



RIVER REVELRY - (Far left) 'Great Cats of the World' with Cyndi Gamble and 'Kawaii' the caracal was one presentation at the river festival. She plans to open a cat park in CJ next spring. (Photo left) A display of Chateau Elan fused glass items was by Daniel Chambers and Ryann Blair, who live in Selma. Hathkapsuta co-sponsors included Evergreen Federal, 'Bebe's ART for everyone', Coffee Heaven, Illinois River Valley Arts Council, I.V. Family Coalition, National Park Service, Oregon Caves Chevron, Oregon Parks and Pizza Pit.



DOG & DRAFT - \$3

TAYLOR'S Sausage 5 to 8 p.m. Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday ONLY!

Ken's Mowing & Tilling

Phone: (541) 592-4483 or Cell: (541) 660-4003

5373 HOLLAND LOOP - CAVE JUNCTION

Gardening time is here!

*Postholes *Dump Trips
*Yard Care *Land Cleanup

Get ready for fire season!

FREE ESTIMATES!
SENIOR DISCOUNTS

Resignation of chief OK'd by board

(Continued from page 1)

also is immediate past president of Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association, and had been serving as county fire chief for the state of Oregon in case of a major conflagration. Because of his work in a liaison position during the major Biscuit Fire last year, he was scheduled to be a principal speaker during the annual meeting of state fire chiefs in Redmond, but he canceled when placed on administrative leave.

Immediately prior to the start of the special meeting last week, volunteer Capt. Bill Hickerson placed rocks with notes before each board member. The notes read, in essence, that everyone has a skeleton in their closet and that anyone with a perfect record should "cast the first stone." No stones were cast.

The board's approval of the two motions came after an executive (closed to the public) session of approximately 23 minutes. It was recessed to open session about 7:55 p.m. at which time Martial He-

nault, the district's legal counsel from Medford, went outside and got Kirchner. The attorney and Kirchner went into the county building kitchen for negotiation. They emerged at around 8:03, and the board went back into closed session lasting some two minutes.

Back in open session, the two motions were made and approved in short order. Haviland, board president, immediately adjourned the meeting, and the directors, with the exception of Jones, left the scene. Kirchner, sitting at the front of the meeting room adjacent to Henault, was offered a handshake, which he accepted. Outside, Jones, a veteran retired firefighter and Kirchner supporter, spoke with a number of those who attended the meeting.

Some in the primarily pro-Kirchner audience called for "a new board." During the second open session, Frick remarked to Downing, "We need to move ahead. I want to get this over. The unfortunate part is that the public is going to blame us."

Kirchner and his wife,

Julia, a volunteer firefighter and president of the volunteers' association, said after the meeting that they have no plans to leave the valley. Both indicated that any changes to the board should come because of public action.

And after the meeting, both they and Jones stated that the situation "is unfortunate" for the valley community in terms of the cost, loss of public confidence, and effect on the volunteers.

Kirchner said that he offered his resignation "to protect my interests" as otherwise it's unlikely that he would be able to gain employment in the fire service elsewhere. In addition, he said it's his belief that three of the board members would have fired him in any case. He indicated that because the original 10 issues did not represent "a smoking gun" and that the 11th issue was used to pursue his termination. "They got backed into a corner," said Kirchner.

Jones on Sunday, June 22 said it's his belief that, "He (Kirchner) got tired of all this bs that's been going around. So to keep his re-

cord clear, and to be able to get another job in the fire service," he resigned.

And "a couple members of his staff (not including Jeff Gavlik)," said Jones, "have been trying to (cause trouble for Kirchner) for unknown reasons. It's turned into a bucket of worms," said Jones. "Now we'll have to incur the expenses of advertising and recruiting for a new chief."

"I have nothing to hide," said Kirchner on Sunday. "The 11th issue or 'charge' was pulled out of my personal past, and it was presented to look as though I had used my position for personal financial gain. I still intend to pay back the loan, but I can't reaffirm the loan at this time under the bankruptcy laws."

Kirchner said that there is now an opportunity for the public to make changes, if it so desires and if it feels that the board has not done its job in the best interests of the public.

Illinois Valley Golf Course
Redwood Hwy. & Laurel Road

**WATER!
WATER!
WATER!**

Our irrigation pipeline is in, the course is green again!

Come and Play!

Current Specials:

18 Holes with cart - \$45 for Two
9 Holes with cart - \$25 for Two

All day Tuesday & Thursday and Sunday afternoon

Phone for available tee times - 592-3151

The Kerby Transfer Station

is open
Saturdays:
9:30 a.m.
to
2:30 p.m.

Hours: Mondays - Saturdays
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

For more information phone (800) 922-1025

Southern Oregon Sanitation

OWN LAND?

OPTIONAL GARAGE

FAMILY

KITCHEN

NOOK

BEDROOM #1

DINING

LIVING

BEDROOM #3

BEDROOM #2

MODEL OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10 TO 4 SEE MAP BELOW

\$56,950
\$33.46 Per Sq.Ft. Plan 3-1702 © Adair Homes, Inc. 1999

Adair Homes are 100% site built; not manufactured, modular or panelized.
*Price excludes owner provided items, site development, mileage & utilities. Ask us for details.

"Practical Homes For Practical People!"
Office Open Monday to Friday • 10 AM to 6 PM

Since 1969

ADAIR HOMES
CCB #593

541 Business Park Drive
Suite A, Medford, OR

(541) 732-1560