumer,

Since taking office in January, the Consumer Protection Division of my office has received numerous questions about debt collectors. The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act requires debt collectors to abide by a set of laws and treat consumers fairly.

While these laws will not erase any legitimate debt you owe, they do protect consumers against unethical collectors. If you have outstanding debt from credit cards, personal loans or a home mortgage, you should familiarize yourself with some facts about the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

- Debt collectors may not contact you at inconvenient times or places.
- Debt collectors may contact you in person, by mail, telephone, telegram or fax during the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. Unless you agree to separate terms, a debt collector may not contact you outside of these hours, or contact you at work if the collector knows your employer disapproves.

- You may stop debt collectors from contacting you by writing them a letter.
- Once a debt collector receives your letter, they may not contact you again except to notify you of some specific action or to say there will be no further contact. If you actually owe the debt, writing a letter does not make it go away and you may still be sued by the collector or your original creditor.
- Debt collectors are prohibited from harassing consumers. Harassment includes using threats of violence or harm, publishing a list of consumers who refuse to pay their debts (except to a credit bureau), using obscene or profane language or repeatedly using the telephone to annoy someone.
- Debt collectors are prohibited from using false or misleading statements.
- Debt collectors may not imply that they are attorneys or government representatives, falsely imply

that you have committed a crime or will be arrested, misrepresent the amount of your debt, or misrepresent the legality of any papers being sent to you.

If a debt collector has violated the law, you have the right to sue them in state or federal court within one year. You should report any problems with a debt collector to my Office of Consumer Protection by calling 1-800-432-2310 or by filling out the complaint form at www.ksag.org/consumers. Complaints may also be filed with the Federal Trade Commission by calling (877) 382-4357 or using the complaint form at www.ftc.gov.

To further protect yourself, always keep records of all correspondences and disputes with debt collectors. If a consumer disputes a debt in writing, send it certified mail in order to confirm that the letter was sent and received.

Editor's note: As your Attorney General, I am working to keep Kansans safe by providing information and promoting awareness of consumer fraud issues. If you have questions about the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, please contact my Consumer Protection Division at (785) 296-3751 or toll free (800) 432-2310.

Weather Corner



Warmer and sunny

The forecast

Tonight — Partly cloudy with a low around 35. North wind around 10 mph. **Friday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 61. North wind around 10 mph becoming south. **Friday night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 32. South wind around 10 mph. **Saturday** — Partly cloudy with a high near 63. Southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Saturday night** — Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy with a low around 30. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent. **Sunday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 63. **Sunday night** — Mostly clear with a low around 32. **Monday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 71.

Temperatures

Tuesday's high, Low this morning, Records for this date, 82 in 1899, -4 in 1967, Precipitation last 24 hours, 0.00, March's precipitation, 0.00, A recorded forecast updated throughout the day is available by calling (785) 899-7119. Current temperatures are available by calling 460-8367.

Parents paying for kindergarten

OVERLAND PARK (AP) — Kim Thai didn't spend extra money to send her oldest daughter to an all-day kindergarten program in San Antonio.

So the Midwest transplant was surprised to learn she'd have to spend \$12 a day to send her youngest daughter, Isabelle, to a full-day program in a suburban Kansas City public school.

"I thought everywhere was full-day," Thai said as she picked up her children from Sunrise Point Elementary in the Blue Valley school district in Kansas, where Isabelle is among 48 percent of 1,562 kindergartners enrolled in full-day programs. "To have to supplement the half day. To us, it was an automatic thing."

As all-day kindergarten grows in popularity, some districts are asking parents to pay for the extra costs of the longer program.

Pay programs have critics, but proponents say charging is one of the best ways for districts to provide full-day programs in states like Kansas and Indiana, which only pay for half-day programs. And they say many parents accustomed to paying for child care and preschool don't flinch at the cost.

Nationwide, 65 percent of kindergartners were enrolled in full-day programs in 2003, up from 28 percent in 1977, according to Washington, D.C.-based Child Trends DataBank, a national research organization.

NOW SHOWING
Mar. 2nd - Mar. 8th
THIS WEEK ONLY

BECAUSE I SAID SO
Starring Diane Keaton
PG-13 1 hour, 45 min.
Friday 7:00 & 9:00
Saturday 4:00 & 7:00 & 9:00
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

WILD HOGS
Starring Tim Allen & John Travolta
PG-13 1 hour, 45 min.
Friday 7:00 & 9:00
Saturday 4:00 & 7:00 & 9:00
Sunday 4:00 & 7:00
Monday - Thursday 7:00

Colby Cinema
1015 S. Kansas
460-9600 • colbycinema.com

Help Wanted

Circulation Manager

The Colby Free Press, an award-winning daily newspaper, is looking for a Circulation Manager. Main responsibilities include circulation and classified ads. Excellent communication skills and the ability to work well with the public is required. Computer skills helpful. Some benefits.

Call John Van Nostrand, Publisher, at 462-3963 today to set-up an interview.

EOE

COLBY FREE PRESS

Tree eater

JAN KATZACKERMAN/Colby Free Press

Hoxie city workers, left to right, Brandon Fenner and Fred Washburn fed small branches and limbs into a mulcher Tuesday at the James L. Johnson Memorial Park. The city rented the mulcher for 30 days as part of the clean up process to remove downed limbs and branches resulting from the late December snow and ice storms.

Please Recycle

"The Top Ten Stupid Things Families do to Break up Their Business"

PRESENTED BY JOLENE BROWN, CSP

Monday, March 26, 2007
6:30 to approximately 9:30 PM (CST)
Colby High School Auditorium

• Discuss the egos, emotions, & decisions involved in estate & management transfer planning.

~Seminar Free of Charge~

Sponsored by:
Cheyenne, Decatur, Gove, Graham, Rawlins, Sheridan, Sherman, & Thomas County Farm Bureau Associations; Kansas Farm Bureau Foundation; Farm Credit of Western Kansas, 1st National Bank, Colby Implement, Bankwest, Truck and Tractor Repair, Colby Ag Center, Woofter Construction and Irrigation, Peggy Miller, The Bank

Proposed Wellness/Activities Complex

Colby Community College Public Forums

Question/Answer Sessions to Discuss Proposed Wellness/Activities Complex

Thursday, March 15	CCC Thomas Hall	5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 20	Brewster HS Gym	5:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 22	CCC Student Union	12 Noon
Thursday, March 22	Rexford HS Gym	5:30 p.m.

COLBY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

If you have any of these certificates...

Good Only at Participating Merchants

25 \$ Christmas On Us Colby Free Press 25 \$

Expires March 31, 2007

...remember - they expire on March 31st!!

Make a Difference - Please Recycle