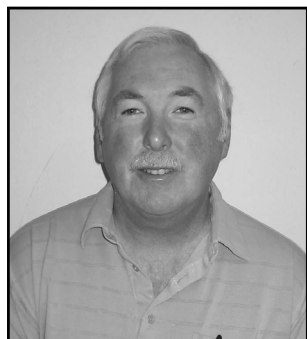


IVCRT Insights By BILL MOORE



Bill Moore

With this column, I would like to introduce myself to the valley community. I'm Bill Moore, and I will be working with Illinois Valley Community Response Team (IVCRT) folks as a business consultant in connection with the mentoring program, the business incubator fund, and the revolving loan program.

With grant funding from EDA, we are unveiling a business-mentoring program in coming weeks. The objective of this program is to assist those community members who would like to start a business, or need support to allow their existing business to grow.

We will be developing a central database of individuals willing to mentor (teach) necessary business skills. These will include basic bookkeeping, marketing, websites, process improvements and other facets: skills needed for a successful long-term business. We also will compile a listing of all area resources (such as Rogue Community College) that can offer general-to-specialized training for business owners, and work with them to establish seminars, training groups and classes to support the needs of our growing Illinois Valley economy.

All these efforts are targeted to one goal: Making the start-up or growth of any business in Illinois Valley much easier, through the availability of professional resources and consultants. If you are thinking of opening a business in Illinois Valley, or need assistance in an already-established business, you should be talking with IVCRT.

Business Incubator at I.V. Airport

We also are finalizing the design concept for a business incubator building with 12,000 square feet of space at I.V. Airport. We need input from residents right away to allow us to finish the design for the facility. We urge immediate contact with Bill Moore at IVCRT. Building plans are being firmed up this month, and input is welcome.

When established, the incubator will be a wonderful starting point for new businesses or businesses growing out of their current space (such as your garage). A full-time business, along with a secretary/receptionist, will be included in the lease, making it an attractive package for the user. We intend to include woodworking and commercial kitchen areas, which will be equipped with the necessary tools, machinery and appliances to make business efforts successful.

Revolving Loan Fund

The IVCRT revolving loan fund existed for more than four years. During that time, the fund board has approved 44 loans and awarded approximately \$175,000 in low-interest loans (maximum \$10,000 per loan) to local individuals starting or expanding businesses.

We are reviewing the guidelines and requirements for the loan program now, with an eye toward offering more support to applicants, before and after loan approval. Our goal is to not only fund plans for business success, but assist in being successful.

* * *

IVCRT strives to offer the tools necessary for local business owners to be competent, successful, and ultimately, an asset to the community. Join with us in making the dreams of our neighbors and our community a reality.

Those with interest in the business incubator program, the mentoring program, or with general questions about these programs, can phone 592-4440; or contact Moore at billm@ivcrt.org.

I.V. Center video tech open house set Sept. 23

Rogue Community College plans an open house at its Illinois Valley Learning Center to demonstrate new interactive two-way video technology.

The open house is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 23 from 3 to 6 p.m. in the RCC Kerby Belt Bldg. in Kerby. Refreshments will be served.

The new interactive video system is funded through cooperative grant between RCC and USDA Rural Utilities Service, Distance Learning/Telemedicine Program.

"The system allows Illinois Valley residents to attend RCC classes without leaving Illinois Valley," said Priscilla Goulding, director of RCC Adult Basic Education for Josephine County.

Several 11-week classes in early childhood education, reading and computer science will be offered via interactive two-way video beginning fall term, which will start Monday, Sept. 27

*"Concepts in Computing" (CS120), 6:30 - 9:20 p.m. Thursday.

*"College Reading I" (RD20), 7-8:50 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

*"College Reading II" (RD30), 5-6:50 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

*"Early Childhood Education: A Professional Overview" (ECE136), 6:30-9:20 p.m. Thursday.

*"Child, Family and Community" (ECE246), 9-11:50 a.m. Wednesday.

*"Preschool Primary Environments" (ECE251), 6:30-9:20 p.m. Tuesday.

*"Children at Risk" (ECE265), 9-11:50 a.m. Tuesday.

Illinois Valley residents also can use the Kerby-based learning center to prepare for the GED, brush-up on basic skills for college placement tests, view telecourse tapes, take telecourse exams, and sign up for Web-based classes, Goulding said.

More information about the two-way video technology is available by phoning 592-2103 or by visiting the RCC distance learning website: <http://distance.roguecc.edu>.

SBDC lists franchising, Microsoft Word classes

Franchising and Microsoft Word XP are the topics for two courses offered by the Rogue Community College Small Business Development Center (SBDC).

"Franchising: How to Find and Evaluate" will be

presented Tuesday, Sept. 28 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

"MS Word XP for Business or Office (Getting Started)" will be taught Wednesday, Sept. 29 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Classes will be at 214 S.W. Fourth St., Grants

Pass. Pre-registration is required by noon two working days before classes to avoid cancellation.

To register or for more information, phone (541) 956-7494; (541) 245-7500, Ext. 7494; or (800) 411-

OSP increased efforts during Labor Day period

claimed six lives.

In each of these collisions, preliminary investigations indicate that excessive speed, failure to use seat belts, or driving while impaired were contributing factors, OSP said.

Troopers investigated 98 crashes this year, compared to 212 crashes during last year's holiday.

OSP was able to nearly double its normal holiday

coverage through grant funding provided by the Transportation Safety Division of the Oregon Dept. of Transportation.

This funding allowed for assistance to 704 motorists compared to 549 last year; the arrest of 94 impaired drivers compared to 96 last year; and making 5,710 traffic contacts this weekend as opposed to 4,292 in 2003.

Chamber committee will seek five nominees

Five Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce directorships will expire at the end of this year.

Terms of Bill Reid, Vicki Gill, Pat Dees, Jana Fincher and Leonard Frick will be up, the chamber board was told during its meeting Tuesday, Sept. 14 at Wild River Brewing &

Pizza Co.

Gill, Fincher and Frick indicated that they want to stay on the board.

A nominating committee will meet to compile a

slate for the three-year terms in November.

The board welcomed Bob Schumacher to fill the unexpired term of Ron Phillips, who is moving.

I want to thank everyone for their loving support in attending my 80th birthday party at my daughter's house on Nae Way in O'Brien.



Love,
Edna Vesper

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FRIDAY, SEPT. 17

*Roast pork with gravy, whipped potatoes with gravy, Oregon bean medley, squash bread, bread pudding

MONDAY, SEPT. 20

*Turkey tetrazzini, lima beans and red peppers, marinated vegetable salad, bran wheat roll, almond cookie

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22

*Waikiki chicken, parsley potatoes, steamed cabbage and carrots, honey wheat bread, rhubarb applesauce

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Count up at I.V. Visitor Center

A total of 5,106 persons visited Illinois Valley Visitor Center during August, an increase of 128 from August 2003.

The information was provided by Dulcie Moore, I.V. Chamber of Commerce secretary, during a

board meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 14 in Wild River Brewing & Pizza Co.

She also reported that 125 phone calls seeking visitor information were received during the month. Several relocation packets were mailed, she said.

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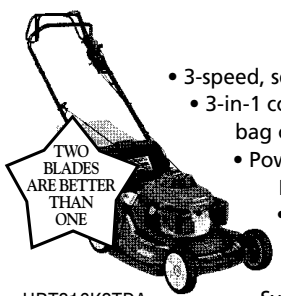
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THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Once again, a successful Labor Day Festival is behind us. We could not have accomplished this without help from the following 'Friends of the I.V. Lions.' We apologize if we missed you, you know who you are.

*Kathy Carter
*Terry Lyons
*Dave Korrell
*Pat Morgan
*Shelly Sheridan
*Taxi
*Joy Taylor
*Select Market
*Kim Clifford
*Cindy & Matt Bilyeu
*Nina Holm
*Jo Spencer
*Darlene Anderson
*Barlow Rock
*Dillon's Nursery & Garden Center
*Betty Neal
*Grants Pass Cavemen
*Shaun & Amy (Gammel) Hardy
*Dave's Outdoor Power Equipment
*Josephine County Public Works (Road Sign Dept.)
*Tom Rogers
*Valley Muffler and Hitch
*Lou Sheridan
*T.C. Computers

*Paul Miller
*Jim Frick
*Nicole Navarro
*Kerbyville Farms
*Taylor's Sausage
*JoCo Sheriff's Deputies & Reserves
*Jana Fincher
*Tami Harris
*Spencer & Jordon Conger
*John Sinwell
*Donna Whitfield
*Kenny Bourgo
*'Illinois Valley News'
*Justine Johnson
*KLDR-KAJO Radio
*Joy Hoskins & First Love
*'Praise Team'
*Carlos' Restaurante
*Junction Realty
*Lou Chavin
*Bob Sheridan
*Carla Jacobsen
*Sue Peterson
*Lavina Fonseca
*Dawana Crocker
*Willie Benschoter
*Shop Smart Food Warehouse

*Becky & Clyde Newsted
*Elmer's Septic Service
*True Value Hardware
*David Korell
*Sue Peterson
*Hilma Michel
*Janie Pope
*Grants Pass Courier
*David West
*KRRM-KURY Radio
*Logan DeSign
*Lamb's Body Shop
*Pro Graphics
*Ron Ricci
*Gary Biggs
*Travis Robbins
*Paul Anderson
*City of Cave Junction
*Ken Swift
*Garrett Fisher
*Chris Rhodes
*Reuben Bergland
*Larry Hillis-U B Hill One Concessions
(Tina & Shannon)
*Jeff & Mary Christensen
*Jemarc Juggling - Brent, Michael & Christopher

We are seeking a good video of the parade. If you have one, please phone Steve Lyons at 592-6441. We are also wanting to increase our membership. It's great to be a Lion! Phone us. 592-6441