



Susanne and Steve Schiffman with 'Petey' (Photo by M. Binker/'IVN')

Veteran arborist Schiffman operates as 'tree-mendous' Surgeon General

An arborist with 25-years experience, Selma resident Steve Schiffman knows his way around trees.

As owner/operator of Surgeon General Tree Surgery & Maintenance, he prunes, limbs, fells, and removes trees -- plus, when necessary, grinds away their stumps. Occasionally, he'll rescue a cat from one.

He's got the tools and know-how to get the jobs done. And he specializes in reliability.

"It's a matter of principle," he states flatly. "It shows people that you think they're important.

"I will always communicate with my clients. I specialize in calling back," he asserts, "and I'll be there when I say I'm going to be there."

Problem trees, those

that overhang a house or create a fire hazard, are problems solved by Surgeon General Tree Surgery & Maintenance. Schiffman has the right equipment and precision felling experience to handle tricky shade trees.

"I've never lost a house," he says. Though he is licensed, bonded and insured, he's never had to file an insurance claim -- a fact he's proud of.

Surgeon General also offers quality fire prevention work. Cool, wet winter months are an especially good time to perform safety-enhancing work among trees. Schiffman hires a mulching machine and operator when creating fire-safe areas.

"We go through, limb up the trees and mulch the fire fuel. We make it look

really nice when we're done," he says.

He's flexible to the needs of the job, and he understands, having accommodated business clients in Grants Pass, that working weekends sometimes comes with the territory.

In emergency situations, Surgeon General is available 24-hours a day.

Schiffman handles most business aspects himself.

"I do it all: the sales, trimming and cleaning up," he says. "Variety keeps the job interesting, and I like it that way."

Surgeon General has been providing quality tree maintenance service to Southern Oregon clients since 1994. Phone 597-4048 to make an appointment with the surgeon.

-Michelle Binker

JOINT nabs meth, guns, in RR raid

After a lengthy investigation, detectives from the Josephine Interagency Narcotics Team (JOINT) obtained a search warrant to search the Rogue River residence of Debbie Jones and her two live-in companions, Willis and Chere Sarver.

Subsequently, Jones, 49, was charged with manufacturing, possession and delivery of a controlled substance. She was lodged in Jackson County Jail.

Charges against Willis Sarver, 42, for manufacturing, possession and delivery of a controlled substance; and being a felon in possession of a firearm, were referred to the Jackson County District Attorney's office.

Upon searching the house recently, detectives found evidence of manufacturing, sales and possession of methamphetamine. Several firearms also were discovered.

Detectives learned that the weapons belonged to the Sarvers, who had past felony convictions for methamphetamine possession, according to JOINT.

The suspects told detectives that the firearms were to protect themselves from other methamphetamine dealers and users.

In all, detectives found approximately \$600 in cash, numerous syringes, several meth smoking pipes, more than 400 meth packaging baggies, scales, and approximately 24 grams of Mexican crystal meth, JOINT said.

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Surgeon General

Tree Surgery & Maintenance

Steve Schiffman, Arborist

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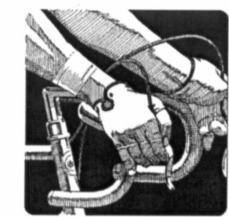
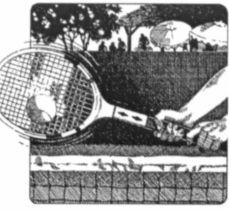
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JEFF WOOD, M.S., P.T.

State Health Care Committee passes plan to raise cigs 84-cents per pack

Revenue, if OK'd by full House, would fund health care for uninsured kids

In testimony before the Joint Health Care Committee, Gov. Kulongoski appealed to legislators to extend medical coverage to the more than 117,000 uninsured children in Oregon by enacting his Healthy Kids Plan.

It would make affordable health care within reach for every child in the state, the governor said.

"It is a tragedy to have children live without access to health care when there is little we can do about it," he said.

"But it is worse when we can do something about it and we choose not to do so," the governor last week told co-chairmen Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson and Rep. Mitch Greenlick and the rest of the committee.

"This is the moment at which we have that choice," he claimed.

For the past year the governor has traveled the

state championing the plan. It would expand affordable health insurance, dental insurance and mental health-care options for children through the Oregon Health Plan (OHP), School-Based Health Clinics, and public assistance on a sliding scale to help middle-income families buy private insurance.

It would be financed by bringing Oregon's tobacco taxes into parity with those in Washington state, helping also secure a substantial increase in federal matching funds.

The House Committee on Health Care on Friday, Jan. 26 approved raising the price of a pack of cigarettes by 84-cents. The plan must be approved by the full House.

Rep. Ron Maurer (R-Grants Pass) voted against the bill.

In his testimony, the governor emphasized that the proposal is "sensible,

responsible and practical."

According to the governor's office: "Sensible, in that it leverages federal matching dollars Oregon is currently leaving on the table and would help enroll tens of thousands children already eligible under OHP.

"Responsible in that it offers a shared responsibility model to assist working families that earn too much to qualify for the OHP, but cannot afford private insurance on their own.

"And practical in building on our existing School-Based Health Clinic system and serving as a meaningful step toward broader health-care reform."

Kulongoski thanked the legislators "for their hard work in bringing the issue to the forefront."

He stated that he is looking forward to working with them to ensure that the plan is enacted during the current legislative session.

ODOT, OSP list tips for safe winter driving

Be winter-ready by carrying chains or traction tires, an emergency kit that includes food and water, suitable winter clothing and a full tank of fuel.

If you must drive, here are some tips from Oregon State Police and ODOT:

*Slow down. Do not drive faster than conditions permit.

*Increase following distance to ensure enough reaction time and stopping

distance.

*Be ready for emergency stops by others.

*Turn off your cruise control so that you are in control of your vehicle.

*Do not change lanes or pass other vehicles, unless absolutely necessary.

*Signal early and brake gently.

*Watch for slow-moving or parked vehicles or snow plows.

For current road condi-

tions, including road cameras and weather information, visit www.TripCheck.com or phone 511. TripCheck.com also contains information on chain and traction tire requirements and other travel information.

From outside Oregon, dial (503) 588-2941.

For more tips about driving in all types of weather conditions, visit www.oregon.gov/ODOT/COMM/winter.shtml

SISKIYOU COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Outreach Programs

wish to thank the following individuals and businesses for their support this past holiday season.

ABATE of Southern Oregon for the annual motorcycle toy drive

Zarifa's
Club Northwest
Tierra Del Sol
Jan's Hallmark
Toad Stool
Medicine Flower
La Bella Faccia
Special Creations
Cash and Pawn
The Crystal Kaleidoscope
The Puppet Lounge
Yanase Jewelers
The Tea Cozy
Adorable Dog
Picket Fence Fabrics
Harris Wood Products
Aubra Johnson
Jim Frick, Century 21
Thomas Housel, DDS
SOFCU Community Credit Union
Redwood School/Mrs. Smith's Class
Siskiyou Community Health Center staff
Little Caesar's Pizza
ABATE/Josephine County Chapter
Lead Foot Band
Alice Williams
Larry & Gloria Osborn
Denise Terrill
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Dutch Bros. Coffee
Dave's Perfect Pizza
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Great Cats World Park
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Buck Canyon Gardens
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