

## Three Bend Restaurants Cited \$6,435 for Liquor Law Violations

by Richard Burton

Three local restaurants will pay fines totaling \$6,435 or have their liquor licenses suspended for violations to the state liquor laws, said the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC).

The Shanghai Garden Restaurant & Lounge located at 1955 NE Division in Bend agreed to pay a \$2,970 civil penalty by November 24, or must serve an 18-day suspension starting November 28. On July 8, an employee who was checking identification drank alcohol on duty, and two employees permitted two minors to be in an area of the premises prohibited to under-age persons.

El Caporal West, 744 NW Bond Street, permitted two employees to sell, mix or serve alcohol, or manage those who do so, without service permits. In a second charge, an employee sold or served alcohol when she was under age 18. The restaurant must pay a \$2,310 civil penalty by November 24 or serve a 14-day suspension (starting November 28) on the two charges.

The licensee of Merenda Restaurant & Wine Bar, 900 NW Wall Street, paid a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,155 because the managing member -â€“ listed as Jett -â€œJodyâ€• Denton -â€“ permitted customers to take open containers of alcohol from the premises.

Elsewhere in Central Oregon, 97 Mart in Madras will pay a \$330 civil penalty or serve a two day suspension, in addition to being required to purchase and use age verification equipment. The charge resulted when an OLCC compliance check on August 23 revealed that the licensee or an employee failed to verify the age of a minor before selling him or her alcohol.

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