



Cedar Knoll (left) and Jon Kale repaired bicycles. (Photo by Zina Booth, I/VN)

## Selma Skillshare a huge success

By ZINA BOOTH  
I/VN Staff Writer

Alternatives from alpacas to Z-Packs provided entertainment for everyone at the third annual Selma Skillshare on Saturday, April 17 at Selma Community Center.

This free, community-building event showcased some of the sustainability projects of Spiral Living Center in Takilma.

Teachers from throughout Illinois Valley taught workshops ranging from massage techniques to making sourdough bread and fermented foods.

Children were happily hammering, making wooden planter boxes and planting strawberries under the watchful eyes of Jennie and John Reed.

Kelpie Wilson was producing Bio-Char, building soil with stoves made from tin cans, a recent project of Dome School students.

Cedar Knoll and Jon Kale restored a cobweb-covered bicycle that had been in a shed for 10 years, using a "fourth-hand" tool to replace rusted brake and gear cables. I.V. Bikespace at Spiral Living Center helps cyclists with their needs without leaving Illinois Valley.

Steve Orr and Eric Hanson sharpened axes and repaired tools brought by workshop attendees. Donations are appreciated for the Takilma Tool and Sustainable Book Library, which has 1,400 volumes.

Carol Ronan brought a mild-mannered goat and its Great Pyrenees guard dog for a class on raising goats for fiber and meat. Quality Angora fiber can sell for up to \$26 per pound.

Christine Perala-Gardiner discussed "Alpaca Husbandry", and extolled the virtues of "Paca-poo: the Champagne of Compost." She brought three alpacas from Suri Futures in Cave Junction, a brown huacaya with thick brown fleece-like merino wool, and two white suris with fleece-like silk.

Inside Selma Community Center, edible and medicinal plants were displayed in the

hallway. Orville Camp explained "Ecostry: Seeing through Nature's Eyes."

Students sipped Deb's decongesting allergy-relief tea, made from ingredients such as bayberry root bark, licorice and elderberry. They sipped as they learned about natural healing for seasonal allergies with Dr. Margaret Philhower, who has a doctorate in naturopathy; and Debbie Lukas, herbalist from Siskiyou Mountain Herbs.

Lukas suggests soothing eye compresses made from black tea bags or cucumber slices, and inhaling eucalyptus essential oil to open the respiratory passages and prevent



infection. "Dr. Margaret" recommends Bromelain enzymes, vitamin C and probiotics, as well as seven homeopathic remedies such as Sabadilla or Natrum muriaticum, from sea salt.

Spiral Living Center has been promoting sustainability and self-sufficiency in Illinois Valley since 2006. The I.V. Food Coalition helps Illinois Valley have food security, and will sponsor a Farm Festival on Sept. 11 at Jubilee Park in Cave Junction.

I.V. Gleaners distribute excess crops between landowners, the Food Bank, those who pick the food, and one-quarter for wildlife and seed.

The Spiral Living Center office now is open Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; phone 541-592-3642.



A new welcome sign at the south end of Illinois Valley on Hwy. 199 was installed Thursday, April 15 by a donated crew and equipment from Bridgeview Vineyards Winery. The installers were Ron Hicks on ladder and Jason Day at bottom of ladder. The \$3,000 painting was by J. Maust of Grants Pass. Lelo Kerivan of Bridgeview served as chairman and chief fund-raiser for I.V. Chamber of Commerce. The funding was assisted by a \$1,500 grant facilitated by county Commissioner Dave Toler. (Photo by Zina Booth, Illinois Valley News)

## LBMS gains honor unit members

The Lorna Byrne Middle School Junior Honor Society Chapter gained 29 new members during an induction ceremony Friday, April 16.

To be eligible for membership, students must maintain a 3.5 grade-point average for any two semesters, and must maintain a 3.0 gpa to remain as a member.

Inducted were:  
Eighth-grade -- Brittney Brown, Erric Fisher, Edilet Rodriguez, Kim Rodriguez, and Jay Tetone.

Seventh-grade -- Taylor Byrne, Trina Castle, Elijah Chavez, Patricia Gleason, Sierra Hanni, Samantha Harris, Savannah Hoyle, Alexis Johnson, Chloe Martin-Ptacek, Melissa Myers, and Christina Sanders.

Sixth-Grade -- Patrick Anderson, Alexis Conde, Kiona Craft, Oberon Fayland, Jasmine He, Kurt Hertler, James Kymala, Aubrey Nolan, Kynam Nordan, Alia Parker, Alex Ralston, Kiana Stiles, and Torun Zook.

Besides gpa records, student members are selected by the faculty because of demonstrated potential in scholarship, service, leadership, character and citizenship.

The guest speaker on Friday was Briena Andrews-Baxman, president of the National Honor Society Chapter at Illinois Valley High School.

## RCC limiting tobacco use

A new policy restricting tobacco use on the Rogue Community College Grants Pass campus will go into effect July 1 with smoking permitted only in designated smoking areas.

"The board is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for its employees, students and visitors," said RCC President Peter Angstadt. The board had considered two other versions of a tobacco policy: a ban on all tobacco use, including smokeless products, and a ban on smoking.

But after months of surveying students and staff, the board opted in March to designate certain sites for smoking. A task force is working to identify several locations on each campus where smoking will be permitted.

The policy might not apply to specific activities in connection "with the practice of cultural activities." However, the president of RCC or a designee must approve any exceptions in advance.

## Mandatory hunter orange under FW consideration

Oregon's Fish & Wildlife Commission is considering making it mandatory that hunters wear "hunter orange" while hunting "due to concerns about vision-related hunting fatalities."

The commission has asked Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife staff to review data and gather information related to wearing hunter orange to help it make its decision. Specifically, the commission wants to know if wearing hunter orange reduces hunting accidents or affects the success of hunters.

Staff will present its findings to the commission during its June 4 meeting in Salem. If there is a decision on the matter, it would occur during an Oct. 1 meeting.

Public comments are welcome and can be sent to ODFW.Comments@state.or.us or via the postal service to ODFW Information & Education, 3406 Cherry Ave. NW, Salem OR 97303; or faxed to 503-947-6009.

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300 Pacific Ave.



Jim Lewin from SOOF (Southern Oregon Outreach Foundation) in Cave Junction donated nearly 6,000 half-gallons of ice cream on Tuesday, April 13 after his refrigerator freezer truck experienced a malfunction. Lewin phoned churches, restaurants and schools -- and people arrived by the carload for some delectable (and free) ice cream. Lewin hopes to eventually raise enough money for freezers for frozen food storage to expand his capacity to serve Illinois Valley. (Photo by Zina Booth, Illinois Valley News)

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