Quarterly Issues/Programs List

KRNP-FM Sutherland, NE KZTL-FM Paxton, NE KELN-FM North Platte, NE KNPQ-FM Hershey, NE KOOQ-AM North Platte, Ne

1st Quarter January 2024 – March 2024

KOOQ-AM, M-F Newscasts at 6:30am, 7:30am, 8:30am, 9:30am, 12:30pm, 4:30pm KELN-FM, Newscasts at 6:30am, 7:30am, 8:30am, 12:30pm, 4:30pm KNPQ-FM, Newscasts at 6:30am, 7:30am, 8:30am, 9:30am, 12:30pm, 5:30pm KZTL-FM, M-F Newscasts at 7:20am, 12:10pm and 5:10pm KRNP-FM, M-F Newscasts at 6:20am, 7:20am & 8:20am

Description of Programing

"Eagle Radio Community Issues" is a over the air weekly program dedicated to local and state events and issues. These local interviews air Sundays between 6a and 8a on KRNP-FM, KZTL-FM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM & KOOQ-AM

News Stories that aired on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM over the course of the 1st quarter.

January 2nd, 2024

NORTH PLATTE, Neb. (January 2, 2024) – The Salvation Army North Platte Corps announced today that its local thrift store (1101 S. Cottonwood St.) will cease operations as of the end of the business day on January 31, 2024.

Salvation Army North Platte Corps officials said the store closing was brought on by declining store sales and increased costs of doing business amid the nationwide inflation crisis. A total of five thrift store employees will be affected.

"This was an extremely difficult decision to make," said Lt. Camon Landry of The Salvation Army North Platte Corps. "We only made the decision after looking at all possible options to keep the store running. In the end, store sales simply weren't enough to overcome the increasingly high costs of keeping the store open."

Meantime, The Salvation Army North Platte Corps (1020 N. Adams Ave.) will remain open to serve the community. Neither the Corps nor its various social services programs will be affected by the store's ceasing of operations.

"We want everyone to know that The Salvation Army will still continue to serve North Platte and the surrounding area after the thrift store ceases operations," said Lt. Landry. "Our commitment to serving those in need is as strong as ever, and we thank the community for its support and understanding."

The story was reported on air on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM throughout the day on newscast.

January 9th, 2024

North Platte, Ne - As of 2pm CST, Interstate 80 eastbound has reopened. The Nebraska Department of Transportation closed the interstate Monday between Grand Island and Lexington, eventually closing it all the way to Ogallala Tuesday morning.

NDOT says I-80 is now OPEN in BOTH eastbound and westbound directions. Exercise extreme caution and adjust your driving speed accordingly. Highway 30 is open both directions.

One driver heading to Minnesota said he rolled into town around 4:30pm yesterday and decided to wait out the storm. Another truck driver from Utah told the POST he was heading eastbound on I-80 when the interstate closed in Ogallala but was told to drive to North Platte. He said he pulled off the interstate around 11:30 this morning.

The Nebraska State Patrol announced today that they have responded to over 200 weatherrelated incidents. For the latest updates on road conditions, <u>click here.</u>

An early January snowstorm forced sections of I-80 to close, forcing travelers and truckers to be stuck in town. Once the roads were clear, I-80/HWY 30 was booming with traffic. Parts of the story were aired on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM throughout the day on newscasts and updates on the radio.

January 15th, 2024

NORTH PLATTE - Winter weather is impacting the region with snow and a wind chill warning in effect until tomorrow at noon (CST) according to the National Weather Services. Many schools in the area have closed for the day, late starts and cancelled activities due to the weather.

A wind chill warning which has blasted Nebraska since late last week will bring in a chilly Monday and Tuesday morning for the region. The National Weather Service says frostbite can occur if outside in dangerous weather conditions for a long period of time.

Over the weekend, many semi-trucks and cars were stranded due to blowing snow and extreme cold temperatures causing vehicles to not operate. With the snow moving across the state, roads may become slick and covered.

<u>For the latest road conditions, click here</u>. If motorists are stranded in cold temperatures, the Nebraska State Patrol says if you get stranded, stay in your vehicle and call *55. Troopers will be out across Nebraska to assist stranded motorists.

Parts of the story were aired on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM throughout the day on newscasts.

January 18th, 2024

BRADY, NEB. - A truck driver has died after his semi-truck left the road, entered the median and came to a stop under the Platte Bridge near Brady this morning on I-80. Three troopers were treated for smoke inhalation, Nebraska State Patrol officials say.

According to Nebraska State Patrol officials, approximately at 8:00am this morning, Lincoln County 911 received report of the crash on I-80. The crash occurred near mile marker 201, east of Brady. The semi-truck was pinned under the Platte Bridge.

When first responders arrived at the scene of the accident, the semi-cab was fully engulfed in flames. Troopers were unsuccessful in reaching the semi-cab due to the smoke under the bridge. Once fire crews put the fire out, the driver was found deceased.

Three troopers were treated for smoke inhalation by Brady EMS according to NSP officials. I-80 closed westbound from Gothenburg after the accident occurred.

According to Nebraska 511, I-80 westbound from Gothenburg is now open. All eastbound lanes are open while the left lane at mile marker 201 westbound is closed as crews are still on scene. The crash remains under investigation.

----- old update

10:03 am Update: Crews are still on scene working the crash that occurred near Brady, according to NE 511, I-80 eastbound from MM 200 to MM 203 (22m E of North Platte), the left lane closed. I-80 westbound is still closed from Gothenburg. *This is a developing story and will update when more information is available*.

----- original story

BRADY, NEB. - According to NE 511, an accident has occurred outside of Brady on I-80 near mile marker 201. I-80 is closed westbound from Gothenburg due to the accident. Highway 30 is an alternate route for westbound traffic. *This is a developing story and will update when more information is available*.

A morning accident outside of Brady, Ne on I-80 resulted in the interstate closing for 3 hours while crews could clean up. Post New Director Canon Rath used parts of the story that aired on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM throughout the day on newscast.

January 18th, 2024

North Platte, Neb. - On January 17th, 2024 at 11:53 P.M., Officers from the North Platte Police Department responded to Newberry Access on the report of an accident. It was found that the accident occurred near the Westbound I-80 on-ramp. A semi-truck was Northbound and attempted to turn left onto the Westbound on-ramp.

A pick-up truck was Southbound on Newberry. The pickup truck ran into the right side of the semi-tractor. The driver of the pickup truck was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the pickup truck was fifty-one-year-old, Jean Pierre Brownell of North Platte. The driver of the semi-truck was uninjured.

The investigation into the vehicle crash is ongoing. The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department and the Nebraska State Patrol are assisting with the investigation.

A fatal accident occurred off the I-80 ramp on the east North Platte entrance. Parts of the story were aired on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM throughout the day on newscasts.

January 24th, 2024

Western Neb. - Acting United States Attorney Susan T. Lehr announced that on January 23, 2024, an operation led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Nebraska State Patrol led to the arrest of 19 people and the unsealing of at least nine indictments. Those arrested and a summary of their charges and the penalties include the following.

An indictment was unsealed charging Alejandro Ruiz (age 41), of California, Guadalupe Ramirez (38) of North Platte, Roberto Duran (33) of Brule, Michael Shawn Harrell (47) of Ogallala, Eduardo Gomez (33) of North Platte and Carl McKinney (37) from Kentucky, with conspiracy to distribute over 500 grams of methamphetamine between January of 2021, and January of 2022. A conviction on that charge carries a possible penalty of not less than 10 years to life in prison, a fine of up to \$10 million; and a term of supervised release not less than five years. Ramirez, Gomez, and Harrell also face charges of possessing a firearm during and in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

If convicted, they each face a term of imprisonment of five years to life, consecutive to the drug charge; a \$250,000 fine and up to 5 years of supervised release. Harrell was also charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm. A conviction of that charge carries a penalty of not more than 10 years' imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine and up to three years of supervised release.

An indictment was unsealed charging Jamie Hopkins (37), Michael Stroble (30); Joey Romero (36), and Luke Schwartz (30) all of North Platte, with conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine (actual) and distribution of meth between July 2022 through February of 2023. The penalties are not less than 10 years to life in prison, a fine of up to \$10 million; and a term of supervised release not less than five years.

An indictment was unsealed charging Jessica Binegar (37) of North Platte, John Hernandez (35) of Lincoln and Brad Leeper (46) of North Platte with distribution of 5 grams or more of meth (actual) between March and June of 2022. Leeper was also charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm. The possible penalties for distribution are not less than five years, nor more than 40 years in prison; a fine of up to \$5 million; and a term of supervised release following the prison term of not less than four years.

Wesley Kraft (36) of Lincoln, was charged with distribution of five grams or more of meth (actual) during April of 2023 and being a felon in possession of a firearm. Timothy Huisman (39) of North Platte, was charged with distribution of five grams or more of meth (actual) in February of 2023. Shane Ross (46) of Ogallala, was charged with distribution of five grams or more of meth (actual) in July of 2022. Richard Torres (44) of Brule, was charged with conspiracy and distribution of more than five grams of meth (actual) between December 2021 and August of 2022.

Timothy Maisner (62) of North Platte, with possession with intent to distribute of 50 grams of more of methamphetamine (actual) and distribution of methamphetamine during January and July of 2023.

Eddie Houpt (59) of North Platte, was charged with distribution of five grams or more of meth (actual) in June of 2022.

To report tips on drug trafficking, please contact the FBI at tips.fbi.gov or 402-492-8688 or the Nebraska Crime Stoppers tipline at 1-800-422-1494.

These cases were investigated by the CODE Task Force which is made up of law enforcement agencies throughout a 22-county area in west-central/southwest Nebraska and includes the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Nebraska State Patrol, Homeland Security Investigations, North Platte Police Department, Lexington Police Department, and Army National Guard Counter Drug Unit.

The investigation and arrests were also assisted by the U.S. Postal Service, Dawson County Sheriff's Office, Ogallala Police Department, La Vista Police Department, the Tri-Cities Drug Enforcement Team (TRIDENT) Task Force, the Western Intelligence Narcotics Group (WING) Task Force, the Capitol Region Safe Streets Task Force (CRSSTF), the Lincoln/Lancaster County Metro Fugitive Task Force, the Lincoln and Keith County Attorney's Offices, and Nebraska District 11 Probation Office.

This effort is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task

Forces (OCDETF) operation. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligencedriven,multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found at

https://www.justice.gov/OCDETF.An indictment is merely an allegation. All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law. ***If you would like to check for charges and mugshots, click here.

The FBI and Nebraska State Patrol led to the arrest of 19 people in a major drug bust. Parts of the news story aired on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM throughout the day on newscast.

February 15th, 2024

North Platte, Neb. – The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announced on Thursday the award of a \$7,041,832 grant to the North Platte Airport Authority to kickstart construction of a new passenger terminal building at the North Platte Regional Airport (LBF) in Nebraska. The funds come via the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Airport Terminal Program and is one of 118 grants awarded for FY2024 totaling \$970 million. Of the 307 grants announced through the

first three years of the program, LBF is one of just six airports to receive an award of \$7 million or more with annual enplanements less than 20,000 passengers.

The Airport Authority expects an additional \$16 - \$17 million of federal funds to be allocated to the project via FAA-administered programs. The remainder of the estimated \$25 - \$30 million project will be financed via the Airport Authority's Capital Projects Fund.

With this announcement, the Airport Authority intends to begin construction later this year with targeted completion in fall 2025. The current terminal facility will remain operational during construction resulting in minimal impact to the traveling public.

"This announcement is the news we've been waiting for to accelerate this project and maximize the federal contribution," Airport Manager Justin Gosnell said. "It's the culmination of several years of planning, design, and advocacy for the project, and the airport is now poised to make the project a reality."

The North Platte Regional Airport serves a vital role in rural Nebraska's economy as the only primary airport within its 14,000 square mile, 15 county service area. It supports recent, local economic development successes including ongoing construction of a 500,000 square foot beef processing facility near the airport bringing an estimated 875 jobs to North Platte, and a proposed 300-acre rail park in nearby Hershey, NE. The project is intended to become a source of pride for the North Platte community, creating a modern landmark in western Nebraska. The existing terminal was constructed in 1952 and is unable to provide an acceptable level of service for current and forecasted demand. The facility was designed for pre-9/11 traveler behavior with "50 seats for 50 passengers" in the secure hold room with little space for luggage and amenities.

The addition of jet bridge boarding, modern restrooms, natural light, and food and beverage service pre- and post-security will meet today's airport user expectations. The security checkpoint and baggage screening room in the existing terminal building are constrained and unable to accommodate preferred Transportation Security Administration (TSA) equipment. "A new facility is needed to keep up with airport safety and security standards, and to keep airline service viable in North Platte," Gosnell described.

The airport is pursuing Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for the new terminal, which will feature modern, energy efficient building systems and a mass timber structure leading to reduced embodied carbon compared to steel construction. The scope of the project includes capturing, storing, and re-using stormwater runoff to satisfy non-potable water demand, photovoltaic skylight glass to provide renewable energy for building systems, and a Ground Source Heat Pump (GSHP) geothermal heating and cooling system to reduce energy demand. In addition, the terminal parking lot will feature multi-modal space for local public transit service, rideshare, and electric vehicle charging stations. Finally, the existing terminal building has several accessibility shortcomings that will be addressed with the new facility. The new terminal will exceed minimum Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards and feature a boarding bridge, code compliant restrooms, a mother's room, and accommodations for service animals to provide equitable access for all travelers.

Additional information about the project may be found at <u>https://www.northplatteairport.com/new-places</u>.

The story aired on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM.

February 16th, 2024

North Platte, Neb. – North Platte Community College has canceled the remainder of the softball season. The athletic department will immediately begin a search for a new head coach.

NPCC announced on February 6th that Janelle Higgins will no longer be serving as the Knights softball coach. Higgins spent the last 13 years as the head coach of the Knights. The Knights started off their season 0-3 with a loss to Seminole State College (OK) and two loses Cowley County Community College.

The remainder 25 games are now cancelled as NPCC continues their search for their next head coach.

On February 6th, North Platte Community College parted ways with their longtime softball head coach. 10 days later, NPCC announced the season was cancelled. Post Sports Director Paxton Gordon used parts of the story that aired on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM throughout the day on sportscast.

February 26th, 2024

Updated Story 6:15pm

North Platte, Neb. - FIRE ALONG THE DAM OF LAKE MALONEY MOVING EAST-PREPARE TO EVACUATE (Per North Platte Police Department) (Contained shortly after reported)

Updated Story 5:46pm CST

Mutual Aid for North Platte Area Fires came from communities as far away as Bridgeport Fire along with Bayard, Gering, Alliance, Gordon, Chadron and Crawford

IF you're in need of shelter due to evacuations, these places are helping.

The Salvation Army at 1020 N Adams in North Platte is open for those impacted by the grass fire evacuation.

The Brady Community Center Camp Comeca south of Cozad

LINCOLN COUNTY - The grass fire that started northeast of North Platte sometime after 10:30am Monday morning, is quickly spreading to the east.

According to the North Platte Police Department, All residents north of Brady and Gothenburg are ordered to evacuate due to large grass fire. Roads are now being closed in the area due to the fire and crews can battle the blaze. According to officials, N Maxwell Rd, N Brady Rd, and Hwy 47 are closed from Hwy 30 North. Please avoid the area now.

This is a developing story and will update when information becomes available. ----

Original Story

NORTH PLATTE - Crews are battling a large grass fire just northeast of North Platte and the North Platte Police Department says residents between Rolling Hills Rd and N Maxwell Rd need to evacuate due to the fire.

Mutual aid was requested by the North Platte Fire Department and surrounding communities have responded to the call. NPPD says the Salvation Army in North Platte is open to those impacted by the fire.

NPPD has requested that residents north of Brady to turn on their center pivots to help battle the grass fire as it heads east.

According to the National Weather Service, Lincoln County and much of Nebraska is in a red flag warning and will remain in effect until 6:00pm CT tonight. Winds can reach up to 15-25 mph with gust up to 45 mph.

The fire, which is northeast of North Platte, is almost in the same area as the Valentine's Day grass fire crews responded too earlier this month.

This is a developing story and will be updated when more information becomes available.

On Feb. 26th, a grass fire broke out northeast of North Platte and quickly spread due to the high winds, The story aired on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM on newscast along with radio updates.

February 29th, 2024

Lincoln County - Fire managers have made significant progress the past 24 hours. Containment has increased from 82% to 98%. Firefighters are currently monitoring weather forecasts for the next 48 hours. Portions of the fire are currently under Red Flag warnings. Projected forecasts through the weekend call for contribution of fire weather that may impact the fire footprint. Uncontained areas of the fire are pockets of heavy fuels and trees that still can ignite and throw hot embers across the fire line.

Yesterday's operations included increasing containment in heavy pockets of timber that pose risks to the fire's edge. Wednesday, an extensive infrared flight provided detailed areas of isolated and significant heat. Some areas in timber pockets pose safety hazards to firefighters, which limits them from suppression efforts. If these areas do not pose any risk for the fire to escape the line, the best way to mitigate these trees is to let the fire consume the fuel.

The focus for Wednesday and yesterdays' tactics includes suppressing areas along the eastern edge of the fire identified by the infrared flights. Division A, H and Z have been placed into a patrol and monitor status, meaning firefighters will continue patrols to limit containment line threats. Division K and R will continue to have pockets of heat due to heavy trees being impacted and firefighters actively engaged in suppression efforts.

An initial damage assessment shows the Betty's Way Fire destroyed 4 primary residents and damaged countless outbuildings and agriculture infrastructure. No injuries or fatalities have been reported.

The overall goal for yesterday is to transition from the Nebraska Type 3 Incident Management team to Lincoln County and Custer County agencies and local fire departments. The team would like to thank all those who helped stabilized this wildfire.

The fire is not completely out. There are pockets of heat within the perimeter that will continue to burn and release smoke. We expect to see smoke for many days.

The Betty's Way Fire has been a team effort at the local, county and state level. Firefighters from across the state helped suppress this fire and have been invaluable assets in ending it. Future information will be released referencing the massive response provided by Nebraska firefighters.

The fire that broke out on Feb. 26th was contained Feb. 29th after numerous agencies across Nebraska responded. Parts of the story were aired on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM throughout the day on newscasts

March 8th, 2024

NORTH PLATTE - A winter storm rolled into the area yesterday evening and blasted North Platte with snow. The snow began falling just around 5:00pm Thursday and as the evening progressed, the snow came flying done.

According to the National Weather Service, North Platte Office, a new single-day record was shattered when the weather service reported at 6:00am that 17.4" of snow was recorded. The previous record 13.9" that was set on January 18th, 2023.

Nebraska Department of Transportation crews are still clearing roads and travel is not advised. I-80 westbound is still closed from Paxton to Kearney while I-80 eastbound is closed from Sidney to Gothenburg. Highway 30 is also closed from Ogallala to Gothenburg. <u>click here for the latest road conditions.</u>

North Platte and surrounding communities were blasted with an early March snowstorm that left a record amount of snow. This story aired on newscast for KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM.

March 9th, 2024

Hershey, Ne - The S.O.S. came via a phone from a friend of Connie Kuhlman (owner of KJ's Boot's and Western Wear in Hershey) around 5:30pm Friday afternoon. "The roof has collapsed at KJ's" the caller said. "Can you come help get some of the inventory out of the store in case the whole ceiling comes down, and can you bring an enclosed trailer?"

The North Platte area had a record snow on Thursday night dropping 19 inches of snow in North Platte according to the National Weather Service in North Platte, Hershey most certainly had well over a foot as well. All that snow was too much for the western stores roof. Kevin Kuhlman, Connie's husband and co-owner had been clearing snow all day, and the last thing he planned to do Friday afternoon was clear the parking lot at KJ's which was closed all day due to the record snowfall.

After he had cleared the lot, he went inside for a moment and when he turned the lights on he saw that the southeast side of the buildings ceiling had partially collapsed. Then came the flood of phone calls to friends and family who raced to Hershey with enclosed trailers and moving dolly's and began clearing out the south part of the store, not knowing how stable the roof was at that point.

For about an hour and a half family and friends moved boxes of boots, jeans, straw hats and more to dry areas of the store and to an enclosed trailer. Eventually a portable storage unit came from Sutherland, and it didn't take long before it was also full.

Just after 8pm someone posted a Facebook message to the village of Hershey social media page asking for help, and the community did not disappoint.

More than 30 plus people filled KJ's helping move the rest of the inventory to safe places. The Hershey Fire Department also came with members of their volunteer department to help assess the problems in the building and to come up with a temporary plan to stabilize it.

KJ's will be closed over the weekend, but hope to have their doors back open soon after repairs are made

In result of the record snowfall received in the area, a local Western store in Hershey, Neb had their roof collapse. Many showed up to help save inventory. Post News Director Canon Rath used parts of the story aired on newscast for KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM.

March 15th, 2024

(North Platte, Nebraska, March 14, 2024) – Each spring, something magical happens in the heart of the Great Plains. More than 80 percent of the world's population of sandhill cranes converge on Nebraska's Platte River valley—a critical sliver of habitat in North America's Central Flyway. About 400,000 of these Sandhill Cranes will spend that time in the North Platte and Lincoln County area.

At sunrise and sunset, the North Platte River is the perfect place to view the spectacular concentrations of sandhill cranes as they awake and take off for another day of feeding and dancing, or as they come to strategically roost for the night. The City of North Platte had previously installed a viewing wall along the riverbank at their public viewing location at 301 W 18th Street in North Platte. This location is used by both visitors and locals alike and has gained more traffic in recent years. With this spot growing in popularity, the City of North Platte felt that expanding the viewing opportunities there would be beneficial.

After looking at several funding sources, they decided to apply for a Watchable Wildlife Grant. These grants are funded through the Wildlife Conservation Fund of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to help develop wildlife-viewing and nature-based experiences in Nebraska. In collaboration with Visit North Platte, the City of North Platte was successfully granted the funding and was able to add two brand new, fully enclosed viewing blinds. Each blind has two windows facing the river that offer stunning views of the Sandhill Cranes.

For those looking to use the area, please read the etiquette signage at the location and please be respectful of the birds while you are there. For sunrise viewing, you will need to arrive while it is still completely dark out, so it is recommended that you first visit the location in daylight to familiarize yourself with the walking path and the blinds. For sunset viewing, please arrive before sunset begins.

North Platte was awarded a wildlife grant to make upgrades for its viewing public area of the Sandhills Cranes. Part of this story aired during newscast on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM.

March 17th, 2024

(NORTH PLATTE, NEB.) — Troopers with the Nebraska State Patrol, with assistance from multiple law enforcement agencies, arrested three people following a pursuit and manhunt in southwest Nebraska Friday evening.

Friday evening, NSP was informed that the Furnas County Sheriff's Office was attempting to locate a vehicle believed to be driven by a subject with an active warrant. At about 7:15 p.m., a trooper found the vehicle, a Chevrolet Equinox, traveling northbound on Highway 283 near Elwood. The trooper attempted a traffic stop, but the driver immediately turned onto a county road and fled westbound. The trooper initiated a pursuit.

The vehicle continued county roads for approximately 30 minutes. During the pursuit, the occupants threw several items out of the vehicle. The suspect vehicle eventually drove into a pasture in Lincoln County, southwest of Gothenburg, and came to a stop. All three occupants fled on foot.

Numerous law enforcement officers arrived at the scene to search the area. After about three hours, troopers used a thermal drone to locate the subjects. All three subjects were then taken into custody. Additional personnel located the items thrown from the vehicle, which were multiple bags containing methamphetamine.

All three occupants, identified as Brian Titman, 45, of Kearney, David Griffitt, 37, of Trenton, and Madison Arledge, 26, of McCook, were lodged in Dawson County Jail for numerous offenses, including possession of a controlled substance, possession with intent to deliver, tampering with physical evidence, flight to avoid arrest, willful reckless driving, and obstructing a peace officer. Titman and Arledge each had active warrants.

NSP was assisted by deputies from Gosper County, Dawson County, and Lincoln County during this incident.

Three Indvidual's led cops on a highspeed chase and were eventually caught in Lincoln County and taken to jail. Post News Director Canon Rath aired during newscast on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM.

March 26th, 2024

NORTH PLATTE - March 25th - 29th is Nebraska Severe Weather Awareness Week to share information and tips for Nebraskans safety. The National Weather Service announced On Wednesday, March 27th at 10:00am (CT)/9:00am (MT) a statewide tornado test drill will take place.

National Weather Service Meteorologist Rob Cox hopes schools, organizations, businesses, and the public to test their tornado plans during the test. Some communities may use their tornado sirens during the test while other communities may choose not to.

March 25th-29th is Nebraska Severe Weather Awareness Week and on Wednesday, March 27th, a statewide tornado test took place at 10:00am CT/9:00am MT. This story aired during newscast on KOOQ-AM, KELN-FM, KNPQ-FM, KZTL-FM & KRNP-FM.

SEVERE WEATHER updates – All 5 radio stations interrupted regular programing multiple times over the quarter to give updates on Severe Weather that was impacting the area. The interruptions included road conditions and closings due to snow storms. Counties included Duell, Garden, Keith, Arthur, McPherson, Logan, Lincoln, Dawson, Frontier, Hayes, Perkins and Chase Counties.

CRIMESTOPPERS - The Crimestoppers Crime of the Week runs six times per week on all five stations.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR - On-air personalities promote events from our <u>www.NorthPlattePost.com</u> and <u>www.sandhillspost.com</u> Community Calendar daily during on-air shifts.