

# 10 minutes with...



## Jody Mechling

Expert pet groomer and owner of You Dirty Dog  
Lived in valley: 7 years  
Age: 41

### How did you get involved with pet grooming?

It was either veterinarian school or dog grooming and I opted for dog grooming in my early 20s. I love it. I had an apprenticeship with a friend in the Bay Area (of California). I worked with her for five years.

### Do you have pets of your own?

I have four dogs -- all rescued -- two cats, six horses, 40 chickens, a pet turkey, a ring turtle dove and two kids.

### Some mechanics have cars that don't run so good.

### How do your dogs look?

My dogs are perfect. I just washed one today.

### How many dogs do you groom per day?

Usually 10 to 14. I have a brusher and bather and we also do cats. It's a fun job. I wanted to get a job that I would want to get out of bed for every day. I didn't want to wear high heels. And I really enjoy it.

### Do you ever get tired of dog and cat hair?

Absolutely not. A lot of pet groomers get burnt out but I don't.

### Is it hard to groom a breed of dog to look like it is supposed to?

It's just experience. A lot of people can groom dogs but only a few can hand scissor them. It's artistic. You need to know what a breed of dog is supposed to look like and sculpt from there. And you need to balance that with what the owner wants.

### What do you like about living in the valley?

The natural beauty, the rivers and the small town quality. I know everybody and it is a great place to raise kids.

### Is there a big need for pet groomers in the valley?

When I first came here there wasn't a pet groomer and people said nobody would want to wash their dogs here. But there are 18,000 people in the valley and all of them have (about) four dogs. I have clients from Grants Pass and even McKinleyville, Calif. They've tried other groomers and they like me.

### What would you be doing if you weren't a pet groomer?

I've been grooming for 18 years. I would probably be stuck in a job I didn't like. Or I would be horseback riding. I also breed horses. Or I would do charity work..

### Have you ever groomed any unusual animals?

I did a ferret once, a sheep and a lama. It's usually a friend's pet and they usually talk me into it. I'll try anything once.

### What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?

Chocolate (laughs). I was going to say anything without fur in it.

— Interview by Steve Fairchild

## Tire and chain info on ODOT Web site

In Oregon, chains or traction tires are required whenever winter conditions exist and signs are posted advising drivers to carry or use them.

State law mentions no dates for when chain and traction tire requirements start and end.

That's because no one knows for sure when winter conditions will start and end for the varied climates throughout the state.

The chain laws are posted on the Internet under Winter Travel Info at ODOT's TripCheck Web site: [www.tripcheck.com](http://www.tripcheck.com).



**WET WEATHER MISHAP** - Nobody was injured in a Friday, Dec. 19 accident at the intersection of Holland Loop Road and Takilma/Bridgeview Road. Theresia Harwood's (no hometown provided) white Mazda van was sent into a guardrail when she pulled out to make a turn onto Holland Loop Road. Angela Drevenstedt of Kerby was driving her GMC van on Holland Loop Road and was unable to avoid Harwood's vehicle. The accident occurred at approximately 4 p.m. (Photo by Steve Fairchild)

## Teen drug use topic of meeting ...

(Continued from page 1)

or find in their parents' medicine cabinets, Saegar told the group.

He said a number of youths are popping between eight and 40 Coricidin D pills a day. They're also overdosing on Robitussin cough syrup and other cold medications to get high, a process known as "robotripping."

"Moms take off the blinders, if you feel your kids are on drugs, they probably are," Saegar said.

The most important thing parents can do is communicate with their children, he said.

"You cannot over talk (about drugs and alcohol)," he said, noting that unlike adults, children are typically honest and will come clean if pressed in a certain way.

Instead of asking if they drink alcohol or take drugs, Saegar suggested asking when they took their first sip or first smoked pot.

Setting rules and disciplining children if they disobey those rules are also crucial.

"They want boundaries," he said.

Saegar is also taking his program into valley schools, an effort he said has been enthusiastically welcomed by school administration.

This is his first year Saegar is working with I.V. High School in the health and science classes. Students at

Lorna Byrne Middle School have already begun seeing the video that was shown during the meeting.

For more than an hour, those on the panel fielded concern and questions.

One person asked why it takes so long to find the drug suppliers.

Michels responded that it isn't that easy to expose suppliers and dealers.

"We have to be able to prove that case," Michels said, noting they need someone willing to testify.

Plus, there are not enough resources in the valley. Michels said her current caseload is 130 adults, the largest supervised caseload in the state. Little support and no drug treatment services in the valley make the whole process tougher.

McDonald concluded the meeting by offering concerned parents several remedies that could be used to help protect their children; some of which have been successfully employed in Grants Pass. Noting that she has noticed there are a lot of parties here, one remedy could be creating a phone tree for parents to call one another to alert parents and police if necessary.

Forming neighborhood coalitions similar to neighborhood watch groups is another option.

"We have the best programs in our communities for kids," Saegar said.

"All the federal government gives us for these programs, they're not going to work without you guys," Saegar added.

Those who attended a drug awareness meeting on Dec. 11 at Illinois Valley Family Resource Center watched a video about the effects of some of the most popular drugs among young people today.

The following is a list of some of those drugs. Of these, drug counselor Skip Saegar said he knows all are used in I.V. except for Rohypnol.

**Ecstasy:** a designer drug in pill form that gives users feelings of excitement and exhilaration, particularly through touch. Alters brain chemistry. Can cause hallucinations. Related to amphetamine (speed) in its chemical structure and made of MDMA, or methylenedioxyamphetamine. Side effects include depression, anxiety, paranoia, sweating, chills, teeth clenching, and rapid eye movement. Can cause seizures, strokes, memory loss and permanent brain damage.

**GHB:** Known as a "date rape drug" Gamma hydroxy butyrate is a central nervous system depressant. Typically comes as an odorless liquid, slightly salty to the taste, and sold in small plastic bottles. In small amounts, it has an effect similar to alcohol. Larger doses can cause dizziness, drowsiness, delusions, hallucinations, amnesia and loss of consciousness.

**Rohypnol:** A depressant known as "Roofie," "Rope," "Forget Pill," and "R-Z." Often slipped into persons' drinks to make them unconscious. Causes drowsiness, dizziness, memory loss, and nausea. Large doses can cause coma, respiratory depression and death.

**LSD:** Lysergic acid diethylamide-25 is a hallucinogen commonly referred to as "acid" and is made of lysergic acid, a substance derived from the fungus which grows on rye, or from lysergic acid amide, a chemical found in morning glory seeds. Is sold on the streets in tablets, capsules and as a liquid and also on blotter paper, small squares and sugar cubes. It is odorless, colorless and tasteless.

The effects of LSD depend on the amount taken and the user's personality but can include dilated pupils, increased heart rate and blood pressure, sweating, dry mouth, tremors and paranoia.

**Ketamine:** Ketamine hydrochloride is an anesthetic used on both animals and humans and has been used in human medicine for pediatric burn cases and dentistry. Its street names include "Special K," "K," "Vitamin K," and "Kit Kat." It is used as a liquid injected intravenously, in tablet form and also snorted or smoked in powder form. Effects range from rapture to paranoia to boredom. Can cause hallucinogenic effects and impaired perception as well as near-death experiences. Can also render the user comatose.

-Additional information from literature available at the Josephine County Bldg. in CJ.



Support the merchants who advertise in the 'Illinois Valley News'

## Meth threat ...

(Continued from page 1)

this year, eight meth sites have been located in the Cave Junction and O'Brien areas; three in Selma; six in Wolf Creek; and eight in the city of Grants Pass.

The remainder have been located in other unincorporated areas of the county.

Although specific data are not available on all labs, Crews said that JOINT found 15 of the 45 labs through search warrant service.

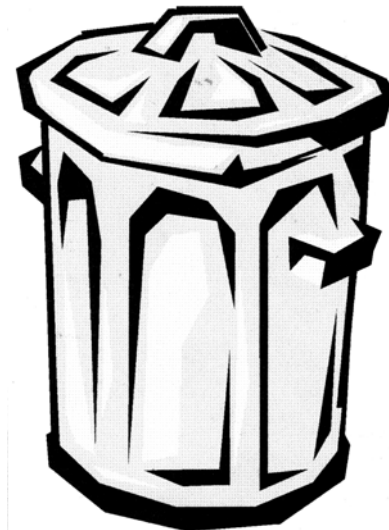
Eleven were found due to consent searches, and two through probation searches.

She said that dump sites have been found at locations including a dumpster at a business, along a waterway and on Bureau of Land Management property.

Please don't litter!

# The Kerby Transfer Station

is open  
**Saturdays:**  
9:30 a.m.  
to  
2:30 p.m.



Hours: Mondays - Saturdays  
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
For more information  
phone (800) 922-1025

SOS will no longer accept  
scrap metal until further notice.

# Southern Oregon Sanitation

Takilma Community Bldg. Benefit  
**New Year's Eve Dance Party**  
with  
**JD & 'The Works'**  
Takilma Community Bldg.  
9367 Takilma Road - 592-3911  
**Ages 18 and up**  
Doors open - 8:30 p.m., Music starts 9 p.m.  
\$8 to \$15 sliding scale

**Build on your lot - \$104,000.**  
3-bedroom, 2-bath  
with rec. room - 1,488 sq. ft.  
Turnkey - Some restrictions apply.  
**H.D. PATTON JR**  
CONSTRUCTION  
1-541-476-2127