



**SIDEWALK WRAP UP - Crews from Riverside Ready Mix poured the last sidewalk sections on Wednesday, Feb. 4. The root barriers, water pipes and grates are in place and awaiting arrival of the new trees which will grace and beautify Downtown Cave Junction. (Photos by Shane Welsh)**

## Measure 30 defeated by Ore. voters

Voters rejected Measure 30 by a margin of 57 to 43 percent.

The special election, held on Tuesday, Feb. 3, was a referral of House Bill 2152, a \$1.1 billion tax package passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Kulongoski in December 2003.

For the second consecutive year, Oregonians have told elected officials that higher taxes are not the answer; voting down proposed tax increases.

"I couldn't be happier about the results," said Russ Walker, director of Oregon Citizens for a Sound Economy and chief petitioner for Measure 30. "...we knew that Oregonians were against these tax increases," he said.

Roger King, Medford resident and active volunteer in defeating Measure 30 said, "Raising taxes during a recession is simply bad economics. Oregon's families will now be able to spend or invest that money in the best way possible for their quality of life."

State Rep. Linda Flores was also pleased with the results. "Now I hope we can truly dive into the discussion of putting our most essential services such as education, health care, and public safety, to the forefront of the budgeting process instead of holding them hostage in debates over tax increases," she said.

"There is a clear lack of trust," she said, "among the people toward the way government spends their

money...with the lack of effort in the part of many in Salem to find efficiencies and make government more lean, I can't say that I blame them."

Measure 30 qualified for the special election through a successful signature gathering effort last fall. Opponents to the tax increase gathered in excess of 118,000 signatures, 64,000 more than the constitutional requirement of 54,420.

### AOI proposes to create stronger Oregon business climate.

The state's largest business lobbying group, Associated Oregon Industries (AOI), characterized the defeat of Measure 30 on Tuesday, Feb. 3 as a wakeup call for the Legislature, and proposed a two-pronged attack to immediately create at least 5,000 new jobs.

"It's going to take a concentrated effort by business, the Legislature and the governor to restore our economy. The answer is not in more cuts or more taxes, it's in more jobs," said Richard Butrick, AOI president.

Approximately 75 percent of state revenues come from the income tax.

"For Oregon's economy to grow we must do more to create jobs. And we can do that through a two-pronged attack," said Butrick.

The first prong of AOI's proposal includes "removing disincentives that steer business away from Oregon, such as the nation's highest capital gains tax and automatic increases in the minimum wage."

The second prong is more immediate. It asks the Legislature and governor to increase harvest of state forests, creating more than 4,000 jobs in itself, and a legislative approval to use lottery bonds for funding immediate construction at universities for engineering and technical programs.

Butrick pointed to an AOI measure passed last legislative session that dedicated about \$100 million of PERS investment for in-state small business creation as an example of what can be done.

"We've made some progress, but not enough by a long shot," said Butrick. "It's time to wake up and deal with the real issue confronting Oregon's budget problem. And the real issue is jobs."

## Bylaw changes affect IVCRT board

The Illinois Valley chapter Community Response Team (IVCRT) met at the Selma Community Center on Wednesday, Feb. 4 to discuss and clarify proposed projects and changes to IVCRT bylaws.

Board members first discussed proposed amendments to eliminate certain wording that could potentially affect the original bylaw purpose.

One concern, voiced by community member Frederick Middleman, was the language of the article bylaws being rewritten to include too broad language.

He feared the changes could leave bylaws open to interpretation, causing a

conflict of interest.

The second issue detailed plans to change the way board member nominations are selected.

"We took a good, hard look at the board to see what our lacks and blocks were," said Jack Dwyer, IVCRT board director.

Dwyer said the board would like the following criteria to be considered when selecting new board members:

- \*Nominee is over 30 years of age.
- \*More female volunteers.
- \*Ethnic diversity.
- \*Directors with specific expertise or training.
- \*Fundraising abilities.
- \*Business orientation.

\*Legal expertise.

\*Real estate experience.

\*Labor relation experience.

\*Technical computer knowledge.

"The desire of the board is to nominate members who have the expertise to manage future IVCRT projects," including a recently acquired 10 year concession contract with Oregon Caves.

IVCRT will have a meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 6 p.m. at Lorna Byrne Middle School in Cave Junction to discuss changes with members and the community in further detail.

American Legion Post 70 is selling raffle tickets to

## WIN A NEW WILLY'S

### DRIFT BOAT (with trailer, \$4,500 value)

Get your tickets from members listed in the Wednesday, Feb. 4 issue of the 'I.V. News' or watch for table set up at the CJ Post Office. Phone Dan at 597-2979 or Jerry at 592-6771 for set-up times & locations, or catch a member downtown. Tickets \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Funds collected help support Post 70 and other Illinois Valley organizations.

### Who's New?

Dominic Keith Baumback was born Jan. 31, 2004 in Eugene, Ore.

The proud parents are Brian and Nalita Kendall Baumback, of Eugene.

Maternal Grandparents are Doug and Alice Kendall of Cave Junction. Paternal grandparents are Walter Baumback and Ron Hiler of Cave Junction, and Dee Hiler living in Missouri.

## Read-athon begins March 1

The second annual "Read Across Oregon" read-athon beginning March 1 is being kicked off by Oregon Literacy Inc. (OLI).

Parents, youngsters, grandparents, teachers, uncles, aunts, everyone can participate. "If you can read, you can help," said OLI.

The "Read Across Oregon" Read-athon will run from March 1 through 31.

"Through reading, anyone interested can help to further literacy for the 38,000 Oregonians who read at a level that does not allow them to comprehend the instructions on a aspirin bottle, or locate an intersection on a street map.

"Whether you are reading the latest in a series you absolutely love, or are forced to read that classic in your English class, 'Read Across Oregon' is the way for you to make your reading into something bigger. Through getting per-page pledges of as little as 5-cents from family members, teachers, neighbors and even yourself, participants can make a huge difference in the lives of 38,000 Oregonians, from the comfort of their own home, school,

library or favorite park bench," said OLI.

OLI is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness of adult literacy issues in Oregon.

For more information phone (503) 244-3898 or (800) 322-8715 or [outreach@oregonliteracy.org](mailto:outreach@oregonliteracy.org).

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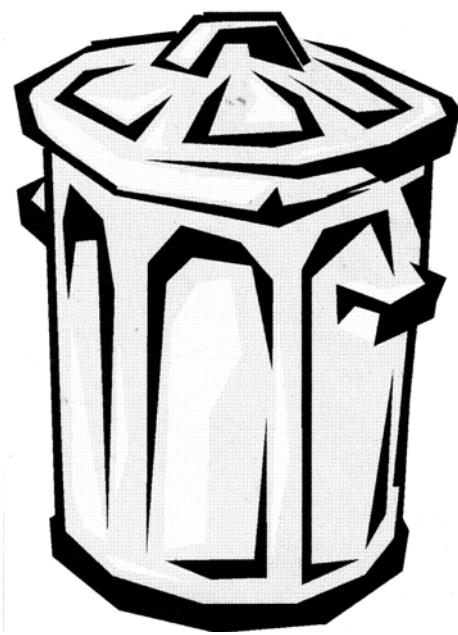


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