

Garden tour in Takilma set Aug. 4

Takilma's organic food gardens, some of them more than 30 years old, will be visited Saturday, Aug. 4 during the first such tour on bicycles in the area.

Sarah Kuhn will lead the tour from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through the Takilma countryside. Besides visiting some of the longest-established and most-productive gardens in Takilma, participants will receive tips from long-term gardeners.

There also will be "garden treats."

"A day in this lush valley with its beautiful gardens will restore the spirit and rejuvenate the soul, as well as allowing you to visit some amazing gardens," said Kuhn, an Illinois Valley youth educator and mother.

"Where I live," she said, "we grow and preserve most of our own produce, and we strive for more meaningful connections to each other and the land."

The tour, sponsored by the Spiral Living Center, is open to the public. There is a fee, which includes lunch and a river break. Preregistration is urged.

"We are hoping that these beautiful and bountiful gardens inspire folks to grow more of their own food," said tour organizer Barry Snitkin. "After all," he added, "local food is a great protection against rising gasoline prices and contributes to the self-sufficiency of our valley."

For more information or to register 592-2693 or email spiral@frontiernet.net.



(From left) Assistant coach Kim Douglas, players Quayde Fisher, Justin Douglas, Ben Kendall, Chris Carlton, Cory Glasgow, Andrew Augustadt, Jack Anderson, Dylan Albertson, Tobin Mikels, Cody Albertson and Antonio Escalante, and coach/manager Brad Albertson. (Photo courtesy of Darlene Anderson)

I.V. Senior Little League Team claims Oregon title; now regional contender

Illinois Valley's Senior Little League team has claimed the Oregon Senior League championship, beating a Reynolds (Portland) team 9-8 in extra innings in Keizer on July 21.

The team, comprised of boys 13 to 16 years old, is the first Senior League group ever fielded from Illinois Valley.

In its first regional contest in Salem on Sunday, July 29, I.V.'s team members lost to a group from Washington state 15-5. But they're not out of the running for regional honors. Some said that a bit of "humble pie" isn't a bad deal.

Meanwhile, the players and their parents are seeking donations of any size to help

defray costs. Accommodations, meals and other travel costs are mounting as the team represents the valley.

For donation information, phone Janet Ewing, I.V. Little League president, at (541) 659-8618.

The valley team is playing regional games, all in Salem at Holland Little League Park, through Friday, Aug. 3. The schedule: Montana on Tuesday; Southern California on Thursday, Aug. 2; and Nevada on Friday, Aug. 3.

In playoff competition on Tuesday, Aug. 7, the I.V. team -- should it emerge as a top regional victor -- could advance to the national Little League championship event in Bangor, Maine.

Playoff games will pit the top Pool A and Pool B teams against each other. I.V. is in Pool A (Oregon, Washington, Southern California, Nevada and Montana). Pool B has the teams from Hawaii, Alaska, Northern California, Idaho and Arizona.

O'Brien resident Cheryl Johnson and her husband, Harry, are among valley residents, including parents, who have made the trip to Salem to cheer on the I.V. team.

Cheryl noted that Cave Junction and Illinois Valley are becoming more widely known because of the Senior team and its ambassador's role. Although, she noted, many first have to ask, "Where's Illinois Valley?"

City, county coffers gain liquor revenue

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) sent \$773,821 to Douglas, Jackson, Josephine and Lane counties and their 37 incorporated cities as part of the June statewide distilled spirits revenue distribution of \$14.45 million.

Josephine County, with a population of 81,125, received \$30,362. The city of Cave Junction got \$1,729; and Grants Pass \$33,383.

Jackson County, with a population of 198,615, received \$74,335.

Jackson's cities and their amounts: Ashland \$23,129; Butte Falls, \$480; Central Point, \$17,862; Eagle Point, \$9,001; Gold Hill, \$1,166; Jacksonville,

\$2,758; Medford, \$79,901; Phoenix, \$5,116; Rogue River, \$2,169; Shady Cove, \$2,979; Talent, \$6,924.

Douglas County, population 103,815, got \$38,854. Lane County, population 339,740, received \$127,153.

OLCC follows a per capita distribution formula based on Oregon's population of 3.69 million. The June rate was 37-cents per person for counties; \$1.08 per person for cities.

The breakdown: 36 counties, 10 percent, \$1.4 million; 241 cities, 20 percent, \$2.76 million; state general fund, 56 percent, \$7.7 million; city revenue-sharing account, 14 percent, \$1.9 million; state Addiction

& Mental Health Division, \$615,595; and Oregon Wine Board, \$18,814.

OLCC revenue is derived from the sale of distilled spirits in 241 liquor stores, taxes on malt beverages and wine, license fees, and fines for liquor law violations. Last month's revenue share was \$11.1 million.

The agency collects privilege taxes of \$2.60 for a 31-gallon barrel of malt beverage, 67-cents a gallon for taxable wine with an alcohol content of 14 percent or less and 77-cents on taxable wine with more than 14 percent. Of that, 2-cents a gallon goes to the Oregon Wine Board to fund research and promotion.

The happiest excitement in life is to be convinced that one is fighting for all one is worth on behalf of some clearly seen and deeply felt good.

- Ruth Benedict -

Josephine County job scene in mixed bag

(Continued from page 1)

By comparison, Jackson County recorded a 5.6 percent unemployment rate during June. The Oregon seasonally adjusted rate was 5.1 percent; and it was 4.5 percent on the national level.

In Josephine County during June this year, employment rose in manufacturing, health care & social assistance, and leisure & hospitality, said OED. Construction jobs rose by 20.

However, noted OED, a slowing in residential construction "is apparent in permits for residential units, which fell by 36 percent through May compared to the same time last year.

"This translated to reductions in construction jobs, down by 170 from June '06.

Manufacturing employment added 60 jobs during June, 20 of those in wood products manufacturing."

Since June '06 manufacturing lost 90 jobs countywide, 60 of those in wood products, OED stated.

The largest job gain was in leisure and hospitality, up by 110 jobs during June. Other industries posting gains were food & beverage stores (+20), health care & social assistance (+30), and other services (+30). Government jobs declined by 20, said OED, as "a loss of 60 in local government education was countered by an increase of 30 jobs in state government and 10 jobs added in federal government."

The agency added, "During the past 12 months,

government and private sector employment trends have diverged. Private sector jobs are up by 110, while government payrolls fell by 220.

"The two sectors accounting for the largest private sector gains were health care & social assistance (+200), and leisure & hospi-

tality (+190).

"Federal (-10) and state government (-20) each lost jobs during the past year. But the biggest loser was local government, down by 190 jobs. Local government education accounted for 30 of the jobs shed in local government," said OED.

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Say you saw it in the *Illinois Valley News*

Required sports physicals available starting Aug. 20

With fall sports program looming in valley public schools, student athletes are reminded that they must have a sports physical every two years and cannot attend practices without them.

Sports physicals at a reduced fee are offered by the Lorna Byrne Student Health Center through Siskiyou Community Health Center. Exams will be conducted from Monday, Aug. 20 through Sept. 1 at LBMS.

Appointments are necessary: They can be scheduled through Siskiyou Community Health Center by phoning 592-4111 until Aug. 20. After that date, phone 592-6978.

The reduced rate during the dates noted is \$15 due at the time of service. Cash or checks can be accepted by the LBMS center.

The history portion of the sports physical form must be completed prior to appointments. Students younger than 15 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian; or have written consent to undergo a physical exam.

Consent forms and other necessary paperwork are available at LBMS, Illinois Valley High School and Siskiyou Health Center. They will be available at the LBMS Health Center beginning Aug. 21.

The LBMS site also will offer sports physicals for the reduced price of \$15 at the beginning of each subsequent sports season, and at the end of the school year. At all other times, the cost for a sports physical exam at the LBMS Health Center is \$35.

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