COLBY POLICE

Friday 12:21 a.m. - Caller reported ve-

filed: needs owner to call. 10:49 a.m. – Third-party report of possible suicidal person. Made

contact with subject; all OK. 4:24 p.m. – Caller reported subjects trying to damage property at Fike Park; officer spoke with subject, information provided.

6:09 p.m. – Dog at large in the area of Eighth and Chickamauga. Unable to locate.

6:57 p.m. – Caller advised of subject on bicycle possibly armed with handgun in the area of the 200 block of W. Webster. Located subject, soft air gun, everything OK. Four officers responded.

7:26 p.m. – Stalled vehicle causing traffic congestion in the area of Fourth and Range. Everything OK; help en route.

8:24 p.m. - Sheriff's officer reported semi-truck stuck in the ditch beside Walmart parking lot. 10:38 p.m. - Caller advised of

domestic battery.

11:34 p.m. - Caller reported Police. subject drunk and walking out in front of vehicles.

Saturday

12:57 a.m. – Walk-through at Stevens. Twisters.

5:02 a.m. - House checks.

7:35 a.m. - Two-vehicle collision in the area of the 500 block of N. Franklin.

12:38 p.m. - Assisted sheriff's office with dispute. Spoke with subject; information provided. 12:58 p.m. – Security check at served on Seth DeHart. Booked.

Colby Community Building. 1:35 p.m. - Wallet brought to Murphy on warrant. Booked and

Law Enforcement Center found in released. the area of 600 block of N. Court.

1:38 p.m. – Theft of money. 3:38 p.m. – Criminal damage to Licking.

vehicle. 3:50 p.m. – Caller reported pick-

up driving erratically around Fike Park. Second call advised parked on Hill St. Located vehicle, spoke lice at 1255 S. Range. to subject.

11:11 p.m. – Security check at Meadow Lake.

11:51 p.m. – Owner contacted about lights on in vehicle.

Sunday

12:40 a.m. - Management requested extra patrol at business. 1:03 a.m. – Security check at

3 a.m. – Time change.

6:06 a.m. - Security check to to report another collision with residences.

9:23 a.m. - Disturbance: caller hicle was vandalized. No report reported very angry patron. Spoke with subjects, situation remedied.

5:05 p.m. - Burglary/theft: sub-

ject called 911, advised of items

stolen from vehicle at Community

Building. Eight officers, including

9:10 p.m. - Caller reported

9:38 p.m. – Clerk requested of-

11:32 p.m. – Security check at

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF

Wednesday

10 a.m. – Took inmate home.

Colby Police to transport in ani-

Thursday

Golden Plains boys basketball

team from Rexford to County Rd.

3 p.m. - Provided escort for

6:22 p.m. - Arrest warrant

8:43 p.m. - Arrested Laura

Friday

9:37 a.m. - Booked Kelly Kay

10:28 a.m. - Report filed on

10:42 a.m. – Released Kicking.

11:09 a.m. - Assisted Cobly Po-

12:40 p.m. - Released Seth

2:31 p.m. – Caller found pills

came to Law Enforcement Center

transport order by court.

vided; nothing criminal.

Ryan DeHart.

County Rd. 26.

11:18 a.m. – Contained dog for

12:55 p.m. - Assisted Colby

someone entered and vandalized

ficer to help with unruly guest.

the chief, responded.

her house. Report filed.

Bosselman's.

mal control truck.

Janet Tabor.

money taken.

35 to U.S. 24 east.

Spoke to clerk and subject.

9:42 p.m. - Oakley Police offi-10:31 a.m. - Security check at cer advised of medical emergency. 12:08 p.m. - Two officers as-Spoke with subjects; medical help sisted sheriff's office. on scene.

11:24 p.m. – Booked Thurman McDonald.

deer near 2100 block of U.S. 24.

the ditch at Walmart parking lot.

Towed by Butch's.

8:19 p.m. - Semi truck stuck in

Saturday

5:35 a.m. - Released McDon-

7:37 a.m. - Dead deer in roadway at K-25 mile 201 removed.

10:31 a.m. - Suspicious incident: Caller unable to wake sleeping subject. Deputy woke subject, told to leave the premises.

11:56 a.m. - Request for civil standby. Information provided.

11:58 a.m. - Caller reported red van without any tag driving around. Unable to locate.

12:38 p.m. - 911 caller reported subject trying to take vehicle. Handled by Colby Police.

2:13 p.m. - Report of items found in the area of 2200 block of K-25. Spoke with subjects, information provided.

3:45 p.m. – Booked and released 3:45 p.m. – 911 caller reported 4:28 p.m. - Released Frankie pickup and trailer at I-70 mile 41 eastbound; truck was smoking un-11:59 p.m. - Caller reported derneath. Subject was in median; had help coming.

> 6:22 p.m. - Call reported kids on go-carts in Brewster. Not found.

Sunday

12:23 p.m. - Took inmate to Larned State Hospital.

12:24 p.m. - Booked Ofelia Betancourt.

2:49 p.m. - Released Betan-

5:05 p.m. – Multiple officers assisted Colby Police with burglary. 9:21 p.m. - Booked John Fredy

Monday

1:38 a.m. – Booked Anthony J. Tupper.

2:25 a.m. - Booked Penny B.

7:12 a.m. – Released Tupper.

7:33 a.m. - Released Lane. 2:48 p.m. – Caller reported

in a student's backpack. Spoke to neighbor's horses out at County reporting party. Information pro-Rd. 7 and 2. 4:33 p.m. - Released Mark Du-

7:24 p.m. – Caller reported vehicle hit deer near U.S. 24 and 7:44 p.m. - Caller reported trailer brake fire on I-70 at mile 7:41 p.m. - Subject called and 57. Assisted subjects.

Help stop pine wilt spread; check trees for infection often

Clint Milliman

County Extension Agent milliman@ksu.edu

The past few months you have probably heard or read more and more about pine wilt. What is it and how do I know if I have it?

The first and foremost question – is pine wilt here in Thomas County? The answer is no, at least for right now. I have sent in a few samples suspected of pine wilt; all have come back negative.

Jim Strine, northwest area forester, and I are monitoring the encroachment of pine wilt towards Thomas County. Some may remember one case of pine wilt in Thomas County in 2006. That specimen was eradicated and did not spread to surrounding trees. The vector was believed to be brought in by infested firewood from the eastern part of the state.

Pine wilt is caused by the pinewood nematode. The pine sawyer beetle, a long-horned borer, spreads the nematode, which feeds and multiplies in the tree's resin canals, causing wilting and death in several weeks to several months. The nematode and beetles winter in the infected tree. The beetles emerge around May 1, carrying nematodes to new trees and continuing the cycle of infection.

The disease is common in the eastern half of the state, and is spreading west naturally about 10 miles a year. The western edge of the infestation at this time is a line from Beloit to Hays to Medicine Lodge. However, there are a few scattered specimens just to the west of this line.

Scots pines are particularly susceptible, and Scots pine plantings in eastern Kansas have been devastated. Austrian, white, and mugo pines are also hosts, but are not as susceptible as Scots pine. Western Kansas is not yet infested, but there are occasional introductions on firewood or infested nursery stock.

Symptoms

In Kansas, new pine wilt infections are most apparent from August to December. Trees wilt and die in a short period of time, from several weeks to a

In the first stages, the needles turn grey or green, then yellow and brown. The discoloration sometimes occurs branch by branch, sometimes all at once. The

brown needles stay on the tree for up to a year after the tree has died.

Another key symptom is reduced resin. During part of their life, the nematodes feed on plant cells in the tree's resin canals, stopping the flow of resin. On a healthy tree, sticky resin bleeds from the site of a wound. If a tree has pine wilt the resin is often reduced or absent, and branches become dry or brittle.

1. Sanitation. The most important step is sanitation. If a tree is suspected to have pine wilt, take a sample to your local K-State Research and Extension office for submission to the K-State Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab. A sample should be a branch at least 2 inches in diameter and 6 to 8 inches long, taken from right against the trunk. Another option is a wedge or cross-section of trunk.

If the test is positive, the tree should be cut down as soon as possible – by May 1 at the latest – before the beetles emerge. April 1 is a better deadline to make sure no beetles emerge. Cut the tree to the ground; do not leave a stump. Chip or burn the wood immediately to destroy the beetles and nematodes. Do not save the wood for firewood.

2. Avoid stress. The beetles are attracted to drought-stressed trees. If possible, provide water during dry periods to prevent stress.

3. Prevent new infestations, especially in western Kansas. Do not import pine firewood from contaminated areas. Be wary of pine nursery stock from infested areas, and monitor nursery stock carefully. If pine wilt is introduced, remove the tree and continue to monitor surrounding pines to make sure it has not spread.

Careful scouting and sanitation can eliminate sporadic outbreaks before they get out of control. Contact K-State, the Kansas Forest Service, or Kansas Department of Agriculture for assistance.

4. Avoid planting Scots pines. Choose an alternative tree. Scots pines are highly susceptible to pine

If you suspect you may have pine wilt or other problems with your pine trees, give Agriculture Agent Clint Miliman a call at the Thomas County Extension office, 460-4582, to get you trees as-

March webcast focus is soil health

A one-hour webcast on "The bcast to download the speaker's discussion on the science of soil. Approach to Managing Manure in Agroecosystems" will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 25.

The webcast is free to livestock producers, extension educators and others interested in the topic. Attendees should go to www.extension.org/pages/Live_Webcast_ Information on the day of the we-

Soil Health Paradigm: A Holistic presentations and connect to the virtual meeting room.

First-time viewers also should follow the steps at www.extension.org/pages/How_Do_I_Participate_in_a_Webcast%3F.

Ray Archuleta, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service conservation agronomist, will lead a country, including Kansas State.

The webcast will be moderated by Bill Boyd, manure management team leader with the service. The webcast is part of eXten-

sion's Livestock and Poultry Environmental Learning Center Educational Webcast Series. eXtension is an educational partnership of land grant universities across the

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