

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE
Tuesday
4:59 a.m. – Theft: caller reported his vehicle not being returned. at 6:19 a.m. reporting party advised vehicle returned.
8:08 a.m. – Collision on Country Club Drive south of College Drive.
11:30 a.m. – Subject came to station reporting lost cell phone. Complaint number only.
11:30 a.m. – Child abuse report filed.
3:47 p.m. – Civil stand-by.
6:15 p.m. – Received 911 hang-up. On call-back; answering machine. All appeared OK.
7:46 p.m. – Caller reported he caught cats in a humane trap; wanted information on what to do with them. Provided information to reporting party who said he would take to Colby Animal Clinic tomorrow.
10:05 p.m. – Caller wanted welfare check. Not found. At 11:20 p.m. reporting party called to say subject is OK.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF
Tuesday
4:25 a.m. – Released Joshua A. Huff.
8:35 a.m. – Helped Colby Police at Country Club and College.
10:33 a.m. – Traffic block at U.S. 24 and Adams for auction.
11:19 a.m. – Booked Erasmo Acosta Nava.
2:14 p.m. – Helped motorist on S. Country Club Dr. north of County Rd. P. Butch’s wrecker service en route.
2:30 p.m. – Brought inmate from Rawlins County to Colby.
2:40 p.m. – Released Stephen Lamar Smith.
4:23 p.m. – Provided transport for subject from J&J Oil at 465 U.S. 83 to Colby.
4:42 p.m. – Booked John Lewis Stephens.
5:26 p.m. – Caller reported cow out at County Rd. 11 and U.S. 24. Unable to locate.
8:14 p.m. – Caller reported black cow on roadway at U.S. 24 mile 49. Unable to locate.

Livestock producers adopt business policy

Members of the Kansas Livestock Association approved policy on issues affecting their businesses during the trade organization’s annual convention, Dec. 1 and 2 in Wichita. Issues addressed include marketing principles, ag labor, international trade relations and water appropriation.

“Broad input on these issues resulted in strong policy that allows us, as leaders, to deliver on the KLA mission of advancing members’ common business interests and enhancing their ability to meet consumer demand,” said association President Frank Harper, a rancher, feeder and farmer from Sedgwick.

Members reaffirmed opposing attempts to narrow the business options of livestock producers in management and marketing.

Ranchers, feeders and dairymen support their ability to market livestock, meat and milk without additional government regulation.

The membership support immigration policy that allows for an adequate guest worker program. It calls for government to provide opportunities for current employees found to be illegally employed to complete the immigration process legally. It also supports legislation creating a program for foreign worker documentation to reduce the burden on employers.

A resolution supports changes to the current mandatory country-of-origin labeling program that would put the U.S. in compliance with World Trade Organization rules and avoid beef trade disruptions or retaliatory action by Canada and Mexico. The current U.S. program violates beef trade agreements with the two countries.

Members reaffirmed supporting flexibility in determining what constitutes “due and sufficient cause” before the Division of Water Resources declares an abandonment of groundwater. The resolution encourages a multi-year allocation system for water permits at the discretion of and guidance by groundwater management districts. The association also supports “water banks” for depositing and leasing water and providing incentives for water conservation.

The only new resolution supports trichomoniasis testing of non-virgin bulls upon change of ownership. It also supports a state regulation requiring veterinarians to become trained and certified in trichomoniasis testing procedures.

A resolution was amended to support adequate state and federal funding for the Kansas Hay Market Report and Kansas Feeder Cattle Auction Reports.

The membership reaffirmed supporting changes to make the Kansas gross vehicle weight rating limit compatible with weight limits imposed by neighboring states.

Members renewed policy opposing legislation or regulations that hinder the ethical and humane harvesting, processing or transporting of horses.

Court of Honor to be Sunday

Braden Sager, a senior at Colby High School, will be receiving his Eagle Scout award at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Colby United Methodist Church. He is a member of Boy Scout Troop 141 of Colby.

Friends, family and acquaintances are invited to attend his court of honor.

To earn the highest award in Boy Scouts, Braden has earned 50 merit badges, served as a leader in his troop and completed a major community service project, tearing down a play fort and building a newer, bigger play fort with swings in the playground area of the Colby United Methodist Church.

He has been involved in football, marching band, basketball, pep band and baseball throughout his high school years.

The son of Alan and Tonya Sager, Colby, his grandparents are Bill and Arlene Smith of Hoxie and the late Bob and Dorothy Sager of Bird City.



ALAN SAGER
Colby Boy Scout Braden Sager worked on a play fort at the Colby United Methodist Church over spring break. Sager, who belongs to Troop 141, built the fort and a swing set as part of his Eagle Scout project, a 100-hour service project required to earn Boy Scouting’s highest rank.

Family loads up on ‘redneck’ lights

By Perry Backus
Ravalli Republic

RAVALLI, Mont. (AP) – As a longtime Western wildlife artist, Tim Joyner is always looking for something that will catch the consumer’s imagination.

Until a few weeks ago, he would have never thought it would come in a package labeled “Redneck Xmas Lights.”

A few weeks ago, the Hamilton man was trying to come up with an idea to help his eighth-grade daughter raise money to pay for a class trip to Washington, D.C., next spring.

Being the creative type and an outdoorsman, Joyner decided to try combining a string of colorful Christmas lights with some equally colorful used shotgun shells.

“This was going to be a green project,” Joyner said.

So father and daughter went to the Hamilton Trap Club and gathered a bag of used shotgun shells. They used the family dishwasher to clean the plastic shells and then carefully went to work stringing them over the colored lights.

Joyner used his creative talents to make up the packaging that included a photo of his daughter, Avery.

“And then I told her I would put a little advertisement on my Facebook page and we’ll see what happens,” Joyner said. “I said we might sell 10 or maybe we’ll sell 100. We’ll have to wait and see.”

They didn’t have to wait long.

Within a couple hours, there were orders for 14 packages of Redneck Xmas Lights.

“Instantly, I thought, ‘Uh-ho, this might turn into a job,’” Joyner said.

Last week, the pair was invited to talk on a Missoula radio show about their venture. Since then, the orders have been rolling in.

“My phone never stopped ringing right after the show ended,” Joyner said.

By last Friday, Avery had raised about \$1,400 of the \$1,895 she needs to pay for her trip.

Along the way, she and her family have become experts at the manufacturing process. This week, Avery plans to put her grandfather to work.

Their family room has become production central. The garage is often filled with the smell of burning plastic as Joyner carefully punches holes into either side of the shells with an old wood-burning tool.

“My dad pretty much thought of everything,” Avery said. “He tried to explain to me what the packaging was going to look like the day before, but I really couldn’t picture it. When I first saw it, I thought it was store bought.”

Avery’s mother, Jennifer, said people have been really nice when her daughter delivers the packages.

“One lady in Stevensville was so impressed that the girl on the radio was here that she asked if Avery would come in and meet her husband,” Jennifer said. “The woman said that she was so glad to see that kids were still willing to work to earn something special. It was just nice.”

Avery said a lot of her classmates were doing all sorts of things to earn money to pay for their trip, including bake sales and raking leaves.

She didn’t know that any of those had taken off quite like her project.

Her dad was even surprised at just how good an idea that this truly was.

“Being an artist, you’re always looking for something that takes off,” Joyner said. “They don’t come along very often. This has just been crazy.”

Houseplants: no holiday cheer

As the winter holidays approach, houseplants aren’t likely to look merry and bright. They’re feeling downright dreary.

After all, furnace operations almost guarantee a drop in their climate’s humidity.

Even worse, the season’s changing light levels supply less plant energy, according to Ward Upham, K-State Research horticulturist.

Daylight’s dwindling hours are just part of the problem, Upham said. The angle of the sun shifts, too. Winter’s sun is actually closer, but its orbit is nearer to the horizon. So, sunlight has to travel through lots of energy-draining atmosphere before it can reach land.

Houseplants respond by going into survival mode. They stop growing. If they can’t maintain all of their leaves, they also thin themselves (drop leaves from throughout the plant).

Odds are, these plants will recover next spring, he said. Owners can help now, though, by adding supplemental lighting. Or, they can provide an eastern or western exposure – so long as that doesn’t subject plants to drafts from a window, furnace vent or the like.

Owners also can injure or kill by supplying more water and fertilizer than energy-poor plants can use, Upham warned. Excess water can drown roots. Fertilizer can burn them.

“Water only when the soil feels dry one-half to 1 inch down from the surface,” he advised. “If you can, take the plant to a sink. Water until some of it drains out of the pot’s bottom. That way, all of the soil will be moist again. It won’t have a soggy bottom, though....”

Houseplants can get through winter with no fertilizer, Upham added. The most that flowering plants can use is about half of their summertime rate. Foliage plants need a quarter.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

To have your ad placed in the Business Directory call Sharon or Kathryn today at 462-3963

NEW SYSTEM
PROFESSIONAL WINDOW CLEANING
(800) 611-6735
www.MyWindowCleaner.net
Serving Colby since 1992!
Commercial • Residential • Free Estimates

ROOFMASTERS
Serving Colby for over 30 YEARS!
425 East Hill, Colby, KS
RESIDENTIAL
Heritage Shingles
Wood Shingles
IR Shingles
Stone Coated Steel
Metal Panels
COMMERCIAL
EPDM Rubber
White TPO Single Ply
Modified Systems
Built up Systems
Elastomeric Coating
785-462-6642
Licensed
Bonded
Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
WHO YA GONNA CALL?

Western Winds Therapeutic Massage
Trigger Point Therapy
Reflexology
Myofascial Release
Deep Tissue
Stress Management
Relaxation
Michelle Bremenkamp
Located at
THE MOVEMENT CONNECTION
430 N. Franklin, Colby, KS
Call for appointment • 785-673-9190 *cell* • 785-462-2949 *home*
~ Balance your life ~

Dr. Tom Barlow
DENTIST
785-460-7538
Appointments
Readily Available
505 H N. Franklin, Colby

NEED EXTRA MONEY?
Be a Newspaper Carrier!
Call us or stop by!
COLBY FREE PRESS
155 W. 5th Street • 785.462.3963

Meadow Lake Restaurant & Lounge
Monday Nights \$1 Draws
Saturday Nights Prime Rib
MEADOW LAKE GOLF COURSE & RESTAURANT
785-460-6443
1085 E Golf Club Rd. • Colby, KS

THOMAS County INSURANCE AGENCY
Serving NW Kansas for over 100 years.
Representing many companies to provide all your insurance needs:
• Home, Auto, Boat, Motorcycle, RV
• Farm and Crop Insurance
• Commercial Property, Automobiles
• General Liability, Workers Compensation
• Inland Marine, Builders Risk
• Auto Service Shops
• Body Shop and Collision Repair
• Contractors
• Restaurants
• Salons and Day Spas
• Strip Malls, Condominiums
• Churches, Schools, Day Care Centers
* For great coverage and customer service contact me!
Dennis R. Tubbs/Agent
P.O. Box 506 • 490 N. Franklin
Ph: 785-462-3939 • Fax: 785-462-3752
dtubbs@thomascountyins.com • www.thomascountyins.com

I make insurance simple.
FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES
Auto | Home | Life | Business | College | Retirement
Securities & services offered through EquiTrust Marketing Services, LLC • 5400 University Ave., West Des Moines, IA 50266, 877/860-2904, Member SIPC, Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company • Western Agricultural Insurance Company • Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company • West Des Moines, IA • Affiliates *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services © 2011 FBL Financial Group, Inc. M083-ML-BG (5-11)