

Homes for exchange students needed

International Cultural Exchange Services promotes a more peaceful world through student exchange. ICES has an outbound program that sends U.S. students to study abroad, as well as bringing foreign students to the U.S. to study. Both programs can be for one semester or the full school year.

Students speak English, pay their own personal expenses, have medical insurance, and attend the local high school. Student profiles, which include a letter from the student and their parent, are available for review. Host families choose the student that best fits their family. ICES has boys and girls, aged 15-18, coming from Finland, Germany, Slovakia, Norway, Spain, France, Denmark, Sweden, Brazil, and China who are excited about spending the school year in the United States. They are remarkable young people, willing to venture away from their home in order to expand their horizons. Their exchange memories will last a lifetime, as will those of the host families.

A host family provides a bedroom with their own bed (a bedroom can be shared with a child of the same gender at least 13 years old), meals, and loving parental support. An in-home interview, reference and criminal background check, and host family orientation are completed prior to the student's arrival. The local coordinator provides support throughout the exchange period with a student orientation when they arrive, monthly contact with student, host family, and school, as well as activities outside of school.

If you are interested in hosting a student arriving in August, please contact the local coordinator now. As soon as the preliminary steps are completed and a student is chosen, host families can begin building your relationship via email, Skype, phone, or mail.

Please contact Local Coordinator Elizabeth Slavick at 541-772-1294 or ices4elizabeth@gmail.com for more information about the outbound program or hosting an exchange student.

Awards ... Continued from A-1

Sue Densmore, executive director of Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau, stated the group is about to begin a capital-raising campaign to help pay for deferred maintenance and renovation of the Chateau. Of the three publically-owned great park lodges in Oregon, both Timberline and Crater Lake have already been restored. The group has recently focused on buying new towels for the lodge and plans are developing to restore the lobby. The public is invited to go to www.Friendsocac.org for further information.

A new development for IVCDO is an updated website designed by Al Devine, with support from Barbara Hahn and Kenny Houck.

Other projects include a Fire Fuel Reduction program and an Adopt-A-Park agreement with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD). This project was undertaken to help prevent OPRD from closing and decommissioning the portion of the park which is within walking distance to

Cave Junction.

It was announced that a new five-year lease agreement between federal land-owners Bureau of Land Management and OPRD for use of the central park acreage has been renewed after being dormant for seven years.

The new lease and the Adopt-A-Park agreements will be celebrated during the revived Hathkupasuta River celebration scheduled to take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 14.



(Photo by Judy Hoyle, Illinois Valley News)

Dan McLeod (left) is congratulated by Menno Kraai of the IVCDO for his work helping the homeless. Rev. Charles Chase not present.

Jessica Camp (left) accepted the Business of the year award form Kenny Houck.



A moment with Mary: By Mary Halvorsen

Family was here from the Midwest last week, and since my niece has recently turned twenty-one, wine tasting landed on the agenda. I offered, "We have vineyards just up the road" and envisioned rounding the curves of Holland Loop, passing rows of grapes in front of Bridgeview Vineyards, cruising by fields, barns and the Holland store, and glimpsing the gray slopes of Little Grayback Mountain, standing in the distance.

But needing an item from a big box store, the plan was hatched to drive through the Applegate Valley and do some sampling from a couple of their eighteen wineries. Spotting a sign, we pulled into the gravel entry of what looked like a hundred modest homes along rural roads in southern Oregon, except this one had a hillside of grapes behind it. The two adjacent buildings were small, plain and the

grass needed mowing. As we considered continuing through the circular driveway and out, a young man emerged into the area between the bungalow and the tiny tasting room, and began righting benches that lay on their sides in thick grass, between two wooden tables. He popped a shade umbrella up as we seated ourselves, then made trips in and out of the tasting room for bottles of our selected wines, thoughtfully answering everything we asked, as if he had been waiting months to explain what we wondered about.

The next stop was an establishment with sweeping vineyard, valley, and mountain views, but inside, standing at the bar, one taste was not finished before the next was being poured, and the description of the wine didn't go much further than its color. I thought of the long-

haired tabby lounging on the bench beside me at the previous place, of the framed print of a pig, hanging on their tasting room wall, short legs stretched to the hooves, flying from a dock into a pond, of my brother admitting, "If they sold that as a poster, I'd buy one".

A couple years ago during a visit from another brother we also found ourselves sipping wines in the Applegate, the first stop taking us across an arched bridge to a green, landscaped paradise, and a full parking lot, complete with two limousines. It had me commenting, "This place wants to be like Napa." Upon leaving the bustling tasting room and programmed pourers, my brother intoned, "They should be careful what they wish for."

While there is something to be said for footsteps echoing across a

stone floor, of giant timber beams all around, and windows that soar to the roofline, there is also something to be said for the sun's warmth through the sheer cloth of an umbrella, and a fading moon in a blue sky. It doesn't matter if the person pouring wine is dressed in the latest fashion, or in worn jeans and a functional hat. Like the wine being sipped, it is all a matter of taste.

I think of the wineries in the Illinois Valley, of the window in a tasting room that frames geese gliding over the vineyard onto a pond, or row upon row of grapes backed by gray mountains, the fields breathing in the same mist in the mornings that I do.

Perhaps the grander, more formal of the two places in the Applegate seemed foreign because I was with family, and there was no need for much else. It could have been

that the proprietor who sat visiting on a grassy patio, telling us about the salad garden a few feet away, more accurately understood the mood. When we choose to cruise from vineyard to vineyard, we are hoping for a place that fosters comfort, ease and relaxation, a place that invites us to be ourselves, like home.

Dorothy from Kansas had it right when she clicked her ruby slippers and vowed repeatedly, "There's no place like home"; and spoke with great insight when admitting, "...if I ever go looking for my heart's desire again, I won't look any further than my own backyard..." The grass is not always greener on the other side, though it sometimes seems so. Like the wines of southern Oregon, it is all about presentation, interpretation, and an individual's personal taste.

**CHEAP!
CHEAP!
CHEAP!**

Usually refers to a product that is sub-par, inferior or not good.

Dos Gringos is not cheap. We are affordable, original and, most of all, we are good!

DOS GRINGOS

SOUTHWEST CUISINE

541-592-2200
131 N. Redwood Hwy

Caveman Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc.
with over 30 years of experience,
improving the energy efficiency of your home.

SEASONS CHANGE - FILTERS CHANGE

TEMPSTA-1
Heating and Cooling Products

CAVE MAN
HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING, INC.

541-476-0009

1010 S.E. Millbank Rd. Grants Pass OR 97526 CCB #100528 www.cavemanheating.com

**Complicated taxes?
Bring it on.**

Taxes are complicated. Getting your taxes done isn't enough - you need your taxes done right. That's where we come in. We hire and train the most qualified tax professionals to ensure you claim every credit and deduction you deserve so you get your maximum refund. Guaranteed.'

Call today to make your appointment.

210 W. Lister ST, Cave Junction, OR 97523 541-592-3667

H&R BLOCK
HRBLOCK.COM

If you discover an H&R Block error on your return that entitles you to a larger refund (or smaller tax liability), we'll refund the tax prep fee for that return. Refund claims must be made during the calendar year in which the return was prepared. ©2013 H&R Tax Group, Inc.

**Arts Red
Garter
Lavender
Blue**
9 p.m.
Fri. and Sat.

**Caleb
Orton**
Friday, April 4
@ 5:30 p.m.
**Taylor's
Country Store**

Guppy
Sat., April 5
@ 6 p.m.
Every Friday
Jay Barley
Every Wednesday
Open Mic. Night
From 6-8 p.m.

**Saturday
night Pool
Tourney**
@
**Sportsmans
Tavern**

**Kate's
Redwood
Bar and Grill**
Tuesday to Sunday
Noon to Close
Happy Hour 3-5
Stop in and see
Kate and Mamie
Today!

EAT

@
**Mc Grew's
Of Course**