

USFS, BLM plan major relocation

Two federal land managing agencies, the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service will move from their current office on Greenfield Road to a new location on Spalding Avenue in Grants Pass.

Approximately 180 employees of BLM's Grants Pass and Glendale Resource Areas, in addition to forest service employees in Grants Pass, are involved.

This is a major move of personnel, equipment, and telephone and computer systems.

During the move, the Greenfield office building will close to the public at the end of business Thursday, Sept. 22.

To ease the transition, a temporary office trailer will be located on the 200 N.E. Greenfield Road parking lot to provide for customer information and map services. It will serve the public while the office building on Greenfield Road closes for business from Friday, Sept. 23 through Friday, Sept. 30.

During this transition the agencies phones will be temporarily staffed by other agency personnel unaffected by the move.

On Oct. 3 BLM and forest service will relocate and occupy the new Grants Pass Interagency Building at 2164 N.E. Spalding Ave., Grants Pass. The phone number for Grants Pass Interagency Office will remain the same, (541) 471-6500.

"Sharing office space between the two agencies will increase each other's opportunities to coordinate our resource management across agency boundaries and improve public service," said Pam Bode, Galice and Illinois Valley District ranger, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.

Details are pending for a public open house in early November.

Calif. vehicle emission law for Oregon?

Meeting times and locations have been determined for the Governor's Vehicle Emissions Workgroup established to study the effects of adopting California's motor vehicle emission standards in Oregon.

The Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality will provide background and technical information about the standards and prepare briefing materials for group work members.

The group is tasked with providing information to the governor on the costs, benefits and impacts of adopting in Oregon the California motor vehicle emission standards and identifying the pros and cons of implementing certain features associated with the standards beginning with the 2009 model year vehicle.

All meetings will be open to the public and will feature time to address the workgroup. Citizens wishing to comment are encouraged to submit comments through DEQ's Website at deq.state.or.us/aq/aqplanninh/callev/index.htm/.

Meetings in S.W. Oregon will be held Oct. 2 and 6 at a location yet to be determined.



'GREAT EMANCIPATOR' ENJOYS 'I.V. NEWS'- Cave Junction resident Denny Hare (left) shows a copy of 'Illinois Valley News' to (from left) Manny Kinn and President Lincoln during a recent visit to Gettysburg, Pa. Hare and his wife, Evie, went to the Washington, D.C. area to visit their son, Simon, who works as a lobbyist for the National Rural Electric Co-op Association. (Photo provided)

Street chalk artwork due in city of GP

Art Along the Rogue Art and Music Festival is looking for local and regional, professional and student artists to add their talents to its street painting event on the Oct. 8 and 9 weekend on H Street in Downtown Grants Pass.

Artists will receive special pastel chalks for a drawing of their choice, an 8-by-8-foot space on H. They'll also receive food and water, as well as art instruction.

Applications and more information are available at artalongtherogue.com.

The Art Along the Rogue street-painting event will feature two of the country's best professional street painters, Tracy Stum, of Ventura, Calif.; and Ann Hefferman, of Santa Barbara, Calif. They will perform and demonstrate the beauty of street painting with pastel chalks.

A street-painting seminar will be held Friday, Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. at the Firehouse Gallery on Fourth Street. This year Art Along the Rogue will host as many as 50 artists and will offer \$300 in total prizes for the Best Student (under 18 years) and the People's Choice awards.

For more information e-mail or phone: Jeff Jones, coordinator, (541) 488-0178, e-mail: jrjones@opendoor.com.

'Gas price gouging' hit by Wyden and fellows

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) has joined fellow Democratic leaders to fight gas price gouging in the wake of Hurricane "Katrina."

Measures called for by U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), Wyden and others would give the president authority to declare a national energy emergency and strengthen the hand of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) when fighting illegal price gouging that hits Oregonians and all consumers hard at the pumps, said Wyden.

Before "Katrina," years of market manipulation by oil companies artificially inflated prices on the West Coast of the United States; Wyden said that he has documented their anti-competitive practices and the FTC's refusal to act on consumers' behalf.

Following the devastation of "Katrina," skyrocketing gas prices are having an effect across the economy, squeezing the budgets of American families, hurting farmers and businesses alike, Wyden said.

"It's taking the help of all Americans to recover from the hurricane, from kids with lemonade stands to families making donations and taking in strangers -- all we're asking the oil industry to do is not to gouge consumers, to stop manipulating the market as

they have for years," said Wyden. "If the oil companies won't step up in this time of crisis, the FTC needs to, and Congress has a duty to make sure that happens."

Proposals discussed by the senators include:

*Congress should create emergency authority at FTC to investigate gasoline price gouging if the president makes an emergency declaration in consultation with the Energy Dept. and FTC. Right now this authority is only available in certain states that have enacted anti-price gouging legislation.

*FTC, an independent regulatory commission, should conduct the investigation and would be authorized to fine companies for price gouging vs. the more traditional remedies such as cease-and-desist orders and requiring that companies disgorge profits after the fact. Definition of price gouging would be done through FTC rulemaking. There should be no pre-emption of state law.

*FTC should create a Web site and toll-free number so consumers could report price gouging.

According to data from the federal Energy Information Administration, national gasoline prices have been averaging approximately \$3.07 a gallon -- or \$1.22 higher than last year, a more than 60 percent increase. In Oregon, gaso-

line prices recently hit an all-time statewide high.

Earlier this month, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) also released a report on the projected economic impacts of "Katrina."

The report found that a 40 percent increase in prices during September could affect national "gross do-

mestic product" during the third and fourth quarters of this year. It called the spike in prices "a temporary redistribution of income from consumers of gasoline to the stockholders of refiners" -- in other words, reporting that money is moving from consumers' pockets to oil refiners' profit margins.



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- Ted Crocker Income Tax Service
- Three Rivers School District
- Trent Nestler & Associates
- True Value Hardware
- United Rentals NW Inc.
- USF Reddaway Truck Lines
- Valley Evangelical Free Church
- Whispering Springs B&B
- Wild Blackberry Festival
- Wild River Brewing & Pizza Co.



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- President Lincoln -

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