

911 KEPT FREE FOR EMERGENCIES



Fernando Salazar/The Wichita Eagle
Fireworks seem to be the cause of a fire near the corner of 10th and Cleveland.

Dispatchers on fireworks line: No complaints

BY DEB GRUVER
The Wichita Eagle

A special telephone number for the Fourth of July allowed 911 dispatchers to do what they're supposed to: assess emergencies and send firefighters, police officers and paramedics where they're needed instead of listening to someone complain about the neighbor still shooting off fireworks after the 10 o'clock news. The special line handled 377 calls Wednesday. Randy Bargdill, 911 director for Sedgwick County, declared the new line a success. "It worked out pretty darn good," Bargdill said of the line, created in response to a mess of fireworks-related calls last year that resulted in some people with legitimate

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SAFETY NET WILL SHUT DOWN MONDAY

Malware may block Internet for thousands

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON – Despite repeated alerts, tens of thousands of Americans may still lose their Internet service Monday unless they do a quick check of their computers for malware that could have taken over their machines more than a year ago. The warnings about the Internet problem have been splashed across Facebook and Google. Internet service providers have sent notices, and the FBI set up a special website. According to the FBI, the number of computers that probably are infected is more than 277,000 worldwide, down from about 360,000 in April. About 64,000 still-infected computers are probably in the United States. The Canadian Internet Registration Authority said about 25,000 of the computers initially affected by the malware were in Canada, but now only about 7,000 machines remain infected there, according to

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Kansas 5th in rate of giving to Republicans



Charles Dharapak/Associated Press
Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, accompanied by Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., right, participates in the Fourth of July parade in Wolfeboro, N.H., Wednesday. Romney is the former governor of Massachusetts.

Romney leads in campaign donations from Kansans

BY BRENT D. WISTROM
The Wichita Eagle

Few states are more reliably Republican than Kansas when it comes to funneling money to campaigns. And despite Mitt Romney's lackluster showing at the Kansas Republican caucuses in March – where Republican voters gave Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum a 51 percent to 21 percent win over Romney – Romney is ahead in campaign donations from Kansans. Romney ended the last fi-

nance reporting period in late June with \$648,631 in contributions from Kansans, compared with President Obama's \$513,544. Overall, Romney has 36 percent of all the money Kansas individuals have spent on presidential campaigns, with 28 percent going to Obama and the rest to Republican candidates who have dropped out or to third-party candidates with almost no chance of winning. And the numbers are likely to

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David Richard/Associated Press
President Obama greets the crowd after his speech at Washington Park in Sandusky, Ohio, on Thursday. Obama is on a two-day bus trip through Ohio and Pennsylvania.

KANSANS' GIVING TO PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

Here is what Kansans have given to presidential campaigns during the 2012 election cycle.

All candidates, \$1,804,331

Republicans, \$1,288,602

Key recipients:
Romney, \$648,631
Paul, \$180,334
Santorum, \$125,680
Gingrich, \$106,512
Cain, \$93,005
Pawlenty, \$64,000
Perry, \$38,350
Bachmann, \$29,914

Democrats, \$513,544
Obama, \$513,544

Source: Federal Election Commission

JANEL BALMER, 16, RAN A STOP SIGN, AUTHORITIES SAY

Andover teen killed in two-car crash

BY SARAH TUCKER
The Wichita Eagle

Janel Balmer was looking forward to Wednesday evening, her family said. She was going to have dinner at home with them. Then, they would all go to a friend's house for fireworks. But first, she was going to pick up a friend and go to the mall. Balmer drove north on Butler County Road in the family's

Dodge van. Shortly before 3 p.m., authorities said, she rolled through a stop sign at K-254 and was struck broadside by another Dodge van. She died an hour later at Via Christi Hospital on St. Francis. The Kansas Highway Patrol said Balmer wasn't wearing a seat belt. It said she was not texting at the time of the accident. The occupants of the other van, a couple from Wichita in their 80s, suffered minor injuries.

Friends and family spent July 4 remembering Balmer, a happy teen who made everyone around her laugh. "She had such a passion for life," her mother, Julie Balmer, said Thursday. "She loved being with her friends, doing stuff with her friends every chance she got. She loved being around people." Janel Balmer, 16, would have been a junior this school year at

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Courtesy photo
Janel Balmer, 16, was killed Wednesday in an accident at K-254 and Butler County Road.

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