

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE Last Wednesday

4:53 a.m. – Caller reported juvenile refusing to come home. Report filed.
 12:01 p.m. – Caller reported problem with juvenile. No report.
 12:24 p.m. – Caller reported suspicious subjects. Unable to locate.
 2:50 p.m. – Subject came to station about lost tag. Report filed.
 5:49 p.m. – Caller reported man sitting under tree at Villa High Pond for last four hours, concerned about welfare. Just fishing.
 5:57 p.m. – Caller reported dog at large. Not found.
 7:47 p.m. – Window broken out on pickup. All OK, owner did it himself.
 8:24 p.m. – Caller reported subject passed her, and is possibly drunk. Not found.
 8:38 p.m. – All OK with stalled vehicle at Range and Horton.
 10:48 p.m. – Walk through at Walmart.
 11:46 p.m. – Caller reported an out of control subject.
Thursday
 10:54 a.m. – Walk through at Walmart.
 11:11 a.m. – Walk through at Orscheln's.
 3:47 p.m. – Caller reported someone's house cat keeps trying to get into her house after she fed it. Provided information.
 7:18 p.m. – Caller reported two dogs at large. Turned over to Col-

by Animal Clinic.
 8:12 p.m. – Clerk called about irate subject causing problems. Spoke to subject during traffic stop.
Friday
 1:40 a.m. – Ambulance requested assistance.
 8:13 a.m. – Criminal damage: caller reported windows broken out on vehicles. Report filed.
 11:23 a.m. – Subject came to station about vicious animals. Report filed.
 3:57 p.m. – Domestic disturbance: caller advised subject there making threats. Report filed.
 4:39 p.m. – Subject came to station about burglary. Report filed.
 11:26 p.m. – Caller reported loud vehicle idling. Not found.
**THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF
Last Wednesday**
 7:22 a.m. – Released Karlee Wilson.
 11:33 a.m. – Released Gary Roy Slusher.
 5:25 p.m. – Subject came to Law Enforcement Center about fraudulent use of debit card. Report filed.
 9:15 p.m. – Building checks in Brewster; all OK.
 9:29 p.m. – Caller reported child custody issues with ex-husband at Menlo. Spoke to subjects; civil matter.
 10:48 p.m. – Provided building checks at Rexford school.
Thursday
 5:50 p.m. – Came upon a roll-

ing fight in the 1500 block of N. Range. High Plains Mental Health contacted.
 6:23 p.m. – Subjects came to Law Enforcement Center about possible fraudulent check they received in Menlo. Report filed.
 7:50 p.m. – Took subject from Law Enforcement Center to Larned State Hospital.
 9:50 p.m. – Tyler Brent Williams arrested on warrant by Hays Police Department.
 10:25 p.m. – Brought inmate from Ellis County Sheriff's Office to Law Enforcement Center.
 11:49 p.m. – Ivan L. Goodman arrested in Ness County.
Friday
 1:20 a.m. – Booked Tyler B. Williams.
 10:18 a.m. – Served arrest warrant on Williams.
 10:18 a.m. – Brought prisoner from Ness City to Thomas County.
 12:51 p.m. – Booked Ivan Goodman.
 1:59 p.m. – Took prisoner from Thomas County to Rawlins County.
 2:33 p.m. – Caller advised of stolen electrical fence charger at County Rd. CC. Report filed.
 3:06 p.m. – Booked Chanel Marie Siruta.
 4:03 p.m. – Helped Colby Police Department on suspicious incident call.
 6:15 p.m. – Accident with deer in the 700 block of County Rd. G.

Is she worth that much to you?



MICHELE WERTH/Brewster High School
 "How does \$10,000 sound?" asked Casey Mathews (Amber Berrie, left) while talking to the principal. She and Tim Stack (Will Allen) were holding the English teacher for ransom and discussing how much they should ask during the Brewster High School fall play, "The Ransom of Miss Elverna Dower," staged earlier this month.

Kansas ranchers seek alternatives to expensive winter hay

By Roxana Hegeman
 Associated Press

WICHITA – There's no grass for grazing on Debbie and Duane Blythe's ranch in Kansas' parched Flint Hills. Instead, their cattle nibble on the leafy tops of turnips the couple planted after harvesting their winter wheat.
 The Blythes are among thousands of farmers looking for alternative ways to feed their animals this winter after one of the worst droughts in the nation's history dried up grasslands in much of the country. The drought also cut hay production, making it harder and more expensive for farmers to buy supplemental feed.
 Many farmers and ranchers have already sold off animals they couldn't afford to feed, and they're now having to get creative in coming up with ways to feed those they have left.
 Turnips are nutritious, even if they seem like an odd choice for

cattle feed, Debbie Blythe said. She and her husband usually grow almost all of the hay they need to feed 500 head of cows and calves on their ranch near White City. This year, however, they got only about two-thirds of the hay they normally would. To make up the difference, they planted turnips and chopped failed crops of corn and milo from their fields and those of their neighbors to make silage, a fermented feed that their cows "love to eat like candy," she said.
 They also cut the stalks left over after their wheat harvest for straw that they'll mix with higher quality feeds or supplements.
 "Our cattle have been learning to eat things that they have not had to eat before," Debbie Blythe said.
 This year's drought covered two-thirds of the continental U.S. at one point. While about a third is still in a severe drought, conditions overall are easing.

The harsh summer, however, cut into forage production across a far bigger area than even the year before, said Steve Hessman, hay market reporter for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's office in Dodge City. The 2011 drought mostly affected ranchers in Texas, Oklahoma and southern Kansas, he said, but they could buy hay from states farther north, such as Nebraska.
 This year, Nebraska was among the states hardest hit by drought. That means little, if any, hay is being shipped south, but it's the high prices that are really forcing farmers to seek alternatives for their cattle, Hessman said.
 Dairy-quality alfalfa hay is now selling for about \$260 to \$285 a ton, although prices can go as high as \$300 a ton. Stock cow-quality hay is about \$260 a ton.
 Hay cost even more a year ago, but that's another reason why farmers are holding off, Hessman said. They remember last year's

mild winter and don't want to be caught with a lot of extra, expensive hay on hand come spring, he said.
 Meanwhile, thieves have been stealing hay bales off farms nearly every day in Butler County in central Kansas, prompting the sheriff to increase patrols on rural roads.

In Missouri, many farmers are instead collecting corn stalks that are usually left in the fields.
 Brewster-area cattleman Mike Schultz is among those baling failed corn to use as feed. He also has hay from previous years.
 But the dual purpose forage he planted on 80 acres in July is now

only a foot and a half high. He decided not to cut the plants to feed his 160 heifers because he was afraid the parched soil would blow away without a cover crop.
 "I have people calling me wanting to buy feed from us, and we aren't selling any because I don't want to run out," Schultz said.

Brighten your Christmas with gifts, ornaments & florals!

185 W. 4th St., Colby, Ks 67701

Someplace Special

Open
8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Mon - Sat
1 - 5 p.m. Sun

Make your Holiday Special with

Inlow Interiors

The beautiful store that offers you more.

Store Hours:
 M - F 9:30 - 5:30, Sat. 10 - 4
 Full service home decor,
 flooring, paint, window treatments
 and interior design.
 445 N. Franklin Ave., Colby
 785.462.6000

ONE STOP. ONE SOURCE.
PLENTY OF OPTIONS. PLENTY OF POWER.

SAFE BATTERY RECYCLING.
 Be sure to bring your battery back to NAPA

STAN'S AUTOMOTIVE
 785-462-6741
 425 N. Martin Ave.,
 Colby, KS

**Excitement is in the Air...
 Come Join Us
 Farmer's
 Christmas Market**

Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012
 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 BP Miller Building
 895 S. Country Club Drive
 Colby, Kansas

Linda's Bakery The Denver Lady
 Linda Van Horn Barb Stark

Made of Iron Way Back Yonder
 Lana Johnson Jane Willis

Made by Sarah Sarah Laubscher
 "Patsy's Sausage & Apple Ring"
 Peggy Miller

Geraldine's Sugar Cookies
 Geraldine Swart

Parker's Homemade All Beef
 Summer Sausage & Spicy Mustard
 Sandi & Merle Parker

AMERICAN IMPLEMENT

Win
a JOHN DEERE
Kids Gator!

Sign up at any American Implement Location
 Colby • Elkhart • Garden City • Goodland • Hugoton
 Oakley • Scott City • Ulysses • Walsh • Wheeler
Winner Announced December 11, 2012!
See location for complete details.

The Big Finish of 2012 is going on now at Colby Dodge, What does that mean for you? A "Big" Selection, and "Big" Discounts.

BIG

FINISH
2012

www.ColbyDodge.com

2012 Ram 1500 Quad Cab 4x4 SLT Big Horn
 HEMI Auto st#T3861

MSRP 37486
 with Mopar Boards & Mud Flaps \$851 Value
Total Discounts w/Rebates - \$8,600.00
 Sale Price w/Rebates 28886*

*Plus tax, dealer to retain all rebates. Includes 1000.00 commercial rebate must be Farmer/Rancher or Small Business owner. Ram Trucks include 500.00 commercial rebate must be Farmer/Rancher or Small Business owner, & 1000.00 Trade-in Bonus Cash must trade-in a vehicle. Subject to prior sale.

Make your Holidays bright with our Beautiful and Inspirational Christmas Collectibles

Open: 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mon - Fri & 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sat

PALACE DRUG STORE

460 N. Franklin • Colby • 785-462-7507