

'Buckle up,' says the law

Seatbelts create a safe space within a vehicle that can prevent serious injuries and save lives, a brain-injured crash victim and law enforcement officials said during the kickoff of the "Click It. Or Ticket." enforcement crackdown in Kansas.

"My parents looked at my car after the crash," said Chad Kitzman, 29, who five years ago suffered a traumatic brain injury in a one-car crash. "It looked like a tin can crushed into a ball from rolling end over end down a hill. When they looked into the vehicle where I had been sitting, that part of the car was totally intact. I would have been protected had I just fastened my seatbelt."

Kansas Highway Patrol Capt. Dek Kruger described his experience in notifying a woman that her husband and two sons had just died in a rollover crash. None of them were wearing seatbelts.

"There was room to live in that vehicle," Capt. Kruger said. "In the past three years, I have responded to and investigated 50 fatality crashes involving 58 victims. Twenty-nine of those victims were not

wearing seatbelts...."

Kitzman, Kruger and Master Sergeant Gary Todd of the Kansas City, Kan., Police Department spoke at a May 12 event announcing the state's "Click it. Or ticket." seatbelt enforcement initiative. Law enforcement officers statewide will be working overtime to enforce the state's seatbelt law before and after the Memorial Day holiday.

Master Sergeant Todd explained that a new Kansas law passed in 2010 allows law enforcement officers to pull over any vehicle in which occupants are unrestrained. No other violation need be observed, and officers will issue a citation for the offense.

Kansas is still below the national average of 85 percent seatbelt usage, Todd said.

Kitzman added statistics show that, on average, an individual will be in four car crashes in a lifetime.

"Assuming that your next car ride could be one of those four times, you should make sure that you always buckle up, and avoid what happened to me," he said.

Presidential scholars chosen from Golden Plains and Brewster

Lucas Phillips, a May graduate of Golden Plains High School, and Whitney Schultz, a May graduate of Brewster High School, have been selected to receive Presidential Scholarships at Colby Community College.

Candidates for this award are nominated by their high school counselors. Presidential scholars are selected on the basis of leadership, academic achievement and potential for contribution to Colby Community College.

They are expected to be leaders and serve as positive examples for the entire student body. They represent the office of the president and are responsible for a number of

campus activities.

Phillips, the son of Brent Phillips and Diane Phillips of Selden, participated in Scholars Bowl and is a member of the National Honor Society. He was selected to the Kansas High School Rodeo Association Academic Rodeo Team. He plans to major in ag business at the college.

Schultz, the daughter of Mike and Dawn Schultz of Brewster, has participated in band, vocal music, golf and 4-H. She is a Kansas Regent Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society. She plans to major in nursing at the college.



Lucas Phillips



W. Schultz

Thomas County Jail

Booked into the Thomas County jail:

• Newton Dewayne Brown, 38, Colby, Jan. 26, rape, aggravated indecent liberties with a child under 14, lewd and lascivious behavior, Logan County Sheriff's Office, released May 9 to Kansas Department of Corrections.

• Jose Enrique Rosado, 37, Sanford, Fla., May 7, possession/distribution of certain hallucinogenic drugs, no drug tax stamp, Kansas Highway Patrol, released May 9 on recognizance.

• Christopher Eugene Geissert, 34, Colby, April 8, battery-domestic, criminal damage to property, Thomas County Sheriff's Office, released May 9 on probation.

• Travis James Graves, 26, Rexford, April 28, violation of protective order, Thomas County Sheriff, released May 11 on recognizance.

• Robert Lee Nathaniel Adams, 18, Brewster, May 10, rape, possession of certain hallucinogenic drugs, possession of drug paraphernalia, minor in possession/consumption, Thomas County Sheriff, released May 11 with charges pending.

• Tyson Roy Owings, 32, Colby, May 10, failure to appear, Colby Police Department, released same day on bond.

• Dee Petty, 50, Brewster, May 10, violation of protective order, disorderly conduct, intimidation

of a witness or victim, Thomas County Sheriff, released May 13 on \$150,000 supervised appearance bond.

• Robin Petty, 47, Brewster, May 10, possession of certain hallucinogenic drugs, possession of drug paraphernalia, Thomas County Sheriff, released same day with charges pending.

• Johnny Ray Siruta, 24, Goodland, May 10, possession of drug paraphernalia, obstruction of official duty, furnishing alcohol to a minor, Thomas County Sheriff, released May 11 with charges pending.

• Jason Leroy Dale, 31, Colby, May 11, driving with license suspended or revoked, failure to pay (two counts), Thomas County Sheriff, released same day on recognizance for making payments.

• Malcolm McCray Blackwell, 25, Broken Arrow, Okla., May 12, possession distribution of certain hallucinogenic drugs, Kansas Highway Patrol, released same day with charges pending.

• Seth Ryan DeHart, 18, Colby, May 12, probation violation, Thomas County Sheriff/Court Services of Thomas County, released May 13 on \$30,000 bond.

• Jeffrey Vincent Garcia, 20, Rexford, May 12, domestic battery, possession of drug paraphernalia, disorderly conduct, Thomas County Sheriff, released May 16

on recognizance.

• Phillip Allen Green II, 18, Jonesboro, Ark., May 12, no peddler's license - city code, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to appear.

• Joseph Anthony Reed, 21, Haltom City, Texas, May 12, no peddler's license - city code, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to appear.

• Amy M. Callaway, 41, Iola, May 14, protective custody, Thomas County Sheriff, released same day to other agency.

• Taylor Linn Brown, 22, Colby, May 15, battery-domestic, disorderly conduct, criminal damage to property, Thomas County Sheriff, released same day with charges pending.

• Crystal Jean Garner, 32, Colby, May 17, failure to appear/order to show cause, Colby Police/Russell County Sheriff's Office, released same day to other agency.

• Copelen Kyle Justice, 19, Colby, May 17, minor in possession/consumption, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.

• Casey Joseph Meyer, 28, Colby, May 17, theft of service, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.

• April Joann Sheets, 38, Colby, May 17, theft of service, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE Sunday

1:44 a.m. - Caller reported a man walking in the lane of traffic on Fourth St. Located subject - not in the street - and gave number to taxi.

2:07 a.m. - Security check at Truck Town.

2:37 a.m. - Caller reported a fight outside in the back of business. Everything OK, report filed.

5:03 a.m. - Security check at Truck Town.

11:07 a.m. - Report that power line appeared to have been struck at 545 W. Eighth Street. Turned over to on-call lineman.

5:18 p.m. - Assisted deputy on call.

5:51 p.m. - Deputy needed officer to meet him at Country Club Drive. All OK.

6:53 p.m. - Caller reported two sport utility vehicles parked too close to College Drive on Summer Sun. Spoke to one owner; vehicle moved.

8:43 p.m. - Indecent liberties with a minor: subject came to station about reported inappropriate touching. Report filed.

8:48 p.m. - Loud music complaint at 1150 S. Franklin. Spoke to subjects.

9:07 p.m. - Assisted stranded motorist in the 2100 block of S. Range.

9:18 p.m. - Caller having dis-

pute with neighbor. Spoke to reporting party; will contact neighbor.

11:28 p.m. - Security check at Truck Town.

Monday

1:16 a.m. - Security check at Truck Town.

1:32 a.m. - Security check at Walmart.

3:07 a.m. - Security check at Truck Town.

5:25 a.m. - Security check at Truck Town.

1:28 p.m. - Checked transients at Fourth and Franklin; all OK.

1:50 p.m. - Dog at large caught. Turned over to owner.

2:02 p.m. - Accident in parking lot at 1970 S. Range.

2:28 p.m. - Report of two large dogs at large. Not found.

6:16 p.m. - Report filed for criminal damage at Colby House.

6:47 p.m. - Criminal damage to property at Friendly Acres.

Tuesday

12:45 a.m. - Security check at Truck Town.

1:52 a.m. - Security check at Truck Town.

3:52 a.m. - Security checks to residences.

10:23 a.m. - made arrest on Russell County warrant.

11:37 a.m. - Assisted ambulance crew.

2:29 p.m. - Assisted sheriff's office with traffic stop.

4:39 p.m. - Dog at large. Not found.

5:44 p.m. - Civil standby.

7:39 p.m. - Caller reported subject refusing to leave property.

9:30 p.m. - Theft: business reported subject left without paying tab. Report filed.

9:55 p.m. - Driving under the influence report filed.

10:50 p.m. - Assisted subject in reference to lost cell phone.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF Tuesday

10:20 a.m. - Caller reported graffiti painted on the city building at 220 Maple, Rexford. Report filed.

10:20 a.m. - Caller reported graffiti painted on building in the 300 block of Main in Rexford.

11:04 a.m. - Report of graffiti painted on building at 405 Main in Rexford.

11:07 a.m. - Report of graffiti painted on building at Rexford High School.

12:28 p.m. - Booked Lawrence Glenn Davis.

2:22 p.m. - Report filed for vehicle impounded as a result of traffic stop.

3:45 p.m. - Assisted Colby Ambulance crew.

4:39 p.m. - Dog at large. Not found.

5:44 p.m. - Civil standby.

7:39 p.m. - Caller reported subject refusing to leave property.

9:30 p.m. - Theft: business reported subject left without paying tab. Report filed.

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