

Thomas County Jail

Booked into the Thomas County jail:

- Johnathan Michael Stiles, 18, Colby, Jan. 22, theft less than \$1,000, Colby Police Department, released same day with charges pending.
- Keenan Hansome Lydell Williams, 19, Colby, Jan. 22, theft less than \$1,000, Colby Police, released same day with charges pending.
- Joseph Galen Beckman, 58, Oakley, Jan. 23, driving under the influence, Kansas Highway Patrol, released same day with charges pending.

- Joseph Henry Greenstone, 48, Ventnor, N.J., last Thursday, possession of hallucinogenic drugs, no drug tax stamp, using communication facility to arrange sales or purchase, driving under the influence, Highway Patrol, released Monday or \$100,000 bond.
- Jeffrey Lynn Koel, 42, Colby, last Thursday, driving under the influence (serving time), Thomas County Sheriff's Office, released Jan. 26 for time served.
- Cairn Dexter Ferm, 24, Colby, Friday, possession of hallucinogenic drugs, possession of drug paraphernalia, Colby Police, released same day with charges pending.

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- Angela Kay Tubbs, 25, Colby, Saturday, theft, Colby Police, released same day with charges pending.
- Deziree Alexys Velasquez, 19, Kansas, Sunday, minor in possession/consumption, Colby Police, released same day on recognizance.
- George Levi Licking, 36, Oakley, Tuesday, driving under the influence, driving with license suspended or revoked, Thomas County Sheriff, released same day with charges pending.

Gnomes show up on utility poles

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Small paintings of gnomes that have popped up on utility poles have become a community sensation in Oakland, prompting Pacific Gas & Electric Co. to say Tuesday that it will keep them in place for now.

The hand-painted portraits on 6-inch blocks of wood began going up last year in an apparent effort to brighten up the blue-collar California city. There are currently more than 2,000 of the images on utility poles, with many screwed to the bases.

The gnomes have red hats, white beards and brown shoes. Some of the images contain a mushroom.

Word that Pacific Gas & Electric Co. planned to remove the paintings sparked an outpouring of support from residents who said the gnomes add character to the city.

Pacific Gas & Electric Co. spokesman Jason King planned to meet Tuesday with the artist, who requested to remain anonymous, and a member of the City Council. The utility hopes to eventually relocate the gnome paintings

from the poles to other spots in the same neighborhoods.

"We've received a lot of feedback from residents who love the gnomes," King told the Associated Press. "We're looking for solutions. We'll keep them where people can enjoy them."

King said Pacific Gas & Electric Co. did not want to encourage such installations, explaining a proliferation of such images could cause damage or make it difficult for crews to access the poles.

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