



SIGN OF TIMES - Fire Marshal Jerry Schaeffer of Illinois Valley Fire District shows a sign available to those who have implemented fuel reduction work on their property. For more information phone 592-2225.

Tax credit aiming for forest aid

Ecotrust, a Portland-based non-profit organization focused on sustainable economic growth in the Northwest, has been awarded \$50 million in federal tax credits to invest in sustainable forest management projects in rural communities under the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) Program.

That was announced by U.S. Sens. Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith.

“Ecotrust’s experience shows that ecological forest management can create sustainable, environmentally sound jobs in rural, timber-dependent communities,” Wyden said.

“These tax credits will enable Ecotrust to develop long-term forest management programs with economic and environmental benefits for rural communities in Oregon and throughout the West Coast.”

“Tax relief can help organizations achieve the common good,” said Smith. “Oregonians understand the value of our environmental treasures, and the need for increased economic opportunity. These tax credits service both.”

Ecotrust will receive \$50 million in tax credits to invest in businesses in the forest products sector. They must employ management practices that emphasize strong job creation for economically marginalized rural communities and long-term ecological restoration.

Its investments will focus on rural communities suffering from long-term unemployment higher than the statewide average, such as Josephine County.

According to the senators: “These investments will allow degraded forest lands with significant habitat value to be purchased, restored, and put in long-term harvest rotations. Investments will be repaid through timber harvests, non-timber forest products, and a variety of ecosystem services, including carbon storage.

“Restoration of degraded lands will also result in an increase in land value as well as an increase in the inventory of merchantable timber.”

Reduction in capital gains tax ‘helpful’

Continuing to build on the momentum started by the House Revenue Committee late last month, the full Oregon House voted 34-25 to pass House Bill 2332, which would cut the state’s capital gains tax.

“For the sake of the Oregon economy, this is the most important bill of the legislative session,” said J.L. Wilson, state director for the 12,000-member Oregon arm of the National Federation of Independent Business.

“It will eventually prove a great shot in the arm for our slow economic recovery,” he said. “Only New York state and California have higher capital gains tax rates than we do, and that does not put us in great company.”

Wilson called House Bill 2332 the first serious action on the capital gains tax since 2001. He urged the Oregon Senate to act with the same speed.

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RECYCLE ROUND-UP ROCKS! - Several volunteers worked Saturday, May 14 at the I.V. Visitor Center during the five-hour Spring Recycle Round-Up. Various material was accepted for recycling. The event was co-sponsored by Southern Oregon Sanitation, I.V. Community Development Organization, Sterling Savings Bank, I.V. Chamber of Commerce, and I.V. Sierra Club.

Diabetes management saves lives

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, diabetes is the sixth-deadliest disease in the United States, claiming the lives of more than 200,000 people each year.

Some 90 to 95 percent of people with diabetes have type 2, also known as adult onset diabetes.

“The long-term effects can be devastating and potentially life-threatening,” said Dr. Fouad R. Kandeel, director of the City of Hope (Leslie & Susan Gonda Goldschmied) Diabetes & Genetic Research Center in Los Angeles.

“Damage to the eyes, nerves, kidneys and cardiovascular system are just some of the many problems that can result from the disease,” he said.

Although early detection and an awareness of the risk factors associated with type 2 diabetes can significantly increase the chances of successfully preventing or managing the disease, a third of the estimated 18.2 million Americans with diabetes remain undiagnosed. Those at highest risk for diabetes include:

- *People older than 45.
- *People who are overweight or do not exercise regularly.
- *Women who develop gestational diabetes during pregnancy.
- *People of African-American, Latino, Native-American or Asian descent.
- *Children who are overweight and in middle-to-late puberty.

Diabetes can cause a multitude of serious complications, including heart disease, stroke, vision loss, kidney disease, skin disorders, foot problems and amputation.

Fortunately, following a few simple guidelines can help prevent or manage diabetes and lead to an overall

healthier lifestyle, according to Kandell. He suggests:

- *Eat a well-balanced diet.
- *Exercise regularly and shed extra pounds.
- *Manage physical and mental stress factors.
- *Practice good personal hygiene, including oral health, skin care, foot care and eye care.
- *Watch for common signs of diabetes, which include frequent urination and infections, unusual thirst or weight loss, excessive

hunger, fatigue, blurred vision, slow-healing cuts and bruises and tingling or numbness in the hands and feet,” said Kandeel.

“People exhibiting these symptoms or who think they are at risk of developing diabetes should consult their physician,” he said.

For more information about diabetes research and treatment at the City of Hope Gonda Center, phone (800) 826-HOPE, or visit www.cityofhope.org/diabetes

Congratulations

IVHS Equestrian Team

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Sportsmanship Award

for the season!

Good luck

Kaylah,

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at state

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‘I.V. News’ last week ran an ad for a

Saturday breakfast, which was incorrect.

‘I.V. News’ apologizes to

everyone involved.

Life is a long lesson in humility.

- James M. Barrie -

HIV/AIDS art display at RCC

“Passage: History Lesson,” a site-specific exhibit by artist Mike E. Walsh, will be displayed through Saturday, May 28 at the Rogue Community College Firehouse Gallery.

The exhibit features symbolic images that memorialize HIV/AIDS victims. Walsh incorporates text, oak leaves, sleds, and photographs.

In the gallery’s Community Exhibits Room a selections of AIDS awareness support materials are displayed.

The RCC Firehouse Gallery is in Historic City Hall, Fourth and H streets, Grants Pass. The gallery is open from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays.

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