

Here, There, & Everywhere

RELAY REPAST - Cheerleaders at Illinois Valley High School will serve a spaghetti dinner in the school cafeteria Saturday, May 26 beginning at 6 p.m. The squad members are raising funds and will participate in the 24-hour Relay for Life benefit in Grants Pass for the American Cancer Society on Saturday, June 2. Besides pasta, the menu on the 26th offers salad, garlic bread, punch and dessert. Tickets will be available at the door. There will be a 50/50 drawing, and entertainment. The IVHS competition cheer squad and varsity rally team will perform; plus Meagan Kanig will present a gymnast routine.

CARE-GIVING TOOLS - Lovejoy Hospice is sponsoring a workshop for care-givers, "Taking Care of You: Powerful Tools for Care-Giving." The six-week program will be held Wednesday beginning May 30. Preregistration is required by phoning 471-2863. Respite care is available.

SALMON CEREMONY - Along Rogue River in Gold Hill the 14th annual Sacred Salmon Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, June 2 beginning at 11 a.m. There will be camping that day and on Thursday and Friday preceding. Besides giving thanks for the salmon, the feast and ceremony are described as "a gathering of the people to welcome descendants of the Takelma, Cow Creek, Grand Ronde and Siletz confederated tribes back to their native land." For more information phone 474-0334 or 474-2690.

HORSIN' AROUND - A poker ride and scavenger hunt are scheduled Saturday, June 9 by Back Country Horsemen at Lake Selmac. The entry fee includes a poker hand, lunch and a raffle ticket. Phone 597-4383.

COOL TUNES - The annual Concerts in the Park series, sponsored by Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled to begin Thursday, June 14 in Jubilee Park. Music is provided free from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Hamburgers, hot dogs and soft drinks will be available. Eight concerts are planned. To sponsor a concert or donate to help defray expenses, phone the chamber at 592-3326.

FRIENDS ROUND-UP - First Baptist Church in Selma is sponsoring a free vacation Bible school program, "Circle of Friends Ranch." It will be held from June 18 to 22, and is for children from age 5 through sixth-grade. Preregistration is available by phoning 597-4169.

NOTEPAD - A **Booster barometer** meeting to determine interest at Illinois Valley High School is set for Wednesday, May 23 at 6 p.m. in the IVHS cafeteria ... **Some 31,749 pounds** of food, donated during the recent food drive, was collected by USPS letter carriers, said Gayle Daniel, of Josephine County Food Bank ... **"Transformation: Artists Working with Fiber"** is the title of a display at Grants Pass Museum of Art, one of only three locations nationwide selected for the Studio Art Quilt Associates exhibit that will run from Tuesday, May 29 through July 20 ... **A learning experience** for seventh-graders at Lorna Byrne Middle School is set for two days next week at the Evergreen Aviation Museum in McMinnville. They'll have their own tour, including the Spruce Goose, and they'll sleep under its wings. The students also will make rockets or gliders, use Microsoft Flight Simulator, and view an IMAX presentation ... **Actual quotes:** *I know who I am. No one else knows who I am. If I was a giraffe and somebody said I was a snake, I'd think, "No, actually I am a giraffe." (Richard Gere)

LAST WORDS - He who has injured thee was either stronger or weaker than thee. If weaker, spare him; if stronger, spare thyself. (William Shakespeare)

Letters

(Continued from page 2)

be the greater crime. For then truly we pass on to our children and the future a very broken country.

How can we ask God for a blessing while we allow such evil in our presence? Every word of love, respect, honor, truth and unity from henceforth will be tainted by the greatest lie and crime ever committed against this nation if not resolved. It will be an "in-our-face" mockery of all this country stands for.

Or should I say, used to stand for. It spits in the eye of the Church. It Jack-boot tramples, much like the Nazis, across the land, and someday, if not dealt with now, will kick in the door of your children's homes for whatever trivial reasons deemed necessary.

This is the last chance we have of taking this country back, if we ever had it to begin with. If we fail in this moment our future generations will surely pay the price. But we already know that, don't we? It is upon each individual to search the heart and act in accordance with what is felt. This will show ourselves and the world what we are really about.

Good or bad, no one gets away from this one.

'Blessing bestowed; return to sovereign responsibility'
From **Raymond Ronald Karczewski** ©
Cave Junction

A recent "Illinois Valley News" headline read, "If May 15 law levy fails -- patrol deputies go poof. Only illusory fluff is capable of going poof."

A gritty, no-nonsense, enlightened awakening has occurred amongst the Sovereign People of Josephine County. They have boycotted/boycotted/boycotted their corrupt county government. The law enforcement levy failed by a large margin.

The People have spoken. The politicians, the corrupt judges and prosecutors of Josephine County will now be listening, and rightfully so, to the voice of the Real Government, the Sovereign People.

What now awaits the people of Josephine County? An example of taking charge of our own lives, our community -- a lesson for the entire country to follow -- has been set. Now we must follow through.

Let every able-bodied family man strap on a side-arm while they conduct their daily business in Josephine County. That act alone is guaranteed to have a chilling effect upon crime and terror-

Raffenberg, legislators discuss funding issues

By **SCOTT JORGENSEN**
IVN Staff Writer

Josephine County Commission Chairman Jim Raffenburg traveled to the state capitol in Salem on Wednesday, May 16 to lobby state leaders for assistance in light of discontinued federal funding and a failed May 15 public safety levy.

Raffenburg provided details of his trip to fellow Commissioner Dave Toler during a Friday, May 18 regular business session. Commissioner Dwight Ellis was absent from the meeting.

During his trip, Raffenburg met with Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney (D-Salem), House Speaker Jeff Merkley (D-Portland) and Ray Naff, who handles inter-governmental relations for Gov. Kulongoski's office.

"Nobody at this point can say that Salem is unaware of this," Raffenburg said.

He noted that Josephine is one of six counties designated by Courtney as being in "crisis." Josephine and Curry counties are the two counties in Oregon that are the most at risk of having to shut their operations.

Merkley expressed interest in using state resources to aid Josephine and Curry counties before the 2007 legislative session adjourns in late June, Raffenburg said, while Courtney wants to wait until February.

There are actions that can occur at the state level to alleviate the fiscal pressures on struggling counties, Raffenburg said.

State general fund bolstered

House Republican Leader Wayne Scott (R-Canby) announced that his office has saved \$157,274 in taxpayer dollars, and will return that amount to the state general fund.

The House Republican Office was provided a 2005-07 interim office budget of \$627,773 to pay for supplies, staff salaries and other office-related items. Through administrative efficiencies, Scott said, the office is able to return the unused portion for higher state priorities.

"As Republicans, we are committed to saving taxpayer dollars," Scott said. "We are

happy to return more than \$157,000 to the state General Fund, where it could be used for education or public safety."

burg said. Possibilities include a one-time grant from the state's reserves; the lifting of matching mandates for some state grants; and legislation allowing county officials to raise property tax without a vote of their citizens.

Although Merkley seemed sympathetic, Raffenburg said the Speaker "didn't want to commit to anything."

During the long-term, legislators may completely reform how state and county governments are funded, and may look to implement a statewide sales tax attached to an overall reduction in property taxes. The property tax reduction would make a sales tax much more politically feasible, Raffenburg said.

"I don't think we'll see a sales tax unless something else went away," he said.

An emergency task force has been formed to examine solutions to the fiscal difficulties, and is comprised of representatives and senators from the six "crisis" counties and staffers from the legislature's revenue and budget committees, Raffenburg said.

He said he suggested to Naff that Kulongoski "reconnect with the people of Southern Oregon." Toler stated he has been trying for several weeks to persuade the governor to visit the region.

"It's going to take a little convincing, I think," Toler said.

Raffenburg said he plans to return to Salem on Wednesday, June 6 for a follow-up visit.

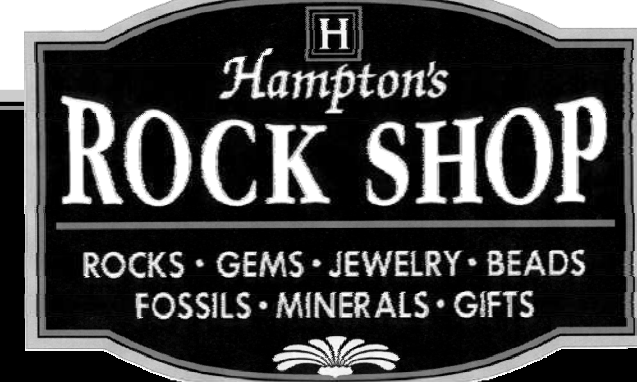
Gourmet Dinner - 6 p.m., \$8
Barn Dance - 8:30, \$10-20
Art & Services Raffle, \$1, 6/\$5

Saturday, May 26

Cakima Community Building
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541-592-393



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