



GUARDRAILS STAND AS MEMORIAL - Cave Junction residents Corey Allen and Darrell Allen (at left in left photo) replace a cross marking the spot where their son Josh, 22, died in a single-vehicle crash July 7, 2004. Because of their campaign to have guardrails installed along Hwy. 199, Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) allocated approximately \$700,000 for work from Hay's Hill to the north end of Cave Junction. Last week, as workers reached the location of the fatal crash, Corey brought pizza and soft drinks as part of an informal observance. The Allens were accompanied by Amanda Allen, who was Josh's fiancée, Bonnie Phelps, Paul and Nancy Allen, Mike Crofts, and 'Rascal' Allen. The family and friends visited and shared a meal with workers (photo to right, not in order) Chris Akkerman, Richard Vaillencourt, Mike Thorne Sr., Michael Thorne Jr., Kenneth Boozer, Bill Hults, Robert Bass, Darrell Hix, Angeliqe Moses, Chris Mendoza and Chad Ensminger. Cory spent many months compiling a fact book about the hazardous stretches of the highway, and contacting legislators and ODOT officials. She also worked with the Josephine County Safer Streets Ahead for Everyone group.

Safety steps lessen power tool risk

Tim Allen's popular TV comedy, "Home Improvement," poked fun at the idea of a do-it-yourselfer who, in his never-ending quest for "more power," caused humorous mishaps.

The reality is much less funny.

The home improvement business is booming in America, and many will find that to perfect Father's Day (June 19) tool comes with a power cord. Those tools often come with instructions and safety manuals that remain unopened.

And that may be responsible for the rash of injuries. The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) doctors know the consequences too well. Finger amputations send an estimated 28,000 children and adults to hospital emergency departments for emergency care each year.

Nearly half of all finger amputations in men, 55 and older, were caused by power tools, according to researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC).

Many of these injuries could be prevented by taking a few simple precautions, such as following the safety instructions and wearing protective gear.

Always read and become familiar with the manufacturer's instructions, including precautions and how to respond to an emergency. Wear the recommended protective equipment, such as safety goggles, clothing, earplugs, dust masks or gloves.

Make sure that the tool is in good working order, including the cord, switch, and any protective guarding. Safety guarding should never be removed.

Whenever working with a power tool, it is important to make sure that safety guards are in place, in working order, and properly adjusted. Never modify a tool to use for a job it's not intended to do.

Keep safety switches in working order; and never bypass or replace it with a standard on-off switch.

A common source of injuries is tools starting unexpectedly. The best way to avoid accidental starts is by keeping

hands away from switches while carrying a plugged-in or battery powered tool.

Many medications also warn against using power tools. The warnings should be heeded at all times, or when you are tired or consuming alcohol.

A safe work area will keep you and others safe. Keep work areas well lit and free of clutter. Tripping or stumbling while carrying a power tool is dangerous.

Never use powered tools in damp or wet locations because of the risk of slipping, as well as electric shock. Be sure to keep good footing and maintain good balance.

Wear the right clothing, avoiding loose-fitting clothes, ties or jewelry that can get caught in machinery. Observers should remain a safe distance away from the work area.

When putting tools away, store them in a dry place that is not above your head. At the same time, store tools out of reach of children and always disconnect the power supply, particularly for large powered saws, drills and the like.



THE FIRST ART & GARDEN TOUR in Illinois Valley concluded at Bridgeview Vineyards Winery Saturday, June 4 with refreshments and raffle drawings for donated art. The winery unveiled its new and expanded deck available for visitors and large gatherings (by prior arrangement). Live music Saturday was provided by Dale Hopper and friends. Among those recognized for individual and group support of the tour were (from left) Gayle Bohey, of the I.V. Garden Club; Patty Downing, service coordinator for Southern Oregon Guild; Linda Naydol, guild vice president; and Kathy Lombardo, incoming garden club vice president.

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*After 24 Years of Service to
Evergreen Federal Bank,
Corky Quen is retiring.*

*Please join her customers, Evergreen family
and friends on Friday, June 17th
to wish her well as she begins her retirement journey.*

*Refreshments will be served from
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
at our Cave Junction Branch Office.*



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