

Fund-raiser

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Prednisone. Once a week, Virgie and Jared go to Medford for the medication. Initially, Jared was taking a smaller dose of the steroid in pill form, but it wasn't effective.

The hope is that the Prednisone will strengthen and repair the damage to his kidneys, Virgie said. She added that such an outcome would more than justify the steroid side-effects on her son.

Headaches, nausea, puffiness, increased appetite and hyperactivity, she said, have become routine.

If the treatment doesn't work, it could mean a kidney transplant, although Virgie said she isn't thinking about that possibility yet.

Jared also takes medicine to lower his blood pressure -- another result of taking Prednisone -- and Zantac.

In the months since Jared became sick, Virgie has watched her savings dwindle and credit card bills skyrocket. In July, she used up her vacation time from her job at Dr. Joe's Pet Hospital in Cave Junction to take Jared to Portland for tests and a renal biopsy.

"She's missed almost three weeks of work," said her employer, Dr. Joe Hoelzle.

To help offset Virgie's accruing medical and transportation costs, Hoelzle and his staff have planned a rummage sale for Saturday, Oct. 26 and Sunday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Dr. Joe's parking lot, across Caves Hwy. from Siskiyou Market.

Virgie has worked for Hoelzle off and on for a number of years.

"She's a really good worker," Hoelzle said, "(We want to raise) as much as we possibly can."

Virgie extended her gratitude to Hoelzle and his staff for agreeing to her idea of the fund-raiser.

"He's really supported us," she said.

Donations for the rummage sale still are needed and may be left at Dr. Joe's, 369 Caves Hwy. Monetary donations for Jared are also welcome. For more information, phone 592-4589.

NFIB director for state sets speech in GP

J.J. Wilson, director of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) in Oregon, will speak on Friday, Oct. 25 during a public meeting of the Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce.

The luncheon meeting will begin at noon and last approximately one hour. It will be held at J.J. North's Grand Buffet.

NFIB, said the chamber, is "the largest, most influential small business association in the state." Wilson will discuss the Oregon Legislature's special sessions, and Ballot Measure 23 and how its affects the insurance industry.

Wilson's family has owned and operated two radio stations, KAJO and KLDK in Grants Pass since 1957.



LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD AIDS FIREFIGHTERS - A check for \$4,500 was presented to benefit Illinois Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association during a fund-raising fish fry at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Cave Junction on Friday evening, Oct. 18. The check was presented by Jean Berg (wearing pink sweater). Accepting the donation from Lutheran Brotherhood #8356 Disaster Relief Fund were (from left) staff Capt. Jeff Gavlik, volunteer Lt. Bill Hickerson, volunteer Capt. Ken Gavlik and Firefighter Pearlene Gavlik. Of the total, \$2,000 was from the brotherhood. The balance was raised by Good Shepherd, Calvary Lutheran and St. Paul Lutheran churches with help from Illinois Valley residents. In addition, those attending the fish fry donated another \$626 for the volunteers association, and matching funds might be available. (Photo by Bob 'See, I do know how to focus' Rodriguez)



Oregon Mountain Soap Co. new business in town

Alice Schaffer has opened Oregon Mountain Soap Co. in Downtown Cave Junction behind Century 21 Harris & Taylor, and Blue Moon Books & Coffee. The business offers handmade soap, plus bath oils, gift baskets and a large variety of Black Hills gold jewelry. The business is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Cold fall weather is making itself felt in and around Illinois Valley, with the resultant vibrant reds and yellows that mark the season.

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Fire District seeks funds

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In September, 63 percent of Illinois Valley voters supported construction of four new fire stations at Selma, O'Brien, Holland Loop and Cave Junction.

But due to the 50 percent turn-out requirement, the bond is back on the Nov. 5 vote-by-mail ballot.

Dave Toler, chairman of Friends For I.V. Fire, explained that the need "to support our volunteer firefighters still very much there, and that given the wide support expressed in September," he believes that the valley is recognizing how important this is.

Toler said that the campaign message has continued to focus on three major points:

- *Ensuring that the valley has an effective fire force.

- *Protecting existing investments.

- *Retaining a volunteer fire district.

"We need adequate stations that can house newer equipment," said Toler. "Much of our equipment is

becoming antiquated, but it makes no sense to buy new equipment if we have no place it can fit into."

The second point, he said, "refers to the fact that I.V. Fire already has too much equipment that has to sit out in the weather all year. In a community where resources are scarce," he said.

"It only makes sense that we protect the investments we have made. It's saving money in the longer run," said Toler.

In conclusion, the chairman of the friends group said, "We really need to provide decent stations for our volunteer force. By not providing items as basic as cleaning and laundry facilities, we are hampering our ability to recruit and retain these volunteers, who are a real bargain compared to a fully paid force."

"Our volunteers deserve adequate stations, and I'm confident that the people of Illinois Valley will say, 'Yes, we want to support our volunteer firefighters,'" Toler said, in the Nov. 5 election.

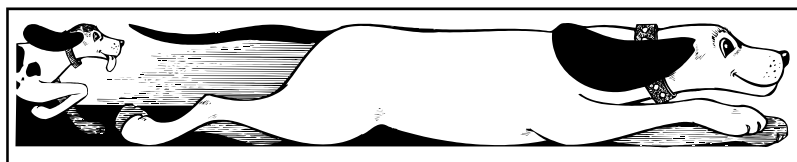
Deadline Nov. 1 to fill vacancies on bikeways committee for area

There is a deadline of Friday, Nov. 1 for volunteers to apply for seats on the Joint City/County Bikeways Committee, according to Josephine County and the city of Grants Pass.

The committee's several purposes include decreasing "hazardous biking, reducing

traffic congestion, encouraging energy conservation, and allowing safe access for children and senior citizens to recreational facilities."

Applications are available at the JoCo Commission Office in the county courthouse in Grants Pass. Phone (541) 474-5221 for more info.



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