



LAST GIANT - The final tree in front of Lorna Byrne Middle School fell on Monday, July 14. The six trees that lined North Junction Ave. were removed as part of the construction of the new school's parking lot. Demolition of the former wood shop building has begun at the north end of the school.

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IVCRT Insights
 By RON PHILLIPS

As many valley residents may already be aware, the federal designation as an Enterprise Community (EC) will end in December 2005, and with it, the federal funds that have supported Illinois Valley Community Response Team (IVCRT).

Being an EC has provided a unique opportunity to establish a local organization by the community and for the community. Much of the accompanying \$1.9 million has been used through the years either in direct donation to other community efforts or to leverage outside funding for these activities.

Projects as diverse as the computer labs at Lorna Byrne Middle School and I.V. High School; a roof on Kerbyville Museum; a commercial kitchen at Dome School; and the industrial park nearing completion at I.V. Airport have resulted. Even the Cave Junction top-of-the-line water and sewer plants, not to mention the Kerby water connections under way, are there in part to our being an EC. All this is about the change.

Last year the IVCRT board deliberated about the future of the organization and decided that it represented an asset that -- if kept alive after 2002 -- could go on giving. At that time directors adopted a strategy (community investing), where IVCRT would use remaining federal funds to invest in income-generating activities that simultaneously furthered the IVCRT mission of serving the valley.

Management of the concession at Oregon Caves National Monument through Oregon Caves Outfitters was a first step. What IVCRT must do now is reconfigure itself from an organization with three employees to one with (currently) 39. Internal policies and procedures must be upgraded to reflect this new reality. More importantly, with the coming demise as a grant-making entity, IVCRT must decide how it will interact with and continue to serve the valley in its new role as a social entrepreneur. Leadership during this period will be crucial.

Call For Board Director Nominees

After several resignations, the number of board directors has reduced to 12, leaving seven vacancies to be filled. The skills, experience and vision that these new directors will bring to join existing directors will largely determine the fate of IVCRT and -- to some extent -- the future of the valley. Now is the time to step forward.

Many have carped in the past about IVCRT and how the board is dominated by this or that type of group. The organization can only be as good as the directors who govern it. Rather than complaining from the sidelines, IVCRT needs capable people to join us in the hard work it takes to make the valley a better place.

Nomination forms are available at the IVCRT office across from the Cave Junction Post Office, or can be mailed to you. For those general members who have e-mail, they will be receiving a form electronically. And don't be shy: Self-nomination is quite common and a widely accepted practice. Election by the board will be during the Aug. 7 meeting, so potential nominees need to act quickly.

Kerby Water District Formation

The hard-working committee in Kerby will appear before the county commissioners for a hearing on formation of a Kerby Water District. Once the district is approved, directors can begin the process of applying for a Community Development Block Grant.

With funds awarded, those Kerby residents who choose to join the district will be connected to the city of Cave Junction system and have access to unlimited, treated water.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

The IVCRT board will establish a number of committees to guide the reconfiguration mentioned above. Many will be time-limited groups with specific tasks.

A description of these committees will be e-mailed to general members, or mailed on request. The nomination form and committee description are posted at ivcrt.org.



CELTIC MUSIC - Cool breezes accompanied music performed by George and Anwyn Leverett of 'Around the Hearth' along with their poodle, 'Aislyn' on Thursday, July 10 at Jubilee Park. Approximately 60 people attended the event, part of the Concerts in the Park series. The next concert will be on Thursday, July 17. 'Salsa Salseros' will be the next performer.

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