

# Handling expert to speak at cattle symposium next week

Handling cattle can be a challenge, but those who do – from cow-calf producer to feedlot cowboy to livestock hauler – will find that the better they understand how cattle think as animals of prey, the better they will be at enhancing cattle health and performance, said veterinarian Tom Noffsinger, a cattle handling expert who will speak on the topic at the 2010 International Symposium on Beef Cattle Welfare Wednesday through Friday, May 19-21, on the Kansas State University campus in Manhattan.

The symposium is hosted by K-State's Beef Cattle Institute.

"Prey animals have survived in nature, aware that predators select the lame, depressed and weak, to harvest," said Noffsinger. "If caretakers behave like predators, cattle will hide signs of depression and disease from these people as long as possible. Understanding ... cattle encourages handlers to override their predator tendencies, such as to chase and yell."

Another presenter at the symposium, K-State assistant professor, Lily Edwards, will speak on how the industry can respond to public concern.

"Consumers are looking for an-

swers regarding where their food comes from and how it is raised," said Edwards, whose primary work is in animal welfare. "I think we as an industry need to be the first ones to give them those answers."

"The majority of consumers aren't animal rights activists – they just want to ask questions about where their food comes from," she said.

Other speakers include Temple Grandin, Colorado State University; Joseph Stookey, University of Saskatchewan; Mike Siemens, Cargill Animal Protein; Glynn Tonsor, Michigan State; and Ron Gill, Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

Conference presentations will include: answering questions about beef production; auditing systems in beef cattle operations; beef industry communications with governmental entities; teaching beef cattle welfare; management of pain; management of culled dairy cows; animal welfare at the beef packing level; and more.

For those unable to attend in person, a live webcast option is available.

The conference will be preceded by a half-day session on

emergency preparedness for those in the beef industry. That session, which begins at 1 p.m., May 19, in Weber Arena, will cover such topics as handling loose cattle after an accident; moving downed animals, humane safety and handling fractious animals; humane euthanasia techniques and choices in the field and emergency response techniques for wounded cattle.

The registration fee of \$150 includes both meetings. Registration for the live webcast at an individual's location is \$150 and \$500 for a live webcast group. The fee covers participation in all symposium sessions, one lunch, refreshment breaks and symposium proceedings.

Information, including online registration, is available on the Web: [www.isbcw.beefcattleinstitute.org/](http://www.isbcw.beefcattleinstitute.org/).

## On the Beat

### COLBY POLICE

**Tuesday**  
8:20 a.m. – Assisted sheriff's office with child in need of care case at 4 p.m. Monday.  
3:06 p.m. – Lost cell phone at Colby Middle School.  
5:37 p.m. – Truck hit light pole at 375 E. Walnut. Power plant

## Thomas County Jail

Booked into the Thomas County jail:

• Timothy Paul Cheney, 51, Colby, April 2, criminal threat, Colby Police Department, released April 12 on \$50,000 bond.

• Mark Wade Majors, 55, Great Bend, April 7, driving with license suspended or revoked, driving unregistered vehicle, failure to provide insurance, possession of a narcotic drug (Kern County, Calif., Sheriff's Office), possession of a controlled substance (Kern County), Colby Police Department, released April 13 to other agency.

• Jose Javier Valdez-Castell, 19, Colby, April 10, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of hallucinogenic drugs, Thomas County Sheriff's Office, released April 14 on \$25,000 bond.

• Erika Breanna Best, 18, Colby, April 10, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of opiates, opium, narcotic drugs, possession of stolen property, Thomas County, released same day on recogni-

zance.

• Kimberly Sue Hoff, 40, Arvada, Colo., April 10, driving under the influence, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.

• Bonnie L. Petersen, 45, Brewster, April 10, driving with license suspended or revoked, Thomas County, released same day on notice to appear.

• Leroy Yazzie Tallman, 34, Antonito, Colo., driving under the influence, Colby Police, released same day to responsible party.

• David A. Dowdell, 43, Concordia, April 11, driving under the influence, driving with license suspended or revoked, speeding, Kansas Highway Patrol, released April 13 on \$10,000 bond.

• Justine Kay Fringer, 19, Colby, April 13, criminal damage to property, Colby Police, released same day on notice to appear.

• Amanda Marie Lopez, 37, Walsenburg, Colo., April 13, failure to appear, Colby Police, released same day on bond.

# Company has new employee

Mikal Pederson has joined Unice as a business account manager, covering Dodge City, Hays, Liberal, Garden City, Colby, Great Bend and surrounding areas.

Unice provides wireless products and service in mostly rural regions.

Pederson, who will live in Garden City or Scott City, will be responsible for existing business accounts and cultivating new accounts. He comes to Unice with 12 years of wireless experience. Most recently, he worked in data sales, helping business become more efficient with the use of data products and services.

"Our account managers are vital to providing superior service to our customers," said director Mike Unrein. "At Unice, we strive to build and maintain healthy relationships with local businesses so they can thrive."

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