

Weather

State closes shop

From "SHOP," Page 1

and business inventory already locked in the store. The department said it exhausted other collection attempts, including letters, telephone calls, threats of legal action, tax liens filed with the district court, bank levies and on-site "till taps."

"They pretty much have been contacted multiple times by the department," Koranda said. "The last thing we really want to do is go in and close down a business."

She said the department tries to encourage delinquent taxpayers to enter into a repayment agreement, a spokesman said, because a business often closes as a result of the assets being seized.

Cindy Shubert, for her part, has had a number of arguments with the state about the money.

"They think," she said, "that if they think that you defaulted on it, then it gives them the right to come and do this."

She and her husband were driving back from a fishing trip Tuesday morning when the trailer which they were pulling got a flat tire. That's when a woman from the state called about the sales tax.

"She called me about seven or eight times there in a two-hour period," Shubert said. "She said we should just drop every thing and get there within 45 minutes, and that was impossible."

She and her husband got home later in the day but did not visit their store for a couple of days, Shubert said.

She said she was going to pay for August, since the tax was also due Tuesday, but the caller from the state claimed that they



SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press

Notices were posted to the front of C-M Gun & Pawn by Thursday morning stating the property at the business has been seized to pay for over \$32,249.15 in sales taxes. The Kansas Department of Revenue has sealed off the business at 320 Franklin Ave., claiming that the business has been missing paying sales taxes since 2001.

were two months behind, and the seizure of the business has made it difficult to argue that point.

"I'd have to get records to tell you in great detail," she said, "and they're locked in the shop."

Their tax problems, she said, date from around 2002 and 2003, when she and her husband both had serious medical problems.

"Originally they were telling us that we owed them \$300,000, which was a ridiculous amount," she said. "What it ended up being, we owed them about \$22,000 and all the rest was their added charges."

But additional fines left them with over \$40,000 to pay to the state, she said, which they had paid off down to \$25,000 by last summer. Most of the charges since then, she said, are additional penalties.

"I have money orders that I'm going to show the lawyer to show that a great deal of that was taken care of," she said.

They had been told Tuesday that their business would be auc-

tioned in 10 days, Shubert said, but the bank later said that other options are available.

"Once you talk to a lawyer, it never seems to be as bad as what they're telling you," she said.

Instead of closing, Shubert said she hopes to be back in business with the help of their lawyer by the middle of this week.

Koranda would not comment on what will happen to the shop or if its assets will be auctioned, saying that their bank is now handling the case.

She listed four warrants for the business, one between January 2002 and July 2006, totaling \$108.11, between August and December 2006 for \$9,840.06, between July 2009 and June 2010 for \$15,575.52 and between December 2007 and last April for 66,725.46.

How much of each warrant consisted of late penalties, she would not say.

"Honestly I don't have the answer to that," she said. "That's getting into discussing a specific taxpayer case and that's confidential."

Newspaper carrier wins award

From "AWARD," Page 1

the series and three other characters and wrote them into his story. One of the heroes in his story gets his name from a character in the series.

"I like that character," Jimmy said, "but he didn't get a lot of fans, nobody really paid a lot of attention to him, so I decided to make him a really important character in my story."

The result was a story with three chapters and a total of 797 words. His mother, Muzette Baldwin, said she heard about the writing contest in a conversation this summer with a librarian.

Baldwin says he was not counting on winning, but now that he has, he wants "mostly just to get it published in a book."

Winners will be announced Friday at the club's

annual convention and writing conference in Salina. Jimmy's story will be chosen for one of the top awards, first, second or third place or honorable mention, and will be published along with the other winning entries.

Jimmy said he has considered adding to his story.

"The first three chapters I've made (took) about a week, two weeks tops," he said. "It could take a month or two to be finished."

That will involve writing "ten pretty long chapters," he added, and that might take a while during the school year.

"It was fun to write," he said. "I liked it, but with school and delivering papers and all that, I don't really have much time to write."

National Weather Service Tonight: Clear, with a low around 40. North wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north 5 to 10 mph after midnight.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 79. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tuesday Night: Clear, with a low around 44. South wind around 10 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 76. Breezy, with a west wind 10 to 20 mph becoming northeast in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 43.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 59.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 40.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 63.

Friday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 37.

Saturday: A 30 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 47.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 35.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 54.

Friday: High, 73; Low 46 Saturday: High, 73; Low 45 Sunday: High, 83; Low 50

Precip: Friday None Saturday None Sunday 0.04 inches September: 0.74 inches October: 0.04 inches Year: 10.95 inches Normal: 19.29 inches (K-State Experiment Station)

Sunrise and Sunset Tuesday 7:42 a.m. 7:24 p.m. Moon: waning, 94 percent Wednesday 7:43 a.m. 7:23 p.m. Moon: waning, 88 percent (U.S. Naval Observatory)

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS



Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels (KAKE/ABC, KBSL/CBS, KSNK/NBC, etc.) listing programs for Tuesday Evening, October 2, 2012.

Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels listing programs for Wednesday Evening, October 3, 2012.

American Profile We Celebrate Hometown Life Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.