

Electronic branding helps livestock IDs

It's a sign of the times, pardner.

Inspectors with the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture (ODA) Brand Inspection Program (BIP) are setting aside the pens and paper used to record important livestock data at one of the state's eight auction markets in favor of hand-held computers and wireless transmission.

It's anticipated that the change to electronic recording will provide the same benefits as the paper system, but with some key upgrades.

"An electronic version of the same information recorded under the paper system should allow us to be much more efficient in our work and more cost-effective," said Dr. Don Hansen, state veterinarian and administrator of ODA's Animal Health & Identification Division.

"We are just catching up with technology," he said. "Other states are starting to record information electronically, and we want to bring Oregon up to the new standard for brand inspection."

"Eventually, the hand-held computers will be used by our brand inspectors when they do field inspections too." ODA is fully aware that

the BIP, like many other programs, is facing budget restraints. With the help of a federal grant, ODA was able to purchase hand-held computers and other electronic equipment designed to collect and process the information from brand inspections. Funds from the BIP, which is 100 percent fee-supported, are not being used to implement and maintain the new system.

ODA has brand inspectors at every auction yard at all hours on sale day, besides the daily general field inspection work they do.

"We look at the animals and the documentation," said

Rodger Huffman, ODA state brand inspector. "We verify the ownership.

"If the brand belongs to the person presenting the animal, then the new buyer will get a certificate showing they now own the animal with that brand on it -- just like transferring a title to a car. It passes on from the previous owner and we will document that sale."

Last year, ODA's 69 brand inspectors checked more than a million cattle as part of their routine work.

Now those inspectors have a new tool to help them in their work.



Selma resident Kathy Ann Compton, 46, was taken to Three Rivers Community Hospital in Grants Pass for treatment after her vehicle went off Hwy. 199 at N. Draper Valley Road Monday morning, Jan. 26. Oregon State Police added

that mishap occurred because of ice on the highway. Compton's daughter, who was in a booster seat, was uninjured, OSP said. (Photo by Dale & Elaine Sandberg, Illinois Valley Fire District Media Dept.)

Brothers' death: speeding

Two young Grants Pass brothers died as a result of a traffic accident on the morning of Thursday, Jan. 22.

At 8:47 a.m., Josephine County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) deputies, Rural/Metro Fire Dept. and American Medical Response arrived at the 1100 block of Saratoga Way on a report of a single-vehicle crash.

The driver, 20-year-old Silas Benjamin Emery, was pronounced dead at the scene by medical personnel. Joshua

Daniel Emery, 17, was taken by Mercy Flights to Rogue Valley Medical Center in Medford. He died of his injuries on Sunday, Jan. 25.

Investigation shows that Silas Emery was northbound on Saratoga when he lost control of his vehicle, slid off the roadway and struck a utility pole, said JCSO. Damage to the vehicle and the injuries sustained in the crash indicate that the vehicle was traveling at a high rate of speed, JCSO added.

New technology aid to sheriff's office

The Josephine County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) has new technology for accident investigations and documenting major crime scenes.

Last year, JCSO investigated seven fatal car accidents and has already seen

three this year. There were two homicides last year and several major crimes, which would have made the technology invaluable, said Sheriff Gil Gilbertson.

The new technology, called the Total Station, al-

lows JCSO to conduct in-depth investigations properly, efficiently and economically, he said. Funding for the technology did not come out of county taxpayer dollars, but from drug forfeiture money.

Investigators begin with a high-tech tripod, which pinpoints locations by laser. The Total Station then accurately calculates measurements. Detectives take those numbers, download them to a computer program and the crime scene becomes three-dimensional with a few clicks of a mouse, Gilbertson said.

He concluded that the additional technology will enhance JCSO's ability to provide a better service to Josephine County residents.

Support the merchants
who advertise in the
Illinois Valley News

(Editor's Note: Factual information for 'Blotter' is provided by official law enforcement agencies. All persons listed are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Charges can be amended or dismissed.)

Thursday, Jan. 15

*Shortly prior to 5 a.m. a caller reported a person inside the Junction Inn restaur-

rant. It was a manager.

*Theft of some 10 gallons of gasoline from a vehicle in a barn on Laurel Road was reported.

*Fredrick F. Whitehead, 49, was cited on a charge of driving with a suspended license in the 3000 block of Illinois River Road at 4 p.m.

*At 10:13 p.m. a disturbance was reported at a residence on N. Caves Avenue.

Friday, Jan. 16

*Nancy Michiko Blackner, 29, was cited on a charge of speeding (72 mph in a 55 mph zone) at 11:03 a.m.

*Glue from a construction project triggered a fire alarm at a S. Junction Avenue residence. Illinois Valley Fire District responded in force.

*The late-December theft of a \$350 nebulizer, for helping treat ailments including asthma, from an unlocked vehicle on Watkins Street was reported.

*On Caves Avenue, Vincent Lou Kieffer, 25, was cited on a charge of driving uninsured. He also was warned for lacking a driver-side fender and headlight. The vehicle was impounded.

*It was reported that a boy was assaulted by another at Illinois Valley High School.

*Robin Scott, 40, was cited on a charge of harassment following a reported disturbance on Hogue Drive.

*An unsecured door was found at the Cave Junction DMV office after an alarm sounded at 7:41 p.m. No entry appeared to have been made.

*A 12-year-old girl was reported as a runaway juvenile person from a McMullen Creek Road residence.

*On McMullen Creek Road a child reported that her parents were intoxicated and throwing things. No crime was in evidence. All parties were counseled and agreed to discuss it in the morning.

Saturday, Jan. 17

*Shelaine Michelle Quall, 21, was cited on a charge of driving uninsured on Redwood Hwy. at Hanby Lane at 12:40 a.m. A passenger, Jerry Victor Lewis

Owens Jr., 25, was cited on a Multnomah County warrant charging carrying a concealed weapon.

*At Page Mountain SnoPark, Donald Wayne Fouse Jr., 31, was cited on a charge of being on a closed road in a motor vehicle. Also, Brandon Keith Gayler, 28, was cited for lack of a SnoPark parking permit.

*A Cave Junction woman was transported by American Medical Response to Three Rivers Community Hospital (TRCH) in Grants Pass after she smoked some marijuana which she came to believe was laced with some other substance.

*Three people contacted while skeet shooting on Suncrest Drive were told to pick up their trash and move on.

*On Honeybee Lane a woman was concerned because for several weeks her neighbor's porch light had turned on and off at different intervals all evening. A deputy discovered that it was a motion-activated light, a technology about which the elderly complainant had never heard and was "not happy" to learn of.

Sunday, Jan. 18

*Lights on a bus parked near Evergreen Elementary School had been flashing for at least four hours, a caller stated at 9:38 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 19

*Someone in a dark-colored pickup truck was reported driving without lights while hauling wood from the Gold Canyon Drive area.

*A tri-fold wallet containing cash and ID was reported lost in the 200 block of W. Watkins Street.

*In the 27000 block of Redwood Hwy. a caller was concerned for his child because his wife was "flipping out" and shaking the child.

She was taken to TRCH on a peace officer's mental hold.

*Ashley Nicole Novak, 21, was cited on a charge of improper display on Redwood Hwy. at Reeves Creek Road at 7:19 p.m.; and cited on a Jackson County warrant charging failure to appear on an original charge of menacing.

*After his brother was assaulted in Downtown Cave Junction, a caller said around 11 p.m., some people drove by and shot at his Hanby Lane residence. A neighbor also reported the drive-by incident.

*On E. River Street a man was reported knocking on the back door of a residence and refusing to leave. He was warned against criminal trespassing there.

Tuesday, Jan. 20

*A man selling blankets on the vacant lot near Junction Inn said he was harassed by a man who found some of his blanket styles "offensive."

*After a surveyor left, his neighbor tore down a red-flagged marker, said a Deer Creek Road resident.

*Some \$1,800 cash was reported taken from a home-based business in the 28000 block of Redwood Hwy.

*Burglary of a home on Too Far South Lane between noon and 4:30 p.m. was reported at 4:47 p.m.

*Gunshots, possibly automatic weapon fire from somewhere in the vicinity of Davis Creek Road, were reported at 6:41 p.m.

*At 6:36 p.m. a 6-year-old boy on W. O'Brien Street mistakenly dialed 911, got scared and hung up, his grandmother said.

Wednesday, Jan. 21

*After a Grants Pass resident reported that a bullet came through his bedroom wall and nearly struck him, city police contacted a neighbor, James M. Powers

Jr., 58. He was cited and released on charges of recklessly endangering and second-degree criminal mischief. He apparently was allowed to retain his 9mm handgun.

Friday, Jan. 23

*Two Grants Pass men were arrested by city police after an attempt to elude during which the driver let out his passenger. The driver, Anthony W. Masters, 40, was charged with fleeing and attempting to elude, plus possession of methamphetamine. Orrin A. Kent 46, was charged under four warrants.

Imagine getting fresh, tasty, locally-grown vegetables each week without shopping, planting, weeding, watering, or harvesting.

Sweetwater Meadows has the answer!
9375 Caves Hwy. Cave Junction
541-592-4637
sweetwatermeadows@yahoo.com

Northwest Hairlines
592-3123

Denise Krska ~ Emmily Anderson
 Donna Melton ~ Debbie Wilson ~ Terri Hill

Hair for all ages!

Clipper Cuts
 Style Cuts
 Colors ~ Perms
 Weaves ~ Waxing

Mondays-Fridays:
 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Saturdays:
 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

202 Lister St. #A, Cave Junction

Need someone to watch your Precious One?



Helping Hands Day Care is here!

7:30 am-5:30 pm, M-F
 For more info contact
 Cindy 541-592-4923

helpinghandsdaycare@gmail.com

COUPON

Curves

30-Day FREE Trial Membership

with coupon

Western Plaza in Cave Junction
 Mon. - Fri. 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Phone 592-4599
 valid through 3/31/09

COUPON

illinois-valley-news.com

"Karen is your Hometown CPA"

Economic Stimulus Coupon

10% off 2008 Tax Return*

* new clients only — coupon must be presented at initial appointment

- Nationally Recognized CPA
- Federal, Oregon, California and other state tax returns
- Bookkeeping
- Payroll
- Other financial services
- Easy going office/not a "blue suit"
- Community Oriented Illinois Valley Resident

Karen M Bodeving, CPA PC

Grants Pass Office:
 574 NE E St.
 Grants Pass, OR 97526
 Phone: 541-479-3625

Cave Junction Home/Office
 Phone: 541-592-6529
 Email: karen@saintbernard.com