

## New seat belt law takes effect next week

A new state law requiring all drivers and front-seat passengers to buckle up or face fines was signed at the end of May and will go into effect Thursday.

Law enforcement officers in Kansas will now be able to stop and ticket drivers and front-seat passengers who are not wearing safety belts even if the officers do not observe another traffic violation. Until June 30, officers will be giving warnings. Beginning that day, they will be issuing citations which carry fines.

Kansas is the 31st state to enact a "primary" seat belt law.

"Law enforcement officers know that many fatalities in the state could have been prevented, had the person simply fastened their safety belt," said Col. Terry Maple, superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol. "With the passage of a primary seat belt law, we expect

to see voluntary seat-belt usage increase...."

The new law makes it a secondary violation for adults in the back seat to be unbuckled, which means they would only receive a ticket if the driver was stopped for another reason. This does not affect the existing law for children, anyone under 18; it is still a primary offense if they are unrestrained anywhere in the vehicle.

When worn correctly, safety belts reduce the risk of death to front-seat passenger car occupants by 45 percent – and by 60 percent in pickup trucks, SUVs and minivans. Kansas Department of Transportation statistics show that only 30 percent of people killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2008 were buckled in. Currently, Kansas' safety belt use rate is 77 percent, well below the national average of 84 percent, the department says.

## Brewster grad on dean's list

Audrey Hoyt of Brewster has been named to the Sterling College Dean's List for the spring semester.

Hoyt is a junior and is the daughter of Keith and Chris Hoyt.

Students had to complete 12 credit hours with an average of 3.5 or better.

Sterling is a four-year Christian liberal arts college northwest of Hutchinson.

## Evangelist to speak Sunday in Colby

Evangelist Reneé Moore will be speaking at the 10:15 a.m. and 6 p.m. services this Sunday at the College Drive Assembly of God Church, 245 W. College Drive in Colby.

"Moore is a successful and well traveled evangelist," said Pastor Steve Todd.

Todd and Moore both fit the description, "an Okie from Muskegee." Both attended the same church before going on to successful ministries.

"She has traveled extensively and has ministered in Rwanda, Russia, the Ukraine, Mexico and Jamaica," he said, "and will share her own victories over fear and

depression. She had a life-threatening disease as a 3 year old that left her neurologically impaired for many years before she received a healing, which has been documented by doctors."

Todd noted that her message is that God's power offers hope to those who feel they're in a situation that seems hopeless. He added that her testimonies are uplifting, that she has a wonderful vocal music ministry and that just hearing her speak promises to inspire and encourage all who come.

Todd said that anyone who needs encouragement in their life should come to the services.

## Senior Progress Center

Bingo will be played on Tuesday at the Senior Progress Center.

Activities for the week: **Monday:** 10:30 a.m., Skip Bo. **Tuesday:** 10 a.m., exercise; 11 a.m., bingo. **Wednesday:** 10:30 a.m., pinocle. **Thursday:** 10 a.m., exercise; popcorn day. **Friday:** 10 a.m., exercise; 10:30 a.m., pool game.

Menus for the week: **Monday:** taco salad, strawberries and ba-

nanas, chips, cook's choice complement. **Tuesday:** pork roast, winter mix vegetables, cantaloupe, bread, pudding. **Wednesday:** Spanish rice with hamburger, spinach cheese salad, corn, bread, applesauce. **Thursday:** oven-fried chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, peas, bread, rosy pears. **Friday:** beef and noodles, green beans, cucumber/tomato salad, roll, blueberry crisp.

## On the Beat

**COLBY POLICE**  
**Wednesday**  
2:51 a.m. – Closed door at Meadow Lakes.  
3:22 a.m. – Open door, OK, management contacted.  
9:43 a.m. – Hitchhiker on N. Range by the railroad tracks checked OK.  
10:46 a.m. – Provided escort.  
11:09 a.m. – Spoke to business owner about escort fees.  
1:30 p.m. – Report of theft of money from rooms at Country Club Dr.  
2:28 p.m. – Harassment: vehicle following someone all over town. Made contact with suspect vehicle; driver spoken to.  
3:28 p.m. – Employee reported subject outside Walmart harassing customers. Subject check OK.  
3:50 p.m. – Chris Gary reported two bikes stolen from 1382 E. Ninth St.

County Rd. 17. Report filed.  
11:15 a.m. – Break in at 1680 County Rd. 31.  
11:40 a.m. – Cow out at K-25 and County Rd. K. Contacted the owner.  
1:19 p.m. – Clerk reported gas skip from J&J Oil, Oakley. Highway patrol notified.  
1:49 p.m. – Removed item from roadway at First St. Annex and Fourth St.  
2:13 p.m. – Brought prisoner from Ellis County to Law Enforcement Center.  
3:58 p.m. – Brought prisoner from Rawlins County to Law Enforcement Center.  
7:40 p.m. – Arrest warrant served on Charles Erlandson.

## Bridge Club

Meadow Lake bridge winners for Tuesday were first, Barb and Dave Ulmer; second, Jean Snyder; third, Mary Kersenbrock; fourth, Elaine Ptacek; fifth, Larry Barrett; sixth, Margaret Danneler; seventh, Sarah Jane Barrett.

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