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# News

## Governor Unveils Plan For Vehicle Charging Stations



(9/24/10) Oregon's governor visited Medford today unveiling plans to offer an alternative to oil dependence in southern Oregon. Today Governor Kulongoski announced his plan to electrify Oregon's main corridor along interstate five by installing electric vehicle charging stations from Eugene to Medford. Oregon actually has the highest percentage of hybrid users in the country. The Governor says \$700-thousand in federal stimulus money will be used to install eight "fast charging" stations along Interstate five from Eugene to the California boarder. Comprehensive plans in the future would include more than 1100 charging stations in Oregon.

## Buckley Makes Case For Legalizing Marijuana



(9/28/10) If California voters decide to pass a new measure legalizing marijuana, Oregonians could have the chance to do the same. On November 2<sup>nd</sup> Californian's will vote on Proposition 19 which will allow adults over twenty-one years of age to possess an ounce or less of marijuana. The law will also legalize gardens within a 25-square-foot area. Oregon State Representative Peter Buckley says he's watching Proposition 19 and if it passes he will submit legislation to follow suit. "Oregon has to look at this and say, do we want to be a part of that black market or do we want to legalize it, make it same and put taxes on it?" Currently 49 percent of Californians support the legalization while 42 percent are opposed.

## Unemployment Causing Rogue Valley Exodus



(9/24/10) The lack of jobs in Medford is causing job seekers to give up and move out. Employees at a local U-Haul company say they are renting one-way moving trucks to about ten people a day. The number one reason people are giving for their move is the economy. Trish Bowcock and her husband are moving out of Jacksonville to Portland. The couple retired and then because of the economy they sought to find work locally. He located work in Portland. "They're very little opportunities here, I want to go back to work too, there are very little jobs and in Portland there are more." The Oregon Employment Department does not track the amount of people that leave the state for work. But they believe people are moving out of desperation. Unemployment is at 10.6% statewide and hasn't budged from 12.8% in Jackson County. The rate in Josephine County is worse with an unemployment rate over 14%. Economists say there are even fewer jobs in Jackson County than last year.

## S.O.U. Woman Reports Sexual Attack Over The Weekend



(9/27/10) Southern Oregon University students are on high alert today after learning a young woman was attacked right in the middle of campus over the weekend. Police say the woman was walking near the College Administration Building Friday night when it happened. The say a freshman woman who lives in the dorms was walking near the Churchill and Britt buildings around 3 am Friday night when the incident happened. The coed told police two men sexually assaulted her before she was able to fight them off and get away to safety. No arrests have been made. University security sent an e-mail informing students about the crime. Students are encouraged to walk in pairs at night and avoid using cell phones or headphones when alone. Police are working with possible descriptions of both suspects.

## RCC Has Nearly 10% Enrollment Increase



(9/23/10) Rogue Community College (RCC) is expecting another jump in enrollment after record numbers last year. College officials are expecting about 6500 pre-registered students to show up next week. Last year the college took in an additional 1000 students resulting in a 35% increase in enrollment. This year 500 more students represent an increase of nearly 10 percent. Tracey Olsen-Oliver RCC's Associate Dean of Students says the increase may be a sign of the times. "There are several factors; mainly the economy has led to the increase." The Redwood Campus is expanding its parking lots and some of its classrooms to meet the growing number of students.

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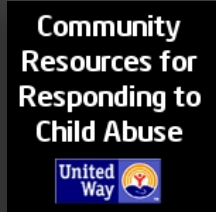
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