

I.V. Chamber of Commerce awards business, citizen of 2004

Sonny Moore, a teacher's assistant at Lorna Byrne Middle School, is Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce "Citizen of the Year."

Moore received his award for 2004 activities during the chamber's annual meeting Saturday, Feb. 26 at Wild River Brewing & Pizza Co. in Cave Junction. Wild River's Jerry and Bertha Miller provided refreshments for the gathering.

The 2004 "Business of the Year" award went to "Illinois Valley News." In accepting the honor, editor-and-publisher Bob Rodriguez said that there are many valley businesses that deserve such recognition, but that he "is pleased to receive this on behalf of my wife, Jan, and the entire 'News' staff."

The valley's weekly newspaper was nominated by Pam Allister, development coordinator for Lovejoy Hospice. She listed the paper's hard work and outstanding efforts for accuracy and impartiality.

Runner-up for the business award was River Valley Restaurant, nominated by chamber Director Dennis Strayer.

Beverly Thomas, who runs the restaurant with Mark Rogers, accepted a certificate from chamber President Terri Smith, who presided at the annual meet.

River Valley was noted for "going the extra mile for its customers," good food, and visitor support.

In addition, the pair have worked hard to remodel the former bakery location, and strive to support chamber events.

Besides Moore, nominated as top citizen were Strayer, and O'Brien resident Bill Shiery.

Shiery has been active as a Lovejoy Hospice volunteer for the past 10 years.

For Lovejoy, he has worked as a volunteer in the areas of respite, crisis, bereavement, and public education; plus he has put in office time.

It is not unusual for him to donate more than 100 hours per month, his nomination noted.

Strayer, nominated by



James S. Fuller, is site manager at I.V. Visitor Center and extremely active as a chamber director. Also as a volunteer, he manages Kerbyville Museum.

Moore, who operates Sonrise Tile, was nominated by Strayer. He said that "his warm smile and friendly manner and compassion for our valley's young people are without limits."

"He has demonstrated a leadership role in our community," said Strayer, "by not only coaching an I.V. Little League team in 2004, but also serving as Little League president. And he

made sure through his leadership that the baseball field and related facilities were ready in time for the season.

"He also is active in the Boys & Girls Club, and hosts dance and other self-esteem building activities that help improve the lives of our children.

"He helps whenever he can. His commitment to the community knows no limits.

"He was a major help with last year's chamber Bluegrass Festival," said Strayer, and he made sure that Santa Claus was available for the chamber's Christmas event.



(At left) Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) members Gloria O'Brien and Jim Fuller received certificates of appreciation during the I.V. Chamber of Commerce annual meeting. O'Brien has been a weekly volunteer since I.V. Visitor Center opened in 1990. Fuller, a participant only 10 months, already had logged 600 hours working on landscaping and clean-up at the center. RSVP member Fran DeWitz also was recognized, but could not attend the annual meeting as she was volunteering at Three Rivers Community Hospital. (Top, left) Chamber President Terri Smith presented Sonny Moore the 2004 Outstanding Citizen of the Year award. (Top, right) Beverly Thomas, of River Valley Restaurant, received the runner-up award for Outstanding Business of the Year. (Bottom) Dennis Strayer was a nominee for outstanding citizen. And Dulcie Moore, chamber office manager, was honored for her dedication and continuing efforts for the valley through the chamber.



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Fri.- Dale-Fred-Dexter Country Dance Music
Boneless Pork Ribs
sweet/sour w/pineapple & stir fry \$8⁹⁵

Sat.- Fred Epping Sings & Jokes
Prime Rib \$10⁹⁵

Sun.- Finny's 3-Cheese, Chicken Enchiladas \$5

Tues., March 8-
Gong Show featuring Nichole Navarro - fundraiser for All-Nite Grad Party
Spaghetti \$7⁹⁵

DEQ allows for alternative septic systems

Simplifying the permitting process for new septic system technologies is the goal of revisions by Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Recently revised were improved on-site wastewater treatment rules governing the installation and use of septic systems throughout Oregon.

DEQ also will develop a third-party certification procedure for septic system installers and maintenance providers and streamline the program in general. Most of the modified rules went into effect Tuesday, March 1.

Approved by the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission in December 2004, the simplified rules are the culmination of a long process involving stakeholder committees and a comprehensive evaluation of the program to improve the way it operates and al-

low for new technologies.

The revisions have resulted in changes in the program's administrative fee structure, with a net decrease in administrative fees, DEQ said.

To implement some of



the streamlining and allow new technologies, several fees were eliminated, while some new fee categories were added.

The revisions eventually will allow for new septic system technologies, known as alternative treatment technologies, to be used

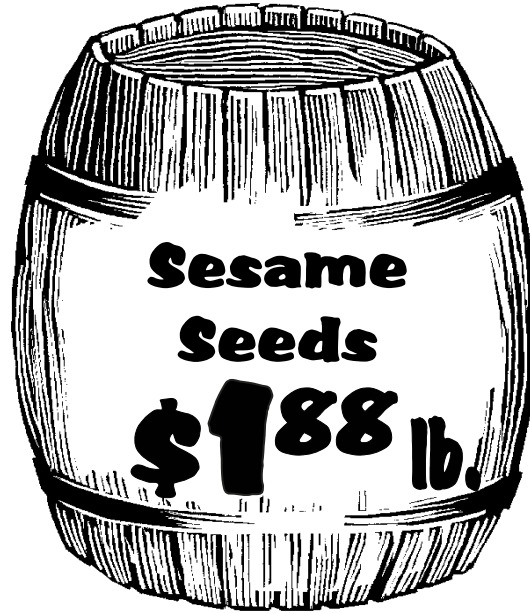
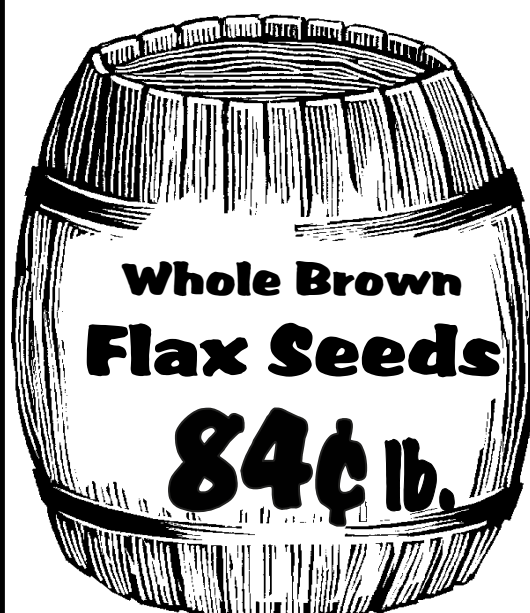
throughout Oregon at sites with soil and groundwater limitations, including areas where sand filter systems are appropriate. DEQ has simplified the permitting process for implementing these technologies, which serve residences and small commercial facilities.

Under the new permitting process, property owners contract with a certified maintenance provider to ensure that the system is operating appropriately, said DEQ.

Another key change in the revised rules is development of a third-party certificate process for septic system and maintenance providers. DEQ is working with Chemeketa Community College in Salem to provide a certification program and is planning to offer certification classes throughout the statewide community college network.

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