



See the light, advises DMV

Two white headlights are required, at least one on each side of the front of vehicles, said Oregon Driver & Motor Vehicle Services (DMV).

Headlights must be aimed correctly. In addition, vehicles must have two red tail lights, one on each side, visible from 500 feet to the rear, DMV said.

Plus, vehicles must have a white rear license plate light. It must make the plate clearly legible from 50 feet to the rear.

Two red reflectors also are required on the rear of every vehicle. And two red brake lights are mandatory. The latter must be visible during normal daylight from 500 feet.

Also, every vehicle must have right- and left-turn signal lights on the front and rear. They can be amber or white on the front; on the rear they can be red, amber or yellow.

Turn-signal lights must be visible from 500 feet.

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Lorna Byrne Career Day

Many business and professional people from Illinois Valley, elsewhere in Josephine County and Jackson County, participated in the annual Lorna Byrne Middle School Career Day Wednesday, March 2.

Participants included (top to bottom) Michelle Trinity and Mike Trinity from Cascade Auto; Sgt. Stephen V. Clarke and 'Peeko' from Josephine County Sheriff's Office; Kathy Sawall and 'Skidmark' from Crossroads Animal Hospital; and Cory Alvis and Mr. Owl from Wildlife Images. Students had a wide range of career areas from which to choose in three 40-minute sessions including medicine, forensic science, graphic arts, catering, horsemanship, alcohol & drug counseling, banking, optometry, emergency medicine, and wildfire fighting.



Jo County drops 600 jobs seasonally

Despite employment downturn, positive aspects reported for 2004

Total payroll employment fell by nearly 600 jobs during January in Josephine County, said Oregon Employment Dept. (OED).

The unemployment rate was pegged at 8.6 percent, up from the 7.6 percent in December 2004, but less than the 9.6 percent in January of last year, said OED.

Figures show that 30,389 persons were on payroll in the county during January. There were 31,993 during December.

Jackson County showed a jobless rate of 7.5 percent in January, up from the 6.1 percent in December.

Declines were broad-based, said OED, among

most published industry sectors, with seasonal reductions accounting for most of the monthly curtailments.

During the past year, the county has added more than 1,000 payroll jobs, while the unemployment rate declined. Josephine County's job growth was the fourth fastest among Oregon's 32 published labor market areas between 2003 and 2004, with payroll employment increasing by 5.0 percent.

During the past 12 months, the county has experienced job gains in every nongovernment sector, said OED. Notable gains were in construction (110), manufacturing (+210), retail trade (+100), financial activities (+90), and professional and business services (+120).

Also, health care and social assistance (+50), and leisure and hospitality (+140).

Government employment has decreased during the past year, with losses in state government (-30), and in local government education (-80), said OED.

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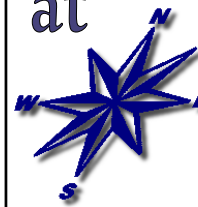
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