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Stolen Jeep recovered in Salina lot

By Kayla Cornett

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A thief making his way across the United States in a succession of stolen vehicles made off with a Jeep from a Colby business on Thursday, later dumping it in Salina in favor of another vehicle.

Colby police received a report at 5:13 p.m. Thursday of a stolen vehicle from Murray Enterprises, located at 780 E. Fourth St. In a Friday press release, the department said a green 1997 Jeep Grand Cherokee owned by Murray Equipment Leasing LLC, was taken from the business' parking lot sometime around 3:30 p.m. Its absence was not discovered until later. The vehicle was unlocked and keys were inside. It was entered into the National Crime Information Center and the information sent to law enforcement in the state of Kansas.

The parking lot, however. It was a gray 2007 Toyota Tacoma pickup bearing California tags, which were reported stolen by the Inglewood Police Department in California. It was recovered by Colby officers, who contacted the Inglewood Police Department.

The extra vehicle went unnoticed by the employees at Murray Enterprises until they discovered the Grand Cherokee was missing.

"They saw it pull in, but they have people come and go all the time," said Patrol Sergeant Kent Dible of the Colby Police Department. "They had an idea of when it got there, but didn't think anything of it."

Dible believes that the two vehicles are connected.

"It was a dead giveaway," he said. "There aren't California plates sitting here that often."

At 8:01 p.m., Colby police were contacted by the Salina Police

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Waste bureau wants your input on tarp disposal

More and more Kansas farmers, landfill operators and recyclers are wondering what to do with large plastic tarps and films used to cover and store grain and silage.

The Bureau of Waste Management, a division of the Kansas Department of Health, says nearly all of these products are single use, bulky and difficult to transport. Recyclers often do not take them unless they are cleaned of grain or pesticide residue left over from use. They are also difficult to compact.

There are also a number of bulk pesticide containers that will become obsolete in August due to changing valve requirements. There is a recycling program for these containers, but it is underused.

The bureau is planning a meeting from 9:30 a.m. to noon, Tuesday, July 19, in the Mittens Meeting Room in Oakley to get input

on this issue. It is encouraging county and city officials, legislators, businessmen, landfill operators and farmers to attend.

The meeting will open with a welcome from Waste Management Director Bill Bider, after which each industry segment will have the opportunity to present their perspective. From 11:30 a.m. to noon, there will be a facilitated discussion on the issue. After lunch, there will be an informal discussion.

The department asks anyone who wants to attend to respond at Khicks@kdheks.gov or (785) 296-1026 by Friday, July 8. Attendance is limited to the first 50 people to respond.

There is also a guideline document that details preferred disposal methods available online at www.kdheks.gov/waste/techguide/SW-2011-G1.pdf.

Kansas to tighten grip on abortion clinics starting on Friday

By John Hanna

AP Political Writer

OVERLAND PARK (AP) — If a woman has an abortion in Kansas, the room temperature will have to be comfortable — between 68 and 73 degrees, in fact — under a new state health department rule taking effect Friday.

The room where the abortion occurs also will have to have at least 150 square feet, excluding "fixed" cabinets, and

come with its own janitor's closet with 50 or more square feet. The provider will be required to keep 13 types of drugs on hand, along with blood pressure cuffs for adults, children and even infants and premature babies. Patients will have to remain in a recovery room for at least two hours afterward.

The new regulations for abortion providers in Kansas are more specific in places than they are for hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers, and more de-

tailed than the rules for most clinics and offices in which doctors perform many surgical procedures.

The new regulations will be scrutinized closely in coming weeks, perhaps in court. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment is imposing the rules under a new state law, also taking effect Friday, establishing a special licensing process for abortion providers.

The rules set requirements for room sizes and the number of bathrooms and

janitor's closets for each abortion provider, and list required medications and equipment.

"Implementing the new regulations has been consistent with the work KDHE is already doing to ensure Kansans have safe, reliable health care in all facilities within KDHE's purview," said department Secretary Robert Moser, himself a physician.

The state's three abortion providers, all in the Kansas City area, view the regula-

tions as unnecessary and burdensome by design. Gov. Sam Brownback is an anti-abortion Republican, and abortion opponents pushed the law through the GOP-controlled Legislature.

The providers need a special license from the health department to keep performing abortions as of Friday. A Planned Parenthood of Kansas and Mid-Missouri clinic in Overland Park underwent a two-

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CHRISTINA BERINGER/Colby Free Press

Colby hams Bruce Frahm (left) and Mike Albers communicate with fellow radio enthusiasts around the world at the Colby Municipal airport on Saturday. The local ham radio club spoke to more than 1,000 people over the weekend.

Radio lovers ham it up at field day

By Christina Beringer

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The local "hams" of the Trojan Ham Radio Club were hard at work Saturday and on through the night honing their skills and competing in an annual field day with others from around the country.

Attending the training exercise at the Colby Municipal Airport were Mike Albers, Bruce Frahm, Bob McLemore, and Nathan Rietcheck.

The club is a volunteer group of local technology gurus who specialize in three types of communication: voice, Morse Code and digital communication. While primarily done as a hobby, the club also provides communication for government agencies when called upon during disaster relief.

"The competition we are in today is about skill and fun," McLemore said. "Our goal is to make as many communication links as possible, which relay into points. The team with the most points win. And, of course, we are also defending our title from last year."

Last year, the team broke the 1,000 contact barrier, which hadn't been done in over five years. They also had the best score in the Kansas 2A division in the two-transmitter category.



Bob McLemore sorted through a box of emergency procedures in the incident management trailer, which was set up at the airport for the field day. The trailer can be taken to any emergency relief site and used as a communications center.

The team has not yet received information about how well they did this year, but McLemore did say they made 1,475 contacts during the competition, which lasted from

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Briefly

City crew to fog mosquitoes

The Colby city crews will be fogging for mosquitoes for the rest of the summer, beginning today. Mondays and Tuesdays, the crew will fog south of Webster Street south and Thursdays and Fridays they will fog the north side. To help keep the mosquito population to a minimum, check your yards and empty anything holding stagnant water, including cans, swimming pools, tires, etc. For information, call Anita Powell at (785) 460-4420.

Christian school to sell fireworks

Heartland Christian School will sell fireworks from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. through Monday, July 4, in the Colby Livestock Auction parking lot on Country Club Drive. Proceeds will go to the school. For information, call Ronda Myers at 462-7727 or 443-1384.

Trash crews to take Fourth off

The Colby Sanitation Department crew will take the day off for the Fourth of July. Next Monday's residential route will be picked up on Tuesday, July 5. Have your tipper cans to the curb by 8 a.m. For information, call the Public Works Department at (785) 460-4420.

Lions plan hot dog feed

The Colby High Plains Lions Club will hold its annual Fourth of July hot dog and watermelon feed at 6 p.m. next Monday at the 4-H Building on the Thomas County Fairgrounds. There will be a jewelry raffle, bingo and the *Colby Free Press* Cointest. For information, call (785) 586-2384.

Picnic in the Park on Wednesday

Picnic in the Park begins at noon on Wednesdays

at Fike Park. The entertainment for Wednesday will be Shannon Myers. The event is sponsored by the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce, Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau and the *Colby Free Press*. In case of bad weather, listen to KXXX/KRDQ. For information, call the chamber at 460-3401.

Trumpet soloist here Sunday

Trumpet soloist Scott Brookins of Colorado Springs will perform jazz, inspirational, and praise and worship music at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday at the Colby Wesleyan Church, 320 W. Pine. Brookins has performed on television and radio, and with entertainers including Glen Campbell, the Platters, Mary Wells and George Shearing. He was a featured soloist and lead trumpet player with the Air Force Band. For information, call 462-8391.

Retired federal workers to meet

The Colby Chapter of the National Association for Active and Retired Federal Employees will meet at noon Thursday, July 7, at Montana Mike's. The group is an advocate for both active and retired federal employees with Congress and the White House. For information, call Maxine Nelson at 462-3571.

Harvest matchmaker on duty

Roger Hale is available again this year — at no charge — to help farmers and custom harvesters get together. His office is at Truck Town, 105 W. Horton. For information, call him at (785) 269-7712 or 460-8785.



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