

**SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS** - As part of events during April, Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a fireside healing ceremony will be held by I.V. Safe House Alliance on Friday the 23rd from 4 to 6 p.m. Phone 592– 2515 for additional information. On Saturday, April 17, "Women: The Longest Revolution Theatrical Benefit," will be held in Ashland. Phone (541) 552-6216 for reservations. And on Saturday, April 24 there will be Youth Safety and Prevention Day events. Phone 476-3877 for details.

**LLAMA-RAMA** - A full day of llama packing instruction will be offered by a lifetime mountaineer, Rudy Stauffer, on Saturday, April 17 at Forest Edge Farm in rural Cave Junction. A llama day-hike will follow on Sunday, April 18. Phone Joyce Abrams at 592-6078 for details and reservations.

**RECYCLE ROUND-UP** - On Saturday, April 24 the Spring Recycle Round-Up will be held. Materials such as newspaper, magazines, phone books, catalogs, cardboard, paper bags, mixed paper, tin cans, aluminum foil, and plastics with an opening smaller than the base will be accepted at I.V. Visitor Center. The event is co-sponsored by Southern Oregon Sanitation, I.V. Community Response Team, I.V. Chamber of Commerce, Sterling Savings Bank, Sierra Club I.V. Branch, and many other volunteers.

**COMMISSION MISSION** - The Josephine County Board of Commissioners (at least one of them) will be in the county building in Downtown Cave Junction on Monday, April 26 beginning at 6:30 p.m., one hour prior to a meeting of the city council in city hall. Those with questions or comments about county government can attend the informal gathering of commissioners.

**NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK -** During the period from Friday, April 16 to Saturday, April 24, Josephine County libraries will be honored. People are encouraged to visit their libraries and choose a colored heart and write on it why they love their library. For more information, contact the I.V. Branch Library at 592-3581.

**ROGUE VALLEY FLYERS** - The 8th annual swap meet of Rogue Valley Flyers, which has a facility at the former Kerby landfill, is scheduled for Saturday, April 17 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Josephine County Fairgrounds in Grants Pass. There will be an admission fee. For more information, phone (541) 476-9872 or 471-0824.

NOTEPAD - A Biscuit Fire book has been published by a former 10-year firefighter from what was the Siskiyou Smokejumper Base at I.V. Airport. The book, "The Biscuit Fire, Consequences of Forest Management Decisions," is by Charles R. Mansfield, who lives in Los Alamos, N.M. ... The American Red Cross Rogue Valley Chapter annual special campaign to raise \$70,000 for disaster relief in Josephine and Jackson counties is under way. It will run until Friday, April 23. Contributions can be made by phoning (800) 433-9285, or by sending a check made out to American Red Cross Rogue Valley Chapter to 60 Hawthorne, Medford, OR 97504 ... John Glenn, former astronaut and senator, will deliver the commencement address at Oregon State University's commencement exercises in June ... T-shirt: A village in Texas is missing its idiot.

# (Continued from page 2)

finally wanted my lemonade that I failed to recognize the real value of that cold, refreshing juice.

People would buy several cups without a thought. Soon, I was out of juice with several hours of a dog day afternoon remaining.

Today, the number of beautiful places without traffic jams, air pollution and relatively little serious crime are dwindling fast. Meanwhile, the number of people searching for better pastures are increasing daily by the thousands. For our valley, it's a hot day; we have some great lemonade; and there are fewer and fewer Jasons.

Are we recognizing the value of what we've got? How many acres around Cave Junction have I seen during the last few months raped down to mineral earth, not a tree or shrub in sight? It's the kind of cheap development that comes in places that don't realize the value of what they have.

But I.V. no longer needs to be desperate; we don't have to bend over backwards to make the developers happy. We can raise our expectations based on a community we can be proud of: The time is now or forever hold our peace.

As I drive on Redwood Hwy., I appreciate the way Siskiyou Community Health Center is developing its new location. It reflects an attitude that we are worth more than a raped clean-cut. It emanates pride in our community.

I can only hope that the city of Cave Junction begins to raise our expectations of what is acceptable.

Hopefully, when developers come before the city asking for shortcuts and Southern Californialike plans, our city leaders

### Junior Savings plan makes cents

By SHANE WELSH Staff Writer

"The children are the future of our country and if we don't do something to help them, we're in big trouble."

So said Pat Lesiecki, coordinator for Cave Junction-based Josephine County Junior Savings Program & Education Trust.

Les and Pat Lesiecki, former owners of the House of Pendleton (now the Cave Junction Senior Thrift Store), started a Junior Savings & Education Program in 1991 to help teach children the importance of saving money. Home Valley Bank

employees, Peggy Housel and Les Saffer, give presentations to classes at Evergreen Elementary and Lorna Byrne Middle schools to help children better understand the importance of starting a savings account to help them finance future endeavors.

Normally, it takes a minimum of \$50 to open a savings account, but Home Valley Bank established a unique account that enables kids involved in the program to open a smaller account for only \$5.

"For only 25-cents, a child can get a \$5 savings card which will help start the account. We give them a stamp for their card for each 25 cent investment," said Les. "When the card is full of stamps, and the amount equals \$5, we open an account for them which they can begin using."

There are more than 40 children involved in the savings program. During 2003, the IRS officially recognized the program as a nonprofit organization.

"I had a child come to me and tell me that for the first time, he was able to buy both his parents Christmas presents using money he saved," said Les. "There are many kids who don't know how to save



Les and Pat Lesiecki

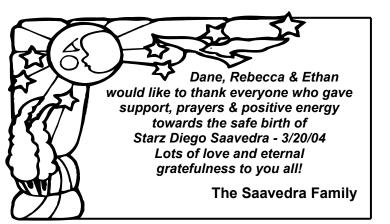
Their idea will offer students the opportunity to receive tutoring from their peers, and give them more incentive to learn.

"If a failing student brings their grade up from an F to a B," he explained, "we will give them a voucher for some money that can be applied to a college of their choice."

The Lesieckis talked with Peter Maluk, princi-

pal at Lorna Byrne Middle School, who said he will discuss the idea of tutoring students with his staff. Les will present the idea to Evergreen during June.

"Our area is (economically) depressed and the financial situation isn't that good," said Les. "We need kids to understand that in order to have money to spend, they need to save it," he said.





**LAST WORDS** - Happiness is nothing more than good health and a bad memory. (Albert Schweitzer)

The trouble with doing something right the first time is that nobody appreciates how difficult it was.

- Walt West -



#### will reflect a vision that appreciates the value of what we have.

Otherwise, you and I will be out of lemonade, left cooking in the hot afternoon sun, with no shade left for a comforting reprieve.



#### Jessica R. Hendrix Jessica R. Hendrix, a graduate of Illinois Valley High School, attained the winter term scholastic honor roll at Oregon State University in Corvallis, and is one of only 484 students earning straight A's.

Hendrix is a sophomore majoring in history.

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'Where the Nicest People Meet.'

money to get things they want or need," he said.

"Three years ago, we a d d e d the words 'Education Trust' to the program," he said. "When kids want to go to college, they say they can't because they don't have the grades to get financial help. We started planning a pilot program to join students who are struggling in school with those who are doing well," he said.

I can do no great things, only small things with great love. - Mother Teresa -

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### THANK YOU 2004 Teen Awards Sponsors

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We appreciate the individual and business sponsors listed above. With their generosity, awards were presented to eleven Josephine County teens who have made positive life changes.

Josephine County Commission for Children and Families