## brary winter hours begin after Labor Day weekend **Jeff**

Library hours will change back to winter hours the day after Labor Day on Tuesday. Winter Hours will be Monday through Thursday — 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.

School activities have already hit full-swing and the school year has barely started!

One of these activities is the Max Pickerill lecture series hosted by Colby Community College.

Two prominent authors will be among the excellent speakers participating in this lecture series.

The first author Thomas Frank will be speaking in Colby Tuesday,

Thomas Frank is best known for his latest bookWhat's the Matter with Kansas? How Conservatives



Won the Heart of America.

wrote the book *God's Politics* and will be in Colby to speak Thursday,

Friesen

Link

authors will be in high demand book is why the people of Kansas, shortly before their date on the lecture series so get them early and avoid the rush.

Below is a brief synopsis of What's the Matter with Kansas and them? God's Politics.

Thomas Frank was born and shift in politics, Frank wrote the

introspective and insightful look into the politics of the people of Kansas. Conservative used to be the word associated primarily with the wealthier citizens of America.

Now the term conservative and the association with the Republican The second author Jim Wallis Party apply to the majority of the population in the midwest, includ-

So the fundamental question that The books written by these two Thomas Frank addresses in his who are predominantly middle class citizens, have decided to vote against the party that would (in theory) create the most benefits for

To articulate and explain this

raised in Kansas. His book What's book What's the Matter with Kan-political system and ironically, you Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. the Matter with Kansas takes an sas? More information on Thomas Frank can be found at the website tics is without politics. http://www.tcfrank.com.

> The New York Times bestselling book God's Politics by Christian activist Jim Willis takes a very different approach to identifying the issues of American politics today.

Willis does not advocate for the Republican or the Democrat. On the back cover of his book a simple message is printed at the top, "God is Not a Republican Or a Demo-Willis makes the point that al-

success of our country still depends on the institution of religious and moral values. The blame game that is all too familiar with politics today is only serving as a distraction to the all too real issues facing both the United

though there is a clear separation of church and state in America, the

States and the world. In this book Willis offers a very fresh perspective on the American

might find that this book about poli-

Pioneer Memorial Library is located at 375 West 4th and open seven days a week.

Winter hours will be as follows: are here to serve you.

- 8:00 p.m; Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

For information contact the library at 460-4470. As always, we



We will be closed Monday, September 5th for Labor Day! Have a safe and enjoyable holiday!



# 'Ham' operators use radios for hobby, emergency contact

HUTCHINSON (AP) — Amateur radio just isn't what it used to

In an era where computers and cell phones provide instant communication to all parts of the world, the necessity of obtaining an amateur radio license from the Federal Communications Commission might not seem as important as it once

Yet some would say it's more important than ever.

"This is not your grandfather's amateur radio," said Allen Pitts, media and public relations manager with the American Radio Relay League. The FCC lists 7,024 licensed amateur radio operators in Kansas, said Ron Cowan, the state section manager for the American Radio Relay League.

Each of those hams — "ham" being an old nickname for amateur radio operators with various suggested origins — has taken at least one if not a series of tests, quizzing them on knowledge from electronic theory to safety issues.

Once licensed, a ham receives a call sign of numbers and letters designating their license class and the geographical region where they

"It's still very much regulated by the FCC, and we still try to be selfpolicing," Cowan said. "It's just like you can't get in a car and go because you're on public streets."

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has recognized the importance of encouraging amateur radio operators to respond to emergencies, especially those aligned with Citizen Corps programs such as the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), as well as other emergency organizations like the American Red Cross.

"Emergency operations are getting more and more complex as the world got more and more complex," Pitts said. "Hams are trying very hard to stay up on developments so they can continue to provide good emergency communications." Many hams have the knowhow to construct an antenna and conduct quick, efficient communications, making them particularly useful in situations where phone service may be knocked out or un-

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#### radio towers were located on top of the World Trade Center. When the at Hutchinson Community College buildings collapsed, so did the communication network.

"Amateur radio communications aren't that centralized," said Tom me," he said. "I've never gotten Lappin, a Hutchinson ham.

During the Sept. 11, 2001, at-reasons that Lappin became a ham tacks, some cell phone and other haven't changed much.

The former technology instructor learned about his first job at the school from a fellow ham.

"It's been a really good hobby for away from it. You meet a lot of

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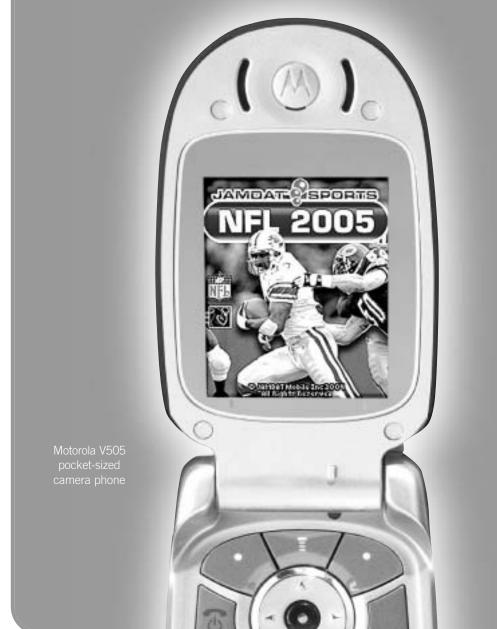
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While times are changing, the people and make a lot of friends."

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