



Area college closes due to health issue

Northwest Kansas Technical College closed its campus on Thursday after several reported cases of scabies.

The college posted a notice on its website Thursday morning, saying that due to public health concerns, the campus would be closing until Tuesday. Faculty and staff will be returning Monday.

Sherman County Emergency Management posted a more detailed release at noon Thursday, saying a student had reported a case of scabies to the Northwest Tech administration on Tuesday afternoon. Additional cases were reported on Wednesday.

Northwest Tech's administration met

with the Sherman County Health Department to "develop a plan of action to address the scabies concern and prevent further cases."

Additional resources from the Goodland Family Health Center, Sherman County Emergency Medical Services and Sherman County Emergency Man-

agement were brought in to help check all students, faculty and staff for scabies Thursday in a clinic set up in the Medical Assistant building on campus. The Health Department closed its office Thursday to help perform the checks.

In the release, Donna Terry, health department administrator, said scabies is a

contagious skin rash caused by a parasite, the human itch mite.

"Scabies is not a result of being unclean, everyone is equally susceptible," Terry said, "Center for Disease Control does not consider scabies as a reportable

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Attorney here welcomes new associate

John D. Gatz has welcomed Lindsey D. Moore as an associate in his legal practice, and Moore says she is happy to be involved in the Colby community.

Moore is a graduate of the University of Kansas, where she received a bachelor's degree in business administration. She obtained her law degree from Washburn University in 2007.

She is a general practitioner with an emphasis on business organization, real estate, estate planning, probate and trust administration. She also will work with the firm's municipal and school clients.

Moore said she grew up in the

country between Colby and Hoxie, where her father farms, and her mother owns Plum Creek Limited in Colby.

She began her practice in Hoxie working with Ken Eland. She met her husband, Nate, during this time, and the couple moved to Great Bend, where she most recently practiced with the law firm of Bauer, Pike and Johnson.

Nate is a journeyman lineman for Sunflower Electric Power Co. The couple have a son, Ivan, 21 months old. Mrs. Moore said they enjoy spending their summers at dirt-track racing events, where Nate races his IMCA Modified car.



Lindsey Moore reviewed statutes in her office Wednesday. Moore is a new associate with the firm of John Gatz in Colby. HEATHER ALWIN/Colby Free Press

Engineer speaks at college

Jack Chappelle (right), a waste engineer with Engineering Solutions and Design, based in Overland Park, spoke to a crowd of about 35 people Wednesday morning at Colby Community College. He told the group how to properly close a landfill (below) at the training at the college, which he helped organize for people in the sanitation business.

SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press



Court date set for accused shooter

A court date has been set for a Winona man who is accused of shooting another man in Logan County last month.

A preliminary hearing has been scheduled for Thursday, April 25, for William David Collins, 35, according to court records. He is accused of shooting Desmond Bowles in the eye March 5 in the town of McAllaster.

Logan County Attorney Margaret Mahoney would not speak to the circumstances of the shooting. Court records show Collins was arrested March 6 for the shooting and his first appearance was that day.

He was charged with aggravated battery and criminal threat, his bond was set at \$50,000 and a condition of his bond was that his release will be monitored by a global positioning system (GPS).

Thomas County Jail records show that he was arrested the day of the shooting. He was booked here for criminal discharge of a firearm within a dwelling and released March 7.

Logan County Sheriff Pat Parsons referred questions about the case to Mahoney, but did say his office is in charge of the investigation, after getting some help from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.

Aggravated battery is a level 5 felony, which carries a maximum sentence of 12 years, four months in prison and a \$300,000 fine. The criminal threat charge, a level 9 felony, carries a penalty of up to one year and five months in prison and a fine of \$100,000.

The town of McAllaster is on U.S. 40, between Winona and the Logan-Wallace County line.

Brownback vetoes bill on inspections

TOPEKA (AP) – Gov. Sam Brownback has vetoed a bill that would extend the life of a board that regulates home inspectors, but kept open the possibility he would consider a revised proposal.

Thursday's veto was the governor's first of the session; he has signed 76 bills into law this year.

The board regulates professional home inspectors who conduct on-site reviews of homes for their sturdiness and safety before they are purchased by homeowners. The inspections, which can cost several hundred dollars, are typically required before mortgages are approved. The intent of the board is to protect consumers by ensuring inspectors are properly trained and are conducting accurate inspections.

The Topeka Capital-Journal reported (bit.ly/Xw916p) the board, which was created in 2008 and amended in 2009 to expire on July 1, is funded every year by about \$15,000 in fees, not the state general fund. The bill would have made the board a permanent fix-

ture of state government instead of being renewed periodically.

The governor said in a statement that he saw little evidence that large numbers of Kansans are being harmed by home inspectors. He said the board puts unnecessary fees and regulations on law-abiding citizens.

The bill was supported by the Kansas Association of Real Estate Inspectors and the Kansas Association of Realtors. The logic was that the regulation makes certain that those purchasing homes have access to inspections that are objective and competent. They said real estate agents and home sellers could be exposed to litigation without regulation of inspectors.

Brownback said he believes the consumer protection division of the attorney general's office would be better suited to handle complaints from residents who feel they were harmed by faulty inspections, not the board.

