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## JCSO seeks volunteers for CJ sub

Free training and flexible hours are available for citizens who want to aid law enforcement in and around Cave Junction by volunteering to serve at the Josephine County Sheriff's Office Substation at CJ City Hall.

A number of people have complained about limited availability of deputies in Cave Junction and Illinois Valley, and volunteers at the substation can help. Volunteers are needed to staff the reception desk, and their work will contribute to improving law enforcement by freeing deputies so that they can spend more time patrolling instead of sitting in the office taking reports and answering the telephone.

The substation also provides a place where people can go to report incidents of theft and vandalism, and have their incidents formally documented.

Sheriff Gil Gilbertson hopes to have the substation staffed during daylight hours, but volunteers would not be required to put in a full day, every day unless they want to. Interested individuals can contact Lt. Jeff Michaels at 474-5131 for more information and application forms.

A background investigation is required of all applicants and will be completed at no charge. All training will be provided.

## Phone book opt-out DEQ suggestion

Those who don't need a new phone book can opt out by contacting the book publishers, recommends Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

DEQ estimates that during 2003 there were 6.45 million sets of white/yellow pages published and distributed in Oregon. But there were only 1.33 million households in the state. Nationally, only approximately 20 percent of phone books are recycled. The rest end up in landfills or are burned.

Contact phone book publishers to opt out or reduce your phone book order, said DEQ. For DEX/Qwest, go to dexknows.com and select "Directory Options" at the bottom. Enter your ZIP Code and click through screens until you see "Personalize Your Directory Order."

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## Search and Rescue offers civilian training academy

Josephine County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Division (SAR) will conduct its ninth "Citizens Academy"



on two consecutive weekends in January.

There is room for 40 students in the 40-hour program, which will begin on Friday, Jan. 16 and conclude on Jan. 25. It will take place at the SAR facility at 250 Tech Way in the North Valley Industrial Park in Merlin.

The academy will cover topics including map and compass use, global positioning systems, man-tracking, wilderness survival, radio communications, search techniques, cold-weather emergencies,

helicopter safety, crime scene preservation and a variety of other subjects. The curriculum will provide a thorough introduction to SAR, meeting the state's minimum training requirements. Participants must attend both weekends to obtain certification.

The academy is open to



Photos provided by SAR

all interested citizens at \$5 per student, who must be at least 16 years of age, with no maximum age. No prior experience is required. Participants are asked to dress appropriately, as some training will occur outside, regardless of weather. They also are asked to bring their own lunch, pen and paper, and compass or GPS unit if available.

Graduates who wish to be considered for active-duty SAR membership can apply at the conclusion of the course. The application process includes a back-



ground check, a moderate physical fitness test and an interview. There is a trial period for those accepted, plus additional required training

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Illinois Valley News photo

Illinois Valley Fire District firefighters contended with a large vehicle fire alarm in rural Cave Junction. Story on page 7.

## R&R's Jennifer Phillippi forest board veteran

The Oregon Board of Forestry (OBF) began 2009 with a changed lineup when it met Wednesday, Jan. 7 in Salem.

John Blackwell, former World Forestry Center (WFC) president, will fill the board's vacant chairman position, joined by new member Steven Wilson, secretary of the labor group, Woodworkers District Lodge No. 1.

Appointed by Gov. Kulongoski and confirmed earlier this month by the Oregon Senate in an action -- that also included the reappointment of Jennifer Phillippi, of Rough & Ready Lumber Co. in Cave Junction to a second term -- the two new members fill vacancies left by former board Chairman Stephen Hobbs, Corvallis, and member Barbara Craig, Portland.

Blackwell cited a record in leadership positions with WFC, Oregon Parks & Recreation Commission and

other organizations as evidence of his ability to bring disparate interests together to build upon common conservation values.

"I hope to apply my experience, accomplishments and values to sustaining Oregon's forests," he said, "while leaving a legacy to those who will rise above conflict."

Wilson, as secretary-treasurer of the Gladstone, Ore.-based branch of the International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers, has represented workers in the wood products industry for the past 23 years. A former mayor and city councilman in Reedsport, he has a strong commitment to Oregon's forest-dependent towns, said OBF.

"I believe I have a good



Jennifer Phillippi (File photo)

grasp of the interests of timber industry communities and the effects of how the forests are managed," he said, "along with a keen interest in Oregon environmental issues."

Phillippi, president of Perpetua Forests Co. of Grants Pass, and an owner of Cave Junction-based Rough

& Ready Lumber Co., is a fourth-generation Oregonian and third-generation family sawmill owner. In her first term on the board, she took an active role in developing the *Forestry Program for Oregon*, the board's strategic policy. The 2003 policy update was distinguished by the inclusion for the first time of a sustainable forest management framework.

"I have found my fellow board members to be remarkable champions of Oregon and Oregon's forests," she said. "I believe that both my personal and forest business experience offer a useful perspective to the board."

Wilson and Blackwell's terms on the board will run through Dec. 31, 2012, with Phillippi's term ending Jan. 31 that year.

More information about OBF can be found at oregon.gov/ODF/BOARD/index.shtml.

## Oregon has second-highest minimum wage in U.S.

By SCOTT JORGENSEN  
IVN Staff Writer

Oregon's lowest-paid workers got a raise on Jan. 1, as the state's minimum wage went from \$7.95 per hour to \$8.40, making it the second-highest in the nation.

The highest minimum wage is in Washington state, where the rate rose to \$8.55 per hour this year. The adjustment in Oregon's minimum wage reflects a rise in the cost of living, as defined by the Consumer Price Index, and is mandated by the 2002 passage of ballot Measure 25.

Michael Leachman, policy analyst for the Silverton-based Oregon Center for Public Policy (OCP), touted the increase in a Dec. 29 press

release.

"It's an economic stimulus for working families in

**'It's really the wrong timing.' -- JI's Edgar San Pascual**

Oregon," Leachman said. "It puts money into the hands of the people who are most likely to spend it, spend it quickly and spend it here in Oregon."

Leachman said the raise would provide an extra \$936 per year for a family with one full-time minimum wage worker.

Locally, the increase was met with much enthusiasm.

"I think it's good," said Marilyn Zieba at Coffee Heaven. "I'm all for the minimum wage going up." She

said that a higher minimum wage won't cause any of her four employees to be laid off.

Other Cave Junction businesses won't be affected by the increase. Most of the employees at Shop Smart Food Warehouse already make more than minimum wage, and the same is true at the Oregon Caves Chevron at Redwood and Caves highways.

"We've always felt it was better to pay higher than the industry standard," said owner Jeff Stiles.

But he added that wages do contribute to the overall operating expenses of any

business.

That sentiment was echoed across the street at the Junction Inn Motel and Restaurant. Manager Edgar San Pascual said that January and February are typically the worst months for restaurants and hotels.

"It's really the wrong timing," San Pascual said. "It's even hard to survive and break even during the winter time." Hours are already being cut, San Pascual said, because there is no other way to cover the lost revenue.

"You can't increase price at this moment," he said.

According to OCPP, a full-time minimum wage worker will now earn approximately \$17,472 per year.

## BLM WOPR: Can't have it your way

By SCOTT JORGENSEN  
IVN Staff Writer

Major environmental protests against the Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR), which has sparked a wide variety of reactions statewide, have been rejected by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

WOPR (pronounced "whopper") was the result of a 2003 settlement agreement prompted by a lawsuit filed by the American Forest Resource Council after passage of the 1994 Northwest Forest Management Plan.

Steve Swanson, president and chief executive of Southwestern Oregon's Swanson Group Inc. lumber company, welcomed the announcement.

"Although it falls far short of what those lands could have produced, it's a good step in the right direction," Swanson said.

The sales program included in the Preferred Management Resource Plan (PMRP) of WOPR increased by around 250 million board feet, Swanson said, "which is a significant increase of supply for the region here. It will, over time, provide stability to the local log market."

Leslie Adams, the Rogue river-keeper for the Ashland-based Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, was somewhat less enthused.

"It's disappointing that the BLM is proceeding with an extremely unpopular proposal, and we would really like BLM to focus on the common ground that exists regarding thinning and restoration on public lands," noted Adams.

Jack Swift, vice chairman and legal counsel for Grants Pass-based Southern Oregon Resource Alliance (SORA), said that BLM's decision is good for timber-dependent areas such as Josephine County.

"Our situation nationally, statewide and locally speaks to an economic crisis and historic loss of jobs," Swift said. "The benefits of the use of this minimal portion of Oregon forests would go a long way to providing new jobs, and specifically support for local government, which was the whole intent and purpose of the 1937 O&C Act."

However, BLM's decision was not well-received by Gov. Kulongoski.

"The governor was hoping this would be a plan that could continue to be worked on," said governor's aide Anna Richter-Taylor. "But ultimately," she said, "with the

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