

Barlow Sand & Gravel excavation plan

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impact area agreement whereby Barlow would give 10-cents per ton excavated to the neighbors for mitigation efforts: berms, vegetation, and the like. The suggestion was not warmly received by attendees, who determined that the projected \$13,300 would not accomplish much.

Peterson then gave a quick PowerPoint presentation on the company’s project, describing operational procedure and reclamation plans, which call for development of a pond, and planting trees and grasses.

Both men were challenged with questions from attendees throughout the gathering. Promising to respond in writing before June 29 to those who provided an email address, Peterson recorded each query.

The nearly 66-acre parcel in question, to which Barlow Sand & Gravel states it has long-term mineral rights, is shown in a reclamation plan application submitted to the Oregon Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) to be owned by Illinois Valley Ranch LLC, i.e. Jennifer Ausland, of Grants Pass.

Per longtime resident Wes Nicholson, whose property is among those Barlow Rock mined, and who spoke to the assembled crowd, 2612 Holland Loop is not known to have been mined at any time during the past 60 years.

Neither was it specifically listed as having been mined in an affidavit signed by Mel Barlow stating the extent of his mining activities since 1960.

Nor is 2612 Holland Loop among those listed in a letter to Bill Peterson from Grace Zilverberg of Josephine County Planning Office, which, based on Barlow’s affidavit, states that “no permits are required for mining” on the referenced properties, as they’d been “in continuous operation since 1960.”

The properties, listed by township, range, section and tax lot, do number among them a tax lot 901, in section 26. Although nearby, it is not Ausland’s Illinois River Ranch, which is tax lot 901 in section 35.

However, referencing

that June 5, 2005 letter from county planning, Barlow Sand & Gravel LLC submitted an operating and reclamation plan to DOGAMI, declaring in Attachment A of the “I.V. Ranch Operating Plan,” that Zilverberg’s letter referred “specifically [to] the lands identified in this operation,” i.e. 2601 Holland Loop.

In the DOGAMI application, dated April 18, 2006, the stated plan is to remove, within 12 months, 133,000 tons of sand and gravel from the I.V. Ranch Bar (as the project area is called). Topsoil is to be stockpiled in road-screening berms. “Excess topsoil,” the plan states, would be stored off-site or sold.

Following reclamation of the 6.2-acre pond described in the plan, Peterson stated that additional area for sand and gravel mining on the property will be sought.

Furthermore, the company intends to seek permits from Dept. of State Lands (DSL) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to install temporary haul bridges, Peterson said. They would allow transport activity to avoid county roads en route to Barlow’s Rockydale Road facility, across Illinois River.

The initial 40,000 cubic yards of overburden is to be transported to an adjacent Barlow Sand & Gravel-owned property, now known as Barlow Holland Loop Pit (at 2350 Holland Loop). The overburden would be used to fill an estimated two-acre hole, which was excavated without proper authorization.

This pit, flooded by the Illinois River in fall 2005, is, according to the application to DOGAMI, “subject to regulation by DSL.” As such, the pit was to be dewatered and captured fish salvaged, according to DSL and Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife guidelines.

Other violations recorded on that site, as listed in complaints filed with county planning, include illegal dumping of construction debris, stumps and concrete rip-rap. In October 2005, DSL ordered the debris cleaned up, “but to date, no penalties have been assessed” the complaint states.

Representing the city of

Cave Junction were Mayor Tony Paulson, city lead water treatment operator Paul Anderson, and lead wastewater treatment operator Mike Bollweg.

They attended to draw the company’s attention to the regulating authority the city has in the matter.

The project falls within the 282-square-mile watershed which provides the city its domestic water.

According to Paulson, there are applicable federal and state statutes to protect municipal water supplies.

When asked, Ross and Peterson admitted to not having reviewed CJ’s source-water protection plan.

Anderson also documented increased turbidity in the river from May 15 to 18. In his report to the city, Anderson states that he traced river muddiness at the city’s water intakes on the morning of May 18 to the “dewatering/fish recovery project” at the Barlow Holland Loop Pit, where he found “that Copeland/Barlow was pumping out a pit;” and that the “pumps were unmanned,” without settling ponds or silt screens.

The resulting cloud of silt, Anderson added, flowed more than 3.5 miles downstream before dissipating.

“The silt that came through nearly closed the city’s water treatment facility,” Paulson stated during a break in the meeting. “They had no permits to do what they were doing, and it would have cost the city more than we’ve got to fix the problem.”

Tempers flared toward the end of the evening, as some Barlow Sand & Gravel drivers grumbled while one attendee pointed out the section-number discrepancy and declared the application “fraudulent.”

One employee angrily dismissed as “stupid questions” spoken concerns about wetlands and permits.

Peterson called a conclusion promptly at 7:30, and left with a list of 30 questions awaiting answers. Another meeting was tentatively scheduled sometime after July 1.

“I don’t make any excuses for what has happened,” Ross had said early in the meeting. “I’ll do what I can to do what I can to turn this around.”

SOFCU relates successful Relay For Life

SOFCU Community Credit Union formed another hugely successful Relay For Life team, again joining with Dutch Bros. Coffee.

Relay For Life, organized by the American Cancer Society, is held annually on the Grants Pass High School track.

Teams held fundraisers including car washes and bake sales; and sold handmade jewelry, Relay for Life Bears, candles, and luminarias. On May 20-21, hundreds of volunteers walked the track for 24 hours to honor those who have lost their battle with cancer; those who are fighting cancer now; or who have survived cancer.

The luminarias that were sold were decorated with names of those who were being remembered, and placed along the track. At dusk the luminaria are lit and all the names on them are read aloud. Many people come to stroll with the walkers and remember family and friends affected

by cancer.

Some 85 teams participated with more than 1,000 people on hand for the opening lap on Saturday morning. There were 189 survivors, and 2,300 luminarias were sold.

The goal for Josephine County was to raise \$130,000. The count so far surpasses \$200,000.

Dutch Bros. again donated all coffee supplies plus an iced mocha machine and all the fixin’s to be sold in the SOFCU booth. With help from Dutch Bros., SOFCU’s team of 13, “The SOFCU Believers,” raised more than \$5,600.

The 2006 donations deadline is August. To donate, contact Jacki Halcomb at SOFCU at 479-2601.



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CLASSES BEGIN 06/20

Van vs. pole wreck fatal

A Grants Pass man died, and his passenger was injured when the van the deceased had been driving went off a road and struck a utility pole.

Vehicle speed appears to be a factor in the crash, and investigation is continuing, added Josephine County Sheriff’s Office (JCSO). It identified the victim as Christian Edward Heverly, 35, of S.W. “G” Street. His passenger was identified as Caleb James Clearwater, 32, of Murphy.

JCSO and other emergency personnel responded at 8:41 p.m. Tuesday, May 30 to the 2400 block of Upper River Road after a report of an injury crash. Medical personnel pronounced Heverly dead at the scene.

Clearwater was taken by American Medical Response to Three Rivers Community Hospital in Grants Pass.

The driver was operating a 1990 van westbound. While attempting “a left curvature, he lost control,” said JCSO.

Flags lowered as memorial

All flags at public institutions were flown at half-staff Friday, June 2 in memory of U.S. Army Specialist Jeremy M. Loveless, 25, of Estacada, at the order of Gov. Kulongoski.

Loveless was assigned to the Army’s 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade combat Team, of Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

He was killed on May 29, when his Stryker came under enemy small arms fire in Mosul, Iraq.

20th Annual Antique Tractor & Engine Show

at Pottsville

Saturday, June 17, 9 to 5 Sunday, June 18, 9 to 4

Parade of Power - Traditional Country Music
Food Booths - Wagon Rides - Tractor Pulls at 2:30
Flea Market - Skills of Yesteryear events & exhibits
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The IVCDO Board of Directors



Illinois Valley Community Development Organization

COMPUTER CLASSES AT THE ILLINOIS VALLEY FAMILY COALITION

The Illinois Valley Family Coalition is sponsoring a series of computer classes for beginners.
Sign up right away to reserve your seat.
You must enroll for either the 3:00 PM or 5:30 PM starting times.
These classes are not interchangeable as seating is limited at each session.
Class size is limited to 11 students.

Session one – Introduction to Computers – 3 classes

This session introduces the very basics for those who have little to no prior experience.

		Class A	Class B
Tuesday	June 20	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Thursday	June 22	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Tuesday	June 27	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM

Session two – File Management – 2 classes

Where is my file? It just disappeared!! You will learn where to put your files so you will always be able to find them.
Before you sign up for this class, you should have either taken Session one (above) or you must have beginning knowledge of computer use.
This class is a prerequisite for Sessions 3 & 4.

		Class C	Class D
Tuesday	July 11	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Thursday	July 13	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM

Session three – Word – 5 classes

How to create personal and business letters, reports and other documents.
File Management is a prerequisite for this class.

		Class E	Class F
Tuesday	July 18	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Thursday	July 20	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Tuesday	July 25	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Thursday	July 27	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Tuesday	August 1	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM

Session four – Excel/Spreadsheet – 5 classes

How to format spreadsheets, sort data, and create formulas to automate calculations.
File Management is a prerequisite for this class.
No classes August 3 and the week of August 7.

		Class G	Class H
Tuesday	August 15	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Thursday	August 17	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Tuesday	August 22	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Thursday	August 24	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM
Tuesday	August 29	3 – 4:30 PM	5:30 – 7 PM



Illinois Valley Family Coalition
535 E. River Street, Cave Junction
Phone 592-6139 to reserve your space.
Sliding scale fees based on income.