



AN ART & GARDEN TOUR in Illinois Valley was held Saturday, June 4 in a joint effort by the Southern Oregon Guild, and the Illinois Valley Garden Club. The fundraiser for the guild began with a continental breakfast at Dillon's Nursery. Garden tourists then had until 3 p.m. to visit 10 area gardens with a diverse range of terrain and vegetation. Garden hosts were Kathy & Jim Lombardo, Sonny & Darlene Ness, Penny Niemi & Ernie Elmer, Joyce & Harry Abrams, Family Tree Garden Center, BeBe's Art For Everyone Gallery, Doug & Norlene Harland, It's a Burl, Cathy & Tom Carlisle and Bridgeview Vineyards Winery. Each site featured artists and their work. The breakfast and post-tour gathering at Bridgeview were catered by Kate Dwyer. The tour sponsors hope to conduct their second annual event next year.

(Related photos on page 9)



'Aging art' at RCC Firehouse Gallery open

"Transformations," a collection of recent work by Grants Pass artist Virginia Andrade, will be displayed through June 25 at Rogue Community College's Firehouse Gallery. Andrade's mixed-media creations "examine the journey into aging and a quest for a new reality." The gallery is in Historic City Hall in Grants Pass, Fourth and H streets. Hours are 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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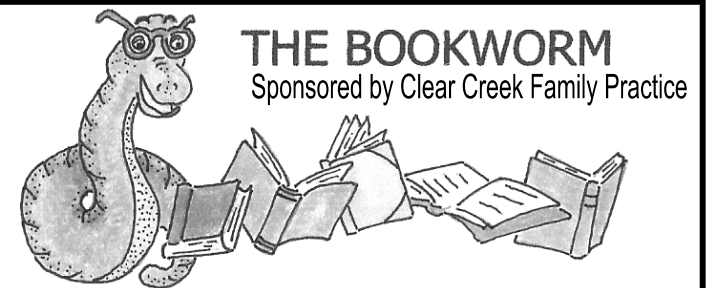
Public fraud hotline open

Oregon Dept. of Human Services (DHS) has armed itself with another weapon to fight fraud in public assistance programs: a reporting hotline.

DHS has made it easier for people to report suspected fraud related to DHS programs -- food stamps, Medicaid, Oregon Trail Card, child-care services, and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families -- by phoning (888) 372-8301.

The agency is increasing its efforts to recover taxpayer dollars lost through fraud and waste, said DHS.

With its current efforts, it saved more than \$3.4 million during a 12-month period, DHS said. It's anticipated that the new hotline will help save even more.



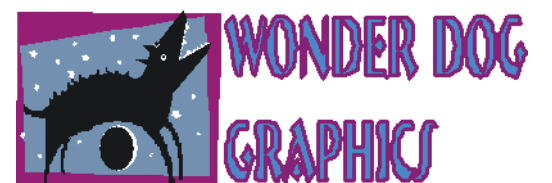
I. V. Branch Library News & Happenings
Library hours: Mondays & Tuesdays Noon to 5, Wednesdays 11 to 6, Saturdays 10 to 1, closed Thursdays, Fridays & Sundays

Summer reading is here! June 13th to August 1st is the Library System Annual Summer Reading Program. Kids read, or have read to them, 10 books and are entered into a drawing for Grand Prizes plus we have weekly games and, as always, Library Bingo. Kids, pre-school through eighth grade (as of September) need to have one book read to sign up for the program.

This is our second year having a program for teens as well. Teens, 13 to 18, must read one book and complete a short book review to sign up. They complete a book review for each book read and each review is an entry for a weekly prize. The program is 7 weeks long so there are 7 bags filled with goodies, books, free food, free video rental, etc.

As always, please feel free to phone the I.V. Branch Library with any questions you may have about either program or another question or concern.

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