

Tales from the Rural Patrol

(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.)

Friday, Dec. 27

*In two separate incidents a Josephine County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) deputy cited two unidentified motorists on a charge of speeding (55 mph in a 45 zone) at Redwood Hwy. and Laurel Road.

*Another theft of tools (there have been several) from a construction site was reported in the 25000 block of Redwood Hwy. And again, some of the tools were found nearby in woods close to a house.

*Following a report of a white Cherokee (Jeep) "all over the road" on Redwood Hwy. in Kerby a deputy tried to overtake it, but after going all the way to Selma the vehicle was not located.

*Concern about her children was expressed by a woman because when she phoned them on Ken Rose Lane, she wasn't allowed by their father or grandfather to speak with them. At first the call was termed "beyond available resources (BAR), but subsequently a welfare check was made and all appeared normal.

*A welfare check on E. River Street found that a woman was OK. A friend was worried because of being unable to contact her for two weeks; the woman said that she had been visiting her son.

*In O'Brien a woman complained that people who moved out took her companion dog and a puppy with them.

*A complainant's wife's son broke into their home on Dogwood Lane and stole various items, according to a report. The son also is accused of cutting off their electricity by modifying the junction box for his control, which is why the complainant and his wife are living in a motel in GP.

*In Downtown CJ a man trying to sell firewood was advised that he needed a business license from city hall.

*Creeps in Selma apparently stole packages from mailboxes on Deer Creek Road on Dec. 13-14.

*A restraining order was served on Lone Mtn. Road in O'Brien.

*Some 16 calls from rural GP and surrounding areas were logged today including the next three:

*Someone said that their credit card was stolen, and two charges totaling \$1,630 were made.

*A Wolf Creek volunteer firefighter reported to JCSO at 8:05 a.m. that three vehicles were blocking a bridge to prevent fire units and personnel from reaching a residential sleep station. He noted that, "This is a common occurrence in which people set up chairs and stand in the middle of the bridge to delay or stop FD personnel from crossing it. This has now escalated to where they now park their vehicles on the bridge and make FD personnel wait until they feel like moving them in an effort to maintain control of the bridge for the purposes of alcohol and drug use." JCSO listed the call as BAR. There also have been incidents of vandalism and theft of gasoline at the station.

*Some poor soul in rural GP is quite upset at a neighbor taking her belongings and generally being a big jerk.

The most recent incident involves theft of the complainant's chickens and a turkey. She wrote, "Please, please do something; this is the I-don't-know-how-many-reports now, and she is aggressively getting worse. Don't people on probation have to follow rules? Please protect us."

Tuesday, Dec. 31

*An unidentified suspect in the Nov. 27 stabbing (in their legs) of two men on Forest Creek Road in Selma was arrested by JCSO following a report that he was at a home on Forest Creek. He was arrested on charges of two counts each of second-degree assault and criminal trespass.

*A restraining order was served on Lone Mtn. Road.

*A deputy and a trooper responded to Carlos' Mexican Restaurante after a report that someone drove over a nearby water line and broke it. The driver claimed that the damage to his car was from hitting a deer. No details of the outcome were in the log.

*People on Rockydale Road had a custody dispute involving their daughter. A deputy stood by; the girl elected to go with her mother. It was stated that the father, who has no legal custody, initially wouldn't let her leave.

*From W. River Street during a 911 call at 2:27 p.m., a woman could be heard saying, "Get out of my house! What are you doing?" A deputy arrived, and the woman said that the man had fled on foot.

*Two dogs caused a deputy response to Hogue Drive, as they were accused of running onto Redwood Hwy. and causing a traffic hazard. However, it was a case of "doggone" when the officer arrived.

*Among the nine calls from the rural GP area was one in which a man was found cold and dead in his bathroom. The owner of the home wanted to know what to do with the 70 marijuana plants found in the residence, as well as a wallet full of cash.

OSP incidents on this date included the following

*After a reported hit-and-run accident at 1:17 p.m. near milepost 27 of Redwood Hwy. in Kerby, an OSP trooper cited Cave Junction resident Danny Lee Smith, 64, on charges of failure to perform the duties of a driver in an accident with property damage, and careless driving/accident. OSP reported that Smith "left the highway for an unknown reason. He struck and destroyed a water main for a house, and a mail box. He fled and was followed by witnesses. He would not admit to being involved in a crash." The victims were identified as Jim and Kathy Blakely.

*Two OSP troopers devoted a combined total of three hours to make sure that it was safe for American Medical Response (AMR) to respond to a 6:17 p.m. call from Krauss Lane involving a suicidal man. He went with AMR voluntarily.

*Close to 11 p.m. a trooper stopped Richard A. Kratochvil, 68, for a traffic violation at Redwood Hwy. and Lister Street in CJ. He "showed signs of impairment" and failed a field test; then was taken into custody on a charge of driving under the influence of an intoxicant (DUI). At the Cave Junction Substation he refused a breath sample, and advised that he was having chest pains. AMR was en route when Kratochvil passed out and became

unresponsive. CPR was administered, and after he was resuscitated he was flown to Rogue Valley Medical Center in Medford. He was cited and released to appear at a later time on a charge of DUII.

*In a rural Grants Pass area, Kaley Gallant, 36, of GP, drove through two yards and a fence around 8:06 p.m. She was cited by OSP on charges of possession of less than 1 ounce of marijuana, and two counts of reckless endangerment, as there were two infants in her car. And near milepost 80 of Interstate 5 at 8:20 p.m. GP resident Ryan W. Tobin, 35, was stopped by an OSP trooper and cited on charges of operating a motor vehicle while using a mobile communication device, and driving uninsured. His vehicle was impounded.

Wednesday, Jan. 1

*During "shore patrol" out Eight Dollar Road a deputy checked someone, who turned out to be not a wanted person, and removed a dog (apparently dead) from the roadway.

*"Shore patrol" was conducted at Lake Selmac.

*There was a report of burglary in the 24000 block of Redwood Hwy. after the complainant returned home and found her door kicked in.

*Rural GP calls (seven of them) included an 18-year-old girl who left home with her shotgun and indicated that she was going to use it on herself. By the grace of God she didn't, but called her mother about an hour later to pick her up at a store in Grants Pass, and was going to seek counseling. There also was a report of a truck driver who "threw his girlfriend" from the cab on I-5, and a felon on probation who was going to "do something" about his neighbors if the law didn't come help.

Thursday, Jan. 2

*A quiet day in the Valley with only three calls, none of them significant.

*Different story in the territories of rural GP with 22 calls including a man who lost his emu, and a complaint that renters removed \$10,000 worth of solar panels and batteries, plus another landlord who said that tenants stole a pellet stove, fluorescent lamps and other items. (Tough way to begin a new year.)

Friday, Jan. 3

*When a deputy checked a residence on Ollis Road after a 9:55 a.m. alarm from the living room, the place checked secure. A note was left for the dwellers.

*Some people on Old Stage Road were concerned about possible drug activity involving two suspicious vehicles.

*Something happened on Lister Street.

*A deputy parked on the Junction Inn lot while awaiting a possible intoxicated driver headed towards Brookings from GP, but whoever it was had already passed, according to a woman who phoned from the O'Brien area.

*Out of 11 calls from rural GP territories, one involved an 89-year-old man who had fallen and struck his head a few days earlier. He was said to be barricaded in his house, and wasn't answering the telephone. Relatives were concerned because they had seen him place wood in his oven and turn it on. The man came out finally, and said that he was fine, and that he knows that his guns had been taken.

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