

## Boys and Girls Clubs to boost educational programs with grant

The Boys and Girls Clubs of the Rogue Valley has received a \$10,000 grant from U.S. Cellular.

The money will support science, technology, engineering and math programs at the clubs in Grants Pass and the Illinois Valley.

The clubs serve more than 2,900 children.

Executive Director Diann Gilbertson says the money will go toward several different programs at the clubs.

"There are science clubs in each of the clubs," she says, adding that the computer lab at the Grants



Pass club, as well as the homework help in science and math program, will benefit. "We'd like to start back up our robotic program, too."

U.S. Cellular started a relationship with the local Boys and Girls Clubs in February, when it did a service project at the Grants Pass club, bringing its snow cat and mock cellular towers to teach about the engineering of cellphone services.

"It's really cool that they're volunteering hours at the clubs and teaching kids some science and engineering type programs and they're bringing in all their own resources to do that," Gilbertson says. "And of course, we appreciate the grant."

**• SERVICE ABOVE SELF.** McKayla Yeoman, 18, was named the Rogue Gateway Rotary Club's Service Above Self award recipient for April. The Illinois Valley High School senior is the daughter of Bill Yeoman.



YEOMAN

Her school activities include Chamber Choir, leadership classes, Red Cross,

Mathletes, and National Honor Society. She is junior class vice president and currently serves as senior class president and captain of the varsity volleyball team. Yeoman, who has a 3.0 grade point average, also is president of the IVHS All-Night Graduation Committee.

She enjoys spending time with her family and her dog, Noodle. She also enjoys singing, swimming and spending time in the outdoors. After graduating from high school, she plans to attend Southern Oregon University and pursue a degree in nursing.

Rogue Gateway Rotary's Service Above Self award recognizes high school students who have demonstrated outstanding community service. Rogue Gateway Rotary meets at noon Thursdays at the Wild River Pub in Grants Pass. For more information visit [www.roguegateway.org](http://www.roguegateway.org).

**• TOP STUDENTS.** The Rotary Club of Grants Pass has announced two more of its Students of the Year for the 2014-15 school year. The Outstanding Student of the Year award is given to one fifth-grade student from each elementary school and one eighth-grade student from each middle school in Josephine County.

Elizabeth Williams was named Student of the Year at North Middle School. She is the daughter of Richard and Barbara Williams.



WILLIAMS

Jenelle Hurley was named Student of the Year at Lincoln Savage Middle School. She is the daughter of James and Nancy Hurley.



HURLEY

## Cats with immune virus get own shelter

By Ryan Pfiel  
Medford Mail Tribune

**APPLEGATE** — Cats with the feline version of the AIDS virus now have a Jackson County home they can safely live out their lives without potentially spreading the disease to other felines.

The Sanctuary One animal care farm has recently announced completion of the William Driscoll and Alicia Theophil FIV Cat Cottage, a facility intended to care for cats with Feline Immunodeficiency Virus while they are kept separate from other cats. Sanctuary One officials said stray cats that test positive for FIV are often euthanized by shelters, and that they are hoping to change that.

"It's just kind of a death sentence for these poor cats who, if given the proper care, can live a long life," says Brooke Nuckles Gentekos, Sanctuary One executive director.

The shelter is named for the son and goddaughter of Sanctuary One donor Kristina Driscoll, who provided funding for the Cat Cottage after rescuing a



JAMIE LUSCH/Medford Mail Tribune

**Brooke Nuckles Gentekos, executive director of Sanctuary One, visits Grizzly at the shelter in Jacksonville.**

feral cat that is FIV-positive. The cat, named Astro, continues to live out a normal, healthy life despite his diagnosis, Sanctuary One officials say.

"They did research and learned that even though this cat was FIV-positive, it wouldn't have to be put to sleep," Gentekos says.

On their website, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals says FIV is "slow-acting," but that it

severely weakens the animal's immune system. The group adds that FIV-positive cats given the proper support and medical care while living in a low-stress indoor environment can live out comfortable lives before the disease reaches its chronic stage. The disease can only be spread from cat to cat and is typically passed on through deep bite wounds, the ASPCA site says.

"Although FIV is not curable, it is manageable," a statement

by the U.S. Humane Society's senior Oregon director and western regional director says. "These cats should not be branded by this disease, but rather given the same opportunity for a loving and caring home like any other cat in a shelter environment."

The Cat Cottage can house up to five FIV-positive cats, who are kept separate from the remaining cat population at the farm.

The structure has air conditioning and heat. Bushes and flowering trees intended to attract birds are planted outside, giving cats something to watch. There are also play structures and seating for visiting school groups.

Sanctuary One tours — which will include the Cat Cottage — were to open to the public starting Saturday, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Saturdays and Wednesdays. The cost to attend is \$10 per person, and advance registration is required. Visit <http://sanctuaryone.org/visit-volunteer/sanctuary-tours> for more information, or call 541-899-8627.

## Briefly

### Memoir turned movie boosts Pacific Crest Trail

CAMPO, Calif. (AP) — Backpack-to-backpack traffic is rare at any stage of the Pacific Crest Trail, but Reese Witherspoon's 2014 movie "Wild" has made hiker gridlock a reality.

U-T San Diego reports Pacific Crest Trail workers were preparing for more people than usual this weekend as a result of the Oscar-nominated film based on Cheryl Strayed's 2012 memoir, "Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Coast Trail."

Trail veteran George Woodward says at age 76, he's logged 25,000 miles. His first hike was in 1989, and he came across six other backpackers over hundreds of miles.

Gerri Badden, spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney's Office, said the top federal prosecutor in Oregon resigned on Friday.

Badden declined to give Marshall's reasons.

The 45-year-old Marshall said last month she was taking an indefinite leave of absence because of health problems.

An Obama appointee, Marshall was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in September 2011 and began her work as U.S. attorney that October. She supervised more than 100 lawyers in Portland, Eugene and Medford. Badden said First Assistant U.S. Attorney Billy Williams continues to be acting U.S. attorney.

### Wolves moving toward endangered list removal

PORTLAND (AP) — Wildlife officials have moved forward with the process that could remove the gray wolf from the state's endangered species list.

The decision Friday by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission came as the number of

wolves and breeding pairs have increased in the state. By 2014, there were 77 wolves in 15 known packs. The state's conservation goal was to have four breeding pairs for three consecutive years, a goal that was reached earlier this year.

The commission will look at two options: delisting the wolves statewide and partially, in eastern Oregon only. The option of not delisting also remains. Commissioners will draft a proposal by June and vote on it in August.

### Huge magma chamber spied under Yellowstone

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Scientists have spied a vast reservoir of hot, partly molten rock beneath the supervolcano at Yellowstone National Park that's big enough to fill the Grand Canyon 11 times over.

The newly discovered magma chamber — located 12 to 28 miles underground — is four times bigger than the previously known chamber above it.

## NVHS anticipates Academic Masters

By Ruth Longoria Kingsland  
of the Daily Courier

**MERLIN** — A sophomore who tries to keep it loose, a junior who worries she's not "mathy" enough and a senior who is the odd man out in a family of geniuses are among North Valley High School's finalists in this year's Academic Masters competition.

The North Valley finalists are the last to be profiled by the Daily Courier ahead of the 32nd annual competition at Illinois Valley High School in Cave Junction this Wednesday. The event gets underway at 6:30 p.m.

The local brain and skill-based competition began in 1984, and was created by local business owners Phil Paquin and Dr. Robin Ballantyne, who wanted to reward academic excellence in local students.

The competition features 20 finalists from four local public high schools — Illinois Valley, Hidden Valley, North Valley and Grants Pass — each competing individually in one of five categories: music, social studies, math, English, and science. At stake are personal and school pride and more than \$15,000 in cash prizes.

North Valley's finalists are:

• Austin Davis, a sophomore, is the school's music finalist. He enjoys many types of music and plays just about any string or percussion instrument, including piano, ukulele, guitar and drums.

He also enjoys singing, which is what he will be doing in the Academic Masters competition. He plans to perform the John Legend ballad "All of Me."



DAVIS

Although he's excited about the upcoming final competition for Academic Masters, he said he's keeping his expectations in check.

"I don't get too nervous, it will be all good fun," he said.

• Eleanor "Ellie" Polk, a junior, and North Valley's social studies finalist. A second-place finalist last year in social studies, she has also has a passion for science, but considers herself "not mathy enough" for physical sciences.



POLK

She also is a prolific artist and enjoys music. She plans to attend a liberal arts college, Reed College in Portland or Occidental College in cash prizes.

Los Angeles. She plays guitar and aspires to emulate Brian May, lead guitar player for the rock band Queen, who holds a doctorate in astrophysics.

• Matthew Fairman, a senior, is North Valley's math finalist. Coming from a "family of geniuses," Matthew is the third of four children. "I'm the dumb one," he jokes.



FAIRMAN

Adept at math from an early age, he recalls his second grade teacher writing out lengthy math equations for him to solve while his classmates worked on simpler, age-appropriate problems.

His extracurricular interests include basketball and Future Business Leaders of America. He said he hasn't decided on a major, but plans to attend college and "follow the path of life."

• Kestrel Ray, a senior, is North Valley's English finalist. Her passion for literature began as a child, when her mother encouraged her to read through the "Magic Treehouse" series.



RAY

In addition to reading and writing, Kestrel enjoys drama and playing tennis. She plans to study history next year at George Fox University and would like to become an archivist.

• Cassie Logan, a senior, is North Valley's science finalist. She is a co-valedictorian of her



LOGAN

graduating class, has been involved in band three of her four years at North Valley, and was a cheerleader her freshman and sophomore years.

She's also involved in drama and choir, and is a member of National Honor Society, Interact Club, International Club, and Mathletes. She plans to attend Willamette University.

Reach reporter Ruth Longoria Kingsland at 541-474-3718 or [rkingsland@thedailycourier.com](mailto:rkingsland@thedailycourier.com)

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