

Holiday 20th

Banks, schools and city, county, state and federal offices, including post offices, will be closed Monday, Feb. 20 in observance of Presidents Day honoring George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

The "Illinois Valley News" office will be open as usual. The deadline for next week's issue remains Thursday at 5 p.m.

Oil analyst forecasts big change

By OLIVIA TAYLOR-YOUNG
IVN Correspondent

As a nation and a culture, we are facing immense, inevitable changes, according to a former oil industry analyst Jan Lundberg.

Speaking to a packed audience at the Alternative Media Center in Cave Junction Thursday evening, Feb. 9, he explained how declining petroleum resources will affect virtually every aspect of this county's present way of life. That, in fact, life as we know it will change beyond recognition.

Illinois Valley was one stop on Lundberg's nationwide tour to alert the public about the hazards of "Peak Oil." Now an environmental activist and founder of Culturechange.org, Lundberg defined "Peak Oil" as global oil production having maxed itself out and beginning an irrevocable decline.

Our present way of life is dependent on plentiful, inexpensive sources of en-

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Following are the high-and-low temperatures, and rainfall, recorded in O'Brien by Cheryl & Harry Johnson.


*Fri., Jan.27: 47-37, .59
*Sat., Jan.28: 49-38, 1.69
*Sun., Jan.29: 51-39,.35
*Mon., Jan. 30: 51-37, 1.77
*Tue., Jan. 31: 50-37, 1.14
*Wed., Feb. 1: 55-48, 1.02
*Thurs., Feb. 2: 56-46, .15


Following are the high-and-low temperatures, and rainfall, recorded in Cave Junction at Mountain Wind Farm.


*Fri., Jan.27: 50-35, .34
*Sat., Jan.28: 48-36, 1.01
*Sun., Jan.29: 51-37, .26
*Mon., Jan. 30: 52-38, 1.0
*Tue., Jan. 31: 49-37, 1.08
*Wed., Feb. 1: 55-47, .53
*Thurs., Feb. 2: 58-45, .05


Weather Watch


Illinois Valley


Wednesday, Feb. 15
Partly Cloudy
High--50 Low--28 


Thursday, Feb. 16
Partly Cloudy
High--48 Low--29 

Friday, Feb.17
Rain & Sleet
High--39 Low--26 

Saturday, Feb. 18
Rain
High--38 Low--29 

Sunday, Feb. 19
Partly Cloudy
High--44 Low--27 

Monday, Feb. 20
Sunny
High--41 Low--31 

Tuesday, Feb. 21
Mostly Sunny
High--46 Low--33 



REPTILES A'PLENTY were shown to Lorna Byrne Middle School students in Cave Junction Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 7 during a presentation by Oregon Museum of Science & Industry (OMSI). Jeff Contreras, of OMSI, showed creatures including an American alligator (top photo) and a lengthy gopher snake (left), sometimes causing wide-eyed wonder. The critters were provided by Brad's World Reptiles, of Corvallis. The students also were shown a blue-tongued skink, an African pixie frog, and an Australian bearded dragon among many others. (Photos by Dale Sandberg)

City views library plan

A stamp of approval for a proposed library district is indicated by the Cave Junction City Council, which set a date of Feb. 27 to vote on a formal resolution.

Without a library district and "a stable, adequate source of funding, the county libraries will probably close," said Cessa Vichi, director of the Josephine County Library System, in a printed statement.

The council's 5-0 approval concurring with the county board of commissioners plan for a library district occurred in city hall Monday night, Feb. 13 after 30 minutes of presentation, and questions and answers.

On Feb. 27, the council will vote on a resolution.

If the city were not included in the intended district, city residents would not vote on a proposed tax rate of 55-cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation, and would not be affected by the tax if approved. Additionally, it was pointed out, they would not be able to use library facilities.

Monday's meeting

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Money lack resulting in freed felons

More than 75 felons per month will have to be released from the Josephine County Jail due to lack of funding, said Sheriff Dave Daniel.

Additionally, the sheriff said that the county board of commissioners have not helped the situation because of not signing a contract with Jackson County.

Said Daniel, "This year's budget for the sheriff's office had an anticipated revenue of \$650,000 from INS for housing their inmates. INS opened a facility in Washington state last year and discontinued use of our facility. This created a deficit of \$200,000 for this year's budget.

"Jackson County approached our office last year with a proposed contract to house 15 of their inmates on a daily basis. This would generate \$25,000 a month in revenue, and make up for the loss in federal dollars.

"The contract was ready in October of last year," said the sheriff, "when the Josephine County Board of Commissioners came up with a number of concerns and refused to sign.

"We are now into February, still without a Jackson County contract. That is a loss of more than \$75,000 in revenue.

"We currently have four job openings in the jail that we are unable to fill without that revenue. Without the ability to fill these positions it is necessary to reduce our jail capacity to 115 inmates.

"We are currently averaging the release of 75 felons per month. This lower cap will increase that number and increase the number of empty beds in our jail.

"Both instances are not acceptable to me and extremely frustrating. We will continue to do the best job possible with the revenue available to us," Daniel said.



ILLINOIS RIVER VALLEY ARTS Council held its fourth annual Woolly Winter Gala Sunday, Feb. 12 at Lorna Byrne Middle School. (Clockwise, from top left) Jack Dwyer and Carol Valentine were among several performers also including Libby Goines on piano; a children's art table attracted youth including necklace-maker Olivia Fox, 3; mask-maker Jake Salas, 11; and Ian Binker, 4, and his brother Paul, 7, who enjoyed gluing objects on colored paper. The gala also included a display of art by area artists, and attendees could purchase tickets to try and win the selections of their choice. Another attraction consisted of a dessert table and one filled with an array of delicious and delectable munchies. The event was the result of the efforts of many individuals. (Photos by 'Illinois Valley News')