

I-70 area full of interesting attractions

The Colby Visitor Center, at I-70 and exit 53, has a unique contemporary design. The structure is an authentic grain storage bin, designed to recognize the importance of grain and agriculture to this area. It presents an attractive welcome to visitors coming off the interstate.

The center is owned and operated by the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau. (785) 460-0076.

Northwest Kansas Extension-Research Center provides many photo opportunities. It exists on the 720 acres of the Northwest Kansas Extension-Research Center located at 1056 Experiment Farm Road, off West Fourth Street in western Colby.

The visitor can view plots of trees, colorful flowers and grains, all labeled for easy identification. Enjoy the shade and quiet oasis amid beautiful flowers and peaceful surroundings. (785) 462-6281.

Colby Community College, founded in 1964, is located on 80 beautifully landscaped acres. The college offers two year associate degrees and programs, transferable to four year universities.

The unique Bea Davis Clock tower can be seen in the center of the campus. Ad Astera, a prototype of the sculpture on the Kansas Capitol building is in the circle drive of the library. The beautiful Frahm Theatre stands at the east end of the campus. The college is located at 1255 South Range. It is noted for its veterinary technician, dental hygiene, li-



The Cooper Barn at the Prairie Museum of Art and History was voted one of the Eight Wonders of Kansas Architecture. It was first constructed in Breton in 1936 and was used as a cattle show barn. The barn was donated and moved to the museum in 1992.

censed practical nurse programs, and other academic offerings. The wrestling teams have captured many national championships. To tour the campus, call 785-462-3984, or visit www.colbycc.edu

Eight Wonders of Thomas County were selected by the citizens of Thomas County as favorite sites. They are, number one, Prairie Museum of Art and History; two, Cooper

Barn; three, Thomas County Courthouse, see article; four, Northwest Research and Experiment Center; five, Fike Park, see article; six, First Presbyterian Church, organized in 1886, and the first church building to house the first church bell rung in Colby. The bell now stands in front of the church at 515 West Fourth Street; seven, Colby City Hall, this art deco, sand-colored building was built in the

1920s and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It can be found at 585 North Franklin Street in downtown Colby; eight, Houston House, Rexford, see article.

Santa City, at the Christmas season, is a forested winter wonderland with animated woodland animals performing Christmas tasks. Mrs. Claus hands out sugar cookies and Santa is available to listen for those Christmas wishes from children.

Santa City is located in Fike Park, in downtown Colby. Open weekends beginning Friday after Thanksgiving from 1-5 p.m.; week day evenings beginning two weeks before Christmas from 6-8 p.m., and Christmas Eve from 1-3 p.m.

For additional information call the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau at 785-460-7643.

Fike Park is the major city park and is located in downtown Colby at the north end of Franklin Avenue, the town's main street, beginning at the City Hall. There are tennis courts, horseshoe pits, volleyball area and basketball courts. There are two gazebos, one for picnics. The park is also home of the Fun Zone which has colorful playground equipment that is also handicapped accessible. The park is used for many events and family reunions throughout the year.

Colby Racquetball and handball courts are at 1115 S. Franklin Avenue. Scuba diving lessons and available. Bicycle and mountain bike sales. 785-460-6631.

**24 HOUR
Repair
Service**

MITTENS
Travel Plaza

**24 HOUR
Truck Stop
and
Restaurant!**



Family Dining
Open 24 Hours!

**US 40 & I-70 Junction • EXIT 76
Oakley, KS 67748**

R **RadioShack**
You've got questions. We've got answers.®

TA
**TravelCenters
of America**