



COLBY FREE PRESS

Lucky winners will take home \$1,500 in prizes

By Andy Heintz

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Many Colby residents will be hoping that Lady Luck is riding at their side at Colby merchants' big "Christmas on Us" drawing at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Holiday Inn Express. One lucky winner will walk out of the building \$1,000 richer.

A second happy person will take home \$500 in scrip to spend by the end of the year at participating Colby merchants. Other than the two big prizes, 10 people will win instant \$50 prizes during the promotion.

Christmas on Us is a joint effort between the *Colby Free Press* and Colby merchants to get people to shop here in town. Every week from November until Thursday, Colby businesses have handed out tickets to shoppers 18 and older as an incentive to keep their business in Colby. They received a ticket for every \$10 they spend at city businesses up to 250 per transaction. The tickets come in duplicates; the shopper gets one and the merchant puts one aside.

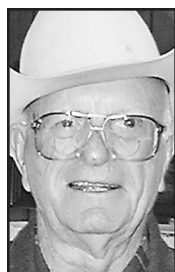
Tickets also were available at the *Free Press* office, one per person once a week, at no charge.

Several people came in to the office this week to claim their \$50 "instant winner" prizes after matching ticket numbers with those shown in the paper.

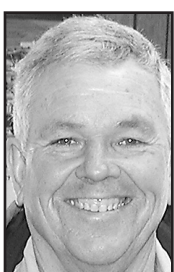
Pam Geihlsler picked up a \$50 winner at Creations Gallery and Jean Dempewolf picked up her ticket at the newspaper office. Geihlsler's number was in the ad for Colby Implement and Dempewolf's in the ad for Unicef. Neither winner was sure how she would spend the money. Dempewolf



P. Geihlsler



Tim Adrian



Joe McInay



Jean Dempewolf

said it was the first time she had won anything. Both their numbers were in the paper on Monday.

Tim Adrian got his ticket at the newspaper office and Joe McInay picked up his at Colby Implement. Adrian's number was in the ad for Office Works last Wednesday. He said he plans to spend the money somewhere in Colby. McInay's number was in a Beringer Hardware ad.

Dewey Augustine got a winning ticket from Colby Implement and found the lucky number in the Great Western Tire ad. He said he planned to use the winnings on Christmas shopping.

Thursday was the last day to get tickets at Office Works, Unicef, Creations Gallery, Colby Implement, The Loft, Great Western Tire, Beringer, Colby Ag or the *Free Press*.



VERA SLOAN/Colby Free Press

Yummy, yummy in my tummy! Audrey Hines, a Kappa Upsilon member, prepared cherry-cheese-cake tarts for the sorority's annual cookie and candy sale on Saturday.

Fresh-baked goodies ready to go

Kappa Upsilon sorority members have been busy baking and frosting treats for their annual holiday sale of homemade cookies and candy on Saturday.

The event will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

at the Little Theatre in the Colby Community Building downtown. If you want to buy homemade goodies for the Christmas season, come on down, don a pair of rubber gloves and pick and choose to your heart's delight.

The charge is \$6 a pound.

This year's profits will go to four area families who are dealing with expensive health problems. Kappa Upsilon began as a service club more than 40 years ago.



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Deanna Hanzlick (left), a reading teacher at Colby Middle School, got a \$100 check and a letter of thanks from City Manager Carolyn Armstrong and Mayor Ken Bieber on Thursday. Hanzlick heard water running underground, a key clue which led the city to a leak the crew had been hunting for three years.

Years of lost water found by Colby teacher on walk

By Andy Heintz

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Deanna Hanzlick, a reading teacher at Colby Middle School, kept hearing running water every time she walked by the intersection of Walker and Harvey Avenue.

One day, she decided that maybe this was something she should report to the city.

So Hanzlick wrote a letter describing where she was hearing the sound, not knowing it would provide the clue needed to solve an expensive mystery that has puzzled the city for years.

It turned out what she was hearing was as much as a third of the town's water supply going down the drain.

Thanks to Hanzlick's letter, said City Manager Carolyn Armstrong, the city has finally found a leak the water department had been looking for for the past three years.

This leak has led to the city experiencing a 30 percent water loss

“It keeps us from having to buy more water rights.”

Carolyn Armstrong, Colby city manager

since October 2005, Armstrong said. Armstrong and Colby Mayor Ken Bieber went to the middle school Thursday and gave Hanzlick a \$100 "Good Samaritan Award" and a congratulatory letter.

The water loss started about the same time the city changed its utility billing software in 2005, said Armstrong. The city spent hours checking the new software, she said.

When that didn't reveal the problem, they had Kansas Rural Water representatives come out to check meters and tried to make arrangements for them to bring listening devices out to check the city's water mains. They still couldn't find the leak.

After receiving the letter from

Hanzlick, Armstrong said, city crews tracked the rushing water back to a bore hole in a sewer line along Fourth Street. The leak was at Third and Copeland on the north side of the street, where a 1 1/4-inch water service line had been cut by underground boring.

Water from the leak at Third and Copeland flowed into an abandoned sewer main near Fourth and Fig-gins, the manager said.

Armstrong said the city has its suspicions about the company involved in cutting the water line, but hasn't pinned it down yet.

"The finding greatly relieved the city, because it keeps us from having to buy more water rights," she said.

Briefly

Top lights will win cash prizes

The annual Christmas Lighting Contest sponsored by the Colby Promotions Committee will give a \$100 first prize and a \$75 second prize for home decorations and \$75 for first and \$50 for second for businesses. Call the Chamber of Commerce office, 350 S. Range Ave., at (785) 460-3401 today to nominate someone. Judging will take place this weekend.

College, church offer cantata

The Colby Community College will join with the Colby United Methodist Church choir to present "Joy to the World," a new sacred cantata composed by John Leavitt, at 11 a.m. Sunday, during worship services at the church. The church hand bell choir will join in carols, anthems and scripture readings. There is,

no admission fee, but an offering will be taken. For information, call college choral director Dr. Philip Shuman at 460-5520.

Orchestra to perform Sunday

The Pride of the Prairie Orchestra will open its year with a concert, "Celebrating the Season," at 3:30 p.m. Sunday in the Frahm Theater on the Colby Community College campus. There'll be cookies during intermission.

Kids invited to holiday party

The Colby Sons of the American Legion plans a Christmas party for children up to age 9 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday at the Legion Hall, 1850 West Fourth. Kids will get a treat and a small gift and

a visit with Santa. The party is no longer limited to Legion member's families, but is open to everyone.

Students to show piano skills

Students of Pat Ziegelmeier will present a piano recital at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Colby United Methodist Church. The program will feature solo and duet Christmas selections. Everyone is invited. For information, call Ziegelmeier at 460-5518.

Reception to open art show

The art works of Colby residents Marj and Jim Brown are on display at the Prairie Museum of Art and History through January. The public is invited to an opening reception from 2-4 p.m. Sunday. The couple will give a video presentation highlighting their trip to Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia, and Kejimikujik National Park in Canada. Many of her paintings are of winter

and Christmas, and much of Jim's work reflects a fall theme, so the show is called "Joy of the Seasons."

Library taking Food for Fines

Have a book that's a little overdue? The Pioneer Memorial Library is giving people the chance to pay their overdue fines by donating canned food. The Food for Fines campaign will run from Monday to Tuesday, Dec. 23. Food will be given to Genesis-Thomas County Food Bank. For information, call the library at 460-4470.

College trustees meet Monday

The Colby Community College trustees will meet at 5 p.m. Monday in the board room of Thomas Hall. The agenda includes reports from the President's Administrative Council and President Lynn Kreider, and discussion of the student-trustee dinner, tuition grants and the audit.

