

Here, There & Everywhere

GOOD GRIEF - Lovejoy Hospice is accepting registrations for its "Good Grief" bereavement program held Mondays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. through April 26 at Lovejoy Hospice, 938 S.E. Eighth St., Grants Pass. Phone Barbara Knox (541) 474-1193 to register.

BOX TOPS - Community Christian Academy partnered with Shop Smart Food Warehouse is having a "coupon clipping" fund-raiser, "Box Top For Education," to help raise money for the students. Booths will be set up at Shop Smart on Saturday, March 6 and March 20 from 1 to 5 p.m. (See ad on this page).

FOOD HANDLERS - Josephine County Health Dept. will administer food handler permit tests on Friday, March 5 at 2 p.m. at Dome School/Takilma Community Building. Phone 592-3911 for details.

GRAD NIGHT - The next meeting of the 2004 Grad Night Committee will be held Thursday, March 4 at 5:30 p.m. in the I.V. High School cafeteria. The committee is also planning a "Movie Night" fundraiser on Friday, March 19. Phone Tawnya Campbell at 592-6477 or IVHS at 592-2116 for more info.

'EGG-CEPTIONAL' CONTEST - Josephine County Library System is having an annual egg decorating contest beginning Monday, March 15 for children in first-through eighth-grades. Eggs should be painted to look like a favorite book character. Entries may be taken to the main library in Grants Pass, or the Illinois Valley, Williams or Wolf Creek branches by April 10. Phone 592-3581 for more information.

MARCH ON HUNGER - Josephine County Food Share is hosting the ninth annual "March On Hunger" parade Saturday, March 6 at 11:30 a.m. in Grants Pass. Those unable to attend may leave food or money donations at a Food Share truck on Saturday before the parade starts. Phone (541) 474-5444 for more information.

HOME GARDENING SEMINAR - Josephine County Master Gardeners group will present its annual Home Gardening Seminar on Saturday, March 6 at Rogue Community College from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. More than 25 classes are scheduled. There is a fee. Register in advance at the Josephine County Extension Office at 215 Ringuette St. in Grants Pass.

CLAY RATTLES - The Learning Through Art Committee of the Illinois River Valley Arts Council is accepting applications from middle school and IVHS students for the Spring 2004 Clay Rattle Project which begins Sunday, March 7 at Cone Ten Pottery on Caves Hwy. For information phone Joyce Abrams at 592-6078 or Kathy Ratiu-Kelley at 597-2155.

NOTEPAD - Neal White, one of Cave Junction's street folks, is missing his constant companion, "Sadie," after the dog leaped at a man and scratched him. Although the man's skin wasn't broken, he demanded action, and the dog was taken to the county animal shelter. Now White has to come up with 80 bucks to bail out his buddy...**Leland Couch** of Cave Junction won a \$12,905 Keno jackpot for matching all numbers on a seven-spot Keno ticket. He obtained his winning entry at Stevereno's Family Restaurant and Lounge...**Retired cops** who have left employment during the past five years can retain certification if they meet certain requirements. They should phone (503) 378-2427 to discover how...**A new hardware store** might be coming to Cave Junction. Jim Frick, a director of I.V. Chamber of Commerce and broker at Century 21 Harris & Taylor, noted the possibility during the chamber's general meeting Saturday, March 28.

LAST WORDS - Skeptical scrutiny is the means, in both science and religion, by which deep insights

The greatest lesson in life is to know that even fools are right sometimes.
- Winston Churchill-

Letters ...

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tinue to benefit from what they have worked hard for all of their life.

We pay the same taxes they do and work just as hard, if not harder, to keep our jobs. Why shouldn't two women or two men who share their lives together be allowed to have their pensions go to their spouse?

Without a marriage license, the other half would be left without what they have worked so hard for.

If the state or Feds want tax money, it does not matter if you're gay or not, they include both parties' income. You are not a legally recognized married couple; therefore you do not qualify.

If we're gay, we pay more taxes than most because we are not recognized. This must be a secret gay tax. That will be next: Pay if you're gay. Just take my whole paycheck, but don't worry about the benefits I should get like those people standing over there.

It's not about the Bible, it never has been. It's not about keeping marriage sacred and the family unit perfect and safe.

Men and women messed that up a long time ago (most of them, not all). It's really about keeping those queers in their place right? Back in the closet you go, just come out to pay your taxes, then go away.

Keep your sneers and dirty looks for yourself.

The people who don't care either way show that they are intelligent and secure in their relationships; that they have more important things to worry about like raising their kids and paying bills.

'Forks' Park lady
From Geraldine Davidson
Cave Junction

I am your new Park Lady. I recently acquired the maintenance contract for "Forks" State Park.

Yes, that's me, a regular in "Police Blotter:" "Complaints of transients at state park," "Litter bug chased into oncoming traffic, tragic death," "User fee now in effect for all drug trafficking at park."

My usual routine used to be pick up coffee and take the doggies for a walk at the park. Compulsive person that I am, I would pick up trash on the way.

Curious person that I am, I finally asked Jeff, the previous park person, what exactly is involved. Well, my good fortune that Jeff was well on his way to burn-out and helped with the changing of the guard.

We have, without a doubt, the most lovely people in the world that patronize our park. There are all the geezer guys with their ancient doggies. They, too, are escaping from retired spouses. We can really interrelate.

The persons with undeclared incomes are pretty amusing. There's this one car that pulls up religiously at noon. The drive-up window car. People pull up, not walk up one by one. Cough, cough, laugh, laugh, drive away, next car. Zero overhead on that business. Enron could learn something here.

The DOHRs are a real surprise. That's Dumpers of Home Refuse, license numbers available upon request. They are inevitably 50ish, hippy-looking types in OK cars with "Save the Planet" bumper stickers. Newsy bit here: I'm not your wife-mother-caretaker, go to the darn dump yourself, geeezezzz.

Hey, one more thing. If you must toss beer bottles out the window, how about placing them on the side of the road so I don't have to crawl through the poison oak to retrieve them.

Well, as you've surmised, nothing is free. Here's the pitch. If you would care to donate time or material, my very abbreviated wish list includes:

*One yard of clean fill dirt, delivered. I'd love a little native plant area under the oak tree in the parking lot.

*Volunteers for trail creation/maintenance. If we make trails through the campsites, people are less likely to overstay their welcome.

County (mis)management
From George F. Long
Grants Pass

On Jan. 29, the Grants Pass "Daily Courier" published a 106-page insert, "Facts and Faces. One of the "Faces" was that of Josephine County Commission Chairman Jim Riddle.

In the article about Riddle, written by Jack Moran, Riddle touts his years of experience man-

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Tom Glover on IVHS roof with WeatherNet equipment. (Photo by Shane Welsh)

What's the weather, man?

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last year to see frost dates and plan planting dates. If the kids are going to be involved in a project concerning the Klamath Falls area, they can see what the weather is like before they go."

Mary Trammell, a seventh grade teacher at Lorna Byrne Middle School said, "Right now, we are doing a classroom feeder project in conjunction with Cornell University back East. My kids watch feeders here on campus and record feeding activity as it relates to weather events."

Several lesson plans for teachers to use were developed by Tom Glover, science specialist for ESD instructional technology program, and a former science, physics and astron-

omy teacher.

There are two lessons on local weather. One allows tracking of storms, and the other explains the science of why a rain shadow happens.

A third lesson is about snowfall. Students can discover how and where it snows more, how snow is formed, and how freezing rain is formed.

Through WeatherNet, students have access to web cameras aimed at the top of Mt. Sexton and Hay's Hill. The site also contains links to weather resources which can provide data from across the globe.

Anyone can access the weather information at www.jacksonesd.k12.or.us/weather/ through the ESD WeatherNet website.

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Box Top For Education
There is money to be found on your groceries!
Shop Smart Food Warehouse
Saturday, March 6 & 20
1 to 5 p.m.
Shop Smart Food Warehouse will be working with Community Christian Academy to help raise money for academy students.
There will be booths set up on Saturday, March 6 & 20 to help customers cut off coupons.

Elementary Schools
Menu Sponsored by
'Illinois Valley News'
321 S. Redwood Hwy.
592-2541

THURSDAY, MARCH 4
*Brunch for lunch, cheeseburger, pepperoni pizza, super sub sandwich, garden salad
FRIDAY, MARCH 5
*Nachos, hamburger, cheese stix, turkey & cheese sandwich, chicken Caesar salad
MONDAY, MARCH 8
*Bean & cheese burrito, hamburger, cheese pizza, peanut butter & jelly sandwich, chef salad
TUESDAY, MARCH 9
*Steak sandwich, cheeseburger, pepperoni pizza, ham & cheese sandwich, garden salad
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10
*Hot diggity dog, hamburger, cheese pizza, poor boy sandwich, Cobb salad

It's easy to be **green**

To help protect our resources for future generations, we offer three environmentally sound renewable energy options - Blue SkySM Block, Usage and Habitat. Available for a small additional monthly charge, these options are bringing more sustainable energy from wind and other sources into our region. Since these programs began, customers have purchased nearly 175 million kilowatt-hours of renewable energy.

At Pacific Power, we are making substantial commitments to renewable energy for all our customers - in addition to the renewable power purchases our customers make voluntarily through Blue Sky. Over the next 10 years, we will add enough renewable energy to power 409,000 homes.

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