

Here, There, & Everywhere

CASH BASKET - Illinois Valley Booster Club is conducting a fund-raiser during halftime of home basketball games in Ken Mann Memorial Gym. Three ticket-holders get a chance to make "The Money Shot" and claim cash. Money is carried over at each game until there is a winner. On Jan. 22, Chaise Robbins shot for \$75 and missed; Todd Kaberline shot for \$75 and won; Mary Escalante shot for \$5 and missed. Kaberline donated his winnings back to the club. On Jan. 23, Eric Gearhardt shot for \$82, but missed; Shawn Hardy made his \$82 shot and gave it back to the club. Trent Jensen shot for \$52, but missed. Next home games are scheduled for Friday, Jan. 30 (Cougar boys vs. Henley); Tuesday, Feb. 3 (girls vs. Hidden Valley); and Friday, Feb. 6 (girls vs. North Valley).

COLLEGE BUCKS - A FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and OSAC (Oregon Student Assistance Commission) working session will be held at the RCC Business & Entrepreneurial Center in Kerby on Saturday, Jan. 31 from 1 to 4 p.m. The FAFSA and OSAC are online applications that must be submitted to qualify students for federal and state grants and scholarships to attend college or trade schools. RCC and IVHS financial aid and scholarship counselors will be available to assist students and parents in filling out applications. Phone Jen Marsden, 592-2116, for more information.

RENNO TOURNEY - Raffle tickets to win a video arcade game donated by Munchie's of Cave Junction are available. They will be sold during the Caleb Renno Memorial Wrestling Tournament, sponsored by the I.V. Wrestling Club, on Saturday, Feb. 7 in the IVHS gym. Teams from six middle schools, including Loma Byrne, will compete. Wrestling will start at 10 a.m. Breakfast and lunch will be available.

'PENNIES FOR PEACE' - Seventh-graders at Loma Byrne Middle School have placed "Pennies for Peace" containers in businesses throughout Cave Junction to help send Afghan students to school. Funds from the containers will be sent to the Central Asia Institute, based in Bozeman, Mont., which oversees construction of educational sites in northern Afghanistan and Pakistan villages. Emphasis is placed on the education of girls with entire villages joining the effort to support and maintain the schools. For more information, or to provide ideas for community service projects, phone Bobette Heern at 592-5234.

GRAPE PRUNING - A free *Grape Pruning* class will be held Saturday, Feb. 14 by OSU Extension in Grants Pass. The class, especially for beginners and those with little or no experience, will run from 9 to 11 a.m. at 215 Ringuette St. Registration is not required, but those with questions can phone 476-6613.

NOTEPAD - Rock Band Tournament II, an Illinois Valley High School Grad Night fund-raiser, is returning to IVHS on Wednesday, Jan. 28, from 6 to 9 p.m. Sign-ups are being taken in the school office or phone Bobbie Loyd at 659-2028 ... **A 'plasma plea'** is in effect for Thursday, Jan. 29 when the American Red Cross will conduct a blood drive at Illinois Valley Senior Center. For an appointment or more info phone (800) 448-3543 ... **A Kerby resident** submitted a story to *Sports Illustrated* and left his shower when his partner advised him that *SI* was on the telephone. But it turned out to be a subscription offer ... **Project Linus** was presented a quilt-sized "Thank You" card from Lovejoy Hospice on Monday, Jan. 26. During the past few years project participants have sewn and donated hundreds of quilts for children in Lovejoy's Good Grief support group. Project Linus is comprised of hundreds of chapters and thousands of volunteers across the United States who have distributed more than two million blankets to children in need since 1995 ... **Kristy Lee Cook** can still be seen on TV. Her music video, *15 Minutes of Shame*, is currently #12 on Great American Country's Top 20 Country Countdown. Kristy Lee fans can vote at gactv.com. If the Selma Songbird stays in the Top 20 long enough, she can move up to Country Music Television ... **Cycle Oregon** enthusiasts on online discussion boards are abuzz with speculation about the route that this September's ride will take. One solid map-based guess suggests that the cyclists could come through Illinois Valley. Official route information will be released on Thursday, Feb. 5 ... **The Ammunition Accountability Act** is the topic of an anxious email making the rounds. The letter states that this legislation, requiring all ammo sold to be coded and recorded, is pending, when in fact the legislation has died in committee or been withdrawn in 18 states where it's been introduced ... **T-shirts:** *Just be glad I'm not a twin. *I'm so far over the hill I've started up the next one. *Doesn't expecting the unexpected make the unexpected the expected? **Bumper stickers:** *Look out. I drive just like you! *I respect your opinion. I just don't want to hear it. *I had a handle on life, but it broke.

LAST WORDS - We must accept finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope. (Martin Luther King Jr.)

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, Jan. 28	Sun hidden by clouds	High--54 Low--23
Thursday, Jan. 29	Sunny	High--53 Low--25
Friday, Jan. 30	Sunshine	High--55 Low--26
Saturday, Jan. 31	Clouds, some sun	High--56 Low--28
Sunday, Feb. 1	Cloudy	High--55 Low--28
Monday, Feb. 2	Clouds	High--56 Low--39
Tuesday, Feb. 3	Rainy	High--45 Low--30

Following are the high-and-low temperatures, and rainfall recorded at The End of the Road in O'Brien by Cheryl & Harry Johnson:

*Fri., Jan. 16	38	27
*Sat., Jan. 17	39	25
*Sun., Jan. 18	41	23
*Mon., Jan. 19	42	25
*Tue., Jan. 20	42	25
*Wed., Jan. 21	44	29
*Thu., Jan. 22	49	29 .02

Following are the high-and-low temperatures and rainfall recorded at Illinois River Farm in Cave Junction:

*Fri., Jan. 16	39	28
*Sat., Jan. 17	40	26 .01
*Sun., Jan. 18	49	27
*Mon., Jan. 19	33	26
*Tue., Jan. 20	55	25
*Wed., Jan. 21	44	28 .05
*Thu., Jan. 22	48	38 .02

Maurer hits health care, gas tax plan

(Continued from page 1) longoski's plan to study a vehicle mileage tax to eventually replace the gas tax.

Maurer said that the Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology to implement such a tax is expensive and that vehicle manufacturers and other state governments would have to be involved in putting the plan together.

"The governor will not and cannot do this unilaterally," Maurer said.

Maurer said that a vehicle mileage tax is unlikely to be formally presented this legislative session.

"I don't expect to see that at all this time," Maurer said. "I'm not convinced that every Democrat is on board."

There has been much talk around Salem about a possible federal stimulus package for state governments. Maurer said that such a plan would not be a cure-all for the nation's ailing economy, but that if funds are sent to Oregon, "I have to fight for Josephine County's piece of that pie."

Maurer, a member of the House Health Care Committee, also discussed House Bill 2009. He said that bill "fundamentally changes the structure of health-care delivery in the state of Oregon" and adds \$1 billion in new

taxes. "The theory is that you, as citizens, won't have to pay that," Maurer said, adding that it includes a 4 percent tax on hospitals and a 1.5 percent total premium cost to insurance companies that would be illegal to pass on to customers.

Maurer said that one section of the 256-page bill creates the Oregon Health Authority, a new state agency with the ability to restrict trade, create monopolies, acquire health-care facilities and fix prices.

"On that basis alone, I oppose this bill," Maurer said.

Maurer said that he plans to propose a series of amendments to HB 2009.

Also during the town hall meeting, Maurer said that constituents approach his office with problems, which he then tries to solve through legislation. One such instance involves the way the state licenses private investigators.

A constituent let his license lapse before renewing it, Maurer related, and had to restart the entire process due to state law requirements, even though the state already had the man's information. Maurer said that the agency no longer notifies investigators when their licenses are about to expire, adding that the current policies are costing the state money.

"Bureaucracy has created a situation that is easily remedied," he said. He added that he has a proposed bill to remedy the situation and has submitted it to the Legislative Counsel office, which drafts legislation.

However, he cautioned that during every session approximately 4,000 bills are introduced.

"A lot of good ideas don't make the cut," Maurer said. "(But) we will do what we can."

A majority of the audience members were from the Grants Pass-area Udink Family, which has drawn news media coverage after a dispute with the Oregon Driver & Motor Vehicle Services Division (DMV). For several years, family members have had custom license plates bearing their last name. But after issuing three sets of those plates, DMV notified the family explaining that they would be revoked on the grounds that they were "offensive."

DMV's reasoning is that "dink" is apparently a slur against Vietnamese people. Maurer pointed out that the same state employee who approved the first two sets of license plates denied the fourth.

In response, Maurer said

that he is proposing legislation to change the law to allow custom plates if they are the same name that appears on a customer's driver's license. Maurer added that his office has examined around 37,000 custom plates throughout the state, and that DMV appeared to have no problem with such plate inscriptions as SWEET69 and BITCHIN.

Another attempted legislative fix involves Grants Pass City Councilor Ward Warren, who owns Blue Moon Antiques, Gifts and Collectibles store in Down town Grants Pass.

Maurer explained that Warren owns an old "one-armed bandit" slot machine, and has sold several of them during the years. But Oregon State Police troopers went to Warren's store and tried to take the machine, he said. Maurer said that state law allows Warren to sell such devices, but not to have them in the store.

Warren took the machine home and has stored it there since. However, Maurer said that the incident has prompted him to propose legislation changing the existing law to permit Warren to sell the item as an antique and establish the criteria for doing so.

KUHS seeks new site owner

Jack Heald has seen a lot during his 83 years, including the transformation of his alma mater, the former Kerby Union High School (KUHS), into a mostly empty field near the RCC Business & Entrepreneurial Center in Kerby.

But Heald is now on a mission of sorts to preserve a piece of that heritage.

Heald serves as spokesman for the KUHS Alumni Association, which has been in charge of the old school site for nearly 25 years. But because of the age of the group's members, maintaining the site is becoming increasingly difficult for them.

"We're all too old and can't do anything anymore," Heald said. "We were going to give it up last October."

On Friday, Jan. 16, Heald attended a meeting of the Illinois Valley Garden Club at

the RCC site to obtain the club's assistance with the 100-by-120-foot fenced lot.

Heald told the group that the alumni association tried to turn the site over to Illinois Valley High School (IVHS) last fall.

"They didn't want it," Heald said.

As a result, Heald now wants to turn the area over to a picnic area for RCC students and others using the site. But there are obstacles involved, including lack of a water source, liability insurance and landscaping.

Heald hopes that a community organization will be able to take up the slack soon, as the alumni association plans to disband soon.

"On July 31, it's somebody else's problem," Heald said.

~Scott Jorgensen

Sustainable economy ...

(Continued from page 1)

tion team as part of the workshop," he said.

The emphasis of the workshops would be on developing local industries in areas such as forestry, biomass, mushroom growing, organic farming, medicinal plants and extractions, resorts and recreational facilities, Ambron said. Stewardship projects through BLM and U.S. Forest Service will also be considered.

"The workshops will be the tone setter for developing policies and enable exploring the different businesses that could be invested in," Ambron said.

He related that he planned to follow up on his original request before the board of commissioners and present a petition in favor of his proposal. So far, he said, 32 individuals and 20 small business owners have signed the petition.




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WHAT IS "RAINDROP TECHNIQUE"?
WHAT IS "APPLIED VITA FLEX"?
WHAT IS "YOUNG LIVING"?
WHAT IS "NINGXIA RED"?

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11 AM TO 2 PM
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2110 CAVES HWY., CJ

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WENDY MANKINS, YLID
HOSTED BY TINA HAEMMERLEIN, LMT DBMT #9280

MUSIC - FOOD - FUN

at the
Forestry Action Committee
Fund-raiser Event
Friday, January 30, 7 p.m.
Cave Junction County Building
102 S. Redwood Hwy
Admission: Suggested donation \$10 at the door

Music by the
Southern Oregon Blues Band

Making & Serving Pizza
(donations welcome)

Raffle Prizes include: 30-minute plane ride, handcrafted jewelry, It's a Burl cutting board, treats from Harry & David, Dutch Bros., and More!



For more info, donations or to volunteer:
541-592-4098



KERBY BELT LODGE #18



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\$20 per dinner
Saturday, February 7
1-3 p.m. (seating limited) or 4-6 p.m.
Tickets available at...
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24311 Redwood Hwy., Kerby