



Austin Sitton and Austin Parker of Ms. Ryan's first grade class show off their creative costumes during the Evergreen Elementary awards assembly for good behavior. Each month, the school recognizes students making good behavioral decisions in monthly Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) assemblies. These two were just some of many students recognized Friday, April 22.

Commissioners Corner



2011 - 2016 Josephine County Economic Development Strategic Plan

by Sandi Cassanelli

At the last A.O.C. annual conference, an economic development workshop was available for sitting commissioners. The presenters diligently went through a list of items they said would be needed for a county to prosper. Some of the requirements were an interstate running through the county, adequate affordable housing, enterprise zones, ecommerce overlays, etc.

At the end of the session, I commented that Josephine County had all those parameters discussed that day, but the great, big sucking sound in our county was small businesses leaving the area. I said those requirements might work for larger, urban counties who wooed big business to their locale, but for small rural communities, it simply didn't work.

A gentleman came up to me after the meeting and said the best book he ever read on rural economic development was "Ripples from the Zambezi" by Ernesto Sirolli. Sure enough, he was right. The author confirmed what I knew intuitively, that economic development happens from the bottom up, not the top down.

Sirolli stated that rather than pouring massive amounts of money into huge infrastructure in the hopes of attracting businesses, it was much more productive to assist people who had a passion, or a dream, for doing what they loved. I couldn't agree more.

Josephine County has spent hundreds of thousands

of dollars on big projects promoted by SOREDI with little or no return on our investments. Paradise Ranch is the classic, prime example.

It would be much more productive to keep our economic development money local. The county could start by giving full or half price breaks on planning, building or home occupation permits, which would aid our citizens directly. The result would be an infinitely more productive and equitable distribution of our resources.

This year due to a lack of funds, the Chief Financial Officer recommended that the county not allow applications for economic development projects from our citizenry.

To turn around and give SOREDI over 73 thousand dollars would be an egregious affront to those citizens.

We don't need SOREDI glomming onto local projects in an attempt to justify SOREDI's existence, or to take credit for that which rightly belongs to others.

And Josephine County certainly cannot afford the luxury of promoting SOREDI's corporate cronies, allowing them to dictate the kind of government or which projects are worthy of our support, as they did in the last proposal.

I will not vote for any further involvement with SOREDI or for the recently drafted five year Economic Development Strategic Plan, but I will continue to promote local entrepreneurs and assist our citizens with every fiber of my being.



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO, Publisher

Monday night's joint city and county meeting was interesting to say the least. Neither the city nor the county really had anything new to tell us.

There was a presentation by Bob Ziller about his trials with Frontier Communications. It seems that many Valley residents are having trouble with internet connections.

We use the internet every day here at the paper and I rarely see any problems that prevent us from putting out the paper each week. Sure, there have been plenty of hassles, but at 9:30 p.m. on Monday night, which I'm told is a peak time, I tested our download speed at the sight suggested by Mr. Ziller and things were fine. I listened to people at the meeting

say that they couldn't load YouTube videos some nights. My thought was read a book but that's me, I'm a reader. As I have mentioned in the past, I don't subscribe to any television service providers or have internet access at home.

Ziller went on to suggest that maybe we could get some attention if we stopped paying our phone bills. In theory, that's a great idea. In reality, all that would probably do is leave us without home phone lines. But along that line of thinking, maybe you all should disconnect your home internet connection. It probably wouldn't take too long for Frontier to upgrade our lines or equipment here in the Valley. Ziller has a good point here. Many of us already have smart phones and can get email and other important information from the web that way until we get their attention.

The other thing I found interesting about Monday night's meeting was some people in the crowd talking about private land rights and big government. I wonder where their love of land rights and small

government was when Perpetua was preparing to spray on its own private land. Just curious.

Commissioner Sandra Cassanelli said that new mass gathering rules were brought about by the county's legal department. She said that someone had talked to legal and said something needed to be done. Like all members of the media, Darcy Wallace and I sit in the back of the room and observe. If we need to ask a question, we do it after the meeting or on the phone. I was, however, about to jump out of my chair and ask WHO spoke to legal and WHY did they think a change was needed? That is the real question as to the origins of this new disastrous rule change.

Politicians have supporters and like it or not, politicians tend to look out for those peoples' agendas under the guise of looking out for us. County officials need to tell us who and why this is now an important issue. Double digit unemployment, school systems that can't fund programs and bad roads should be what the commissioners spend time on, not more big government.

Thank you for picking up this week's paper, Enjoy.
— djm

IVHS Activities Calendar brought to you by the folks at

541-592-3556 Cave Junction
541-469-7545 Brookings

541-471-7487 Grants Pass
541-773-7487 Medford

Saturday, April 30
Track Coed Team- Illinois Valley High School @ Grants Pass High School (Grants Pass Rotary Invitational) 10:00am-12:00pm
Track Coed Team- Illinois Valley High School @ Lakeview High School (Southern Cascade Hybrid Meet) 11:00am-1:00pm
Baseball Boys Varsity- Illinois Valley High School vs Lakeview High School 12:00pm-2:00pm
Softball Girls Varsity- Illinois Valley High School vs Lakeview High School 12:00pm-2:00pm
Baseball Boys Varsity- Illinois Valley High School vs Lakeview High School 2:00pm-4:00pm

Monday, May 02
Golf Girls Varsity- Illinois Valley High School @ Phoenix High School 12:00pm-2:00pm

Tuesday, May 03
Track Coed Team- Illinois Valley High School @ Brookings Harbor High School (Brookings Harbor Twilight) 4:00pm-6:00pm

River Valley Restaurant

Introduces ... Express Lunch Buffet!

Monday - Thursday from 10:00am to 2:00pm

Fridays - Hand Dipped Alaskan Sno Cod
Saturdays - Eggs Benedict
Sundays - Scrumptious Brunch Buffet

(541)592-4182
203 N. Redwood Hwy
Cave Junction, Or. 97523

IVHS School Menu - Sponsored by SISKIYOU COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
25647 Redwood Hwy. Cave Junction
541-592-4111

THURSDAY, April 28
Pasta with marinara/meat sauce or bean & cheese burritos, chicken burger or cheese burger, cheese, bbq chicken or supreme pizza, Italian turkey & cheese spicy chicken wrap, or chef, anti pasta or garden salads

MONDAY, May 2
Beef soft tacos, chicken strips, spicy chicken burger, hamburger, pepperoni, cheese, vegetarian or sausage pizza; ham & cheese or turkey & cheese sandwich, turkey wrap; chef, garden or Mandarin chicken salad

TUESDAY, May 3
Chicken fajitas, Rib-B-Que sandwich, chicken burger, cheeseburger; pepperoni, cheese or Hawaiian pizza; Italian or turkey & cheese sandwich, spicy chicken wrap; chef, antipasto or garden salad

WEDNESDAY, May 4
Taco salad, teriyaki beef rice bowl, spicy chicken burger, hamburger; pepperoni, sausage, cheese or Italian griller pizza; veggie or turkey & cheese sandwich, turkey wrap; chef, garden or Mandarin chicken salad

NO SCHOOL TODAY
District Reduction Day

Senior Lunch Menu Sponsored by **True Value** 541-592-3562

THURSDAY, APRIL 28
Oriental Shoyu chicken w/rice, oriental blend veggies, marinated spring garden salad, peach cobbler

FRIDAY APRIL 29
Smokehouse ribbette w/BBQ sauce, oven browned potatoes, cut green beans, whole wheat bread, peanut butter cookie

MONDAY MAY 2
Baked ham w/raisin sauce, scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables, cracked wheat bread, apple crisp

TUESDAY MAY 3
Meatloaf w/ Creole sauce, parslied potatoes, cut green beans, onion bread, chocolate oatmeal bar

WEDNESDAY MAY 4
Chicken tetrazinni, broccoli cuts, orange glazed beets, sunflower seed bread, frosted carrot cake

Meals are served in the Cave Junction County Building.
541-592-2126, 541-955-8839

Elementary School Lunch Menu Sponsored by **HOMETOWNE INTERIORS**
541-592-2413

THURSDAY, April 28
Super submarine sandwich, hearty garden salad, grilled cheese sandwich on whole wheat, bean & cheese burrito, beefy potato bowl

MONDAY, May 2
Hearty garden salad, ham & cheese sandwich on whole wheat, Hawaiian burger, bean & cheese burrito, baked chicken bites w/ mashed potatoes

TUESDAY, May 3
Crispy chicken wrap, black bean salad, chicken patty sandwich, baked cheesy bread sticks, big taco Tuesday, brunch for lunch

WEDNESDAY, May 4
Turkey pinwheels, Minnie Mouse salad, hot ham & cheese melt, freshly baked cheese or pepperoni pizza, sweet & sour chicken over pineapple brown rice

NO SCHOOL TODAY
District Reduction Day

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