



Cops nab 26 in city-wide drug bust

After a months-long investigation, local law enforcement and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation arrested 26 people on drug charges and impounded several vehicles in Colby on Monday and Tuesday, and more may be coming.

Colby Police Chief Randy Jones said the KBI along with police and sheriff's departments from Thomas, Logan, Rawlins and Sherman Counties have been conducting an undercover drug investigation in Northwest Kansas for six months.

Jones said the investigation culminated in a series of search and arrest warrants that were executed Monday and Tuesday. The KBI's Crime Scene Unit van could be seen outside several residences in Colby as investigators and sheriff's deputies made the arrests and searched the homes.

Jones said law enforcement executed five search warrants for illegal drugs and "documents associated with the distribution of illegal drugs." The searches turned up various amounts of illegal drugs and money, which officers seized. About 10 vehicles were seized in connection with the case.

Sixteen arrest warrants were executed, and 10 additional cases were sent to the Logan, Rawlins and Sherman County attorneys, so they could reviewed for possible criminal charges. Jones said the investigation is still ongoing, and more arrests are likely.

No other details are being released until formal charges can be brought in district



A Thomas County Sheriff's deputy walked back to his vehicle during a search and seizure at a home on North Range Avenue on Monday. Twenty-six people were arrested Monday on drug charges, after a months-long investigation by local law enforcement and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.



Rollover accidents plague local roads

By Kevin Bottrell
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Colby firefighters had to cut an elderly woman out of a pickup truck on Monday after the truck rolled off Range Avenue into the west side ditch.

Highway Patrolman Charlie Brattin said the 2005 Ford Ranger was trying to exit I-70 onto South Range Avenue too fast and lost control, rolling across all four lanes and into the west side ditch near McDonald's. The truck did not hit any other cars.

Police and firefighters pulled the passenger, 82-year-old Bernard Marrington of Woodland Hills, Calif., from the truck first.

He was loaded into an ambulance and taken to Citizens Medical Center.

Rescuers couldn't get to the driver, 85-year-old Amy West of Ventura, Calif., so they cut the drivers-side supports with a hydraulic rescue tool and pulled the roof off. Ventura was also taken to the hospital. She was bleeding but appeared to be responsive.

The patrol took statements from three people at the scene who witnessed the accident. Both victims were wearing their seat belts.

Another pickup rolled in a similar accident over the weekend. Thomas County Under-

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Colby firefighters and Kansas Highway Patrol troopers (above) worked to free the driver of a pickup truck that rolled into the west ditch on Range Avenue Monday. Rescuers had to cut the roof off the truck with a hydraulic rescue tool (below).



Briefly

Enroll now for preschool

Heartland Christian School is taking enrollment applications for the 2011-2012 preschool class. The 3-year-old class will meet Tuesday and Thursday and the 4-year-old class will meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For information, call the school at 460-6419.

Red Cross wants your blood

The American Red Cross will have blood drives from noon to 6 p.m. today and from 7:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday at the Colby Community Building. Go to redcrossblood.org or call (800) 733-2767, to make an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome. Donors will be entered to win one of 12 sets of tickets to the Country Stampede on Sunday, June 26, and will be entered in the national drawing to win two passes and backstage tours to the Grand Ole Opry.

For questions or to volunteer as a helper, call (785) 462-3861.

Trash collectors off for holiday

The City of Colby Public Works Department will be closed next Monday for Memorial Day. The Monday residential sanitation route will be picked up on Tuesday, May 31. Have your grass and trash to the curb by 8 a.m. For information, call Public Works at (785) 460 4420.

Landfill to close this weekend

The Thomas County Landfill will close at noon Saturday for the holiday weekend. It will reopen at 9 a.m. Tuesday. For information, call 462-8139.

Lutherans plan Bible school

Trinity Lutheran Church will hold a Vacation Bi-

ble School from 9:15 a.m. to noon June 7 to 10 at the church. The school is open to kids age 3 to fifth grade. This year's theme is "Big Jungle Adventure: a Faith Journey With Jesus." For information, call the church at 462-3497.

RC Flyers to have fun fly

The Colby RC Flyers will have a remote control plane fun fly from daylight to dusk on Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12, at the club's field seven miles north of Colby on K-25 and 1/8th mile east. There will be open flying and contests, along with a club trainer to fly. There is a \$10 landing fee, good for both days. For information, call Nick Nichols at (785) 460-6357 or Marvin Farmer at (785) 443-3593.

Swedish Singers to perform here

The Young Swedish Singers will hold a free con-

cert at 7 p.m. Monday, June 20, at the Frahm Theatre at Colby Community College. The 34-member gospel singing group from Sweden performs gospel, hymns and Swedish folk music, though most of their program is in English. For information, contact the Trinity Lutheran Church at 462-3497.

Chickenpox shots available

The Thomas County Health Department has chickenpox vaccinations for \$14 until the end of June for kids 1 to 18. The department says children who did have not had chickenpox after age 1 should get two doses. For information or to make an appointment, call 460-4596.

