

The Cattleman



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NEWS BRIEFS

2015 Cattlemen at the Capitol Events



Cattle Raisers discussed legislative priorities with Speaker Joe Straus

TSCRA AND TEXAS CATTLE FEEDERS ASSOCIATION (TCFA) HOSTED THE 2015 CATTLEMEN at the Capitol in Austin, Feb. 23 through 27. Activities kicked off in



TSCRA officers met with Governor Greg Abbott during the Cattlemen at the Capitol events in February.

the evening of Feb. 23 with a reception at The Driskill Hotel, where many state officials visited with cattle industry leaders and association representatives. TSCRA and TCFA were also at the Texas State Capitol on Feb. 25, where they met with Governor Greg Abbott, Lt. Governor Dan Patrick, Speaker Joe Straus and approximately 30 other elected state

officials, to discuss their legislative priorities for the 84th Legislative Session.

TSCRA Represented at Cattle Industry Convention in San Antonio

ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES, including officers, leaders, and members, were in San Antonio the week of Feb. 3 to 6 to attend the Cattle Industry Convention. Hosted by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, the annual event serves as the U.S. beef cattle industry's national showcase and includes 4 days of education, information, entertainment and trade show.



TSCRA First Vice President Richard Thorpe was interviewed about the new proposed dietary guidelines by Mike LePorte, Rural Radio Network, at the Cattle Industry Convention in San Antonio.

Sentence in Cattle Theft and Hindering Secured Creditor

CHANCE JOHNSTON, 31, of Chillicothe, was sentenced with restitution Feb. 17 after pleading guilty to third degree theft of livestock and 2 counts of hindering a secured creditor. TSCRA Special Ranger Scott Williamson led the investigation and Wilbarger County District Attorney Staley Heaty prosecuted the case.



Sale records revealed that Johnston had sold 3 calves at the Wichita Falls Livestock Auction in November 2013 that matched the description of 3 calves missing from the ranch where he was employed. The calves were worth a total of \$2,110.80. It was also revealed that Johnston had sold mortgaged property without permission from banks and knowingly gave false information to gain loan proceeds of approximately \$35,000.

Johnston met with Special Ranger Williamson and confessed to stealing the calves, selling mortgaged property and giving false information to banks to gain loan proceeds. Johnston received three 5-year sentences of deferred adjudication and was ordered to pay a total of \$39,634.11 in restitution.

"It is extremely important for cattle ranchers to keep an accurate count on their livestock, practice branding and report suspicious activity to authorities," said Williamson. "If you do not follow these precautions, it makes it difficult for us to recover stolen livestock and return cattle back to the rightful owners."

Duncan Ranch Rodeo Crowns Champions

THE 2015 DUNCAN RANCH RODEO WAS HELD FRIDAY, FEB. 13 AND Saturday, Feb. 14 in Duncan, Okla. Twenty-four teams from Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri competed for cash prizes and merchandise. After the Friday performance, Plus 5 Land and Cattle from Duke, Okla. held a commanding lead in the ranch rodeo.

On Saturday, ranch teams competed hard and by the time the dust settled, Mardis & Wilson, Mangum, Okla., took home the championship. Team members included Matt Mardis, Rodey Wilson, Matt Cramblett and Willie Morris. Cramblett also took home the Top Hand Award and Rodey Wilson took home the Top Horse Award.

Second place went to Reding Ranch, Sanger, Texas. Third place ended in a tie between Sliding H Ranch, Freedom, Okla., and Plus 5 Land and Cattle.

A ladies breakaway roping was also held during the ranch rodeo. The overall winner was Jennifer Massing from Martha, Okla. Second place was won by Sydney Frey from Marlow, Okla., and third place was won by Whitney Hall from Comanche, Okla.

The Ranch Rodeo Working Group would like to thank all of the sponsors of the Duncan Ranch Rodeo: Merck Animal Health, National Ropers Supply, Wellington State Bank, Anderson Bean, American Hat Company, A&M Feeds, Stillwater Milling, Texas Range Minerals, Berend Brothers, Bravo's Mexican Grill, First United Bank, and the Duncan Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Mark your calendars for the next TSCRA Ranch Rodeo, July 18, 2015, in Levelland, Texas.

Check out #CattleRaisers2015 for Cattle Raisers Convention Pics!

IF YOU'RE ON INSTAGRAM, FIND US AT @TSCRA for coverage of the Cattle Raisers Convention, March 27 to 29 in Fort Worth.

Tag us on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter at #CattleRaisers2015 if you share photos at our events or want to check out what other cattle raisers are up to in Cowtown.



Information Sought on Theft of Calves in Texas Panhandle

TSCRA SPECIAL RANGER BEN Eggleston, Dist. 2 in the Texas/Oklahoma Panhandle area, is seeking information on the theft of 1,121 head of Holstein/Jersey-cross steer calves from a Braum's dairy farm near Follett.



Employees at the farm noticed the steer calves, each weighing from 300 to 750 pounds, were missing after doing their 2014 yearly inventory. The dairy farm is on the border of Lipscomb County, Texas, and Ellis County, Okla.

Anyone with further information regarding this case should contact TSCRA's Operation Cow Thief hotline at 888-830-2333, or call Special Ranger Eggleston at 806-852-4741. A cash reward of \$10,000 may be paid to individuals who can provide useful information leading to the arrest and grand jury indictment of suspect(s). Individuals reporting information may choose to remain anonymous.

TSCRA EVENT CALENDAR

You're welcome to attend!

March 6: Rodeo Reception, Houston

March 13: TSCRA Ranch Gathering, Waxahachie

March 17: Ranching 101, Topic — 10 Things Every Small Producer Should Know, Fort Worth

March 27-29: Cattle Raisers Convention and Expo, Fort Worth

April 7: TSCRA Ranch Gathering, Mobeetie

April 18: TSCRA Ranch Gathering, Guthrie

April 21: Ranching 101, Topic — Cattle Nutrition, Fort Worth

May 7-10: Western Heritage Classic, Abilene

TSCRA members — ask about discounts from the following partners!

