

Here, There, & Everywhere

CAVES CALENDAR - Because of visitations down a bit this time of year, Oregon Caves National Monument will be closed Tuesdays through Thursdays during the last two weeks of this month (April 20 through 22, and 27 through 29). Tours will be available Fridays through Mondays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Chateau, with lodging and dining, will open May 6, and the annual Community Day with free tours is set for May 8. For up-to-date details visit www.nps.gov/orca or phone 541-592-2100.

LBMS BOOKIN' - Lorna Byrne Middle School will host the Spring Scholastic Book Fair Thursday, April 29, through Tuesday, May 11. A percentage of the proceeds benefit the LBMS Library, as books and resource materials are purchased. The library is open for purchases before school, during lunch time, and after school. Phone the office for specific times. The Book Fair will be open during Parent/Teacher Conferences on Monday, April 26, as well as during the annual Cinco De Mayo Family Activities Night on Wednesday, May 5.

ELEMENTARY ROUND-UP - Youngsters who will attend kindergarten or first grade for the first time at Evergreen Elementary School during the next school year can attend an informational round-up and tour on Thursday, May 13, from 2 to 2:50 p.m. Students must be 5 years old on or before the first day of September. Besides children, parents and guardians must bring proof of immunizations, and birth certificate copies. For more information phone 541-592-3136.

'SOLV-IN' SOLUTION - Some 6,000 volunteers at 200 project sites participated in the first statewide "SOLV IT Earth Day" event Saturday, April 17. With SOLV support, volunteers: Removed 154,101 pounds of mixed waste from neighborhoods and natural areas; recycled 17,310 pounds of plastic, glass, paper and metal material; removed 262,827 pounds of invasive, non-native vegetation; and collected and recycled 467 tires. Additionally, volunteers planted 3,965 native trees and shrubs in parks, on school grounds and in natural areas. SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter & Vandalism) is taking public suggestions through May 20 about new words for its acronym. Visit www.solv.org to submit ideas.

VOLUME BUSINESS - The 2,200 members of Josephine Community Libraries Inc. (JCLI) soon will see a familiar sight: yellow envelopes in their mailboxes inviting them to "join or renew" their memberships in the nonprofit, nongovernmental organization. Through May 14, JCLI is holding its spring membership drive, reminding the community that "libraries are priceless...but they aren't free." To get involved with the library effort, send an e-mail to info@josephinelibrary.org. To become a member, send check or money order payable to "Josephine Community Libraries" to P.O. Box 1684, Grants Pass OR 97528 or make a secure donation on the Web site, www.josephinelibrary.org.

NO SKIPPING! - Illinois Valley High School has announced that the traditional Senior Skip Day no longer is endorsed. A newsletter states that this is so because of previous incidents involving "alcohol, drugs and serious vandalism."

NOTEPAD - A Walk for Life will be held Saturday, April 24 by Illinois Valley Pregnancy Center. The fund-raiser at Jubilee Park in Cave Junction will begin at 11 a.m. with registrations beginning at 10:30 ... **Rogue Gem & Geology Club Inc.** will present its annual Gem & Mineral Show at Josephine County Fairgrounds in Grants Pass Friday through Saturday, April 23 and 24 from 9 to 5, and Sunday 9 to 4 ... **To benefit the SMART** (Smart Making A Reader Today) program at Evergreen Elementary School, Wild River Brewing & Pizza Co. in Cave Junction on Wednesday, April 21, will donate a portion of its proceeds to SMART. The Evergreen program sends home more than 1,000 books a year for I.V. kids. Some 50 active SMART volunteers read with pupils at Evergreen twice a week ... **LBMS Open Arena** conferencing will be held Monday, April 26 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and 4-7 p.m. Progress reports will be available ... **Kauffman Wood Products** is in the process of relocating from Kerby to Takilma ... **The Oregon Army National Guard** held its first demobilization ceremony on Sunday, April 18, in Bend for soldiers with the 1st Battalion, 82nd Cavalry Regiment, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team. The nearly 400 soldiers represent the 1-82 Cav. units based at armories in Bend, Lebanon, Woodburn, Burns and Klamath Falls ... **Private forestland protection** is the goal of a USDA grant of \$2.5 million for Skyline Forest, a 33,000-acre former tree ranch in the Bend/Sisters region ... **Bring A Parent to School Day** at Illinois Valley High School is set for Friday, April 30, from 10:40 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. ... **Student musicians** will perform during the first Three Rivers School District and Choir Festival on May 12 at the Performing Arts Center at Grants Pass High School.

LAST WORDS - "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." (Proverbs 14:34)

Hopeful Dudley pledges reform in taxes

(Continued from page 1)

frustration and concern about the direction the state is heading. He cited Oregon's high rates of unemployment, underemployment, homelessness and hunger, along with its rank as 47th in the nation in job creation.

If elected, Dudley said that one of his top priorities would be to improve the state's tax structure to make it more attractive to existing and new businesses. That reform would include reducing the capital gains tax.

During the campaign, Dudley said that he has spoken throughout Oregon with business owners considering moves to other states.

"Part of this is, they're not feeling appreciated in the tax structure," he said.

The candidate added that the state is "literally, to some degree, under attack right now," as Chicago Mayor Tom Daley, Idaho Gov.

Butch Otter and other politicians are actively courting Oregon businesses after passage of two tax increases earlier this year.

Renewable energy also is a priority, Dudley said, noting his support of hydroelectric power.

"I still have yet to hear why hydro is not considered a renewable resource. I believe that it is," Dudley said. "I think it's something that we should embrace. I think it's an advantage that we have in the Northwest that we need to utilize. I think it's a great, clean source of energy."

Also pledged by Dudley was institution of temporary, targeted, performance-based tax breaks. He addressed the state's Business Energy Tax Credit program, which was presented to legislators in 2007 as costing \$10 million. But that program is now projected to cost the state \$900 million in tax revenue, which Dudley characterized as

"outrageous" and a "travesty."

Dudley said that the overruns are the result of a "lack of leadership" and a "lack of proper management."

"It was giving away millions of dollars when we're saying our state is broke," Dudley said.

The state's comprehensive land-use laws were addressed by Dudley. He said that "restoring some balance" is one of his goals, and promised greater flexibility for rural areas to grow.

"Different areas should be able to make different decisions," he said.

Zero-based budgeting would be implemented at all state agencies under a Dudley administration, he said. Those

two-year budgets would be based on forecast revenues, as opposed to the "current service levels" method now used to develop those figures.

"We have to keep spending at a realistic level that is sustainable for our state," Dudley said.

Other planks of his platform include having state government employees contribute a portion of their health-insurance costs, and establishment of an independent commissioner to reduce growing pension liability costs.

"If you're going to be realistic here, you have to address those issues," he said.

The primary election is scheduled for May 18.

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Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

Obama says that we need \$8 billion and that it is cost efficient. Not! It will cost closer to a trillion dollars when operational, maintenance, and subsidy costs are factored in. There is only one high-speed train in the world that might be slightly profitable.

Auto and bus travel are much cheaper and convenient; air travel is faster.

Example 3. Obama says that he never wants "too big to fail" to happen again. At the same time he is OK growing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, even though these behemoths played a key part in the collapse of the real estate market. (Sen. Chris Dodd and former Sen. Barack Obama, recipients of huge campaign contributions from these giants, stopped the investigation suggested by Bush. Remember that liar?)

Instead of letting other financial companies like AIG, or manufacturers like GM and Chrysler go through orderly bankruptcies, as King he changed the rules to suit himself. (Is that the change we were looking for?) He ended up seizing the companies and screwing investors while handing ownership to his union masters.

Thereby he prevented the "creative destruction" that has brought such exceptionalism for America's capitalistic system. His method is called "crony capitalism" where big business and a corrupt leader of a country join together to hoodwink the people.

Tricky Dicky couldn't hold a candle to this Grand Illusionist.

Maybe this is what we get from a guy with less business experience than a kid with a lemonade stand, and less management experience than a Girl Scout leader.

Simon Hare solution
From Ernie Brodie
Cave Junction

I am so tired of the infighting among our county commissioners. We need

mature, intelligent, and respectful commissioners who will honestly look for solutions to our county's financial problems.

We need to fight for our O&C money. We need to make our county more business friendly, and we need to quit holding our citizenry hostage to passing levies.

Simon Hare knows what this county needs, and I know that we need Simon.

All about Dave
From Cilicia Philemon
Cave Junction

The job of our county commissioners is not a political position. It does not matter if the commissioner is a Republican or a Democrat; a liberal or a conservative.

The county commissioners job is to manage the county and its budget of more than one million.

When deciding who to vote for, we need to look at their experience and expertise for this very important job. It is vital that this position is filled by a capable person.

Dave was elected to the Three Rivers School District Board in 1997. He served three terms and has served the district for 10 years. He has also served on several other boards, including Women's Crisis Support Team and Illinois Valley Community Response Team. Dave has the experience needed.

Among Dave's many accomplishments since being elected include job creation, among which are the Call

Center and a helicopter fire suppression manufacturer. He also was instrumental in getting our libraries open again by obtaining a grant for \$300,000.

Dave has increased law enforcement, bringing it back up to where it was nearly 10 years again.

Dave is working for parks improvement. He is turning around the declining state of repair they were all in, and is working to make them something to be proud of again.

Dave has consistently displayed sound financial knowledge and judgment. We are all benefiting from having a stable county government again. All these are vital for a viable and stable community. We have much to thank Dave for.

I voted for Dave in the first election. Dave has more than fulfilled my expectations of him. Dave has worked hard and done an outstanding job. He has brought some much needed stability back to Josephine County.

I have full confidence in Dave Toler. I'm voting for

him again, and I urge everyone to do the same.

Male crosswalk safer
From Lloyd Franklin
Cave Junction

I have written two or three times before, but I just want to keep on emphasizing about the crosswalk (in front of Taylor's Country Store), as we all need it.

We can see a good result beginning. Cars are stopping 5- to 10-feet away from the crosswalk. Goodie. But that is just the beginning.

In front of Taylor's there is a yellow line, but people park on it, making it difficult to see the traffic when crossing. I think we need a sign there reading, "No Parking." I think we need a light and a drainage system in front of the I.V. Senior Center Thrift Shop, as we know the crosswalk is a busy place now. Do we want to see someone fatally injured, banged up or paralyzed and bedridden?

I don't want to be the only one emphasizing this. We need to tell one another about it to do something and not just sit and talk about it.

Club & Organization News

Laureate Beta Beta

New chapter officers for the 2010-2011 sorority year were elected in March.

Incoming officers: President Kathy Simmons, Vice President Virginia Gilliam, Secretary Kathy McLennan, Treasurer Kathy Young, and Extension Officer Jean McHie.

The service project this year has been a fund-raiser for educational scholarships for Illinois Valley High School students. The chapter again will award two scholarships during the annual IVHS awards ceremony in May.

Chapter meetings are held on first and third Mondays from September through May. To learn more about Beta Sigma Phi, contact Virginia Gilliam at 541-592-2293.

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2010 RECYCLE ROUNDUP

Saturday, April 24, 9 a.m. to Noon
 I.V. Visitors Center, 201 Caves Hwy., Cave Junction

You May Recycle NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, & CATALOGUES

♻️ CARDBOARD & PAPER BAGS

Egg cartons, cardboard tubes, shoe boxes, 6 or 12 pack beverage cartons, cereal boxes (remove liners and flatten boxes). No waxed cartons.

♻️ MIXED PAPER

Note paper, junk mail, phone books, scrap paper, paperback books.

♻️ TIN CANS & ALUMINUM FOIL

♻️ PLASTIC BOTTLES numbered 1 through 7

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