



TOUGH TRUCKS and their drivers will go through their paces Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 1 and 2 beginning at 2 p.m. on the lot across from Jubilee Park. The Tough Truck event will be part of free activities (for spectators) as part of the Illinois Valley Lions Club Labor Day Festival at the park. (Photo by I.V. News)

Asner seen boosting Oregon filming

Ed Asner, actor and former president of the Screen Actors Guild, will join the board of the Oregon Film and Video Office, announced Gov. Kulongoski.

Asner's film career includes the roles of Lou Grant on the "Mary Tyler Moore Show," and the subsequent "Lou Grant" series about a newspaper editor.

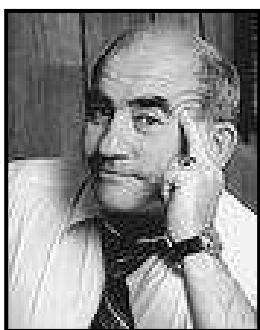
"His willingness to serve on the Oregon Film and Video Board shows that Hollywood believes Oregon is an unbeatable location to shoot major film and TV productions," said Kulongoski.

"Oregon is lucky," he said, "to have somebody as talented and well known as Ed Asner to help build our growing film industry."

He also highlighted the increase in the Oregon Production Investment Fund (OPIF) tax credit, which received bipartisan support from the 2007 Legislature. The tax credit will be increased from \$1 million to \$5 million per year, to encourage more filmmakers to

come to Oregon.

It is estimated that for every dollar invested by filmmakers, nearly \$37 is returned to the state.



Ed Asner

"Expanding the OPIF tax credit means that Oregon can continue to be a leading destination for production companies looking for great locations and outstanding crews," added the governor.

"Each new movie filmed in Oregon brings hundreds of high-wage jobs and millions in sales for Oregon businesses," he said. Asner joins board members Gus Van Sant, an Oregonian and leading Hollywood director; Cynthia Whitcomb, a top screenplay writer; and Gordon Sondland board chairman.

"The addition of Ed Asner to our board will bring even greater credibility for Oregon to the film community," said Sondland. "He's the kind of

Hollywood insider who, when he calls a studio executive, gets his calls returned."

Oregon already is benefiting from expanding OPIF. A new film, *Management*, starring Jennifer Aniston and Steve Zahn, is set to begin filming this fall. And *Feast of Love*, starring Morgan Freeman and Greg Kinnear; and *Untraceable*, starring Diane Lane, were shot in Oregon earlier this year.

Asner has won five Golden Globes and seven Emmy awards. Besides his roles as Lou Grant, he has appeared in *Mad About You*, *The Closer*, *ER* and *Studio 60 On the Sunset Strip*; as well as films including *Elf*, *JFK* and *The Bachelor*.

"Oregon is on Hollywood's radar in a big way," said Asner. "I thank the governor for appointing me to this board, and for his consistent support of the television and film industry in Oregon."

"I look forward to working with my fellow board members to bring more films -- with larger budgets -- to Oregon."

Smokejumper group awaits JoCo pact

(Continued from page 1)

Corps. There was a tent camp there in '43. The runway was paved in '51, with buildings constructed by smokejumpers in the late '40s and early '50s.

Smokejumping flights were conducted until 1981, when the U.S. Forest Service closed it. Some years later, the site was turned over to Josephine County.

Besides the historic buildings, including the parachute loft that might be the oldest such structure in the United States, the project wants to replant a Moon Tree. The original plant died more than 20 years ago.

It stemmed from a seedling carried by astronaut

Stuart Roosa, who worked at the base in 1953. He was command pilot for the Apollo 14 moon mission, and from that circumstance came the Moon Tree.

Hill expressed optimism for a cooperative working relationship with the project.

Buck said he wants to see how the county will handle the parking concern that he and others have.

"Overflow parking was taken out a while back," he said, "and two months ago the county took out 45 spaces. That leaves only 10 spots, which we don't think is enough for the museum and the I.V. Lions Club." The latter uses one of the buildings as its clubhouse.

"Three of the buildings

are on the National Register of Historic Places," said Buck. "We want to make this project happen, and hope that the county's proposal will be favorable and acceptable."

The project includes plans for a small museum in the former dispatch office, self-guided tours using way-side displays for visitors; and a small deli and gift shop in the former mess hall. Buck said that having a small selection of food and beverages available would work to attract more fly-ins by individuals and groups.

The portion of the former base that has a park-like setting would be used for gatherings including picnics and family reunions.

County health service, funds outlined

Josephine County Public Health Dept. has received an extra \$47,000 for dealing with communicable disease investigations and outbreaks through June 30, 2008 from the Oregon Dept. of Human Resources (ODHS).

The increase at the state level because of legislative action was reported Wednesday, Aug. 22 by Belle Shepherd, administrator of the county's Public Health Dept. She provided the information to the county board of commissioners during their meeting at Anne G. Basker Auditorium in Grants Pass.

ODHS is over the Public Health Division at the state level, from where the county receives its funding for public health work.

Shepherd also noted that her office is to receive an increase of \$5,700 for school-based programs in Illinois Valley. The county will split the funding with Siskiyou Community Health Center (SCHC), she said.

SCHC oversees the site at Lorna Byrne Middle School; the county public health department the one at Illinois Valley High School. The money will be used, she said, for various aspects of the immunization programs, including education.

Besides the doubling of the previous \$47,000 for communicable disease, Shepherd reported a decrease of some \$90,000 to

the county for HIV case management. However, there will be neither loss nor interruption of services to clients.

Shepherd explained that the county had referred HIV case management back to the state in the current fiscal year budget. The county had laid off a nurse doing the job due to budget cutbacks. ODHS subsequently has hired a nurse, and the county will provide the services under contract.

"So there's a smooth transition," said Shepherd.

Regarding the extra money for dealing with communicable disease situations, she said that funding for all counties was doubled, based on population.

Investigating incidents of illness related to e coli or similar ailments is not something the county charges for, said Shepherd, so the extra money "is a significant in-

crease that's nice. We could still use more." The service is mandated, she said.

"Oregon is at the bottom with four other states in terms of funding public health services per capita," said Shepherd. "I don't know where the doubling of the money puts Oregon, but it has to be an improvement."

Also during the meeting, Shepherd outlined for the board of commissioners the difference between health care and public health. The principle distinction, she noted, is that health-care services are aimed at individuals, whereas public health encompasses the population of an area.

Public health works "for the larger population," aiming "toward prevention of the illness burden" to help ensure productivity and the general wealth of an area, she told the board.

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Renewable energy unit rank swells

Good response has been received for volunteers to serve on a Renewable Energy Task Force being organized by Commissioner Dave Toler, vice chairman of the Josephine County Board of Commissioners.

Toler said that besides improving the county's energy self-sufficiency, benefits could include more jobs and cleaner energy. He said that approximately 12 persons have responded to the request for volunteer task force members.

He anticipates having a membership of 20 to 25 persons. Those with backgrounds in alternative energy sources or financing can contact Toler at dtoler@co.josephine.or.us or 474-5221.

Financing expertise is needed, he said, because the endeavor will involve the private and public sectors.



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*Varsity Football vs S. Umpqua 7 p.m.
*Boys Soccer Phoenix Jamboree TBA
*Girls Soccer Phoenix Jamboree TBA

TUESDAY SEPT. 4
*Volleyball at S. Umpqua 5:15/6:30 p.m.
*Boys Soccer at Mazama 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 5
*Volleyball at Brookings 5:30/7 p.m.

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