



Photos by Dale & Elaine Sandberg/IVFD photographers



FIREFIGHTERS FROM Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD), and U.S. Forest Service extinguished a half-acre brush fire two miles up Thompson Creek Road Tuesday afternoon, July 26. IVFD and American Medical Response also responded Sunday, July 31 to the Finch Road bridge to assist a man injured after jumping from the bridge. Mercy Flights took him to a hospital from a nearby field.

Don’t be a drip! Help conserve H2O

Did you know that a leaking faucet that leaks just one drop per second can waste more than 2,000 gallons of water per year?

Or that leaking toilets can waste 200 gallons a day? Or that an average shower uses 20 to 30 gallons of water?

Americans use an average of more than 400 million gallons of water each day; however, much of that water is wasted due to carelessness.

The International Arid Land Consortium offers water-saving tips to save “our most valuable and vital natural resource.”

Indoors

*Turn off faucets when you are not using them; for example, do not leave the water running when washing dishes by hand or brushing teeth.

*Make sure to repair leaking faucets, pipes and toilets.

*Defrost frozen food in a refrigerator or microwave oven instead of running hot water over it.

*Dispose of toxic chemicals properly; do not pour them down the drain.

*Install water-saving fixtures such as ultra-low consumption toilets, efficient faucets and showerheads.

*Do not throw trash into toilets, as it will result in unnecessary and wasteful toilet flushing; instead dispose of trash in the proper containers.

*Take a quick shower rather than a bath and save an average of 20 gallons.

*Clean vegetables in a sink or pan partially filled with water rather than running water from the tap.

*Reuse the water that vegetables are washing in for watering houseplants or for cleaning.

*Insulate your water pipes; it’ll make your water hotter faster and avoid the

waste that comes when heating water.

*Instead of waiting for tap water to get cold enough for drinking, keep a bottle of water in the refrigerator.

*Whenever possible, compost food scraps or dispose of them in the garbage rather than using a garbage disposal, which requires a high level of water.

*Only run your dishwasher when it is full to make the best use of water, energy and detergent.

*Cut down on the amount of rinsing you do before loading a dishwasher. Most modern dishwashers do an excellent job of cleaning dishes, pots and pans.

*Wait until you have a full load of laundry before running the machine to save water and energy. If you can’t wait for a full load, use the right water level to match the size of the load.

*When washing clothes by hand, the water should not be left running. Fill a laundry tub with water, and reuse wash-and-rinse water as much as possible. Likewise with the dishes.

Outdoors

*Water your lawn early in the morning or at night to avoid excess evaporation. Similarly, do not water your lawn on windy days, as it can also help to avoid excess evaporation.

*Don’t follow a fixed watering schedule. Water when the grass or the plants show signs of needing it. Over-watering is bad for plants and lawns. It promotes shallow root growth, making your lawn less hardy. To determine if your lawn needs to be watered, simply walk across the grass. If you leave footprints, it’s time to water.

*Cover swimming pools to minimize the loss of water due to evaporation. Also install a more efficient water-saving filter.

*Use a broom rather

than a hose to clean sidewalks or driveways.

*Install efficient irrigation devices; ones that can be adjusted according to seasonal irrigation needs. Install moisture sensors in each irrigation zone (sunny, shady, ect.) to better determine irrigation needs.

*Do not leave sprinklers or hoses on unattended; it can result in leaks and over watering.

*Maintain a lawn height of 2 1/2 to 3 inches to help protect the roots from heat stress and reduce the loss of moisture to evaporation. Allowing the grass to grow slightly taller reduces water loss by providing more ground shade for the roots and by promoting water retention in the soil.

*Watering in several short sessions rather than one long one allows lawns to better absorb water and helps reduce the risk of over-watering.

* Check sprinkler system valves periodically for leaks and keep the heads in good repair.

*Make sure your sprinkler is placed so it only waters lawn, not pavement.

*Avoid sprinklers that spray a fine mist, which increases evaporation.

*Wash your car with a bucket or soapy water and use a nozzle to stop the flow of water from the hose between rinsing.

*Consider washing your car on the lawn, if possible, to reduce runoff.

*Consider landscaping which takes into consideration how the year will be used and how it can provide the greatest benefit with the least amount of maintenance.

This includes growing plants that are indigenous to the area and appropriate maintenance to reduce water use.

Kain comes out of the woodwork

By **CHRISTINA HILL**
Correspondent

There must be something in the water in Kerby, because yet another talented artist has “come out of the woodwork.”

Mike Kain, who owns the gallery Amongst the Woods located upstairs in the Kauffman Wood Products building, is another fine example of the talented wood workers who seem to be born out of Kerby.

Kain, who is in his second year at the gallery, got his start at It’s a Burl, also in Kerby.

“I was taught by Danny Shinerock at It’s a Burl,” said Kain. “I worked there five years, before I got tired of doing stuff for other people and wanted to start doing stuff for myself.

“I worked out of my house for a while, before Delbert Kauffman offered me the upstairs of his building. I accepted and moved my stuff upstairs and started the gallery,” Kain explained. The “stuff” Kain is referring to is the exotic burl wood furniture that he creates from a variety of materials including olive wood, redwood, walnut, maple oak, juniper and Toyon berry wood.

Everything Kain uses, he said, is from dead or down trees, or things that wash up on the shorelines.

“Burl is kind of a root ball that has little eyeball-looking shoots in it,” he said. “I also use a lot of exotic wood. It’s not the standard fir or pine that you get in a lumber mill,” Kain said.

From writing pens starting at \$10 to vases, clocks, bowls, beds, benches, chairs and tables costing up to \$3,000 and more, there’s just about something for everyone.

Kain’s gallery also features jewelry and glass from local artists.

Tsunami alert research goal

The U.S. Senate has approved legislation cosponsored by U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) and Gordon Smith (R-Ore.) that would allow for development of a national tsunami warning system to more fully protect Oregon and the Pacific and Atlantic coasts.

Wyden and Smith joined U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) and others in sponsoring the bipartisan Tsunami Preparedness Act, introduced earlier this year following the deadly south Asian tsunami.

The legislation would authorize the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish, operate and maintain a national tsunami warning system.

On June 14, a magnitude 7.0 earthquake off the coast of Northern California prompted widespread evacuations up and down the Oregon seaboard. Subsequent analysis by state emergency officials revealed gaps in the tsunami alert system necessary to provide adequate time for evacuations for the overall safety of coastal communities.



MIKE KAIN (Photo by ‘I.V. News’)

“Everything is unique,” said Kain. “Nothing is repeated. Every piece is different. It’s hard to explain. It’s something you have to see,” Kain said.

When starting on a piece, sometimes it’s easy to see what pieces will be perfect for. Other times, he just throws them back on the pile, he said.

While Kain uses the gallery to exhibit his work, he does most of his work out of his home, where his 9-year-old daughter helps him oil the pieces.

“She has a creative mind in seeing what I see,” said Kain. “Carving can be taught, but you have to have an eye for it too.

“I found something I enjoy doing and can do semi-well. I’m happy where I’m at right now. I had wanted to do something different, because I used to work production, where everything was repeated thousands and thousands of times.

“I like to do something once and move onto a different idea and design,” said Kain, who has worked in lumber mills and factories in Oregon and California.

Eight years ago, Kain, along with his wife of 10 years, Kristine, and their daughter, moved from the Sprague River in Eastern Oregon to the Illinois Valley.

Since joining forces with Kauffman, Kain said that they have had customers from as far away as Russia, Czechoslovakia, New York and Canada, but he added that most of their business comes from Medford and Grants Pass.

Kauffman’s gallery and Kain’s gallery are open seven days a week. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, phone 592-2568 or visit 24126 Redwood Hwy.

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