

Arts & Entertainment

‘Lessons from Appalachia’ trail guide to regional prosperity?

An ambitious and far-reaching regional plan that could result in Southwestern Oregon arts-and-crafts endeavors pulling off an “economic miracle” is being percolated.

And helping to handle the brewing process to boost economic development is Jerry Work, who operates The Dovetail Joint with his wife, Sharon, in Kerby.

In April the couple traveled to the Appalachian region “to learn how its population so successfully leveraged its regionally produced art-and-craft items into a major new industry there.” The couple addressed a workshop of Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce directors Tuesday night, Aug. 11, at the Bridgeview Vineyards Winery upstairs meeting room.

Cave Junction Mayor Don Moore also attended, as well as Dulcie Moore (no relation), chamber secretary.

Among observations by Jerry & Sharon: “During 2008 in just Western North Carolina (an area not that much larger than S.W. Oregon) regionally produced arts and crafts have become a \$206 million-per-year industry.

“When surveyed by DEES Business Research in 2008, the 2,200 full- and part-time craft artists who now call that region home responded that 56 percent operate a full-time business; 33 percent have full- or part-time employees; and \$48,000 is the median household income for artists there.

“The region now features 130 craft retail galleries with average gross sales exceeding \$500,000 — two-thirds of which are new within the past 10 years. Craft schools, suppliers and publishers alone now comprise \$30 million of the \$206 million industry, and a large number of the graduates from these schools elect to remain as permanent residents, creating even more family wage new jobs there.

“Much of what that region has been able to do was accomplished just during the past decade. By learning from their very successful experience we in S.W. Oregon have an opportunity to make a fundamental and most profound change for the better in the economic health and vitality of this region.”

The couple especially stress that, “None of this will or can happen if our regional economic development efforts remain rooted in the same old thinking that has seen our economic base stag-

nate during recent times.”

On his Website, Work has posted “Lessons from Appalachia,” which presents what was achieved in Western North Carolina.

“We in S.W. Oregon might well be able to pull off this same kind of new economic miracle,” said Work, “using that direction.”

During his presentation, he also touched on the idea of making locations such as Illinois Valley a destination choice. He noted that currently, many who come to the valley stop only “to eat, get gasoline and use a bathroom.”

Work listed numerous facets of realizing an economic miracle, including tremendous cooperation among entities including clubs, civic organizations and art groups in locales including Illinois Valley, Grants Pass, Medford, Jacksonville and Ashland. Special brochures and guides also would be needed, he said, as well as a master calendar.

Additionally, “We need special events to draw visitors to regional events; perhaps 40 or more events annually, each bringing 50 to 300 people.”

Work outlined the need to attract people with items in which they are particularly

interested. These could include antique cars, music concerts, homemade aircraft and many others. And once someone has come for a special event, and discovered the beauty of areas such as Illinois Valley, they likely will return for its other attractions, he feels.

A large organizing effort is needed, said Work and his wife, for aspects including funding, administration and overall supervision. A full-time paid professional would be required, they said.

“Achieving such success here could be difficult,” said Work, “but we have the Appalachian plan, plus a strong segment of experts from there and elsewhere, who would help us realize such a goal.”

Sharon Work said that large grants could be sought from foundations “outside the usual suspects.”

Chamber directors plan to discuss the plan further with an eye as to how it could be implemented. Among their considerations will be community goals, and valley accommodations and other visitor amenities.

Developer Osborn Addresses Directors
Larry Osborn, a developer of residential and com-

mercial property, also spoke during the workshop. His comments included:

“I came here approximately six years ago by accident, and have developed real estate on a fairly large scale. I’ve been a land planner; using it to its highest and best use.

“I saw an opportunity to make a well-rounded community with proper retail (businesses), which is lacking.”

Historic Crescent City to Kerby stage-road tour set Aug. 22

To mark 150 years of Oregon statehood, three weekends of low cost family fun are planned in Illinois Valley.

The initial leg of the free sesquicentennial celebrations is on Saturday, Aug. 22 with a car tour showcasing Oregon’s past. The tour will wind along Old Redwood Stage Road from Crescent City, Calif. to Illinois Valley’s Kerby, with interpretive stops and safety checkpoints.

The route, beginning at Elk Valley Casino parking lot, is 60 miles long — approximately half on main-

Using data from Options, an organization that aids people in poverty, Osborn referred to “slum lords” who charge “high rents” for housing that’s not first rate.

“Me, I’m a nuts-and-bolts guy,” he said, “seeing a need for some affordable housing. (But) I’m public enemy #1 for wanting to update and change city of Cave Junction zoning so it could grow.

“Not everybody wants

that,” Osborn stated, “and you all need to think about that.

“I have done well,” he continued, “invested a lot of money, but stopped because of the economy. But I’m not leaving — I see excellent opportunities here.”

The developer also noted that for development to progress, infrastructure development is needed for the city and the land in its Urban Growth Boundary.

ing, spinning, sewing, canning and cheese-making. And there will be presentations by the Josephine County Historical Society Living History Players. Also, said Brandt, “cavemen” have been invited.

Also, works by area artists will be displayed at the Southern Oregon Guild Gallery, and there will be bingo games. Lunch will be available from Western Star Order of the Eastern Star from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The menu: fried chicken, salad, watermelon, and lemonade.

Backyard bird watching with Harry



BIRD WATCHING Qs & As

Q: Many birds will take a seed from a feeder and drop it in water for a few seconds, then eat it. What is the explanation?

A: Birds are well endowed with salivary glands, but like people some of them have dry mouth now and then. Because of this, some robins, jays and chickadees wet their food. It’s very likely an individual learned the behavior. This is another example for the need for a bird bath in your yard.

Q: Why do birds sit an equal distance apart on a wire?

A: Spacing is an issue in communal roosting. Birds may occasionally sit equal distances apart just by happenstance, but such behavior is not ecologically driven. Most birds use random sitting patterns but some species seek security in body contact.

Q: When is the best time of the year to put out a feeder?

A: The best time is any time. In the spring it would be smart to put out your hummingbird feeders. Fall and winter are the best times for seed feeders. During spring and summer the birds can find a bug here or a seed there. During winter and fall their natural food supply runs low. That’s the best time to put out your feeder. My feeders are out year round, but during spring

and summer I don’t refill them as often.

Q: How do I identify an unusual bird?

A: The color is what most books sort the birds by. You may see a lot of orange/black birds, but it might be a white mark and the location of that mark that will help ID a bird. Usually, the second character is size. Listen to the bird songs. Once you can identify a bird’s song recognizing that bird will be easier. The shape and length of a bird’s bill or beak is one of the very best clues. Experienced birders often can ID species as they fly away because of flight styles. Take stock of the trees, shrubs and other plants in the area for help in identifying your bird. You may want to buy a *Western Bird Field Guide* for hints and information on identify the birds.

Q: When birds sleep on a wire, why don’t they tip over?

A: Bird’s feet have tendons that hold them closed, locked in a clinging or gripping position, when the leg is flexed, as it is when a bird crouches. This allows birds to perch and rest without falling or losing their grip.

If you want to meet me and other bird lovers come to Michelle’s Restaurant around 8:30 every Saturday morning. We would love to meet you and discuss your bird experiences.

Qs & As are from *Bird Watchers Digest* and Harry Johnson.



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Family Restaurant & Lounge

333 Redwood Hwy. 592-6434

Crossword Puzzle courtesy of

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Across
1. Abrasive
6. Also
9. Make an effort
12. Visibly astonished
13. Hole maker
14. Chromaticity
15. Sub detector
16. Sleeping place
17. G8 member
18. Genuine
20. Scrooge
21. More or ____
24. Kind of blocker
25. ____ vera
26. Lay to rest
30. Express in words
31. Sedate
33. Bar order
34. Complete confusion
35. Abbey area
36. Italian greeting
38. Requirement
39. Former French currency
42. Close-fitting
44. Captain’s journal
45. Large northern deer
47. Hand protector
51. Lyric poem
52. Cataract site
53. Handle
54. Get hitched

55. Morning moisture
56. Angered
Down
1. Possesses
2. In the past
3. Flee
4. Scant
5. In this place
6. Type of furniture
7. Be in debt
8. Spinster (2 words)
9. Therefore
10. Ploy
11. Calendar span
19. Adjoin
21. Glasgow gal
22. Flair
23. ____ bean
27. Scotch ____
28. Other
29. Cattail, e.g.
31. Deliver the goods
32. Wrinkle remover
35. Fisherman
37. Cockeyed
39. “Go with the ____!”
40. Razzed
41. Matured
43. Tangelo
46. Caustic chemical
48. Egg cell
49. Pet doctor
50. Before

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Events Calendar

Friday, Aug. 21
- Buck Harms Band, country music, 5:30 p.m., Taylor’s Country Store
- Original music by Two Foot Daddy, 7-10 p.m. at McGrew’s Restaurant & Lounge in O’Brien

Saturday, Aug. 22
- PAST celebration of Oregon’s 150 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Kerby

Sunday, Aug. 23
- PAST celebration of Oregon’s 150 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Kerby

Save the Date:
Saturday, August 29, 6 p.m.
Hope Mountain Radio Benefit
Taklima Community Building

PHONE 541.592.2341 TO ADD AN EVENT TO THIS CALENDAR. ONLY \$5 PER ITEM.

Sudoku Puzzle courtesy of



Tina Haemmerlein

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massagetherapy@cavenet.com

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592-3562

Meals are served in the
CJ County Bldg.

592-2126, 955-8839

FRIDAY, AUG. 21

WHITE CHICKEN LASAGNA

Italian blend vegetables, green peas, French bread, chocolate chip bar

MONDAY, AUG. 24

BBQ CHICKEN SANDWICH

ON A BUN

Colcannon potatoes, Scandinavian blend vegetables, bread pudding

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 26

BAKED HAM

WITH PINEAPPLE SAUCE

Scalloped potatoes, seasoned carrots, herb bread, apple crisp

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Find puzzle solutions on page 10