

Thomas County Jail

Booked into the Thomas County jail:

- Grant Lane Kahle, 21, Monument, Dec. 9, transporting open container/alcohol, Thomas County Sheriff's Office/Logan County Sheriff's Office, released Jan. 27 for time served.
- Preston Emmanuel Sander, 26, St. Paul Minn., Dec. 31, probation violation, driving with license suspended or revoked, transporting open container/alcohol, furnishing alcohol to a minor, aggravated human trafficking, Kansas Highway Patrol, released Jan. 27 to other agency.
- Adam Donald Cline, 19, Colby, Jan. 25, possession of opiates, opium, narcotic drugs or designated stimulant, possession of drug paraphernalia, manufacture/attempted manufacture of controlled substance or controlled substance analog, Thomas County Sheriff, released Jan. 30 on \$50,000 appearance bond.
- Alexander James Cline, 20, Colby, Jan. 25, possession of certain hallucinogenic drugs, possession of drug paraphernalia, manufacture/attempted manufacture of controlled substance or controlled substance analog, Thomas County Sheriff, released Feb. 2 on \$50,000 appearance bond.
- Sarah Lynnette Crawford, 19, Colby, Thomas County Sheriff, Jan. 25, possession of certain hallucinogenic drugs, manufacture/attempted manufacture of controlled substance or controlled substance analog, possession of drug paraphernalia, Thomas County Sheriff, released Feb. 1 on \$50,000 appearance bond.
- Jonathan William Mattison, 18, Colby, Jan. 25, possession of certain hallucinogenic drugs, possession of drug paraphernalia, manufacture/attempted manufacture of controlled substance or controlled substance analog, Thomas County Sheriff, released Jan. 31 on \$50,000 appearance bond.

- Travis Todd Griffin, 29, Evergreen Colo., Jan. 26, possession/distribution of certain hallucinogenic drugs, Highway Patrol, released Jan. 27 on recognizance.
- Austin James Kreinik, 23, Tampa Fla., Jan. 26, possession of a narcotic drug with intent to sell, Highway Patrol, released Jan. 27 on recognizance.
- Robert Daniel Plastic, 25, Conifer, Colo., Jan. 26, possession/distribution of certain hallucinogenic drugs, Highway Patrol, released Jan. 26 on recognizance.
- Robert William Jones, 25, Houston, Jan. 30, possession/distribution of certain hallucinogenic drugs, Highway Patrol, released same day.
- Raymond Joseph Gould III, 33, Jupiter, Fla., Jan. 31, distributing schedule V drug or analog, using communication facility to arrange sale or purchases, no drug tax stamp, possession of drug paraphernalia, manufacture of controlled substance, Thomas County Sheriff, released Feb. 1 on recognizance.
- Joseph Dean Harper, 32, Colby, Jan. 31, failure to register as an offender, Thomas County Sheriff, released Feb. 2 on court order.
- Justin James Kennedy, 22, Colby, Jan. 31, driving under the influence, Colby Police Department, released same day on notice to appear.
- Christopher Joseph Castenada, 21, Colby, Feb. 1, contributing to child's misconduct/deprivation, Colby Police/Logan County Sheriff's Office, released same day on \$500 appearance bond.
- Robert Carl Derauf, 19, Norton, Feb. 2, possession of certain hallucinogenic drugs, possession of drug paraphernalia, Thomas County Sheriff, released same day on \$50,000 appearance bond.
- Lucas Alexander Moore, 26, Colby, Feb. 2, disorderly conduct, Colby Police, released Feb. 3 on notice to appear.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE
Tuesday
2:53 a.m. – Security check at Walmart.
3:29 a.m. – Caller advised of someone in the house that is under construction. Everything secured.
11:18 a.m. – Provided traffic control for stalled semi in the 2200 block of S. Range.
11:26 a.m. – Caller reported illegally tagged vehicle in parking lot at Colby Community College. Notice to appear issued on traffic stop in the 1500 block of S.

Range.
3:06 p.m. – Dog at large turned over to Colby Animal Clinic.
3:47 p.m. – Caller reported underage driver leaving Colby High School. Spoke with subject and parents.
4:30 p.m. – Small dog behind Dollar General. Owner found.
6:24 p.m. – Sexual assault report filed.
11:22 p.m. – Subject came to the station because of receiving harassing phone/text messages. Information given.

Winter weather brings increase in fraud over telephone, Internet

Kansans stay indoors more during the winter, and we rely on phone service to communicate with others when we can't get out. Unfortunately, the phone service that lets many of us stay in touch sometimes lets strangers engage us in fraudulent insurance activity.

The Kansas Insurance Department's Anti-Fraud division has received several examples of suspected winter scam activity on Kansans. Here are three reported to our staff:

A woman in south central Kansas received a phone call from a Florida number asking if she still had a particular vehicle. The woman told the caller she had never owned a vehicle like that. The caller told the woman to provide her current vehicle information, as well as her Social Security number and proof of insurance.

A man in the eastern part of the state received a call telling him his Medicare Supplement insurance premium was decreasing, and he should call a certain number for more information.

A similar situation occurred when a Kansas woman was told she could receive a free Medicare Supplement policy if she would only give her bank account information.

In the first two instances, the Kansans who were called did not give out any information



Derek Schmidt

• **Attorney General**

and reported the call to our department. Unfortunately, in the third case, the person gave bank information to the caller, but did report it to our agency; she was told to call her bank immediately and report it.

I would urge everyone to be vigilant and report such activities because, in the end, fraud costs all of us more in insurance premiums if it isn't stopped.

Insurance fraud nationwide is a multi-billion dollar annual industry, taking in all lines of insurance. False medical claims, Medicare/Medicaid scams and fake auto schemes are all among the most common types of fraud cases reported.

According to the National Council on Aging, other top scams to be aware of include counterfeit prescription drugs, funeral and cemetery scams, fraudulent anti-aging prod-

ucts, false product telemarketing, Internet fraud, investment schemes, reverse mortgage scams, sweepstakes scams, and the Grandparent Scam, where someone posing as a grandson or granddaughter asks for money to be wired for an emergency.

Our department and others in state government, such as the Senior Medicare Patrol program in the Kansas Department on Aging, take these types of fraudulent activity very seriously – if we know about them. We can't track down or attempt to halt these types of activities unless we are notified when they occur. And believe me, we have staff members in our department who can't stand these scams and will make every effort to get them stopped.

To report suspected fraud activity, call our toll free (in Kansas) Consumer Assistance Hotline, (800) 432-2484. For additional information on anti-fraud activities and ways consumers can protect themselves, go to the Anti-Fraud section of our website, www.ksinsurancetrust.org.

It can certainly be cold enough in the wintertime without being left out in the cold because of an insurance scam. Stay warm, and stay vigilant about suspect phone calls.

Conservation Reserve sign-up starts soon

The U.S. Department of Agriculture will conduct a four-week Conservation Reserve Program general sign-up, beginning on Monday, March 12, and ending Friday, April 6.

"It is USDA's goal to ensure that we use CRP to address our most critical resource issues," said Acting Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services Michael Scuse. "CRP is an important program for protecting our most environmentally sensitive lands from erosion and sedimentation, and for ensuring the sustainability of our groundwater, lakes, rivers, ponds and streams. As always, we expect strong competition to enroll acres into CRP, and we urge interested producers to maximize their environmental benefits and to make cost-effective offers."

Conservation Reserve is a voluntary program available to farmers to help them use environmentally sensitive land for conservation benefits. Those enrolled plant long-term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion and develop wildlife habitat. In return, they receive rental payments and cost-share assistance. Contracts are for 10 to 15 years.

Producers with expiring contracts and producers with envi-

ronmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options. Producers also are encouraged to look into the program's other enrollment opportunities offered on a continuous, non-competitive, sign-up basis.

About 30 million acres are enrolled in the program now; and contracts on an estimated 6.5 million acres will expire on Sept. 30.

Offers for contracts are ranked according to the Environmental Benefits Index. The Farm Service Agency collects data for each of the index factors based on the relative environmental benefits for the land offered. Each offer is ranked in comparison to all other offers and selections made from that ranking.

These environmental factors are used to assess the environmental benefits for the land offered.

- Wildlife habitat benefits resulting from covers on contract acreage.
- Water quality benefits from reduced erosion, runoff and leaching.
- On-farm benefits from reduced erosion.
- Benefits that will likely endure beyond the contract period.
- Air quality benefits from reduced wind erosion.
- Cost.

Over the past 25 years, farmers, ranchers, conservationists, hunters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts have made the program the largest and one of the most important in the Department of Agriculture's conservation portfolio. Making major contributions to improving water and air quality and preventing erosion, the program has helped increase

populations of pheasants, quail, ducks and rare species like the sage grouse and the lesser prairie chicken.

In 2011, USDA enrolled a record number of acres of private working lands in conservation programs.

For information, visit a Farm Service center or www.fsa.usda.gov.

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