

Groundwater annual meeting to have board election, speaker

The 37th annual meeting of the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 4 has been scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 15, at the City Limits Convention Center in Colby, beginning at 1 p.m.

The agenda includes approval of the 36th annual meeting minutes; adoption of the 2013 operating budget; presentation of the 2011 annual audit; and election of four board positions: Rawlins/Decatur County; Sherman/Wallace County; Thomas County; and Sheridan County.

Anyone interested in a board position can be nominated from the floor or file a nomination form ahead of time. Forms are available at the district office or at www.gmd4.org.

With the increased attention being given to oil and gas activity in the district, especially horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, Rex Buchanan and David Newell of the Kansas Geological Survey in Lawrence will be presenting a program on the fracking activities in Kansas and what landowners should know about this relatively new activity.

The meeting will end with a public session for any groundwater issues brought up from the floor. The meeting is open to everyone, but you must be a district member to vote.

For information, contact the district offices at 1175 S. Range in Colby or call (785) 462-3915.

Applications open for energy projects

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is seeking applications for assistance to farmers and small businesses to complete energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Funding is available from the Rural Energy for America Program. In 2011, Kansas had 23 small businesses and 18 agricultural producers receive grants.

The program is designed to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses reduce energy costs. The following applications are being accepted.

- Renewable energy system and energy efficiency improvement

grant applications and combination grant and guaranteed loan applications until Friday, March 30.

- Renewable energy system and energy efficiency improvement guaranteed loan-only applications up to Friday, June 29.
- Renewable energy system feasibility study applications through March 30.
- Energy audits and renewable energy development assistance applications through Tuesday, Feb. 21.

"The REAP program has assisted Kansas agricultural producers and small businesses by providing financing for converting to en-

ergy efficient irrigation systems; installing energy efficient equipment, lighting and windows; and developing new renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and geothermal," said Rural Development Business Programs Director Karissa Berks. "The energy savings ... are tremendous, and we look forward to helping innovative Kansas agricultural producers and small businesses with reducing their energy needs."

For information, contact Doug Bruggeman, the Rural Development specialist in Hays, at (785) 628-3081, Ext. 4 or doug.bruggeman@ks.usda.gov.

Thomas County Jail

Booked into the Thomas County jail:

- Alberto Luis Marrero, 40, Great Bend, Dec. 29, possession of a narcotic drug with intent to sell, possession of a narcotic drug with intent to sell within 1,000 feet of a school, conspiracy, using communication facility to arrange sale or purchases, Thomas County Sheriff's Office, released Jan. 20 on recognizance.
- Warren Lee Edmondson, 44, Colby, Jan. 5, probation violation, Thomas County Sheriff/Court Services of Thomas County, released Jan. 23 on recognizance.
- Joshua Stephan Morales, 28, Aurora, Colo., Jan. 21, possession/distribution of certain hallucinogenic drugs, seatbelt infraction, conspiracy, no drug tax stamp, Kansas Highway Patrol, released Jan. 23 on recognizance.
- Sharee Lanae Dempewolf, 24, Colby, Jan. 22, driving under the

influence, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to appear.

- Abraham Louis Kirby, 36, Colby, Jan. 22, assault, disorderly conduct, criminal damage to property, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.
- David Francis Jost, 52, Colby, Jan. 24, failure to appear, Thomas County Sheriff/Court Services, released Jan. 25 on recognizance.
- Daxton Richard Navarro, 24, Colby, Jan. 25, probation violation, Thomas County Sheriff, released same day on withdrawal of order to arrest and detain.
- William Anthony Aswegan, 37, Colby, last Thursday, driving with license suspended or revoked, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.
- Eric Scott Schiltz, 30, Grinnell, last Thursday, burglary, Colby Police/Logan County Sheriff's Office, released same day on

\$10,000 appearance bond.

- Christopher Shawn Wessel, 20, Colby, last Thursday, minor in possession/consumption, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.

Enjoying sunshine



Members of the Art Appreciation Class at Colby Community College had a spontaneous "field trip" Monday, taking advantage of the nice weather to work outside on value scales and drawing trees in scale. Sunshine will be in short supply for the next few days, with a blizzard in the forecast.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE Friday

8:21 a.m. – Helped motorist in the 500 block of E. Fourth.

9:11 a.m. – Caller reported pig at large by Colby Livestock. Contact the owner.

10:02 a.m. – Helped ambulance crew.

11:11 a.m. – Caller reported theft of vehicle. Spoke to reporting party, no report at this time.

1:07 p.m. – 911 call reported break-in. Report filed.

1:57 p.m. – Domestic: caller brought items to station from incident Thursday. Report filed.

4:38 p.m. – Report filed on call from 11:11 a.m.

4:43 p.m. – Helped Sheriff's Office look for vehicle of possible drunk driver southbound on K-25.

4:51 p.m. – Report filed on two subjects on skateboards at Fourth and Franklin. Took boards then talked to parents.

6:44 p.m. – Caller reported of suspicious bag on porch. Report filed.

6:50 p.m. – Assistance to motorist at Range and Horton.

8:09 p.m. – Caller advised of theft. Report filed.

8:12 p.m. – Drive by at Colby Public Schools.

8:17 p.m. – Caller reported erratic driver. Not found.

10:56 p.m. – Bar check at B-Hive.

11:11 p.m. – Bar check at Twisters.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF Friday

8:31 a.m. – Released Preston Emmanuel Sanders to Logan County.

12:56 p.m. – Caller reported theft from Golden Plains school concession stand. Report filed.

2:43 p.m. – Brought inmate

from Rawlins Co. to Colby.

2:59 p.m. – Released Grant Lane Kahle.

4:30 p.m. – Took three inmates to Sherman County Sheriff's Office.

4:40 p.m. – Caller reported possible intoxicated driver southbound on K-25 from airport. Unable to locate.

5:16 p.m. – Released Austin James Kreinik.

5:23 p.m. – Released Robert Daniel Plastic.

5:26 p.m. – Released Travis Todd Griffin.

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