

# CRIME: Holiday weekend

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"We didn't have a lot of any other mischievous behavior going on," he said.

Three automotive businesses reported burglary of computer, electronic equipment or other items over the weekend.

Skaggs Auto, 1127 N. Main St., reported someone broke into the business and stole various items sometime Friday night or early Saturday morning, according to a police report.

Crist Auto, 2571 U.S. 59, south of Ottawa, reported someone broke a window of the office door and stole a CD player, according to a report from the Franklin County Sheriff's Department. The damage and theft was reported Saturday morning.

Sunday morning, Creason Tawney, 2324 E. Logan St., reported a past

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burglary of about \$4,000 worth of computer equipment, the sheriff's department reported.

Vandalism on Halloween night was minor, however, Undersheriff Steve Lunger said. The only Halloween-related vandalism was reported in rural Richmond, where a woman found broken eggs inside her mailbox, Lunger said.

"As far as vandalism is concerned, we had a real quiet Halloween," Lunger said.

# eBay removes anti-abortion memorabilia from site

By The Associated Press

WICHITA — Online auction house eBay has removed items that were posted for sale by anti-abortion activists trying to raise money for defense of a man accused of killing a Kansas abortion provider, the company said Monday.

Supporters of Scott Roeder — one in Kansas City, Mo., and the other in Des Moines, Iowa — posted various

items late Sunday in separate eBay auctions including an Army of God manual, an underground publication for anti-abortion militants that describes ways to shut down clinics.

After about five hours, eBay removed 10 items, activists said. The final two items were removed by late Monday afternoon.

San Jose, Calif.-based eBay said the anti-abortion memorabilia vi-

olated its listing policies.

Roeder is charged with first-degree murder and aggravated assault in the May 31 shooting of Dr. George Tiller at his Wichita church. Anti-abortion activists are trying to raise money for Roeder, who has been appointed public defenders but was considering hiring private lawyers. He has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

# SURVEY: Slumping sales

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The survey's overall index dropped to 51.8 from September's 56.2. The index ranges from zero to 100, and any score above 50 suggests economic growth in the next three to six months.

"This month's decline suggests that the economic recovery under way is going to be a disappointing one," Goss said. "In fact, the volatility and level of the overall index over the past several months indicates that a double-dip recession is a growing possibility. Downturns in farm income, in addition to legislative uncertainty in Washington, are having negative impacts on the regional economy."

The Mid-America survey covers Kansas, Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

The survey's employment index also dipped in October, to 50 from September's 52.1.

Goss said despite a drop in unemployment rates across the region, the region's labor market "is not in good shape."

"Since October of last year, government data shows that the region has

lost almost 425,000, or 3.2 percent, of its jobs," Goss said. "While our survey indicates the pace of job losses will diminish, I expect the region to continue to lose jobs."

Survey respondents remained optimistic about the next six months — although not as confident as they were in September. The confidence index dipped to a still-strong 65.4 from 73.4 in September.

The supply managers surveyed reported an increase in the cost of raw materials and supplies. The prices-paid index grew to 68.9 from September's 68.1.

The survey's trade numbers were again feeble. New export orders slipped to 49.3 from September's 54.6, while imports dropped to 50.7 from 56.

The October inventory index rose to 44.4 from September's 43.5 — the 13th straight month it has been below growth-neutral 50.

Other components of October's overall index:

- New orders decreased to 3.6, down from 64.5 in September.
- Production or sales dropped to 53.5 from 66 in September.
- And delivery lead time increased to 57.9 from September's 54.8.

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