

## GP taxi fare not too fair

A Grants Pass cab driver was robbed of his money and vehicle by a knife-wielding man Saturday, Jan. 7, said Josephine County Sheriff's Office (JCSO).

Randy Gaudette, 62, of Valley Cab, told deputies that he picked up a fare at a Grants Pass restaurant and drove him to Sunny Valley, several miles north of Grants Pass.

The suspect forced Gaudette to stop on Burgess Gulch Road, showed a large hunting knife, and ordered him out of the cab, said JCSO. He demanded the driver's money, and then drove away in the cab.

Deputies found the cab not too far away, but not the suspect.

## Power help from forest thinning a possibility

A new study of the biological growth and mortality in Oregon's forests has identified the potential for using woody biomass from forest thinning as fuel to help meet the state's electricity needs while advancing habitat restoration in the forests.

Based on federal data, the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) study confirms that many forests in southwestern, central and eastern Oregon -- primarily on federal land -- are at moderate-to-high risk of uncharacteristically intense wildfire due to high fuel levels and overstocked conditions resulting from past fire suppression and inadequate thinning.

The study shows that these same "at-risk" forests have many trees dying; few trees being removed by thinning and commercial harvesting; and most forest growth remaining in the forest.

"This makes the fire risk worse by adding more living and dead fuel to already overcrowded forests," said Mike Cloughesy, OFRI director of forestry, citing recent fires in central and Southwestern Oregon. "This condition is not sustainable over the long term because of the adverse implications for forest health and the risk of uncharacteristically intense forest fires," he said.

The OFRI study shows that thinning for woody biomass can help reverse this trend and make forests more fire-resilient, improve wildlife habitat and provide jobs for rural communities. At the same time it can provide a source of renewable energy to reduce dependency on fossil fuels and hydropower.

"This study affirms that Oregon's forestlands could provide a predictable long-term supply of wood to biomass generating facilities," said Allyn Ford, chief executive officer of Roseburg Forest Products Co.

He added that this "could help Oregon reach its goal of providing 10 percent of its electricity from renewable resources by 2015 and 25 percent by 2025."

## Diagnosis aid

"Next Steps After Your Diagnosis" is the title of a free booklet offered by the Dept. of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality.

It contains basis advice for people with almost any disease or condition.

For a free copy, phone (800) 358-9295. (NAPS)



DAWNA CROCKER

## Dawna Crocker honored as Kiwanis Student of Month

Dawna Crocker, who plans a musical career, is January Student of the Month at Illinois Valley High School, selected by Grants Pass Kiwanis Club.

Crocker, a senior and daughter of Allen and Cindy Crocker, has maintained a 2.8 grade-point average.

She has been a varsity cheerleader for two years. Crocker sings the national anthem at IVHS football and basketball games, and various community events.

During 2004 she finished in the top eight contestants in Southern Oregon Idol singing competition.

Crocker has received awards for outstanding attendance. She was elected princess of the Winter Ball, and Sweetest Person by her senior class.

Following graduation, Crocker plans to obtain a bachelor's degree in music therapy. She said that she loves the idea of helping people, who can't physically or mentally help themselves, through the talents she has been given.

She also is considering becoming a choir teacher.

## 'My name is meth: I'll lead you into Hell' -- a true tale of tragedy

**(Editor's Note: According to those who submitted it, a young Indian girl in jail on drug charges, and who was addicted to methamphetamine, wrote the following while in jail.**

**She fully grasped the horrors of the drug, but, true to her story, the drug owned her. They found her dead not long after, with a needle still in her arm. Prayer is sought for "our children, teen-agers."**

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**My Name: "Is Meth"**

I destroy homes,/ I tear families apart,/ take your children,/ and that's just the start.

I'm more costly than diamonds, more precious than gold,/ The sorrow I bring is a sight to behold./ If you need me, remember I'm easily found,/ I live all around you -- in schools and in town.

I live with the rich,/ I live with the poor,/ I live down the street, and maybe next door./ I'm made in a lab, but not like you think,/ I can be made under the kitchen sink.

In your child's closet, and even in the woods,/ If this scares you to death, well it certainly should./ I have many names, but there's one you know best,/ I'm sure you've heard of me, my name is crystal meth.

My power is awesome; try me you'll see,/ But if you do, you may never break free./ Just try me once and I

might let you go,/ But try me twice, and I'll own your soul.

When I possess you, you'll steal and you'll lie,/ You do what you have to -- just to get high.

The crimes you'll commit for my narcotic charms,/ Will be worth the pleasure you'll feel in your arms, your lungs, your nose.

You'll lie to your mother; you'll steal from you dad,/ When you see their tears, you should feel sad./ But you'll forget your morals and how you were raised,/ I'll be your conscience, I'll teach you my ways.

I take kids from parents, and parents from kids,/ I turn people from God, and separate friends./ I'll take everything from you, your looks and your pride,/ I'll be with you always -- right by your side.

You'll give up everything -- your family, your home,/ Your friends, your money, then you'll be alone./ I'll take and take, 'til you have nothing more to give,/ When I'm finished with you, you'll be lucky to live.

If you try me be warned -- this is no game,/ If given the chance, I'll drive you insane./ I'll ravish your body, I'll control your mind,/ I'll own you completely, your soul will be mine.

The nightmares I'll give you while lying in bed,/ The voices you'll hear, from inside your head./ The sweats, the shakes, the visions you'll see,/ I want you

## Umpqua Community Action Network new operator of Josephine Food Bank

**Organization steps in after county board drops program due to fund lack; Gayle Daniel, coordinator under JoCo, hired by network as leader**

Josephine County Food Bank is now a program of Umpqua Community Action Network (UCAN) of Douglas County.

During December UCAN provided a \$10,000 grant to the food bank, which it began operating in October, said Gayle Daniel, of Josephine County Food Bank.

UCAN decided to take this step to keep the Josephine County Food Bank open, she said.

Josephine County Food Bank is a program similar to the Food Share program that UCAN has operated in Douglas County since 1975.

The food bank, said Daniel, had been operated as part of Josephine County government, but in August the county commissioners announced that they would close it in September because it had become too expensive to operate.

The UCAN board decided to assume its operation to keep the citizens in a neighboring county from going hungry, Daniel said.

"It was the right thing to do," said UCAN Chairman Anita Cox.

To ensure continuity of

service, UCAN hired Daniel, who was JoCo Food Bank coordinator under the county, to maintain the day-to-day operations.

"Since 2000," she said, "the number of food boxes distributed by the Josephine County Food Bank has increased by 38 percent. One of every six people in our community receives an emergency food box at least once -- and nearly half of them are children.

"This year, the food bank has distributed nearly two million pounds of food to low-income people through a network of food box pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters, and programs for feeding children," Daniel noted.

UCAN has for 36 years operated a successful countywide community action agency in Douglas County that has a similar food bank program serving more sites and families than the Josephine County Food Bank.

"Our goal is to operate the Josephine County Food Bank with cost savings and improvements that are possible as a part of the private, nonprofit sector," Daniel said.

You knew this would happen, many times you were told,/ But you challenged my power, and chose to be bold./ You could have said, "No," and just walked away,/ If you could live that day over, now what would you say?

I'll be your master, you

UCAN acknowledged its appreciation to organizations, besides the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation, that quickly stepped forward with the funding necessary to make this transition possible, including The Ford Family Foundation, Oregon Food Bank Network, Oregon Housing and Community Services, the Josephine County United Way, and the Josephine County Board of Commissioners, which provided matching funds needed to obtain the other grants.

Added Daniel, "People in food box lines give us a glimpse into their lives -- parents working more than one job to support their families; senior citizens trying to cope with the rising costs of rent and medical needs; and children relying on free lunches and after-school snacks for their meals.

"Those needing food also include people with disabilities, the unemployed, the homeless, and victims struck by a financial or medical crisis -- and they all are our neighbors," Daniel concluded.

will be my slave,/ I'll even go with you, when you go to your grave./ Now that you have met me, what will you do?/ Will you try me or not? It's all up to you.

I can bring you more misery than words can tell,/ Come take my hand, let me lead you to Hell.

## Tax News

My name is Karen Bodeving. I am a Certified Public Accountant and have had my own practice in Grants Pass since 1994.

I will be putting together a tax column for I.V. residents for the next few months starting next week -- but first let me tell you about myself.

I was raised in Grants Pass and graduated from Grants Pass High School in 1978. At that time, I was president of the GPHS FFA and got to know a lot of kids out here in the Valley. My parents (George and Darlene Trahern) were good friends of Bob and Jan Grant, Irv Whiting, Chips Combs and Early Elmore, so we spent a lot of time out here in my high school years. My mom was a teacher at Evergreen and Selma Elementary and later she was one of the vice principals at Illinois Valley High School. (Heck, she was citizen of the year here in 1994! Not bad for someone still making the commute!)

I graduated from SOSOC in Ashland in 1982, at which time I married my husband, Paul. After searching for the right property for years out here, and the right timing to move out to the valley, Paul and I finally made our move two years ago while our girls were changing schools. We have two wonderful daughters, Danielle (Dani) who is a sophomore at Oregon State University and Rebecca (Beckie) who is a sophomore at IVHS and is captain of the girls JV basketball team. She also plays on the varsity golf team.

We are still making the commute to Grants Pass, but we look forward to being longtime community members and to keeping our business local. If you are interested in having me prepare your taxes, I would be happy to make arrangements to meet for pickup and delivery!

## Federal, Oregon, California, and other state tax returns.

**Karen M. Bodeving, CPA PC**  
**We've Moved to 564 N.E. E St.**  
**Grants Pass OR 97526**  
**Phone: 479-3625**

**Grants Pass Office hours:**  
**9 to 3 Mon. - Fri.**  
**Other hours by appointment**



**I live in Cave Junction, so arrangements can be made to save you a trip to Grants Pass.**