

# Numbers show department's value to state

The Kansas Insurance Department is putting the finishing touches on our 2012 Annual Report. We also have an update to our "ABCs of Insurance" booklet at the printer. In both of them, you can find much information about what we do and how we can help Kansans.



**Sandy Praeger**  
• Kansas Ins. Commissioner

While you will soon be able to go to our website and download a copy of the documents, I thought I would give you a "sneak peek" of the more interesting statistics we have compiled for them, including information for a one-page "snapshot" that we provide when we talk to groups. Below are a dozen information bits that I think emphasize our ability to assist our state's residents.

- We regulate insurance companies and agents in our state according to laws passed by the Kansas Legislature. Most of the regulations center on the need for a company to file rates that will cover the cost of its claims and keep it operating efficiently.
- We educate Kansas insurance consumers and others through a broad outreach program. During 2012, department representatives, including myself, made 162 community presentations, and we honored 274 requests for interviews

from the media.

- While we are a state agency, the department is an entirely self-funded entity. We collect revenue from fees paid by the nearly 1,700 insurance companies licensed to do business in our state. We are also funded through licensing and renewal fees of more than 102,000 agents, 22,000 of whom live in Kansas.

- Approximately 98 percent of those fees go back into the state's general fund. In 2012, that was more than \$143 million used to fund the Kansas government.

- Since 2003 the department has approved the operations of an additional 240 companies in Kansas. The Kansas insurance industry is now a \$15 billion business. More companies mean more quality choices in all lines of insurance. And, it's good business for our Kansas economy.

- I would put our staff up against any in the country for efficiency

and cooperation. They have taken on additional responsibilities during my tenure and embraced new ways of handling our work electronically. This has allowed us to reduce staff by 20 percent since I took office. That decrease came from not filling the jobs of retiring staff or open positions.

- Our department staff also contributes to national discussions on insurance by participating in committees of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. Several of them have association leadership roles; they provide

valuable national expertise in addition to their regular department duties.

- We sent more than 26,000 booklets and brochures to consumers and insurance agents during 2012. Many more people, I'm sure, downloaded and printed our information from our website, [www.ksinsurance.org](http://www.ksinsurance.org), or our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/kansasinsurancedepartment](http://www.facebook.com/kansasinsurancedepartment). We urge people to look online first to quickly print our information; however, you can order hard copies too.

- We recovered more than \$4.86 million for Kansas insurance policyholders in 2012. That was money recovered in addition to the

claim amounts initially offered by insurance companies. Our Consumer Assistance Division works diligently for consumers.

- The assistance division prides itself on helping consumers with complaints and inquiries as quickly as possible. Speeding along that process is the department standard that you always get a live person on our toll-free, instate hotline, (800) 432-2484, during regular business hours.

- For the last few years, the number of complaints that department staffers handle has decreased. We are confident those numbers keep going down because of our efforts have helped convince companies and agents that we will constantly

"go to bat" for Kansans.

- One final area that bridges both consumer education and advocacy is our anti-fraud effort. With a four-person staff, our anti-fraud division handled 820 cases in 2012. Those staff members are also very active in consumer and law enforcement education through our speakers' bureau presentations.

This is a quick view of our work at the Kansas Insurance Department. For more you can watch for our online publications updates throughout the year. Or, you can pick up the phone and call (instate) toll-free. Whatever your insurance information need, we are truly here to help.

## On the Beat

### COLBY POLICE Friday

1:09 a.m. – Caller reported loud banging from apartment. Spoke with subjects.

10:35 a.m. – Caller reported a camper-trailer parked on roadway overnight. Not found.

11:04 a.m. – Caller reported collision in parking lot.

11:21 a.m. – Subject came to station wanting information on an eviction notice. Civil matter.

4:03 p.m. – Caller reported three juveniles on ice at Villa High Pond. Juveniles spoken to.

6:28 p.m. – Driving while suspended report filed on traffic stop.  
10:42 p.m. – Driving under the influence report filed on traffic stop.

### Saturday

1:13 a.m. – Caller reported unknown subject knocking on door. No one found in the area.

1:47 a.m. – Sexual battery report filed on incident.

2:07 a.m. – Battery report filed on incident.

2:44 a.m. – Report filed for four-vehicle non-injury collision.

3:43 a.m. – Burglary-theft report filed.

6:48 a.m. – Business reported theft of fuel. Made contact; accidental and all OK.

11:03 a.m. – Caller reported

pickup broken into. No damage; nothing taken.

11:54 a.m. – Provided information to motorist at Range and I-70.

12:23 p.m. – Caller reported dog at large in the 200 block of E. Hill. Unable to catch.

1:48 p.m. – Assisted ambulance crew on call.

4:29 p.m. – Vehicle struck pole at Walmart.

### Sunday

12:47 a.m. – Caller reported subject hitting a parked vehicle.

1:37 a.m. – Security check at Twister's.

2:08 a.m. – Security check at the B Hive.

12:15 p.m. – Assisted ambulance crew.

12:30 p.m. – Caller reported kids on the ice at Villa High. Spoke with subjects.

4:26 p.m. – Caller reported subject possibly harassing him. Spoke to subjects.

10:14 p.m. – Caller reported someone knocked side view mirror off car parked at 1255 S. Range.

10:52 p.m. – Assisted ambulance crew on call and report filed for death investigation.

### Monday

12:03 a.m. – Caller reported being threatened by subject.

1:10 a.m. – Protective custody

report filed.

10:28 a.m. – Provided training drill at 1890 S. Franklin.

10:51 a.m. – Caller reported multiple thefts of fuel from ve-

hicles. Report filed.

11:59 a.m. – Caller reported vehicle entered sometime early Saturday morning. Report filed.

## Fourth graders dream

Fourth grade students at Golden Plains Elementary wrote down their dreams and wishes after viewing Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech and a discussion of his role in American history. Below are their dreams and wishes.

Taylor Todd: I have a dream to be AQHA world champion.

BROOKE Stoll: I have a dream to play basketball at K-State.

Bella Sauvage: I have a dream to be a pro team roper.

Rolis Loya: I have a dream to go to the wrestling state championship.

Wade Rush: I wish that they didn't do that to the colored.

Hannah Bange: I have a dream to be a vet with my Aunt Tammy.

Austin Durham: I have a dream to open a gun/hunting club.

Jadeyn Bice: I have a dream to become a famous barrel racer.

Ashley Stoll: I have a dream to be the first girl president.

Leonel Aguilar: I have a dream to become president of the USA.

Ethan Brown: I have a dream to become the Colts running back or quarter back.

Danica Ritter: I wish to be a teacher when I grow up.

Toby Korte: I dream to a professional football player for Broncos or New England.

Kole Butts: I have a dream to become a Nascar driver.

Braydan Fringer: I have a dream to be a firefighter when I grow up so I can help people.

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**  
February 14  
Publishes Thursday, February 14, 2013

**1x3 BOX ad (includes photo/special message...)**  
Choose from 4 styles...PRICE \$23.85

*To my Love:*

Happy Valentines Day.  
You are the light of my life!  
With love,  
D.M.

*I want you to know you are very special to me. Happy Valentines Day, darling!*

With my greatest love,  
D.M.

*Dear Valentine, I hope this day is as warm as your smile, and as wonderful as you are. With all my love, D.M.*

*Buddy: We enjoy every minute of every day with you! We love you!*

**Basic Ad 1x2: Option 1**  
XOXOXO Graphic and text

A.R.  
You are the light of my life.  
Love, R.R.

**PRICE: \$15.90**

**Basic Ad 1x1: Option 2**  
Choice of 1 graphic and text

To my true love,  
Amy...Happy Valentines Day!  
Love, A.B.

Choice of 1 Artwork:

**PRICE: \$7.95**

**1x3 BOX AD: \$23.85**

Select style  Ad 1 Retro Heart  Ad 2 Simple Heart  Ad 3 Heart Cluster  Ad 4 Pet Paws

**Basic ad 1x2 (Option 1): XOXOXO Graphic & text...\$15.90**

**Basic ad 1x1 (Option 2): 1 Graphic & text...\$7.95**

Select graphic  Teddy Bear  Love heart  Lips

**Deadline February 11 at 3 p.m.**

**COLBY FREE PRESS**  
155 W. 5th St., Colby, KS 67701

Photo, message and payment must be received at our office by Monday, February 11, 2013. Ads must be pre-paid. For good reproduction, photos must be clear. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope for return of photo.

# Want to know what's happening?



## Society Editor

The Colby Free Press is looking for a part-time society editor to do social notes, weddings, engagements, obituaries, church and club items, features and other news of interest to the town. This is a great way to be in touch with the pulse of your town and get to know a lot of people. It requires accuracy, speed and attention to detail. Work week would be 10-15 hours. Pay commensurate with experience and ability. Send a letter and resume to Sharon Friedlander, Publisher, at 155 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kan., 67701, [sfriedlander@nwkansas.com](mailto:sfriedlander@nwkansas.com) or apply in person at the address above. No calls please. This could be the job you've been looking for. EOE m/f/h.



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