

## Here, There, & Everywhere

**HONORING PRESIDENT FORD** - Oregon Gov. Kulongoski issued the following on the Dec. 26 death of President Gerald R. Ford: "Today we have lost an outstanding American citizen and president. President Ford was a man of dignity and honor. He always did in his public life what he thought was best for America, even at tremendous cost to his personal career. Gerald Ford led this nation through a difficult period and will long be remembered for his decency and strength of character."

Kulongoski also has ordered that flags at all state buildings and facilities be flown at half-staff through Thursday, Jan. 25 to remember Ford's contribution to the nation. Private citizens and businesses also are encouraged to observe the 30-day period.

**UNCLE BILLY'S HOURS** - Last week's story about Uncle Billy's Diner in Downtown CJ had incorrect hours due to a last-minute change. The revision made it to the ad on page 7, but we forgot to alter the story. So, here are the hours: Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Wednesdays through Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**LITTLE LEAGUE LIST** - Saturday, Jan. 6 and Sunday, Jan. 7 are set to take signups for Illinois Valley Little League in the meeting room at the Josephine County Bldg. in Cave Junction. Hours the two days will be 9 to 4 and 11 to 4 respectively. Those 5 to 16 years of age can sign up for baseball and softball. Plus, applications for volunteering can be picked up. For more information phone 592-5112 or 592-4389.

**IMMUNIZATION ALERT** - The "Exclusion Date" for students not up to date on their immunizations is Feb. 21 for the current school year. If a child is not up to date on his or her immunizations by Feb. 21, he or she will not be allowed to attend classes until they have received the necessary immunization(s). Medical offices or the school office can help parents locate and review those records.

**NOTEPAD - Recognition awards** for outstanding citizen and business for contributions during 2006 will be given Feb. 10 during a dinner-dance at the Junction Inn. Nomination forms are available from the chamber office in the I.V. Visitor Center ... **Real headlines:** \*Man struck by lightning faces battery charge. \*Farmer bill dies in House. \*Teacher strikes idle kids. \*Gas cloud clears out Mexican café. \*After detour to California, shuttle returns to Earth.

**LAST WORDS** - \*Love is not something you feel. Love is something you do. (David Wilkerson)  
\*The love we give away is the only love we keep. (Elbert Hubbard)

## County hiring freeze

(Continued from page 1)

greatest effects will be on the sheriff's office "but significant reductions will be made widely across county operations."

"Presently, the board cannot tell you exactly which and how many employees will be losing their jobs," the memo read.

Padgett said that the county is required to notify employees two weeks to 30 days in advance of any layoffs. According to the memo, some layoffs may be affected by the terms and conditions of collective bargaining agreements between the county and the unions

representing its employees.

The memo also leaves open the possibility that funding issues will be resolved, as any final decisions are contingent upon many factors beyond the county's control.

"Wherever possible, as funds allow, county services will be restored and employees returned to work," the memo noted. "As we move forward, please remember these comments are qualified because the future is still unfolding."

"The board is steadfast in the hope that more positive outcomes are just over the horizon."

## Library funding gap

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which won't be available next year," Vichi said.

The situation may appear dire, but Vichi said there are no immediate plans to close the facilities.

"We haven't been told we weren't going to be here, and that's always a good sign," Vichi said.

Vichi said that the library's board of directors will meet during the next few weeks to come up with recommendations for the county commissioners. The library board will work with a consultant hired by the state library system to help counties facing financial difficulties.

In the meantime, Vichi, Dwyer and the county's other library staffers will continue to serve patrons and hope for the best.

"At this point, we have

## OED: County job news for past year a 'mixed bag'

Employment numbers in Josephine County took a downturn in November, Oregon State Employment

Dept. (OED) noted late last month.

Employment trends for the past year were catego-

rized as "mixed," and unemployment in Josephine County rose slightly, from 5.5 percent in October to November's 6.1 percent rate.

The November 2005 unemployment rate was 6.3 percent, OED said.

OED figures show that during last November 33,791 persons were employed vs. 34,116 during October.

Seasonal industries including construction, natural resources and mining; and leisure and hospitality lost jobs during November. Wood products manufacturing, and food and beverage stores also reported losses.

One of the few sectors to post a gain in November was education, up 30 jobs.

During the past year, local government shed 110 jobs. However, the private-sector job-growth rate showed a 1.2-percent increase, adding 260 jobs during the year.

Gains were reported in construction, wholesale trade, health care and social assistance; and leisure and hospitality.

Despite its strong showing this year, OED was cau-

tious in its forecast for housing and construction sector employment, noting a 29-percent decrease in county residential unit building permits from October 2005 to October 2006.

"As the nation's housing market has slowed in recent months, this may have dampened the number of equity refugees migrating out of California to buy property and build new homes in Southern Oregon," OED said.

Slowing residential construction and low prices for plywood and framing lumber adversely affected the region's wood products industries.

"More pain," is what the employment department predicted, as the depths of the cyclical housing trend continue to be plumbed.

The Jackson County rate during November was 4.9 percent compared to 4.4 during October, and 5.1 percent during November 2005.

## In the Service

Joshua Coronado

U.S. Army Pvt. Joshua R. Coronado has graduated from nine weeks of basic infantry training at Fort Benning at Columbus, Ga.

He is the son of Angelo Coronado and Kim Thurman of Holland Loop in Cave Junction.

Coronado is a 2005 graduate of Illinois Valley High School.

Happy :  
New Year  
to all our customers!  
Thank you for  
18 years  
in business,  
Siskiyou  
Market

**BULLETIN: Community Media & Education is presenting an 'Education Series' titled "Peak Oil & Permculture"**

**First Program: Documentary Films - "Peak Oil: Imposed by Nature" (28 mins.) & "The End of Suburbia" (78 mins.) Tuesday, January 9, 7 p.m. at:**

**The Community Media & Education Center  
140 S. Redwood Hwy. C.J.  
592-2408 - cmec@cavenet.com  
http://cmec.n3.net**

## End draft, says Rep. DeFazio

Plans to reintroduce legislation to abolish the Selective Service System (SSS) and put it in "deep standby" status soon after the 110th Congress convenes this month were announced by U.S. Congressman Peter DeFazio (D-Ore.).

Deep standby would suspend draft registration, reduce a significant portion of SSS staff, and disband the SSS boards.

DeFazio's announcement is in the wake of recent revelations that SSS plans to conduct a "readiness exercise" by 2009. It would include tests for randomly choosing military draftees by birth date and notifying those chosen; the network of appeals boards; and dealing with conscientious objectors and those seeking deferments.

The test would amount to a "mock draft," DeFazio said. He also announced his

intention to offer an amendment during the fiscal year 2008 appropriations process to prohibit SSS from conducting this exercise.

"Our all-volunteer military is the best in the world," DeFazio said. "As the Pentagon, the president and the House of Representatives have agreed, there is no military or national security imperative to reinstate the draft. The current selective service infrastructure is obsolete and unnecessary. Taxpayers should not be forced to continue funding it."

"If our country truly faced a national emergency that threatened our way of life, I have no doubt that citizens would voluntarily mobilize to protect it. American citizens can be mobilized just as effectively and at less cost if we get rid of the existing selective service infrastructure."

## Forest Edge Farm

Make your own llama felt hat...



...at a winter hatmaking workshop. Dates now being set.

Try on all the styles & colors

at the S. Oregon Guild Gallery in the RCC Belt Building in Kerby 10 AM to 3 PM Wednesday-Saturday

Sign up at The SOG Gallery, Picket Fence Fabrics, or call 592-6078



## Country Breakfast

I.V. Senior Center

520 E. River St.

Saturday, Jan. 6

8 to 11 a.m.

- \* Biscuits & Gravy \* Pancakes
- \* Eggs \* Bacon \* Sausage
- \* Coffee, Milk, Juice

Adults - \$5  
Children 12 & under - \$2.50

