

TV Listings • Entertainment

Valley among those ringing for toll-free dial

By MICHELLE BINKER
An informal open house was held on Wednesday, Dec. 10 in the Josephine County Bldg. in Downtown Cave Junction, to determine telephone customer support or opposition to a proposed Expanded Area of Service (EAS) Region.

Officials from the Oregon Public Utilities Commission (PUC), and members of the Southern Oregon Advisory Task Force were on hand to hear public comments and answer questions about the calling region, EAS rate changes, and choices available to consumers.

Citing a "Strong Community of Interest" to be served by the proposed regional EAS, the PUC, in conjunction with the task force, determined the boundaries of the new calling region and are in the process of informing the public of how this may affect them.

"We've been working on this for a year now,"

said George Fence. "It's nice to see it come to fruition." Fence is the Illinois Valley representative on the 14-person task force, drawn from business and community leaders throughout the region, comprised of Josephine and Jackson counties and Glendale in Douglas County.

Of those who braved the rain to attend, the response to the plan was generally positive.

"Hopefully, by doing this we'll have more access to businesses, like Internet services, in Grants Pass," said CJ resident Cathleen Von Breithaup.

"In the long run, it'll be a lot cheaper," said Dale Hopper of O'Brien "especially for my customers in Selma," who must now dial long-distance to contact him.

Others who attended had mixed reactions to the proposal.

"I think it's great, I'm all for it. But it's hard to imagine that \$1.43 (per

telephone customer) will cover the difference in revenue for the phone companies (accustomed to charging tolls). How are they making money on this?" asked a woman from

An EAS region would bring toll-free calling to Josephine and Jackson counties

Takilma.

Bob Valdez, public information officer for PUC, explained that PUC policy is supposed to reflect a "revenue neutral" process, whereby the telephone companies neither lose money nor enjoy increased profits.

Patricia White of Cave Junction came armed with her phone bill. She had tallied her toll calls and determined that the new plan is not likely to save her any money.

"If you'll ask, you find out that many businesses, agencies, doctor's offices, and the like, have 800 numbers, and they are happy to give them to you," she said. "By using these numbers, I can have control of my phone bill."

White added, "I think it is a good deal and we'll be sorry if we don't take advantage of it, but I don't want to see this fee going up in six months."

Should the regional plan be implemented, individual EAS routes, such as those between Cave Junction and O'Brien or Selma and Grants Pass, would be eliminated, and a toll-free calling region established in Josephine, Jackson, and Southern Douglas counties. EAS rates would rise to cover the cost of expanded "local" access to 18 different exchanges in the proposed region.

Customers have the option of paying a flat EAS rate (on top of the basic service fee) for all calls, or a measured rate plan, which would cost 6-cents per minute to any exchange within the region.

The four telephone companies which serve the region -- Sprint, Qwest, Verizon, and Citizens Telecommunications -- have filed proposed rate changes for each exchange in the region. The difference between the current rate and the proposed rate for residential for residential customers in Cave Junction is \$1.43; \$1.88 for Selma; and \$2.27 for O'Brien and Wolf Creek.

In contrast, the rate increase for Medford, a

(Continued on page 7)

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Additional Listings

Besides the program listings provided, the following also are among those available from Charter Communications. For information about costs that might apply, contact the company.
1-800-338-8838

- *12 - QVC
- *14 - Better Life TV
- *16 - Home Shopping
- *23 - Community Bulletins
- *25 - Fox News
- *26 - C-Span/House of Rep.
- *27 - C-Span 2 (Senate)
- *28 - ESPN 2
- *31 - CNN Headline News
- *33 - Fox Sports Northwest
- *36 - Country Music TV
- *37 - Nashville Channel
- *40 - The History Channel
- *41 - The Learning Channel
- *42 - Cartoon Network
- *43 - Home & Garden TV
- *44 - The Weather Channel

MONDAY-FRIDAY MORNING/AFTERNOON		6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30
2	(WTE)	Mama's Family	Mama's Family	Saved by the Bell	Saved by the Bell	Movie				Dawson's Creek		Dawson's Creek		Saved by the Bell	Saved by the Bell	Cosby	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Steve Harvey	Steve Harvey	Drew Carey	Drew Carey	Home Improv.
3	(FOYAM)	Life in the Word	Life in the Word	Digimon	Bayblade	Power Rangers	Digimon	Growing Pains	Living the Life	700 Club		Movie		Quincy, M.E.		Movie	Quincy, M.E.		Movie		So Little Time	Full House	Blind Date	Blind Date	Knock First
4	(FOX)	Bat Masterson	Virginian			Paid Program	Paid Program	Crossing Over	Crossing Over	New Day	Varied Programs			Living It Up! With All & Jack		Days of Our Lives		Passions		Dr. Phil		Home Improv.	So info!	Inside Edition	NBC News
5	(RCS)	News	Today																						
6	(ESPN)	SportsCenter	Varied Programs	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	Varied Programs			NFL's Greatest	Varied Programs							Around the Horn	Interruption	SportsCenter		Varied Programs	
7	(KSTV)	Varied Programs		Barney & Friends	Between the Lions	Sesame Street	Berenstain Bears	TeleTubbies		Mister Ed	Body Electric	Sit and Be Fit	Charlie Rose	Callou	Zoboom-afro	Sagwa-the Cat	Praise the Lord			Clifford the Red	Reading Rainbow	Arthur	Liberty's Kids	Zoom	Cyber-chess
8	(TEN)	Changing-World	Cornerstone	Rod Parsley	Marilyn Hickey	Believer's Voice	Varied Programs			Behind Scenes	Paula White	Life Today	This Is Your Day	700 Club		Cornerstone	Rod Parsley			Praise the Lord		Varied Programs	Behind Scenes	Varied Programs	
9	(LFE)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Fit & Lite	Daily Workout	Varied Programs	Designing Women	Golden Girls	Nanny	Golden Girls	Nanny	Mad About You	Mad About You	Golden Girls	Nanny	Movie					Any Day Now	Division	Strong Medicine		
10	(KTVL)	News	Early Show					700 Club		Price Is Right		Young and the Restless		News	Bold, Beautiful				As the World Turns	Guiding Light	Starting Over	John Walsh Show	News	CBS News	
11	(MCK)	Varied Programs	Thornbergs	Rocket Power	Rugrats	Sponge-Bob	Max & Ruby	Rubbe-dubbers		Dora the Explorer	Blue's Clues	Dora the Explorer	Blue's Clues	Little Bill	Maggie-Beast	Bob the Builder	Dom the Explorer		Rugrats	Rugrats	Hey Arnold!	Yakky Yak	Odd-par-ents	Brothers Garcia	Sponge-Bob
12	(KCPW)	News Conf'd		Good Morning America				Live With Regis and Kelly		The View		News-watch Md	Hollywood Squares	All My Children	One Life to Live	General Hospital				Judge Judy	Judge Joo Brown	Oprah Winfrey	News	ABC Wild News	
13	(USA)	Bloomberg Information Network	Conf'd			Nash Bridges				Movie		Movie		Varied Programs						Movie		Varied Programs	Movie		
14	(A&E)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Movie		Movie				Murder, She Wrote		Murder, She Wrote		City Confidential		American Justice		Movie				Murder, She Wrote	Murder, She Wrote		
15	(HBO)	Movie		Varied Programs						Movie	Varied Programs									Movie	Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs		
16	(SHOWZ)	Movie Conf'd		Varied Programs																		Movie	Varied Programs	Movie	
17	(SHOW)	Movie Conf'd		Varied Programs																Movie	Varied Programs		Varied Programs	Movie	
18	(MAX)	Movie	Movie																		Movie	Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs	
19	(ESPL)	Varied Programs	One on One	Sports Trivia	Wide World of Sports	Sportscen-tury		Varied Programs														World's Best	Sportscen-tury	Varied Programs	
20	(TRV)	Varied Programs				Great Hotels	Great Hotels			Varied Programs				Great Hotels	Great Hotels	Get Packing!							World's Best	Varied Programs	
21	(AM)	Movie		Varied Programs		Movie				Varied Programs		Movie	Varied Programs								Movie	Varied Programs		Movie	
22	(TNT)	Pensacola: Wings of Gold	Lost World	Protender		Chamed				ER		ER		Judging Amy	Law & Order	NYPD Blue				NYPD Blue	Judging Amy	Varied Programs		Angel	
23	(EBSN)	Winnie-Pooh	Bear in House	Jolo's Circus	Stanley	Wiggles	Jolo's Circus	Wiggles	Stanley	Rolie Polie Olie	Rolie Polie Olie	Out of the Box	PBBJ Otter	Wiggles	Jolo's Circus	Stanley	Rolie Polie Olie		Movie	Varied Programs	Recess	Lilo & Stitch	Recess	Kim Possible	
24	(SCF)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Dark Shadows	Dark Shadows	Babylon 5	Sentinel			Outer Limits	Outer Limits	Outer Limits	Outer Limits	Outer Limits	Outer Limits				Outer Limits	X-Files		Knigh Rider	
25	(DSC)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Assignment Discovery				Double Agents	Designer Gigs	Designer Gigs	Designer Gigs	Rally Round the House	Surprise by Design	Surprise by Design	Surprise by Design				Rally Round the House	Double Agents		Varied Programs	
26	(AFPL)	Wild Rescues	Adoption Tales	That's My Baby	That's My Baby	Pet Story	Pet Story	Emergency	Emergency	Wild Rescues	Adoption Tales	That's My Baby	That's My Baby	Pet Story	Pet Story	Emergency	Emergency				Animal Videos	Crocodile Hunter	Funniket Animals	Funniket Animals	
27	(COM)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Movie				Daily Show	Premium Blend			Late Night		Saturday Night Live				Kids in the Hall	Kids in the Hall	Movie	Varied Programs	Saturday Night Live	
28	(GRT)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Open Court				Trial Heat				Both Sides					Closing Arguments			Varied Programs	