

Tractor-trailer accident closes I-5 for 8 1/2 hours

A collision between two tractor-trailer rigs closed both lanes for southbound traffic on Interstate 5 for 8 1/2 hours, Wednesday, Feb. 11.

The accident occurred at approximately 8 a.m. near milepost 40 at the Gold Hill exit, said Oregon State Police (OSP).

Ronald Dean Richardson, 37, of Medford, driving for Andrus Trucking (based in St. George, Utah), was taken by Life-Flight medical helicopter to Rogue Valley Medical Center (RVMC), where he was in critical condition.

The other driver, Harold Rudick, 48, from Washington state, driving for May Trucking Co. (based in Salem), was transported by Mercy

Flights Ambulance to RVMC, where he was treated and released.

OSP has determined that the May Co. truck was pulled onto the shoulder of the road, and Rudick had left the driver's seat and gone into the cab's sleep compartment. The rig then rolled backward; the trailer rolling onto the traffic lane.

The Andrus truck was southbound on the inside lane of I-5 and ran into the rear of the May Co. rig, OSP said.

The crash was under investigation by OSP troopers.

The Oregon Dept. of Transportation cleaned up the crash scene, and the freeway was reopened just after 5 p.m.



(Photo provided by Leeandra DiFuria)

SOME TREES, PLEASE - Students and friends from Dome School in Takilma recently planted some 100 seedlings on Dunn Creek in Takilma with Forestry Action Committee, which will conduct its annual valleywide planting on Saturday, Feb. 28.

Bridge work, wetland info meeting set

Two proposed rule changes to create simplified permit processes (known as General Authorizations) for Oregon Dept. of Transportation bridge projects and for minor effects to wetlands encourage the use of wetland mitigation banks, and require quicker permit decisions.

Dept. of State Lands will outline the proposed changes at a meeting in Medford from 3 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. at the Jackson County Courthouse Auditorium on Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Oral or written comments may be given at the meeting, or sent to 775 Summer St. N.E., Suite 100, Salem, OR 97301.

The deadline for written comments is March 12.

Church News

St. Patrick of the Forest Catholic Church

On the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, just days from the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday, the Gospel Reading will be from Luke, Chapter 6.

Jesus tells his disciples, "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."

Jesus did all these things as he was being prepared for his crucifixion. The Lenten Season will begin with two Masses on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Ashes will be placed on

those who come forward to receive them.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

In one of the Dr. Seuss' books, "Horton" the elephant takes on the task of helping the tiny people of a tiny town called Whoville. In spite of little, if any, help from others, he succeeds in saving them.

Is this not like Jesus who is the friend of the friendless, savior of the lost among us? Are we not called to be his instruments in this great work?

Church activities include: Sunday, Feb. 22, 9 a.m., worship; 10:15 a.m. Sunday School.

Mandatory boater cards available through RCC

Boat operators 40 or younger who don't have boater education cards can sign up for a classroom course at Rogue Community College (RCC).

This is the second year of the Mandatory Boater Education Law. It was passed by the 1999 Oregon Legislature with the goal of reducing accidents, injuries and fatalities on Oregon's increasingly crowded waterways.

In 2005, the age requirement to carry a card will increase to 45 and

younger. It will continue to increase until all boaters are included in 2009. More than 66,000 Oregon boaters already have their cards.

The next Boat Oregon class is set for Saturday, Feb. 21 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at RCC' Grants Pass campus, Bldg. T, Room 1. There is a fee.

Pre-register by phoning (800) 411-6508, Ext. 7334. For more information, visit the Marine Board website at www.boatoregon.com.

Water work requires OK from state land agency

Considering work this coming summer in wetlands, streams or on stream banks?

Oregon Dept. of State Lands (DSL) reminds land owners, developers and contractors considering such work to check on the need to apply for a removal-fill permit before starting work and to apply soon if a permit is needed.

Steve Purchase, DSL assistant director, encourages people planning streamside or wetland projects to contact DSL at least three months before they plan to do the work.

"Before beginning an application, land owners should talk to one of our staff members to determine whether a permit is necessary or whether a stream-lined type of permit (a General Authorization) might suffice," he said.

Purchase reported that the agency's Web site, www.oregonstatelands.us, has several features to help people understand the removal-fill permit application process. An introductory page provides information about the process and offers quick links to other helpful pages, including:

*Field Operations staff members--areas served, phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

*Working with consultants--advice on choosing an environmental consultant to assist with permit applications and a list of consultants providing

services in Oregon.

*Application review process--detailed explanation of the criteria and process DSL staff uses to approve or deny an application.

*Examples of forms and documents that often are needed to accompany applications. These are listed under a heading: "Permit filing help."

Please don't drink and drive.

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*Roast turkey with

gravy, whipped potatoes with gravy, country trio vegetables, whole wheat bread, pumpkin bar

MONDAY, FEB. 23
*Barbecue beef

sandwich on a bun, roasted red potatoes, peas & carrots, lemon squares

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25
*Baked fish almondine,

scalloped potatoes, broccoli Normandy, dill bread, rocky road pudding

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Do you have a product to sell?

OCO is seeking Illinois Valley suppliers for the summer 2004 season. Our mission is to provide world-class hospitality using local resources. We are seeking local vendors to provide souvenir items for the Gift Gallery.

We are also looking for growers and ranchers to supply fresh ingredients and finished food products (e.g. pastries, jams, cheeses) for both our chefs in the kitchen and for retail sale in the Gift Gallery.

If you have a local product that you think would be appropriate for our guests please contact Joe Dean at 592-3400

Elementary Schools Menu Sponsored by

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

THURSDAY, FEB. 19

*Grilled cheese sandwich & minestrone soup, cheeseburger, pepperoni pizza, super sub sandwich, garden salad

FRIDAY, FEB. 20

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

MONDAY, FEB. 23

*Rib-B-Q sandwich, hamburger, cheese pizza, peanut butter & jelly sandwich, chef salad

TUESDAY, FEB. 24

*Pasta, cheeseburger, pepperoni pizza, ham & cheese sandwich, garden salad

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25

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

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592-5358

TAYLOR'S SPECIALS

Taylor's Pepper Stix - \$3.99 per lb.

'Our own' Shoulder Butt Bacon

\$2.99 per lb.

Rolling Rock - \$4.99 six pack + dep.

Events -

*Friday, Feb. 20 - Sequoia - Bluegrass

Dinner Special:

Butterfly shrimp with

sweet & sour and stir fry - \$9.95

*Saturday, Feb. 21 - National recording

artist - Jake Johnston - Country

Dinner Special:

Basil Chicken & Dumplings - \$7.95

*Friday, Feb. 27 - Southern Oregon Blues Band

*Saturday, Feb. 28 - Joan Arrah Warren

THURSDAYS - 6:30 p.m. - Open 'Mic' Night with Jake Thompson and Jefferson plus Scrabble competition

We're open at 6:30 a.m.

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