



UNFORTUNATELY, some segments of the population feel free to dump their rubbish on public land around the Kerby Transfer Station operated by Southern Oregon Sanitation. Violators can be fined, and should be ashamed of themselves for despoiling the land. (Photos by Kim Rodriguez and 'Illinois Valley News')



B&G Club 'Reaching Out' to teen-agers

Program aims at making positive youth activities available for valley

Boys & Girls Club of Illinois Valley has launched "Reaching Out," a new outreach program to encourage teen-agers in Illinois Valley to join the organization.

The program was developed in response to the increasing number of teen-agers in Illinois Valley who lack access to positive youth programs and activities. Reaching Out is being developed by teen members of the Keystone Club.

"Reaching Out" will include teen recruitment and outreach programs to introduce teen-agers in the Illinois Valley community to join the I.V. Section of the Boys & Girls Club and encourage their long-term participation.

"We know that the after-school hours, between 3 and 8 p.m., are the most dangerous for teens," said Scott Thornhill, unit director, Boys & Girls Club of the Illinois Valley.

"Teens are more likely to commit or be victims of violent crimes during those hours – and many become involved with sex, drugs, and alcohol because they lack the positive alternatives that Boys & Girls Clubs offer," said Thornhill.

Boys and girls of Illinois Valley's Keystone program focus on helping teens develop character and leadership skills and become adults who are contributing, productive members of society. Taco Bell is the key sponsor behind the Keystone Club initiative, serving millions of youngsters nationwide.

The Reaching Out program will be developed by

Say you saw it in the 'News'

teen-age club members in collaboration with Boys & Girls Club staff. Each program will be tailored to its community, but there are three elements that will be common to all efforts:

*Direct Outreach – Meet with teens in the community, at parks and schools, to share information and encourage them to join the club.

*Referrals – Connect with individuals, agencies and organizations to establish a teen referral network. Club representatives would meet with those who have regular contact with teens, and encourage them to refer others to the club.

*Recruitment – Create "out-of-the-box" recruitment programs to increase teen membership, such as partnerships with area mer-

chants, public service announcements and recruiting parties.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Rogue Valley comprises a network of some five neighborhood-based facilities annually serving more than 3,238 young people, primarily from disadvantaged circumstances. Known as "The Positive Place for Kids," the clubs provide guidance-oriented character development program on a daily basis for children 6 to 18 years old, conducted by a full-time professional staff.

Key Boys & Girls Club programs emphasize character and leadership development. Also, education and career enhancement, health and life skills, the arts and sports, fitness and recreation.


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Republicans critical of Democrats in first 100 days of legislative activities

With Democrats in control of every legislative and executive office in Oregon for the first time in more than a decade, Tuesday, April 17 marked the 100th day of their reign.

It is a chance to take stock of what they have done with their newfound power, said Republican legislators. "Their first 100 days have been marked by missed opportunities, government growth, and higher taxes," Republicans said.

"Republicans walked up the capitol's marble steps in January offering new opportunity and hope to Oregon," said Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli (R-John Day). "This session brought the chance to capitalize on the hard work of the Chalkboard Project, to fully fund state troopers, and to quickly pass a budget that doesn't increase the burden on taxpayers."

"Unfortunately, I think the legacy of Gov. Kulongoski and Democrat leadership will be of squandered opportunity and partisan politics."

The "accomplishments" of Kulongoski and Democrat leadership through the first 100 days, as reported by the Republicans:

*The Chalkboard Pro-

ject brought to the Legislature ready-made solutions to put more money and accountability in Oregon classrooms. The Chalkboard Project conducted more than 100,000 conversations with

Kulongoski and supporters accused of making government bigger, raising taxes and neglecting the real needs of Oregonians

people across the state and earned broad support from all types of Oregonians. The project had done almost all the leg-work on education reform. Yet these proposals continue to languish in committee.

*Republicans and Democrats campaigned on the need to boost the number of Oregon State Police troopers to provide 24/7 coverage of neighborhoods and roads. A bipartisan bill to provide long-term funding of OSP is only today getting a "courtesy" hearing, and Democrats have made clear the gesture is merely symbolic.

*Democrats fast-tracked a bill creating a new bureaucracy to oversee teacher health insurance, a service already offered by local school boards. The bill moved with such speed and

little debate that its actual long-term costs are still unclear, and will likely cost local classrooms \$5 million in start-up costs this budget cycle.

*Instead of facing the need of Oregon's uninsured head-on, Kulongoski and legislative Democrats are creating another committee to "look into the problem." The new "Oregon Health Trust Board" will use taxpayer resources to expand the bureaucracy that includes 19 other health commissions, committees, task forces, and boards already established in state law.

*Despite the fact that state government has more than 20 percent more revenue, in the first 100 days Kulongoski and legislative Democrats have proposed at least 110 new tax and fee increases. These increases total billions in new taxes for Oregonians.

"Republicans in Salem made it their goal to provide Oregon families and small businesses with long-term security," said Ferrioli.

"Gov. Kulongoski and Democrat leadership," he said, "have spent more time focusing on making government bigger and increasing the burden on taxpayers than addressing the issues that truly concern our state."

Harriet 'Louisa' Hart early day valley pioneer

Among early day Illinois Valley residents in Kerby, former Josephine County seat, was "Louisa" Hart, who served as the first Worthy Matron of Western Star Chapter 64 in 1904.

Harriet Louisa Hart was born in Hartford, Conn. on Sept. 23, 1830.

Later, she moved to Michigan, where she married, and then crossed the plains in

1854 with the Hosbrook Train, arriving in Illinois Valley in 1855.

Between 1865 and 1899 she made two trips to the East, by the Isthmus of Panama by boat, and by railroad and wagon train. Her early life was devoted to her family and neighbors, helping in many cases as nurse and midwife to anyone needing help.

She was a delegate to

Western Star Grand Lodge Chapter on many occasions, apparently being a person who enjoyed travel regardless of accommodations. Many of her descendants are devoted workers in Chapter 64 and other Order of the Eastern Star circles.

She died in Kerby on March 28, 1915.

(Information provided by Harold Teague.)

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