

**If you check a smart, what can it turn?**  
**Thursday's Preview**  
By Village Press & Journal, KJ - 620-626-4600 Monday - Saturday  
1100 South Street, Suite 100, Wichita, Kansas 67202

**Dillon's robbed**  
Robber claimed he was armed, fled with cash  
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**DAYCARE AS USUAL**  
New facility provides childcare option  
Page 3A

**Get an early start to the holiday shopping season**  
Thursday at the **Holiday Open House**  
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**NATIONAL TENNIS CHAMPS**  
Seward honors doubles champions  
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**WIN A NEW CAR**  
Enter to win a new car  
Page 7A

**CHRISTMAS PARADE**  
8:50 to 9:00 p.m. - Downtown Open House - at Fashion Two, Fashion Two, Girlfriends, Flower, Bakes, Sews & Outdoor Shop, Downtown Brown's and Optics.  
**Thursday:**  
8:50 to 9:00 p.m. - Downtown Open House - at Fashion Two, Fashion Two, Girlfriends, Flower, Bakes, Sews & Outdoor Shop, Downtown Brown's and Optics.  
**Saturday:**  
8 to 9 p.m. - Spanish Clean Car Wash

**Sen. Moran sponsors bill to allow Kansans to keep their health care plans**  
By David M. Phillips  
WICHITA, Kan. (The Journal-Press) — Sen. Bob Moran (R-Kan.) has introduced a bill that would allow Kansans to keep their health care plans if they are currently covered under a self-insured plan. The bill, known as the Health Care Continuation Act, would allow employers to continue to self-insure their employees' health care needs, even if the employees are no longer working for that employer. Moran said the bill is necessary because many employers are being forced to buy private health insurance for their employees, which is often more expensive and less flexible than self-insuring. The bill would also allow employers to continue to self-insure their employees' health care needs, even if the employees are no longer working for that employer. Moran said the bill is necessary because many employers are being forced to buy private health insurance for their employees, which is often more expensive and less flexible than self-insuring.

**SW Kansas Black Hills customers to benefit from pipeline purchase**  
By David M. Phillips  
WICHITA, Kan. (The Journal-Press) — Black Hills Energy has announced that it has purchased the Black Hills Pipeline, a major natural gas pipeline that runs through the Black Hills region of South Dakota. The purchase is expected to benefit customers in the region by providing a more reliable and efficient gas supply. Black Hills Energy said the purchase will allow it to better manage the pipeline's operations and ensure that it remains a safe and secure source of natural gas for the region. The pipeline is one of the largest in the United States and carries natural gas from the Rocky Mountain region to the Midwest and Northeast.

**National Beef closes temporarily for operational issues**  
By David M. Phillips  
WICHITA, Kan. (The Journal-Press) — National Beef, a major beef processor in the United States, has announced that it will be closing its operations temporarily due to operational issues. The company said the closure is necessary because of problems with its equipment and the need to perform maintenance. National Beef said the closure will last for several weeks and that it will be working to resolve the issues as quickly as possible. The company is one of the largest beef processors in the United States and processes beef for a wide range of products, including ground beef, steaks, and roasts. National Beef said it will be working to resolve the issues as quickly as possible.

**Colorado's mixed tax votes leave future unclear**  
By David M. Phillips  
WICHITA, Kan. (The Journal-Press) — Colorado's voters have rejected a package of tax increases that would have raised state revenue to help pay for the state's budget deficit. The voters rejected the package by a narrow margin, leaving the state's future tax revenue uncertain. The package included increases in taxes on alcohol, tobacco, and gambling, as well as a new tax on the state's natural resources. The voters' rejection of the package is a significant setback for the state's budget planners, who had hoped to use the additional revenue to help pay for the state's budget deficit. The state's budget deficit is expected to remain a major issue for the state in the coming years.