



WORSHIP DANCING - Members of Beit Emmanuel, an Illinois Valley Messianic congregation, presented Hebrew worship dances for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Cave Junction (top) on Saturday, Feb. 28. They also taught several dances to LDS members (left). Bev Clapp is congregational leader of the Messianic group, and provided information about Hebrew dance as worship.

Grayback thinning project comments solicited

Illinois Valley Ranger District has identified a 40-year-old stand of trees that requires management, and public comments are welcome.

The trees slated for thinning are located in the proposed Grayback Commercial Thin Timber Sale. The stand was planted in the early 1960s after a pre-

vious stand was clear-cut.

According to the U.S. Forest Service, the stand is overstocked, and in danger of stagnation with low growth rates.

The stand, located on approximately 60 acres in the Grayback watershed, is also “at moderate risk for a stand-replacement fire, with dense vegetation and

significant ladder fuels.”

The forest service lists specific goals for the project, including:

- *Restoration of individual tree vigor for residual trees.
- *Reduction in the potential for stand-replacing wildfires.
- *Increased potential habitat for the Northern

Spotted Owl.

- *More “Phytophthora lateralis”-resistant Port Orford Cedar.
- *Production of commercial timber products.

According to the letter, public comments “will help identify any potential extraordinary circumstances and assist with project design.”



Cycle Oregon coming

Lake Selmac among host communities

By **MICHELLE BINKER**
Staff Writer

Some 2,000 cyclists will pedal over hill and through dale; along creeks and under trees and via mountainsides from Canyonville to Crater Lake -- the long way.

The 17th annual Cycle Oregon bicycle ride, which includes Illinois Valley’s Lake Selmac, will run from Sept. 11 through 18. The ride will cover nearly 400 miles of hilly terrain.

Riders will cover an average of 65 miles per day, and be treated to deluxe camping and entertainment in host communities along the way. Cycle Oregon’s evening entertainment showcases some of Oregon’s most talented performers.

Day One will begin in Canyonville, with a grand parade along Main Street. From there the riders wend their way along Cow Creek to Glendale, then brave a 3-mile stretch of Interstate 5 before stopping in Wolf Creek.

On Day Two the riders will follow the course of Wolf Creek to its junction with the Rogue River. Then through Galice and Merlin on the way to Illinois Valley to camp overnight at Lake Selmac.

The first major climb of the tour occurs on Day

Three, as the riders climb the Siskiyou Mountain range to reach Williams in the Applegate Valley and make their way to historic Jacksonville.

Day Four is a layover day during which participants can take in the sights of Jacksonville and nearby Ashland.

On Day Five, the riders will leave Jacksonville and be faced with a dilemma: a mere 74-mile ride today? Or perhaps take the optional, 110-mile route through Ashland which includes a grueling ascent on Dead Indian Road. Both groups meet in Butte Falls for lunch before heading to Lost Creek Lake at Joseph Stewart State Park, where they will camp for two nights.

Day Six will find the riders ascending 84 miles to the rim of “Big Blue,” - Crater Lake. After lunch, the riders descend once again to Lost Creek Lake.

On Day Seven, the final leg of the tour, the cyclists will return to Canyonville.

Cycle Oregon has given \$4.5 million to host communities since the ride’s inception in 1987. In January the Selma Community and Education Center announced it had received a \$10,000 grant through Cycle Oregon.

Cherryl Walker wants to hear from you

As residents of Josephine County we share an appreciation for our rural, small town way of life. Strong families, safe homes, and freedom to enjoy a life we choose for ourselves, are values we all share. The beauty that surrounds us and the Rogue River that has sustained our valley, are what set us apart from other counties in Oregon. But, Josephine County has some unique issues that have grown along with our population.

In order to have a responsive government, the residents of Josephine County need to have input into the process. Through this survey I can better understand the issues most important to you. By working together on these issues we can build a future that preserves the beauty of our county, and provides a future of hope and prosperity for our children and grandchildren.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to the following questions. I look forward to working together with you on the issues and challenges we face.

Sincerely,

CHERRYL WALKER



1. What is your level of satisfaction with county government?
() very satisfied () somewhat dissatisfied
() somewhat satisfied () very dissatisfied
2. In order of 1 to 8, with 1 being your highest priority, what are your priorities for how your county tax dollars ought to be spent?
Libraries _____ Parks and Recreation _____
Sheriff Patrol _____ Corrections/Jail/Courts _____
Public Health _____ Transportation/Roads _____
Human Services _____ Economic Development _____
Other _____
3. In your opinion, what are the three most important issues currently facing Josephine County?
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. Do you think county officials should be more pro-active in the following areas of economic development?
Check all that apply.
() Helping local businesses to expand.
() Bringing in new businesses.
() Attracting more clean industry/manufacturing.
() Promoting tourism through recreation.
() Promoting tourism through arts.
() Partnering with Jackson County to attract tourists.
() Other: _____

5. Personnel costs - wages and benefits - are the single most costly item at all levels of government. In order of 1 to 4, with 1 being your highest priority, what would be your approach to controlling this cost in Josephine County government?
___ Audit departments to determine if taxpayers are getting the services they pay for.
___ Adjust pay and/or benefits to more accurately reflect what comparable, private businesses provide.
___ Contract out to private businesses some of the services currently provided by the County.
___ Consolidate departments to reduce management costs.
___ Other: _____
6. Do you believe voter approved tax districts are a viable option to provide stable funding for any of the following? (Rural fire districts are an example of a tax district.)
Check all that apply.
() Sheriff's Patrol Officers
() Corrections/Jail/Courts
() Libraries
() Parks and Recreation
() Transportation/Roads
() Building Maintenance and Construction
() None of the above
7. What other issues are you concerned about?

Please send your responses to Cherryl Walker by Saturday, March 20th • P.O. Box 167, Murphy, OR 97533 or FAX to 474-6910

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ELECT
WALKER
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
POSITION 3