

Family

Tourism impact is boon for Kansas

By Leilani Thomas
Tourism Director

On the Road

Memorial Day is history and we are now well on our way into the summer season, but first some facts and figures about tourism which we shared with our volunteers during Tourism Week. In 2004, the total impact of travel and tourism (direct and indirect) in the state of Kansas was \$5.6 Billion. 166,951 jobs were created for Kansans by tourism economic activity or 12.6 percent of total employment in the state. Tourism generated \$1.8 billion in federal, state and local government taxes in 2004.

Locally \$184,153 in guest tax at 3% was collected in 2005. This means that the lodging facilities sales were over \$6.1 million dollars. According to the International Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus, the average traveler spends 40 percent of their travel dollar on lodging while 60 percent is spent on non-lodging including food, attractions, shopping and gas. That 60 percent would be \$9.2 million for Colby. Income from the overnight traveler alone would be \$15.4 million. These are all out of county dollars brought into our community which is economic development at its best. We are thankful for the travelers and certainly welcome them to our community.

We are also pleased that the message board sign is finally finished. We are very proud of it and hope that you enjoy reading about upcoming attractions as well as the time and temp. We welcomed the Register of Deeds Association to Colby for their annual conference June 5-7 and the Kansas Arts Commission June 18. Watch for art events to be held during the month of June.

Kansas Health Foundation is hosting a Leadership Institute in

Wichita, June 14-15. Colby has been invited to take a team to this seminar to learn about framing powerful messages for our community around early childhood development. The Colby Team consists of community members as well as interested health care professionals. Those attending will be Leilani Thomas and Cindy Black, Leadership Thomas County co-facilitators; Holly Stephens, Colby Chamber of Commerce; Sean Hankin, Colby Fire Department; Christine Schrick, CCC Nursing instructor; Terrel Harrison, Colby Grade School Principal; Kathy Ryan; Thomas County Health Department; Maureen Ostmeyer, Smart Start of NWKS; Beverly Biel, Community Volunteer and Tanya Koehn, CCC Child Care Resource and Referral. After the conference, our community may apply for a grant of up to \$10,000.

June brings us the first of our summer activities. Picnic in the Park will be held every Wednesday during June and July with the exception of the Fourth of July. Jeff Wagoner Family kicked off the season on June 6. This has become a favorite way to spend a leisurely lunch hour during the summer months. The Colby Cruise to the Past Rod Run returns with the cruise in Friday night, Show and shine events at Fike Park on Saturday and a concert Sunday night and Church, awards and poker run Sunday morning. All of these events will take place June 8-10.

The first weekend brought the 130-mile garage sale and poker run sponsored by the Highway 25 association. The circus comes to town Tuesday, June 12. You can watch the elephants help put up the "big top" beginning about 9 a.m. at Bourquin's Old Depot Restaurant. Show times for the circus are 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Enjoy the summer activities.

Senior Center plans barbecue Friday

By Emma Rogers
Senior Center

Friday at noon there will be a barbecue with homemade ice cream at the Senior Progress Center, 165 Fike Park, to celebrate Father's Day.

Come early and participate in the activities. Be sure to let Kaila know by Thursday noon if you plan to attend so she will know how many plan for.

There are plenty of activities scheduled at the center for the week of June 11-15, including Pool Game Day on Monday. Tuesday exercise is at 10 a.m. and it's also Popcorn Day. Wednesday is Director's Surprise Day. Exercise is at 10 a.m.

Senior Center

Thursday and it is also Flag Day. Friday exercise is at 10 a.m. Don't forget the barbecue, and it is also Denim and Red Day.

The Thomas County Nutrition Center in Colby wishes to invite those 60 and older and their guests to attend daily luncheons in Colby Monday through Friday. Reservations may be made by calling (785) 460-2901 the day before. Home delivery is also available for those unable to attend due to social or physical disabilities.

Those who work are also invited to come to pick up a meal. Those meals are available at noon to be

picked up. For individuals 60 and over a contribution of \$2.50 per meal is requested. Anyone under 60 years of age is invited to attend or pick up a meal at a cost of \$4.50 per meal.

The menu for the next week includes: Monday - fajita chicken over rice, cheesy broccoli, cook's choice veggies, seasoned rice, Mandarin oranges. Tuesday - baked steak, scalloped potatoes, peas, bread, cranberry apple salad. Wednesday - taco salad, fruit cup, chips, brownie. Thursday - pork roast, steamed cabbage, carrots and onions, strawberries and bananas, blueberry muffins, pudding. Friday - hamburger patty, tater tots, cottage cheese salad, bun, peaches.

The building is also available for rental for events. For information on lunch reservations, call 460-2901.

The Thomas County Public Van is owned by the county but is scheduled and dispatched by the Senior Progress Center. The van is not a taxi service. It will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

It must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance of its use and be ready at least 30 minutes in advance of appointment. Sometimes there are four to six calls per time frame.

Calls for the van need to be made between the hours of 8 a.m. and noon, Monday through Friday.

To contact the public transportation van after 12:30 p.m., call (785) 443-9208.

Home tool kit a helpful hint for wedding gift

By Heloise

Dear Readers: We were doing some research on wedding gifts and came across the following hint that was originally printed in my mother's (the late Heloise) column in 1967. She thought it was a good hint then, and we still think it is. Read on:

"Dear Heloise: You once suggested a truly inspired gift for the bride ... a sort of housekeeping starter kit (dust cloths, scouring rags, light bulbs, etc.).

"While excellent for the bride, it occurred to me, after some experience involving harassed trips to the hardware store, banging nails with shoe heels, prying open gift cartons with new kitchen utensils, etc., that — like his bride — the groom also could well use a kit.

"In each newly established household, there are innumerable tasks:

"Curtain rods to hang, appliances to assemble, hooks to install, clothing poles to place and many others.

"As it usually falls to the husband, apprentice or veteran to handle these 'honey-do' chores, I submit the following absolutely basic kit for the groom as a needed companion to that suggested for the bride:

- A medium-weight claw hammer
- A pair of pliers
- A medium-size screwdriver, straight slot
- A small, versatile saw, e.g., a keyhole saw
- A good variety of screws, bolts, nails, brads and tacks
- A variety of accessory hardware — hooks, hanging aids, etc.

"Naturally, this list could easily be expanded according to the experience and means of the giver, but, oh, how handy are just the above items for the new groom in the new household the first few weeks! — All-Thumbs (John) Murphy

"And, thanks to you, John. And if a bride is smart (I wasn't!), she'll pretend she doesn't know how to use any of the above while those stars are still in the groom's eyes,

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day
Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat	\$4.74
Corn	\$3.73
Milo	\$5.85
Soybeans	\$7.07

Some like it HOT...
and some like to shop the COOL want ad way!!

The Colby Free Press - 462-3963

Community Calendar

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

Colby's Cruise to the Past rod run, Sonic and Montana Mike's, 5 p.m.
Wings Upon the Prairie drop-in center, 485 N. Franklin, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

Colby Cruise to the Past registration, 8:30 a.m., North Franklin Avenue
Rod Run Show and Shine, Fike Park, all day
Horseshoe competition for rod run participants, Fike Park, 1 p.m.
Engine Wide Open, Fike Park, 4 p.m.
Bill Haley's Comets, Colby Community Building, 8 p.m.
Wings Upon the Prairie drop-in center, 485 N. Franklin, 1-6 p.m.
Sixth Street Alcoholics Anonymous, 1275 W. Sixth St., 8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

Rod Run Show and Shine, Fike Park, 8:30 a.m.-noon
Rod Run church service, 9 a.m.
Poker Run, 10 a.m.
Rod Run awards ceremony, Fike Park, noon
Narcotics Anonymous candlelight meeting, City Hall basement, 8 p.m.



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