




**SNOW BUSINESS** - Illinois Valley was hit hard late last week by a storm that dumped 6 to 10 inches of snow. Prior to the snow, the valley received a deluge in the form of a rain storm, causing Illinois River and its forks to run full and maybe a little beyond (top two photos by Michelle Binker). At one Cave Junction home (photo directly above) warm memories of summer dining and relaxation were chilled by the frozen ice crystals. At Z Coffee at the north end of Cave Junction a Pacific Power crew stopped just long enough to obtain hot coffee before moving on to the next call for help, as power was interrupted at several locations because of downed lines caused by heavy snowfall.





**Art's  
Red Garter  
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& Saloon**

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592-2892

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## Senate bills make driving safer and DUII tougher

A number of new laws went into effect on Jan. 1 dealing with the crime of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

The intent behind the new laws is to make the roads safer to the driving public, according to a news release from the Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT).

"These new laws will help reduce traffic fatalities and injuries," said Gretchen McKenzie, coordinator of the ODOT impaired driver program. "They give law enforcement, the courts, and drug and alcohol treatment professionals new tools to get impaired drivers off the road and into treatment."

New laws include the following:

\*Senate Bill 342 allows school district boards to request ODOT to suspend driving privileges for

a student who has been suspended or expelled at least twice for using, delivering or being under the influence of controlled substances on school property or at a school event. This aligns with a similar law regarding alcohol. The goal is to act as a deterrent for habitual drug abuse by minors and to get them into evaluation or treatment early on.

\*Senate Bill 348 allows a fine of up to \$10,000 if a person is convicted of DUII and has a passenger under 18-years-old who is at least three years younger than the driver. The goal is to protect child passengers from death or injury caused by family members or others who are under the influence of intoxicants.

\*Senate Bill 421 elevates criminally negligent homicide and manslaughter

in the second degree if caused by a driver under the influence of intoxicants. With the elevation of criminally negligent homicide to a Class B felony, the state will be able to continue requiring three years of post-prison supervision after a defendant is released from incarceration.

\*House Bill 2885 requires a permanent revocation of driving privileges for the third conviction of a misdemeanor DUII. The bill affords stricter and earlier consequences for repeat offenders.

\*House Bill 2900 subjects a person who refuses to take a breath test to a fine of between \$500 and \$1,000 in addition to any other consequences prescribed by law.

\*Senate Bill 302 requires a person charged with DUII to plead "guilty" or "no contest" as part of his or her petition to enter a diversion program. Diversion programs, offered as an alternative to a DUII conviction, give offenders information and methods to avoid reoffending. The "guilty" or "no contest" plea requires the offender to admit responsibility, and therefore makes the consequences for dropping out of diversion more severe.

Under the old law, a person could fail or drop out of diversion and then deny his or her guilt.

The new law will streamline the legal process and reduce demands on the courts and law enforcement.

Elementary Schools Menu  
Sponsored by

**'Illinois Valley News'**  
321 S. Redwood Hwy.  
592-2541

**THURSDAY, JAN. 8**

\*Chili & cinnamon roll, cheeseburger, pepperoni pizza, super sub sandwich, garden salad

**FRIDAY, JAN. 9**

\*Nachos, hamburger, sausage pizza, turkey & cheese sandwich, chicken Caesar salad

**MONDAY, JAN. 12**

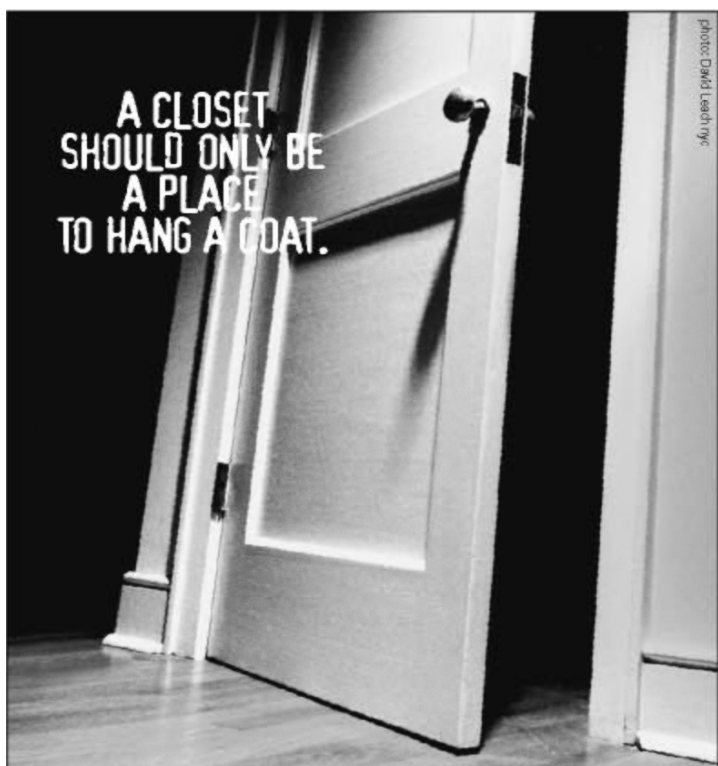
\*Rib-b-que sandwich, hamburger, cheese pizza, peanut butter & jelly sandwich, chef salad

**TUESDAY, JAN. 13**

\*Chicken strip basket, cheeseburger, pepperoni pizza, ham & cheese sandwich, garden salad

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14**

\*Hot diggity dog, hamburger, cheese pizza, poor boy sandwich, Cobb salad



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