



Mike Wilbourn poses by his tent on the afternoon of Friday, June 26, when a send-off party was held for him at the Southern Oregon Guild gallery in Kerby. He left for Astoria the next day to begin a 5,000-mile hike that will take him to the American Discovery Trial, which goes across the United States. Wilbourn received all his sponsorships from area merchants, including an \$1,800 grant from the Carpenter Foundation. Donations from Guild members funded all of Wilbourn’s camping gear. He plans to film parts of his journey and edit them into a documentary upon his return to Southern Oregon, and predicts the trip will take around nine months. (Photo by Scott Jorgensen, *Illinois Valley News*)



A **tearfully joyous** reunion resulted Tuesday, June 23 after Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) personnel located a missing boy, 4, in Selma. The youth, John Donoghue Jr., apparently wandered from his family’s RV, which has New Hampshire license plates, in the 18000 block of Hwy. 199. Numerous emergency personnel were involved in the search, and the child was located on Hogue Drive some 30 minutes after his absence was noted. His father, John Donoghue, 45, was extremely pleased. (Photo by Dale & Elaine Sandberg, IVFD)

RCC employees agree to forego COLAs; take up to six unpaid furlough days

Rogue Community College faculty and classified associations have voted to forego step and cost-of-living increases and will take up to six unpaid furlough days during fiscal 2009-10. Managers also will take those furlough days and forego any salary increases. RCC Education Association (RCCEA) and Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA) members voted recently in favor of salary concessions for the next fiscal year. RCCEA represents faculty; OSEA represents classified employees including clerical and facilities staff members. Managers not represented by an association were to receive a one-time stipend in 2008-09 in lieu of a cost-of-living increase. But they agreed last month to forego the payment, and their salaries will be frozen.

The RCC 2009-10 general fund budget is \$29.6 million -- up slightly from the \$29.2 million originally approved -- and was adopted by the RCC Board of Education on June 16. The college built its budget anticipating a statewide community college support fund (CCSF) of \$440 million. RCC’s share of that funding is expected to be approximately \$6 million next year, a decrease of \$2.5 million from the current year. The six furlough days are expected to save the college as much as \$420,000. If state funding increases, however, the number of furlough days could be reduced. “Our staff and faculty are heroes,” emphasized Dr. Peter Angstadt, RCC president. “Overall, they have reduced their compensation so we could use the funding to better serve our students and avoid lay-offs.”

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

*Fri., June 19	78	57	.00
*Sat., June 20	66	51	.00
*Sun., June 21	72	48	.00
*Mon., June 22	80	46	.00
*Tue., June 23	96	48	.00
*Wed., June 24	87	51	.00
*Thu., June 25	83	50	.00

Following are the high-and-low temperatures and rainfall recorded at Oregon Builders Inc. in Cave Junction:

*Fri., June 19	83	56	.00
*Sat., June 20	68	49	.00
*Sun., June 21	73	46	.00
*Mon., June 22	78	44	.00
*Tue., June 23	91	n/a	.10
*Wed., June 24	88	n/a	.00
*Thu., June 25	83	44	.00



‘A good save’ was noted Sunday, June 28, as Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) extinguished a blaze at 8833 Deer Creek Road, reported at 1:09 p.m. Dense smoke was coming from the basement and roof of the two-story log home when units arrived. It appeared that the fire, of unknown cause, began in the basement, said Maintenance Battalion Chief Kris Sherman. Information on the residents was unavailable. (Photo by Dale & Elaine Sandberg, IVFD)

Federal bucks aim at Oregon energy

Some \$16.8 million in Recovery Act funding to support energy-efficiency and renewable-energy projects in Oregon were announced Friday, June 26 by U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE) Secretary Steven Chu. Under DOE’s State Energy Program, Oregon proposed a statewide plan that prioritizes energy savings, creates or retains jobs, increases the use of renewable energy, and reduces so-called greenhouse gas emissions. According to Chu, this initiative is part of the Obama administration’s national strategy to support job growth, while making a historic down payment on clean energy and conservation.

“Oregon has been a national leader in energy-efficiency and renewable-energy development,” said Gov. Kulongoski. “These Recovery Act funds help us to continue making these important investments; have the potential to have a profound effect on communities across our state; and allow Oregon to further develop a clean energy economy.” With the announcement, Oregon now will have received 50 percent of its total Recovery Act State Energy Project funding. The initial 10 percent of total funding was previously available to support planning activities; the remaining 50 percent will be released once it meets reporting, oversight, and accountability milestones required by the Recovery Act. After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the state will receive more than \$21 million in additional funding, for a total of more than \$42 million. Oregon will use funding from the Recovery Act to fund energy-efficiency improvements, develop renewable-energy resources, and ensure environmental protection through the established State Energy Program. The state will focus on public buildings to most effectively use its existing expertise and programs, while providing an opportunity for government to take a leadership role in demonstrating innovations. Under the Recovery Act, DOE expanded the activities eligible for State Energy Program funding. They include energy audits, building retrofits, and education and training. Also, transportation programs to increase the use of alternative fuels and hybrid vehicles, and new financing mechanisms to promote energy-efficiency and renewable-energy investments.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act appropriated \$3.1 billion to the State Energy Program to help achieve national energy independence goals and promote local economic recovery. According to Chu, transparency and accountability are important priorities for SEP and all Recovery Act projects.

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Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, July 1
Sunny & warm
High--93 Low--56

Thursday, July 2
Hot, hot, hot
High--98 Low--56

Friday, July 3
Sunshine
High--94 Low--54

Saturday, July 4
Sun & clouds
High--89 Low--51

Sunday, July 5
Sunny & warm
High--89 Low--51

Monday, July 6
Sun & clouds
High--85 Low--51

Tuesday, July 7
Sunny
High--80 Low--43

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