

UCAN News Articles – July 2017



Tuesday, July 4, 2017

2017 Graffiti Weekend Schedule



Wednesday, July 5

STREET MEMORIES KICK OFF TO GRAFFITI SHOW. Roseburg Veteran's Hospital, 913 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg. Entry starts at noon, show is from 1 to 5 p.m., and awards at 4 p.m. Open to all years and makes of cars, trucks and motorcycles. **Canned food donations encouraged for UCAN.** Information, Ray 541-672-4369 or Dave, 541-673-1608.

Friday, July 7

ROSEBURG DOWNTOWN FUN DAY. Hosted by Downtown Roseburg Association. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Graffiti information booth, sidewalk sales, participant gifts and sales. **Canned food donations encouraged for UCAN.** Information 541-817-6277.

SHOW-N-SHINE AT THE RACES. Presented by Pacific Racing Association. Douglas County Fairgrounds, 2110 Frear St., Roseburg. Registration 2 to 4 p.m. Ticket gates open at 4 p.m. Cruise the race track. Free admission for drivers. 100 car limit. **Canned food donations encouraged for UCAN.** Information 541-817-2272 or email pra.dcspeedway@gmail.com.

35th ANNUAL RIVER FORKS SHOW-N-SHINE. Presented by Stray Angel's Car Club. River Forks Park, 380 River Forks Park Rd., Roseburg. First 600 cars 1975 and older. No pre-registration, no entry fee. Registration 8 to 11 a.m. Show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free spectator parking courtesy of Roseburg Tire Pros. Car Corral (cars for sale), \$20 entry fee. Dash plaques, raffles, trophies, and food booths. Free shuttle bus service. **Canned food donations encouraged for UCAN.** No pets. Information, Dallas 541-679-7868 or Gail 541-315-5471. www.strayangelsclub.com.

COLLECTOR CAR AUCTION. Presented by Petersen Auction Group of Oregon. Douglas County Fairgrounds Complex, Douglas Hall, 2110 Frear St., Roseburg. Open for viewing at 8 a.m. Toys and Memorabilia auction at 9:30 a.m., car auction at 10 a.m. Free shuttle bus service, vendors and food. **Canned food donations are encouraged for UCAN.** To consign or register to bid, contact 541-689-6824 or www.petersencollectorcars.com.

DOWNTOWN SHOP-N-SHINE CORVETTE CITY. Hosted by Timberland Corvette Club, Umpqua Flatheads and Downtown Roseburg Association. Downtown Roseburg on Jackson Street (enter from Douglas Street). 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. No entry fee, free spectator admission. Show open to corvettes. No pre-registration needed. Dash plaques for the first 50 cars. Shirts, pins and sidewalk sales. **Canned food donations encouraged for UCAN.** Information, Bob 541-430-4009, 541-817-6277.

DRAG RACES-N-RAT ROD SHOW. Presented by Pacific Racing Association. Douglas County Speedway, 2110 Frear St., Roseburg. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All types of rat rods welcome. Show registration and set up, 8 to 10 a.m. Show awards at noon. **Canned food donations encouraged for UCAN.** Information, Harlen 541-680-9551 or pra.dcspeedway@gmail.com.

Classic corvettes: Sleek, stylish, all-American car



For Dennis Carr, owning and maintaining a 1982 Chevrolet Corvette is more than simply a hobby. It's a lifestyle.

Carr has owned his classic metallic gold Corvette for 15 years, since 2002. Initially he was looking for a sporty car, one that he and his wife could travel in and get away from the stresses of everyday life.

"I was looking for something where my wife and I could go somewhere and have a day to ourselves," Carr said.

He first saw his dream car in a newspaper ad. The car was owned by a Roseburg resident who let it go for \$13,000. For Carr it was a steal since the retro vehicle only had 33,000 miles and was in mint condition.

But, Carr soon realized he hadn't found just any classic Corvette. The iridescent gold paint is not a common color for the 1982 lineup, making the car a one-of-a-kind find.

"It's very seldom you see a gold Corvette in that year," Carr said. "I went, 'You got to be kidding! Gold?' Because you just don't find those in Douglas County."

Carr is the previous president of the Timberland Corvette Club.

The club partnered with Umpqua Flatheads to host the first Downtown Shop-N-Shine Corvette City event on July 8 as part of the 36th Annual Graffiti Weekend.

"The Corvettes are a great American-made vehicle and we hope to bring in spectators locally, but also throughout the Pacific Northwest to see these beautiful cars," said Graffiti Weekend Committee Chairwoman Jeanine Coffey.

The event, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. will display over 50 classic Corvettes from all over the state on Jackson Street in downtown Roseburg. Dash plaques will be awarded for the first 50 cars entered in the show. No entry fee is required for spectators, however, canned food donations are encouraged for UCAN.

The UCAN Food Pantry has been a big beneficiary of Graffiti Weekend each year. Many of the events have food barrels for spectators to donate cans of food. Last year, 800 pounds of food were collected to feed the hungry.

Bob Scott, who is the current president of the Timberland Corvette Club, said one of the most rewarding aspects of being a club member is serving the community.

"I've always donated in one way or another and I've been doing projects like this for a long time," he said. "It's part of me now. Part of giving back."

Scott says he also enjoys the camaraderie and traveling experience that comes with being a part of the club.

The Timberland Corvette Club holds annual community events, car shows, parades, cruises and fundraisers throughout Douglas County. The club, along with the Umpqua Flatheads and Stray Angels car clubs, helped organize the first Graffiti event in 1982 on Harvard in Roseburg.

Since then, Graffiti Weekend has been a large attraction throughout Douglas County over the years. Over 500 cars, 1975 or older are expected to be on display at River Forks Park for the free 35th Annual Roseburg Graffiti Show-N-Shine, hosted by the Stray Angels Car Club.

“Graffiti Weekend is such a wonderful event that’s been around for a long time and I get a huge amount of personal satisfaction being a part of it,” Coffey said. “It is an event that people of all ages can enjoy.”



Friday, July 7, 2017

UCAN can use your help (RSVP)

By Rebecca De Greyt for the Daily Courier

Sponsored by the United Community Action Network, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program matches the talents of people 55 and older with nonprofit agencies and health care facilities throughout Josephine County.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND EARN SOME MONEY. Join the UCAN team for a one-year stipend program. Help low-income individuals and the senior population prepare their tax returns, fill out Oregon Health Plan applications, and be a community educator. The position, similar to an internship, is for 40 hours a week from Aug. 30, 2017, to July 31, 2018, earning approximately \$1,139 a month. Upon successful completion of the service term, eligible members/leaders receive an education award of \$5,730. Members who are 55 and older may transfer the award to one child or grandchild if they so desire. If you are interested and would like to know more about this position, please contact Rebecca de Greyt at 541-956- 4474 or rebecca.degreyt@ucancap.org.

INFORMATION ABOUT E.R.A. Over the years many consumers were provided with assistance to apply for a rental refund through the State of Oregon Department of Revenue. This program was exclusive to older adults. Unfortunately, the state of Oregon has discontinued the program. If you received a check last November then that was your last payment under that specific program. A new rental assistance program for seniors began last week called "Elderly Rental Assistance" or ERA. UCAN will be administering this housing program for older adults. If you are a senior in a non-subsidized unit and you are at risk of becoming homeless or if you are a homeless and elderly and need assistance looking for a home, please come into UCAN after July 15 and request an Elderly Rental Assistance Application.

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR MEDICARE? Are you turning 65 in May through October? To help educate and prepare you, our SHIBA volunteers are prepared to help present a Medicare 101 class on July 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at UCAN, 125 N.E. Manzanita Ave. (corner of Seventh and Manzanita). Our trained volunteers will

review plans and compare coverages for Medicare part A, B, and D plans. They will inform you how to prevent Medicare fraud and the next steps to take in the process. Seating is limited to 15 and we will need participants to call to sign up for the training. Please call UCAN-RSVP at 541-956-4472.



Friday, July 14, 2017

Help out the Food & Friends Senior Meal Program (RSVP)

By Rebecca de Greyt for the Daily Courier

Sponsored by the United Community Action Network, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program matches the talents of people 55 and older with nonprofit agencies and health care facilities throughout Josephine County.

SUPPORT INDEPENDENT LIVING. Become a part of the Food & Friends Senior Meal Program, which provides balanced nutritional meals and social contact. This helps in providing a safety net for those in the community and gives those an opportunity to interact with others. A driver is needed to use the company van and drive to Cave Junction on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. Training is provided. Volunteers need to complete a criminal background check.

If you would like to find out more information, please come by the UCAN-RSVP Office at 125 N.E. Manzanita and pick up an RSVP application, or call Rebecca de Greyt at 541-956-4474.

DO YOU ENJOY MEETING NEW PEOPLE? Please consider volunteering at the Josephine County Food Bank. We need volunteers to staff our reception desk. Answer phones and greet people who arrive at the food bank's offices at 3658 Upper River Road. Also, assist our Volunteer Coordinator in recruiting and scheduling volunteers. If you want to put your people skills to good use and make a difference in our community, contact Rebecca de Greyt at 541-956-4474 or rebecca.degreyt@ucanap.org.

FREE ENERGY EDUCATION CLASS. Learn how to save money, save electricity and make your home or apartment more energy efficient. Two class are being offered: July 21 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at UCAN, 125 N.E. Manzanita Ave.; and July 26 at IV Coalition, 535 E. River St., Cave Junction. If you know you are going to come, you are welcome to call and RSVP at 541-956-4472.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND EARN SOME MONEY. Join the UCAN team for a one-year stipend program. Help low-income individuals and the senior population prepare their tax returns, fill out Oregon Health Plan applications, and be a community educator.

The position, similar to an internship, is for 40 hours a week from Aug. 30, 2017, to July 31, 2018, earning approximately \$1,139 a month. Upon successful completion of the service term, eligible members/leaders receive an education award of \$5,730. Members who are 55 and older may transfer the award to one child or grandchild if they so desire.

If you are interested and would like to know more about this position, please contact Rebecca de Greyt at 541-956- 4474 or rebecca.degreyt@ucanap.org.



Friday, July 14, 2017

Make yourself available to help out the soup kitchen (RSVP)

By Rebecca De Greyt for the Daily Courier

Sponsored by the United Community Action Network, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program matches the talents of people 55 and older with nonprofit agencies and health care facilities throughout Josephine County.

BE A HELPING HAND. St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen is in need of volunteers to help in the kitchen on Fridays and additional volunteers who don't mind being put on an on-call list for when they are shorthanded.

There are many in the community in need, and the soup kitchen provides one hot meal a day for the clients. Please help in making it possible for this service to continue. All are invited to serve, or donate.

Please contact Rebecca de Greyt at 541-956-4472 to learn about the application process.

SUPPORT INDEPENDENT LIVING. Become a part of the Food & Friends Senior Meal Program, which provides balanced nutritional meals and social contact.

This helps in providing a safety net for those in the community and gives those an opportunity to interact with others. A driver is needed to use the company van and drive to Cave Junction on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon.

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If you would like to find out more information, please come by the UCAN-RSVP Office at 125 N.E. Manzanita and pick up an RSVP application, or call Rebecca de Greyt at 541-956-4474.

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEART AND SOUL of the Josephine County Food Bank. Your generous contributions of time and talent help get the job done efficiently and effectively.

The Food Bank is looking for people who are available to drive the Fresh Food Alliance runs. (Driving the vehicles is much like driving a U-Haul van) There are two runs: 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

If you have the time and would like to learn more, please contact Rebecca de Greyt at 541-956-4474 or email rebecca.degreyt@ucanap.org.

JOIN OUR FREE ENERGY EDUCATION CLASS. Learn how to save money, save electricity, save, weather, and make your home or apartment more energy efficient.

The presentation is Wednesday at the IV Coalition, 535 E. River St. Cave Junction. If you know you are going to come you are welcome to call and RSVP at 541-956-4472.



Friday, July 28, 2017

Introductory class will help seniors prepare for Medicare (RSVP)

By Rebecca De Greyt for the Daily Courier

Sponsored by the United Community Action Network, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program matches the talents of people 55 and older with nonprofit agencies and health care facilities throughout Josephine County.

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR MEDICARE? Are you turning 65 sometime between now and November? To help educate and prepare you, our SHIBA volunteers are prepared to present a MEDICARE 101 introductory class on Sept. 21 from 10 a.m. to noon at UCAN, 125 N.E. Manzanita Ave. (Corner of Seventh and Manzanita). They will review plans and compare coverages for Medicare part A, B, and D plans. They will inform you how to prevent Medicare fraud and the next steps to take in the process. Seating is limited and participants need to call to sign up for the training. Please call UCAN-RSVP at 541-956-4472.

ACT BY LISTENING. Nobody longs for a safe and loving family more than a child in foster care. As a court-appointed special advocate (CASA) volunteer, you are empowered by the courts to help make this dream a reality. You will not only bring positive change to the lives of these vulnerable children, but also their children and generations to come. And in doing so, you will enrich your life as well. You do not have to be a lawyer or a social worker to be a volunteer. We welcome people from all walks of life. We are simply looking for people who care about children. As a volunteer, you will be thoroughly trained and well supported by professional

staff to help you through each case. You must pass a background check, participate in a 30-hour pre-service training course and agree to stay with a case until it is closed (a year and a half on average).

BE A HELPING HAND. St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen is in need of volunteers on Fridays and volunteers who would not mind being put on an on-call list for when they are shorthanded. Please help in making it possible for this service to continue. All are invited to serve, or donate. Please contact Rebecca de Greyt to learn about the application process 541-956-4474.

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Saturday, July 29, 2017

Mercy and Costco host annual Safety Day for Kids

CHI Mercy Health Mercy Medical Center's ER and Trauma Department and Costco Wholesale have partnered together with local community medical providers to present the 3rd Annual Safety Day for Kids from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday in the Costco parking lot.

This year's Safety Day will feature a Haz-Mat truck, fire truck, marine patrol boat, ambulance, life-flight helicopter, forest fire truck, K-9 unit, an interactive dental learning lab, 911 dispatch services, Wildlife Safari, educational stations and activities.

"We are so excited to continue our collaboration with Costco and our community emergency services and other medical teams to bring safety tips to families during summer time," said Bubba Petty, Mercy's interim Trauma Team Coordinator. "Keeping our local children healthy and safe is important to Mercy and our Douglas County partners and we are here to help in any way we can."

The event is free for all ages and supported by Bay Cities Ambulance, the City of Roseburg Fire and Police, DFPA, Douglas County Sheriff and dispatch, Evergreen Family Medicine, the Healthy Kids Outreach Program, The News-Review, Operation Lifesaver, The Optimist Club, REACH Air, ServPro, UCAN Head Start, Umpqua Community Health Center, UP2USNow Child Abuse Prevention, and Wildlife Safari.

Food Hero campaign gives \$2 voucher for all kids coming to farmer's market



Children browsing the fruits and vegetables at Saturday's Umpqua Valley Farmers Market in Roseburg had an extra incentive to make healthy choices.

Organizers with Oregon State University Extension Service and United Community Action Network's AmeriCorps program were handing out \$2 coupons for buying vegetables and fruit to every child who attended the market. Their booth was part of the eight-week Food Hero campaign, which serves to encourage children to eat healthy food.

The program is also going on at the Canyonville Farmers Market. It continues there until Wednesday, and in Roseburg until next Saturday.

The program received grant support from the Oregon Food Bank FEAST program. Funds help reimburse farmers for accepting the coupons.

"We are encouraging kids to eat more fruits and vegetables, to try new fruits and vegetables and to also get more families shopping at the farmers market," said Sara Runkel, small farms and food systems manager for Douglas County OSU Extension.

On Saturday, halfway into the event, 42 kids took a voucher from the Food Hero booth. Runkel also offered free healthy recipes, and every time a child picked up a coupon, she asked him or her to write a thank you card to a farmer at the market.

“It’s nice to be recognized for the hard work that we do, and they get to enjoy it,” said Lucy Valadez, co-owner of Valadez Organic Produce, who had received four thank-you cards halfway through the event. “With the Food Hero program, they learn how everything is grown.”

Valadez said they get more kids buying their fruit than usual thanks to the program. She said often kids who come to their stall will point out their vegetables as being in the Food Hero recipe for the week.

One of the most popular items for the children to use their coupons on were the strawberries at Big Lick Farm. The farm booth had received 10 coupons from the children around halfway into the event. The children would line up, and when seeing the \$3 price for a basket of strawberries, would begin asking their parents to chip in a dollar. Co-owner Susie Porter said, if parents asked, she and her husband would provide a smaller batch worth the \$2 ticket.

Eryka Schlichting, 9, was one of the children who used her ticket on the strawberries. She placed her basket of strawberries inside her mother’s large box of fruit.

“I picked them because I’m in love with strawberries,” said Eryka.



Sunday, July 30, 2017

City hopes new housing committee is step in right direction

By Troy Shinn of the Daily Courier

Forming the first formal Housing Advisory Committee in Grants Pass has been a months-long process that officials hope will be a big step in tackling the burgeoning housing crisis.

The City Council in June approved the formation of the new committee, apparently the first ever official advisory committee on housing for the city.

The effort came out of months of informal meetings with many of the current representatives on the board, comprised of city staff and experts from various businesses and organization in Grants Pass.

Senior Planner Tom Schauer says that this committee creates a much-needed network for establishing action plans at the governmental level through recommendations from existing community partners.

"This committee will really be bringing those resources together in a single forum," he said. "Having this workforce group connected to the City Council sort of formalizes the structure."

The city has access to solutions that businesses and nonprofits don't.

"We directly deal with land use regulations, and there are several funding sources that cities can gain access to," Schauer said.

The committee, made up of 11 members, includes not just city staff and council-appointed members, but ex-officio members from businesses that already work to address housing concerns.

United Community Action Network is one of those.

Chief Operating Officer Kelly Wessels says that this is a good time to get a formal alliance together between City Hall and local groups.

"This is a good time to work toward this kind of thing because we can all be in one room," Wessels said. "With our recommendations to the council, we can look at tackling problems in the most cost-effective way."

Wessels says, too, that it's time for some official intervention because the market isn't working itself out. The problem is getting worse.

"Every month that goes by that we aren't building or rehabilitating (new rentals) is another month that we get further behind the curve," Wessels said.

The lack of affordable housing has a severe trickle-down effect on the community.

"It costs this community so much in professionals who can't move here for jobs," she said. "Those are people who won't be able to invest their incomes in this community because they don't have houses."

The city is currently accepting applications for five appointed positions, which will be elected by the City Council in September.

Applications can be found online at the city's website or at City Hall. The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. on August 28.