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# Illinois Valley News



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Numerous emergency services personnel work at Eight Dollar Bridge Monday, March 14 in connection with logging protestors. (Photos by Dale Sandberg)



## Lack of color linked to ills at print shop

Last week's "Illinois Valley News" lacked color because of illness at Apple Press in Grants Pass.

One Apple Press employee, plus members of the pressroom crew, were out with what was described as strep throat. Another Apple Press staffer was out because of knee surgery.

Due to the lack of available experienced personnel, last week's "Noose" only had color on page 8. Color was planned for pages 1, 8, 9 and 16. Word is that the crews have regained their health and are back at work this week.

Apple Press has apologized for the situation.

## Business loan program process more convenient

A significant change in a business loan program -- eliminating application deadlines -- is announced by Illinois Valley Community Development Organization (IVCDO).

"This is an effort to respond more quickly and with more support services to local business and entrepreneurial needs," said Bill Moore, IVCDO business consultant.

He said that the change is authorized by directors of the IVCDO Micro Business Revolving Loan Program.

"The loan fund," said Moore, "no longer will set deadline dates for applications. Applications can be submitted whenever ready to the IVCDO office at 139 S. Redwood Hwy. during normal business hours.

## Logging protests shut \$8 Road to public

### U.S. Forest Service cites continuing security, health and safety issues

Eight Dollar Road is closed until July 1 because of continuing logging protests that have tied up law enforcement and emergency rescue personnel during four separate incidents.

The latest incident, in a series that began Monday, March 7, occurred Monday, March 14 when approximately 19 persons protesting the Fiddler Biscuit Fire Salvage Sale blocked log trucks at Eight Dollar Bridge, and some, including at least one pregnant woman, suspended themselves from a platform under the bridge.

The support rope appeared to be placed in such a way that driving across the

bridge would have caused the platform to drop.

There also was a report that one man suspended himself from the middle of the bridge over the road.

Illinois Valley Fire District firefighters, including its rope rescue team, responded, along with an American Medical Response (AMR) ambulance and an AMR Reach-and-Treat Team, and members of Josephine County Search and Rescue.

Indications were that all 19 protesters would be arrested by Josephine County Sheriff's Office, which is working with the U.S. Forest Service. Eleven persons

each were arrested March 7 and Wednesday, March 9.

"We respect the rights of free speech," said U.S. Forest Service spokesman Tom Lavagnino, "but we've heard all the same arguments over and over.

"These people are misinformed and misled.

"We are talking about harvesting 7/10 of 1 percent of what was burned in the Biscuit Fire in 2002. That's what this is about. It doesn't seem excessive. Old-growth is not being cut; and it's not the largest timber sale in forest service history."

Lavagnino said that because of protesters committing illegal acts by blocking

a legal timber sale, and because of health-and-safety issues, the road was closed as of noon March 14. It could be reopened before July 1 depending on circumstances, he indicated.

A gate was to be erected approximately a mile easterly of Eight Dollar Bridge. In addition, staffing details were to be worked out.

Lavagnino also noted that on Saturday, March 12, actions by protesters delayed two injured forestry workers from obtaining prompt medical attention. The road was blocked by a car placed there by protesters, preventing an AMR ambulance from reaching the scene, said Lavagnino.

Rescue personnel were able to use a sheriff's office vehicle to winch the car out

## 'Don't be fooled by Conflict Industry'

By SCOTT CONROY  
Supervisor, Rogue River/  
Siskiyou National Forest

The Conflict Industry is working hard to earn your support and money.

Don't be fooled.

When the facts don't support its cause, the Conflict Industry resorts to unsubstantiated accusations buttressed by incomplete or inaccurate facts. Take, for example, its current attempt to create conflict by discrediting the hard and honest work of U.S. Forest Service professionals and scientists, who designed the Biscuit Fire Recovery Project.

This cadre of employees has decades of training, education and experience working in the Siskiyou landscape. They carefully evaluated opinions; analyzed environmental, economic and social effects; and recommended a course of action that provides for harvest of dead trees on less than 4 percent of the burned area.

Funds generated by this very modest plan will be reinvested in planting tree seedlings; reducing the risk to communities and resources from future wildfires; and fixing existing roads.

But take a close look at the rhetoric from environmentalists.

They claim that the forest service is cutting old-growth. False. Only dead trees are being harvested. Dead trees, by definition, cannot be old-growth.

Areas consumed by the wildfire no longer have old-growth characteristics. In fact, the largest dead trees on the acres being harvested are being left standing for wildlife and soil protection.

And all trees are being left on the 96 percent of acres with no harvesting.

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Following are high and low temperatures as recorded by O'Brien residents Cheryl & Harry Johnson.	
Fri., March 4:	58-39
Sat. March 5:	61-34
Sun., March 6:	67-33
Mon., March 7:	69-37
Tues., March 8:	72-38
Wed., March 9:	72-39
Thurs., March 10:	72-36

## Weather Watch

### Cave Junction

Wednesday, March 16

Partly sunny, Evening cooling High--62, Low--28.



Thursday, March 17

Mostly sunny, Cold, clear evening High--63, Low--26.



Friday, March 18

Variable sunshine, Rain possible late High--59, Low--37.



Saturday, March 19

Scattered showers, Overcast evening High--57, Low--36.



Sunday, March 20

Mostly cloudy, Chance of rain late High--60, Low--35.



Monday, March 21

Showers increasing, More rain in evening High--57, Low--40.



Tuesday, March 22

Chance of showers, Ice possible late High--57, Low--27.



'We are here to help people succeed.'

Bill Moore, business consultant,  
Illinois Valley  
Community Development Organization.

cant's business and marketing plans, and cash flow projections in an effort to improve the potential for success.

"Business counseling and training resources are available to applicants through IVCDO, Rogue

counselors and mentors."

Moore added that the loan fund board will review applications based on the completeness and feasibility of business plans; ability to succeed; and availability of acceptable collateral.

"In essence, the better

the application is prepared, the sooner the board can meet to discuss the submittal," said Moore. "These changes offer our local entrepreneurs more substantial business support -- before and after loan requests."

He added that the goal of the revolving loan fund remains unchanged:

"To make low-interest loans to local entrepreneurs and businesses unable to obtain capital through conventional sources; help those that do qualify to get loans through other sources; and help with selected business training or technical assistance.

"We are here to help people succeed," he said.

For more information about the program phone Moore at 592-4440.

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