

Weather watcher needed

By Dan Klapheke
IVN Staff Writer

The National Weather Service (NWS) Cooperative Observer Program (COOP) Medford office is seeking a volunteer to observe and record weather data in the Cave Junction area. The volunteer will replace the current Cave Junction observer, who is moving away from the Valley.

Spencer Higginson, hydrologist for the NWS Medford office, said the position requires no prior knowledge of weather or data collecting.

"No experience is needed," Higginson said. "We would bring the equipment and install it."

According to a letter sent out by NWS, there are over 11,000 volunteer observers across the nation who record and report weather data. COOP provides meteorological data on daily maximum and minimum temperatures; snowfall and precipitation totals to predict forecasts; and agricultural industries, insurance and engineers and

climate scientists rely on the information provided.

Despite the importance of the position, Higginson said it's a simple five to 10 minute job.

"It's just a matter of sticking a special ruler into a rain gage," Higginson said. "The only demanding thing is that it's every day."

Possible observers are not required to take any sort of test, the letter said, and data can be logged online or through email. Data-gathering equipment is provided by NWS, but personal or other equipment may be used if it meets NWS standards.

Observers typically belong to an older demographic, Higginson said, and often have a sense of patriotism and duty to the country. Recently, NWS created an award recognizing an observer who had collecting data for 50 years. However, Higginson said that demographic is getting older and aren't as able to observe.

"We would love to get some young blood in there," Higginson said.

COOP formally began in 1890 under the Organic Act, which also started the

Weather Bureau, but some stations were operational earlier. George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin kept meteorological data, and weather records date back to 1644.

Cave Junction's COOP station started in 1962 and mainly collects daily temperature and rainfall. The station is part of a nine-county area in northern California and southern Oregon that the NWS Medford office covers, and there are 84 COOP sites within it. Higginson said the observer would need to live at least within five miles of downtown.

There's no perfect mindset for the position, Higginson said, but enthusiasm helps.

"Someone that loves the weather is ideal," Higginson said. "If you're indifferent or even hate it, you're less likely to keep going on it."

For more information or if interested in the position, contact Spencer Higginson via email at spencerhigginson@noaa.gov or phone at 541-773-1067.

Pickers are coming

Judy Hoyle
IVN Contributing Writer

Calling all collectors of valuable or unique stuff, your "15 minutes of fame" is coming in September.

The "American Pickers" documentary television series will be filming episodes in Oregon and Washington for the History Channel in a few weeks. They're looking for unique collections and the stories behind them.

The team of Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz are the on-camera guys who love to discuss the stories behind the collections as well. They routinely travel the back roads of America from coast to coast, on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten machinery and other interesting "gimcracks and geegaws."

They're also looking for the interesting people who love to collect remarkable or exceptional items from our past. They specifically want to see old Airstream trailers, motorcycles, scooters, furniture, radios, antique toys and dolls, fishing gear and decoys, pinball and vending machines.

Other items on their wish list include old movie posters and other advertisements, board games, early mousetraps, Boy Scout items, license plates and taxidermy animals.

Antique bottles, pottery, crocks,

jugs, granite ware, cast iron, clocks, lamps and rugs are also of interest, as are oil paintings, folk art and photographs. Pedal cars and tractors, toy wagons and boats, juke boxes, military items, shell boxes, BB guns, wood carvings, wagon wheels and holiday décor have all been featured on their show.

A press release sent out to news media and chambers of commerce stated, "Mike and Frank have seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they've never seen before. The pair hopes to give historically significant objects a new lease on life, while learning a thing or two about American's past along the way."

The show's producers are currently creating a schedule of stops and are seeking private collections or accumulations of antiques that the duo can spend the better part of the day looking through. They are not interested in browsing retail shops or flea markets.

"It's kind of a process," stated program associate Natasha Moore. "We're putting out feelers. Hopefully you guys have some good stuff."

Film crews will go to selected households to pick through the treasures, listen to the stories and buy unique items.

They ask those interested in participating to email their name, phone number, location and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cinetflix.com or call 1-855-653-7878 (OLD-RUST).

It's National Health Center Week

August 8 - 12



FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK
Monday - Friday (Walk-In Clinic & Cave Junction Medical Clinic)
Receive a \$20 Gift Voucher towards medical or dental services

SPORTS PHYSICALS
Monday - Friday (Walk-In Clinic & Cave Junction Medical Clinic)
\$25 Each. Enter to win a \$25 Gift Certificate at Competitive Athletics

MOUTHGUARDS
Monday - Friday (Dental Clinic in Grants Pass & Wed. in Cave Junction)
\$20 Each. Enter to win a \$25 Gift Certificate at Competitive Athletics
Please call 541-479-6393 to make an appointment.

FREE KIDS DENTAL CLEANINGS
Monday - Friday (Dental Clinic in Grants Pass & Wed. in Cave Junction)
1st 25 kids (18 & under) get a FREE Back-to-School Backpack
Please call 541-479-6393 to make an appointment.

IMMUNIZATIONS
Monday - Friday (Walk-In Clinic & Cave Junction Medical Clinic)
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FREE BOOKS FOR KIDS 5 & UNDER
Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5:00pm (Grants Pass)
Tuesday & Thursday 8:30am - 5:00pm (Cave Junction)
Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5:00pm (Medford)

Grants Pass Medical Clinic
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Walk-In Clinic
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Cave Junction Medical Clinic
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Dental
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25647 Redwood Hwy. • Cave Junction

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ITS A TOUCHDOWN AUCTION!



FOOTBALL

The Illinois Valley High School Football team is hosting their biggest fundraiser of the year - the 2016 Touchdown Auction!

When: Saturday, August 27, 2016
Time: 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm (No host bar at 5:30 pm, dinner starts at 6:00 pm, Live Auction begins approximately 7:15 pm)
Where: Siskiyou Smokejumpers Base Museum (IV Airport), Cave Junction
Price: \$20 per ticket - Includes dinner, reserved table and a bottle of wine

Dinner will be catered by Carlos' Restaurant. There will be many silent auction items to bid on, grab bag prizes and a Live Auction!

Tickets are on sale now! Please contact Danielle Reece 503-887-8727 or Sheri Larson 541-761-3661 to purchase tickets or if you have questions about this fun event.

We want to thank you in advance for your support of the IVHS Football Team! We look forward to seeing you at the 2016 Touchdown Auction!

Head Coach: Bruce Reece
Assistant Coaches: Aaron Skinner, Terry Larson, Jesse Dugas, Tony Hess, JV Culbertson, Scott Thornhill, Tanner Smith, Clay Valenzuela-Reece, James Thompson