



Chief tapped as interim manager

By Kayla Cornett

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The Colby City Council decided Tuesday to appoint an interim city manager once Carolyn Armstrong retires on June 15, and after sorting through the options, chose Police Chief Randy Jones.

Earlier in the meeting, the council selected

the Austin Peters Group to perform the search for a new manager after talking with officials in other cities who praised the firm.

The consultant from the firm who presented to the council at a special meeting April 10 estimated it would take 12 to 14 weeks to select a manager.

All members of the council agreed that they need someone in the manager's office all the time until a new person is hired.

The council started the discussion by asking about having a "range rider" manager come in to do the job.

Councilman Tim Hutfles asked how much a range rider would cost and Armstrong said she wasn't sure because she hadn't asked anyone if they were even interested in coming out to Colby.

Councilman Dave Voss said that from his experiences, an outside person wouldn't be

able to do the job as well as someone who already worked here.

"I guess I would have to ask the question," councilman Omar Weber said, "why don't we just hire the retired city manager that we got on an interim basis until we get a replacement, if she would consider a part-time basis?"

"And she definitely has the right to not even

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Art Walk has talent on view

The area's creative community will be in full view Friday when the annual Art Walk comes to downtown Colby for a second year.

The free event, put on by Colby Community College art instructor Rebel Jay and her students, will run from 6 to 9 p.m. around town. Works from area artists will be on display at participating businesses. Many of those will have specials for those who stop by.

Jay said visitors can expect to see art in a lot of media, including photography, bronze sculpture, collage and mixed-media pieces.

Work from students at the college and area private and public schools will be on display. The work from the college students will be shown at the college Cultural Arts Center gallery and the

Bedker Memorial Complex on campus, and pieces from younger students at the Colby High School Commons area. Jay and a group of former college art instructors will have their work on display at the office complex downtown on the northeast corner of Franklin Avenue and Fifth Street.

Jay described the Art Walk as a showcase for local art, adding that it should be "an enriching experience."

"Artists need some place to display things," Jay said. "I want (people) to bring their families out so kids are exposed to art at a young age."

Jay said around 300 people attended last year's Art Walk, and she expected around 500 this year.

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Jail escape starts wide manhunt

By John Hanna

The Associated Press

TOPEKA — A convicted murderer and another inmate remained at large today after escaping from a Kansas jail where they'd been transferred from an overcrowded state prison.

Two others were apprehended, one after he turned himself in at a Walmart in Nebraska.

Authorities acknowledged they were not sure where Santos Carrera-Morales and Eric James, both 22, might be headed after their escape early Wednesday from Ottawa County Jail in Minneapolis, a small town about 120 miles west of Topeka.

Carrera-Morales was convicted of first-degree murder in connec-

tion with two killings in 2007.

"We really do have a number of tips and leads," said Jeremy Barclay, a spokesman for the Kansas Department of Corrections. "We have no shortage."

The two should be considered armed and dangerous, police said, warning that they could be in or near to North Platte, Neb., after another inmate turned up there.

Drew Wade, 21, had traveled in a stolen minivan to the western Nebraska town and was alone when he gave himself up about 13 hours after the jail break, police said.

Wade told North Platte police that he had phoned his father, and that his father persuaded him to

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Grade school students (above) were excited for the chance to hold a banner on their way to school on Wednesday for Colby's first Walk to School Day event. Robin Faber (below)



was one of many mothers who helped that morning. She held hands with her son Tyler, to her right.

300 kids, parents march to schools

By Christina Beringer

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About 300 children and adults covered the length of three blocks on their way to school Wednesday for Colby's first Walk to School Day event, sponsored by Safe Routes to School, an affiliate of Smart Start Northwest Kansas.

Grade-school students began their walk at the TNT Auction parking lot on North Franklin Avenue. Middle schoolers started at the Law Enforcement Training Center up the street.

Coordinator Megan Car-

michael said about 175 grade schoolers, 50 middle school students and some high school students, parents and grandparents showed up. Many area celebrities attended, including Colby Mayor Gary Adrian, School Superintendent Terrel Harrison, Grade School Principal Lance Kranawitter, teachers, the Colby High track team and the school's mascot, Elvis the Eagle.

On arrival at the gathering sites, students were given "I Walked to School Today" stickers, water bottles and reflective safety slap bracelets. The group,

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\$300, who'll give me \$350?



Colby Community College Endowment Foundation

Dave Voss (center), city council member, looked through a program Saturday at the Colby Community College Endowment Foundation's Auction at City Limits Convention Center. The auctioneer for the event was Don Hazlett (right) of Farm and Ranch Realty, and Ron Evans and Scotty Legere helped with the auction. Foundation director Nick Wells said the auction grossed about \$113,000, which is the largest gross they've ever had.

Area Dems gather to choose delegates

A small number of Democrats from the 40th Senate District met in Oakley on Saturday to elect delegates to the 1st Congressional District party convention as the first step in the state's process to nominate President Barack Obama for a second term.

Democrats gathered across the state as they prepared to elect nearly 500 delegates who in turn will select delegates to represent the party at the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., on Sept. 3 to 6.

Tim Peterson of Logan County chaired the meeting. All those attending were supporting Obama, so all the delegates elected were pledged to Obama. Thomas, Sherman, Logan, Decatur, Sheridan and Wallace county were represented.

Peterson said attendance was much smaller than four years ago when the Democrats were in a hotly contested battle between Obama and Hillary Clinton. The president won the nomination in

Denver and went onto win the election.

The 40th State Senate District caucus elected six delegates (three men and three women) to attend the 1st Congressional District convention Saturday, May 5, at the Boys and Girls Club in Hutchinson.

Women delegates elected included Dianne Hooper of Bogue, Rebekah Peterson of Monument and Catherine Jenkinson of Sharon Springs. The men were Bob Hooper of Bogue, Larry Hill of Selden and Tim Peterson of Monument.

Alternates included Bob Strey of Norcatur, Lee Franklin of Jennings, Etta Walker of Sharon Springs and Sharyn Dowdell-Kountz of Bogue.

Peterson read a letter from Kansas party Chair Joan Wagnon about

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