

Animal Control on the prowl

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turning to Oregon and spending four years with the U.S. Forest Service and a separate stint with I.V. Rough & Ready Lumber Co.

These days, Powell is four-plus years away from retirement, but that still leaves plenty of days criss-crossing



A young pup available for adoption

the county in the Ford F-250 Animal Control truck.

"About 90 percent of my time is spent traveling from here to there," Powell said.

Powell estimates that during around half of his attempted contacts, nobody is home, so he simply leaves his business card in hopes of scheduling a follow-up visit.

He's also stumbled upon his fair share of methamphetamine labs and marijuana grows while responding to complaints.

Of all the animals Powell has had to apprehend, he said emus are among the most difficult. Powell said that he's caught three of them in Grants Pass, but not recently, as they've fallen out of fashion as pets.

"They can be

real timid," he said. "They can die of fright from you catching them."

Horses also can prove difficult, due to their large size. Powell said that when handling horses, he starts off walking with them, which doesn't last long.

"The next thing you know, your feet are off the ground," he said.

Mostly, though, Animal Control handles complaints involving dog bites. The animal shelter is filled with stray dogs, many of which lack rabies shots.

Animal Control rents cat traps, but does not handle calls involving felines, as there are no laws covering them. That's fine with Powell, who said that cats are more difficult to deal with and tend to carry more diseases than dogs.

Powell said that Animal Control gets busier when the weather gets nice, which will mean plenty of activity for him throughout the next few months. As such, Josephine County residents are likely to encounter Powell on the prowl looking for the next set of strays.

SAR training set June 11 to 14

The Big Pine and Sam Brown Campgrounds plus the Sam Brown Horse Camp and the adjacent spur roads and trails around this area on the Wild Rivers Ranger District will be closed to the general public from Thursday through Sunday, June 11 through 14 for a regional Search And Rescue training exercise.

Josephine County will host the third annual COR-SAR (California Oregon Regional Search And Rescue) multicounty annual training exercise at Sam Brown Campground near Grants Pass.

There will be some 300 participants from Josephine, Jackson, Coos, Curry, Del Norte, Klamath, Douglas and Siskiyou counties, U.S. Coast Guard, BLM, and U.S. Forest Service.

The forest service has issued a special permit for use of the area. During this time the public can expect that the trails for ATV training and spur roads near Big Pine and Sam Brown Campgrounds and Sam Brown Horse Camps also will be closed.

Forest Service Road #25 (known locally as Taylor Creek Road) will remain open to the public for through-traffic during this time. There could be short, intermittent travel delays on Road #25. Motorists are encouraged to stay alert for traffic when traveling on this road and to follow directions of possible flaggers.

The CORSAR exercise will use the Incident Command System (ICS) as part of training. ICS is a highly effective structure to manage large-scale incidents and natural disasters that require emergency action to prevent or reduce the loss of life, property or natural resources.

The SAR training will allow participants to train and practice techniques and methods that include helicopter safety, ATV training, night

rescue exercises, full-scale day search exercises, and training in multiday command post and camp organization and support.



JoCo Sheriff Gil Gilbertson accepts donation. (Photo provided)

Ray's water donation welcome for SAR training

There are many costs involved with putting on such an event, and donations from the community help defray these costs and make the event possible. Ray's Food Place has made a generous contribution to Josephine County SAR by providing all the drinking water for the CORSAR training. All the Ray's Food Place locations in Josephine County, including the one in Selma, teamed up to provide 250 cases of bottled water with a value of \$1,000.

Josephine County SAR said that it appreciates Ray's Food Place "for its generous donation to help support our efforts to provide the best training possible to all the volunteers who will attend this training."

IVSWCD open house set May 30

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culture and water quality in Illinois Valley.

Riparian rehabilitation will be the topic starting at 1 p.m. That presentation will be given by Paul Schowalter of IVSWCD and the Josephine County Soil & Water Conservation District.

Starting at 2 p.m., Ian Reid of the U.S. Forest Service will give a presentation on fish found in the Illinois River Basin.

There also will be activities for children. They will include a salmon tent on the back lot of the county building, crafts, and a table where kids can build their own streams.

O'Brien said that he would like the open house to become an annual event to bring attention to IVSWCD efforts.

"We've been a very active board and council for restoration and rehabilitation projects in the valley," he said. "Historically, I think we've been very successful with our

projects."

Past natural resource extraction practices have created "some legacy problems that we're dealing with," O'Brien said, including the straightening of some area streams. As such, he said, watershed enhancement and fish passage issues are among IVSWCD's top goals.

In order to achieve those goals, the district partners with many entities, such as the World Wildlife Foundation, Ecotrust, Nature Conservancy, Bureau of Land Management and the Middle Rogue Steelheaders.

The primary source of IVSWCD's funding is the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), O'Brien said. IVSWCD uses state funds to leverage federal funds, O'Brien said, and conducts projects on private land with public money to try and help agricultural producers.

O'Brien said that IVSWCD improves fish passage by replacing gravel push-up dams with pump systems, and works with farmers and ranchers to make it happen. Such a system is more efficient for the farmers than dealing with leaky ditches that are difficult to maintain, he said.

IVSWCD also reintroduces canopy to streambeds to provide shade for fish. O'Brien said that during the flood of 1964, big pieces of wood plugged culverts. In response, people removed trees near streams, which created a problem that

IVSWCD is working to fix.

The emphasis of its work is to create win-win situations, O'Brien said. IVSWCD has a three-member staff augmented by a special projects coordinator through the University of Oregon arm of AmeriCorps and its Resource Assistance for Rural Environments program. As such, much of IVSWCD's vegetation work is performed through volunteer organizations like Illinois Valley's Forestry Action Committee. Other projects are contracted with persons and entities within Illinois Valley.

"We do try to keep our money as local as we can," O'Brien said.

To improve its public outreach efforts, IVSWCD also is planning to create a Website and have it online sometime in early summer.

"We're finally joining the Internet world," O'Brien said. "We will get more interactive that way."

IVSWCD is taking steps to make its headquarters in the county building a destination point, he said. A mural with magnetic paint is being planned, plus installation of a fish tank.

"That will culminate in a real teachable tool," O'Brien said. "We will be able to bring school classes in here."

Currently, IVSWCD is seeking donations and sponsorships from businesses for food and door prizes for the May 30 open house. For more information on the district, phone 592-3731.

Who's New?

Benjamin C. Ingram and Brandi L. Miller announce the birth of their son, Brenden Charles Ingram, weighing in at 7 lbs. 10 oz. and 19-1/2 inches long, arriving on May 10, 2009 at 10:21 a.m.

- IVHS School Menu - Sponsored by



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THURSDAY, MAY 28

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FRIDAY, MAY 29

Nacho supreme, wiener wrap, corn dog; spicy chicken burger, hamburger; pepperoni, cheese, supreme, or taco pizza; ham & cheese, or turkey & cheese sandwich, turkey wrap; chef, garden, fruit & veggie, or Mandarin chicken salad.

MONDAY, JUNE 1

Beef soft tacos, chicken nuggets; spicy chicken burger, hamburger; pepperoni, cheese, vegetarian or sausage pizza; ham & cheese, or turkey & cheese sandwich, turkey wrap; chef, garden, fruit & veggie, or Mandarin chicken salad.

TUESDAY, JUNE 2

Chicken fajitas, Rib-B-Q sandwich, chicken burger, cheeseburger; pepperoni, cheese, or Hawaiian pizza; Italian, or turkey & cheese sandwich, spicy chicken wrap; chef, antipasto, fruit & veggie, or garden salad.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

Taco salad, teriyaki beef rice bowl, spicy chicken burger, hamburger; pepperoni, sausage, cheese, or Italian griller pizza; veggie, or turkey & cheese sandwich, turkey wrap; chef, garden, fruit & veggie, or Mandarin chicken salad.

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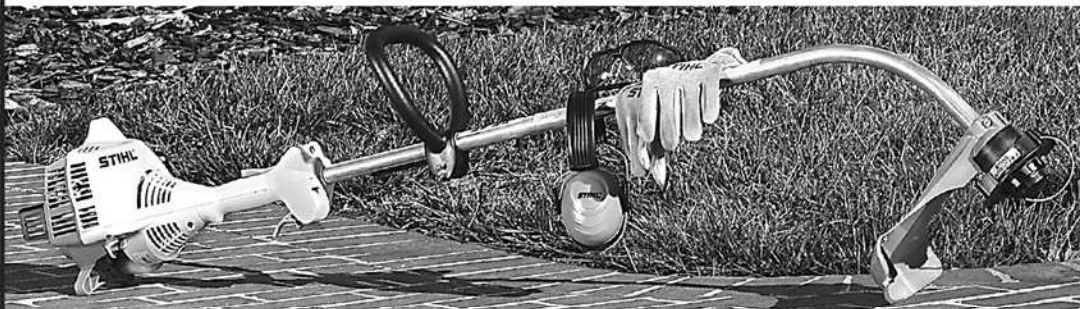
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