Established 1937

Wednesday, March 19, 2003 Three Sections, 15 Pages, Volume 65 No. 52 Cave Junction, Oregon 97523

News

Single Copy 50-cents





VIGIL FOR PEACE - Approximately 30 persons turned out in 41-degree weather on Sunday night, March 16 in front of the county building in Downtown Cave Junction as part of a global peace vigil. Participants stood in a circle and each briefly outlined their opposition to war with Iraq. Those at-

tending then slowly marched in a circle symbolic of the global effort, and each silently recited his or her mantra for peace. One woman said that she saw of a woman in New York City with a sign, she has adopted it as her mantra: 'The power of love will overcome the love of power.'

'Selma Station thieves will be caught'

Loss of \$11,000 rescue equipment covered, but many are incensed

There is no lack of confidence that those responsible for stealing some \$11,000 worth of rescue equipment will be apprehended, said Chief Kyle Kirchner of Illinois Valley Fire Protection District.

He also feels that the items missing from Selma Station will be located, he said during the district board meeting in Cave Junction City Hall on Thursday night, March 13. In fact, special lifting bags have been retrieved after they apparently were left near the first bridge on the south side of Cave Junction.

Kirchner told the district board that clues are being processed by detectives from the Josephine County Sheriff's Office.

"And," said the chief, "a

lot of people are furious about someone stealing emergency rescue equipment." The burglary was discovered on March 3. Replacement items have been ordered under the district's insurance company, which has a \$250 deductible.

The chief also said that there are indications the thieves will be found by tracing them through certain items included in the burglary. In connection with the latter, Kirchner said that a person skilled in such matters approached him recently.

However, the person, who was not identified, said that he needs compensation for his work. Kirchner first commented that the person wanted "a reward," which irritated Director Leonard Frick.

"The guy has a lot of

nerve; it's absolutely wrong," said Frick.

But Director Joel Downing noted that "reward" is the wrong word, and that what is needed is "a contract for services."

He indicated that he would contact the radio tracing expert. There was some discussion about a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the burglary.

The board took no action on either item, but seemed to be receptive to a contract and possibly a reward, depending on information that the chief collects.

Board Chairman Don Haviland was absent due to illness. The meeting was conducted by Director Larrick Jones.

New schedule at I.V. Library announced

The hours at Josephine County's main library and Illinois Valley branch have changed.

Beginning Monday, March 31, both locations will reopen on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The I.V. branch will be closed on Tuesdays.

As of March 31, the Cave Junction site will be open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The main library in Grants Pass will be open Mondays and Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Don't forget I.V. Fire District Spring Fire Academy. See page 12



LAKE SELMAC COLLISION - Selma resident Dwayne Wilson, 36, suffered neck, back and possible internal injuries at approximately 4 p.m. on Monday, March 17 when the pickup truck he was driving on Lakeshore Drive struck a tree across from Lake Selmac Resort, said Josephine County Sheriff's Office. Wilson subsequently was taken by a Mercy Flights medical helicopter from Lake Selmac to Providence Medical

Center in Medford, where he was reported in stable condition on Tuesday, March 18. An engine in the bed of the pickup might have contributed to the crash, as it hit the rear of the cab. American Medical Response, Illinois Valley firefighters and sheriff's office deputies responded to the emergency. In photo above a deputy interviewed a woman identified as Wilson's girlfriend shortly after the accident.

'It's not porn,' states new CJ store owner

By BRITT FAIRCHILD Staff Writer

All Mike Motley asks is that he and William Deason be treated fairly.

He knows that some in the Illinois Valley community oppose, detest even, their plans to open an adult novelty and gift shop in Downtown Cave Junction on May 1.

However, he says they have the legal right to open such a business -- and customers have the personal right to shop there -- free from the harassment of others.

"I know there is going to be criticism," Motley said of the retail store, which will be called Midnight Oasis. "Just give us a chance."

The business will be located at 120 S. Redwood Hwy., the site of the former barbershop, next to the Texaco gas station.

Motley stressed that he and Deason want to run a clean, respectable business, despite what some might think.

"We are not going to run a porn shop," he said, noting that there will be no private movie booths inside the store.

Also, X-rated movies and magazines will not be sold there. Such items, though, could be available later if customers request them, Motley said.

Motley and Deason obtained a city business license for Midnight Oasis, with the address as 5770 Rockydale Road, in November. The location information was changed to the downtown address within city limits a couple of weeks ago, according to Jim-Polk, city recorder.

"I know there is going to be criticism," Motley said. "Just give us a chance."

The license is good through June 30.

Inventory at the store will include condoms, lotions, vibrators, lingerie, silver and gold body jewelry, gag gifts and other adult novelties.

No items have yet been sold, from the residence, over the Internet or at the unopened store, according to Motley.

But opponents seem to be against the idea itself, regardless of specifics.

They don't feel that Cave Junction needs a business like Midnight Oasis, Polk said, noting that five people have phoned city hall and two people have recently come in in person to state their views on the matter.

But Polk said that the city

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New Selma Fire Station in preliminary plans phase

Preliminary details for a new fire station in Selma are in the works, directors of Illinois Valley Fire District were told during their meeting in Cave Junction City Hall on Thursday night, March 13.

In addition, Chief Kyle Kirchner said that Selma Volunteer Lt. Jim Gurley, who has aided the district in other construction endeavors, has submitted an application for site review for upgrading the O'Brien Fire Station.

In connection with O'Brien work and the planned new Selma station, said the chief, a personal services contract is in the works for Gurley. "He will be doing the general consulting for our facilities projects," said Kirchner. "We are working up a contract," he said, adding that it should be ready for the board's next regular meeting, scheduled for April 17.

The district has been corresponding with Rough & Ready Lumber Co. for a site of some three acres on the west side of Hwy. 199 between the highway and Clear Creek Road. In the most recent letter, dated March 5, Kirchner proposed a counter-offer of \$60,000 for the property. Rough & Ready had suggested a price of \$100,000.

The chief said he hoped that an answer to the \$60,000 offer would have been received in time for last week's meeting, but it did not arrive in time. He said that a special meeting might have to be called for the matter.

In other matters, the fire

district board:

*Was advised that during January, district staff and volunteer firefighters responded to 15 fire-related alarms, 50 medical-related alarms, seven motor vehicle and rescuerelated alarms, and three "other" alarms.

*Heard that T-shirts are available for public sale that reflect the district. They are available at the main fire station on Caves Hwy.

*Received a report showing receipt of \$35,309 in miscellaneous revenue during the last fiscal year. Items included \$24,794 in reimbursement for the district's involvement in the Biscuit Fire, and \$3,150 for sale of a used fire engine.

*Was told that Home Valley Bank has the savings account for funds realized through general obligation bonds approved by voters last year, and voted 4-0 to authorize Beth Beards, district administrative secretary, to transfer funds as needed to do business throughout the term of the project.

*Voted 4-0 to authorize transferring \$58,000 from the contingency fund to personal services to cover salaries, Social Security and Public Employees Retirement Association costs in connection with the four staff officers for their work during the Biscuit Fire.

The meeting was conducted by Director Larrick Jones in the absence of Chairman Don Haviland because of illness. The other directors are Joel Downing, Joe Malcolm and Leonard Frick.