

Here, There & Everywhere

CLEAN SWEEP - Da Kine Grinds in Downtown Cave Junction received a 95 percent score from Josephine County Health Dept. following a Sept. 3 inspection. The restaurant, owned by Kimberly Fujita, serves Japanese and Thai food and coffee.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS - Illinois Valley Senior Center will hold its Christmas bazaar and bake sale on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7-8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

RED RIBBONS - Josephine County Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) will present this year's red ribbon kick-off on Saturday, Nov. 8 at Shop Smart Food Warehouse in Cave Junction from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Events will also be held on Saturday, Nov. 22 at Fred Meyer in Grants Pass and on Friday, Dec. 12 at Dutch Bros Coffee on Sixth Street in GP. Also during the events will be opportunities to join MADD for free, although donations will be accepted.

FIDDLIN' FUN - Deer Creek Grange in Selma will host a bluegrass jam on Sunday, Nov. 9 from 2 to 5 p.m. A free banjo workshop will also be offered at noon. For more information phone 592-6832.

TAKING ORDERS - To help raise funds for the Lorna Byrne Football Club, members will be accepting orders for fresh 25" Christmas wreaths until Saturday, Nov. 15. The wreaths will be ready to pick up during the week of Dec. 8-12. To order phone Diane at 596-2968 or Sarah at 592-6142.

GOBBLE GOBBLE - The Cave Junction Lions Club will host its second annual turkey bingo event on Saturday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. at the Josephine County Bldg. in Downtown CJ. Doors will open at 5 p.m.

NOTEPAD - I.V. Bikers will visit area merchants and residents for donations to support its 21st annual toy run to be held on Dec. 6 at Junction Inn. Broadway Phil and the Shouters will be the featured entertainment...**A Thanksgiving Praise Gathering** will be held at I.V. High School on Sunday, Nov. 23 at 6 p.m...**Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Dwight Ellis** was recently named as the "2003 Oregon Chamber Executive of the Year" at the Oregon Chamber Executives Fall Conference in Medford...**Actor Robert Greygrass** and a regional teen theater troupe will appear at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 13 at the Rogue Theatre in Grants Pass...**Joan Michaelson** of the Oregon Law Center will discuss the Oregon Advance Directive Law, "Steps to understanding and Filling Out the Form," on Monday, Nov. 10 from 12 to 1 p.m. at Lovejoy Hospice, 939 S.E. Eighth St., Grants Pass. Participants need to bring their own lunches. RSVP at (541) 474-1193.

Veteran firefighter on quest to find friends

By MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Illinois Valley resident and historian Harold Teague, who once led mule pack trains into the valley, is looking for a couple of veteran firefighters.

Very veteran.

Teague, 83, hopes to track down those who served with him at the Camp White Fire Dept. near Medford during World War II.

Their shoulders may have sagged a bit; their hair grown thinner, and their waists broader, but Teague figures a couple have survived the years.

"Surely they ain't all gone," said Teague. "There sure should be a couple of them left around here someplace."

In a group photograph taken in 1943, the-then 23-year-old Teague is the fellow without a tie. He didn't wear one because he didn't want to look "like those old codgers," he said.

Raised in the Reese Creek drainage north of Eagle Point, Teague originally joined the Camp White firefighters in 1941.

He volunteered for U.S. Navy service in 1942, and was medically discharged in spring 1943 after narrowly escaping a fire aboard the USS "Henderson" sailing in the South Pacific. He then went to work at Camp White.

Now known as the Dept. of Veterans Affairs Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center and Clinics, the site once housed more than 50,000 soldiers training at the U.S. Army base then called Camp White.

Teague recalls that there were five fire stations at the base. Firefighters worked a 24 hours on/24 hours off schedule.

"We were busy all the time," he said. "We had some pretty good fires out there."

"And we were always going out to the firing ranges or the airport."

"We had two plane fires out at the airport," he added. "We had planes flying supplies in and out all the time. They kept about eight of us at the airport."

Fighting fires and responding to other emergencies weren't their only duties, he recalled.

Noting that there were some 2,000 prisoners of

war at the base, Teague said he and other firefighters sometimes worked with the POWs when they were sent on work details.

"When they rebuilt the railroad from White City to Medford, the POWs were used to help replace the ties," he said. "They were the ones that did the work. I learned a little German then, let me tell you."

After the war, the facility became a domiciliary, and Teague moved on to other work.

He took a job in a lumber mill near Coos Bay for a while, then started packing in supplies with mules and working on trails for the U.S. Forest Service in the Siskiyou and Rogue River National forests.

"When I worked for the forest service, I had 12 mules and three saddle horses," he said. "Fifty years later, I was down to one jackass. The helicopters replaced me."

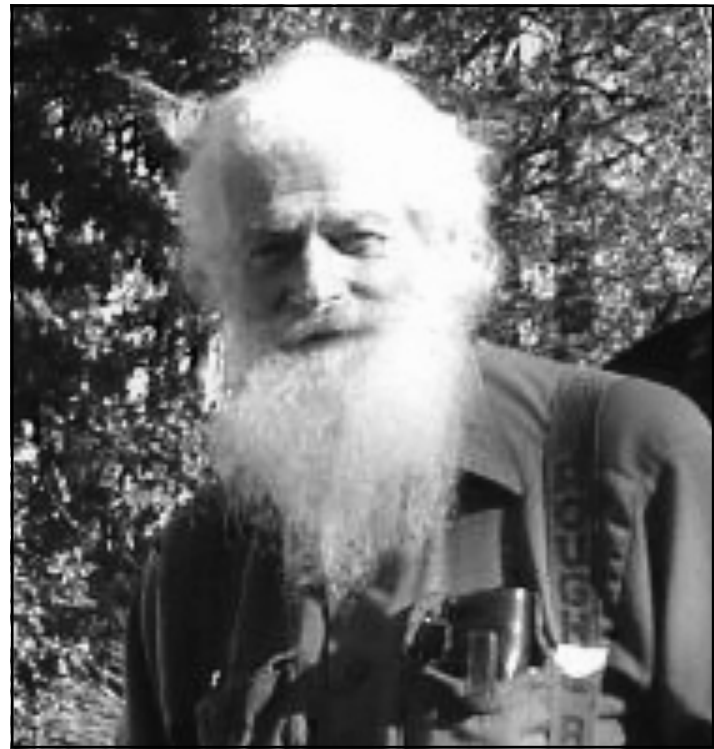
He can tell you about the tree that fell on him or the close call with a cougar in the Southwestern Oregon mountains.

But the firefighters back at Camp White are on his mind now.

"We had a real fine fire department out there," he said.

"A couple of 'em should still be around," he said. "I'd sure like to talk to some of 'em."

Anyone who served with Teague, or knows the whereabouts of those who did, can contact him at (541) 592-3226, or write to him at P.O. Box 1756, Cave Junction, OR 97523.



Harold Teague

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Christmas shop and enjoy lunch at the snack bar

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THURSDAY, NOV. 6
*Conference day
No classes

FRIDAY, NOV. 7
*Conference day
No classes

MONDAY, NOV. 10
*Chicken nuggets, hamburger, cheese pizza, peanut butter & jelly sandwich, chef salad

TUESDAY, NOV. 11
*Veteran's Day
No classes

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 12
*Corn dog, hamburger, cheese pizza, tuna salad sandwich, cobb salad

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