

Established 1937

Illinois Valley News

Wednesday, April 28, 2004, 4 Sections, 36 Pages, Volume 67 No. 6 Cave Junction, Oregon 97523

Single Copy 50-cents



Cinco de Mayo



Work is under way on a disc golf course at Lake Selmac. (Photo by Shane Welsh)

Flyin' Frisbees in the air for Lake Selmac

By SHANE WELSH
Staff Writer

Discs soon will be flying through the air at Lake Selmac.

A new disc (Frisbee) golf course is under development at the lake, and it will be open free to the public early this summer, said Mike Strahan, Josephine County park superintendent at Lake Selmac.

The course will encompass 16 acres of land near the McMullen Creek slough, on the east side of

the lake near the day-use pavilion.

The project began as a desire to move the park host living quarters to a location that wouldn't intrude on park recreation.

During the process, it was determined that the area could also be used to construct a Frisbee golf course for public use.

Funding comes from \$140,000 remaining from the 2002 Biscuit Fire, when the park was used as a fire camp.

Although most of the money was used to construct a new playground and basketball court, which was recently completed, the majority of the course will be finished with the help of community donation.

Teen-agers at Illinois Valley High School metal shop class are building the baskets for the course using materials donated by the park. Area Boy Scouts will place the baskets in the ground once the course

has been cleared and designed.

Currently, the U.S. Forest Service is thinning a wooded area that will accommodate the park host and 8 acres of course. The remainder of the course will be laid out in an adjacent field across from the park pavilion.

"The new course should be open for public use early this summer," said Peter Schalk, park operations coordinator, for Josephine County.



PLAYGROUND PROJECT - Lise VanBrunt, Evergreen Elementary School principal, feels the old playground structure needs replacement. She hopes to begin re-

placement as soon as enough money is gathered, using funds left over from the school's annual fundraisers. Story on page 10. (Shane Welsh photo)

Past VP Mondale coming to Selma

'Joan of Art,' former Rep. AuCoin guests for Selma Center opening

Former Vice President Walter Mondale under President Carter will be among special guests in Selma on Sunday, May 2 for the grand opening of the Selma Community and Education Center.

With Mondale, also former Minnesota attorney general who now practices law; will be his wife, Joan; and former 1st District Congressman Les AuCoin, and his partner, Sue. They will be available to answer questions from the community.

The program, for which tickets are available, will begin at 2 p.m. with live music.

Mondale was a candidate for president vs. Ronald Reagan. He served as ambassador to Japan in the Clinton Administration.

His wife is known worldwide as "Joan of

Art" for her internationally recognized leadership in the world of art.

There will be reception for her at Clear Spaces Gallery in Downtown Cave Junction on Monday, May 3 at 10 a.m. Anyone can attend, said Pam Cooper of Clear Spaces Gallery.

AuCoin is now a political science professor at Southern Oregon University at Ashland, and an NPR commentator.

"Bring your questions to these international leaders," said the Selma center. Questions are to be sent to The Selma Center, 18255 Redwood Hwy., Selma OR 97538, or take them to the center, the former Selma school.

Questions and reservations also can be directed to selmacenter@earthlink.net; or telephone 415-1000.

Park-use fee protests mark council meeting

By MICHELLE BINKER
Staff Writer

Bothered by increased park-use fees, protestors packed Cave Junction City Hall Monday night, April 26.

Members of the Cave Junction and Illinois Valley Lions clubs, and I.V. Chamber of Commerce were present in force.

Approximately 80 persons attended, and a number addressed the CJ City Council. For nearly an hour they reiterated the concern that past agreements between the city and the I.V. Lions for use of Jubilee Park for its annual

Labor Day weekend festival were not being honored.

The city instituted the use fees to recoup the cost of park clean-up and maintenance following events.

Steve Lyons, president of the I.V. Lions, maintained that the group is very conscientious about the condition in which the park is left following the event each year.

After last year's festival, the city presented a bill to the Lions for repairs and clean-up. Lyons said the Lions would have been happy to make the neces-

(Continued on page 10)

Primary election ballots on tap

Ballots for the Tuesday, May 18 primary election are to be mailed by Josephine County Clerk's Office on Friday, April 30.

They must be returned by 8 p.m. to the elections office to be counted. Postmarks do not count, said JoCo Clerk Georgette Brown.

However, ballots can be deposited up to 8 p.m. on election day at Cave

Junction City Hall. Or they can be taken to the elections office in the county courthouse in Grants Pass by 8 p.m.

Among other contests, the vote-by-mail ballot shows the candidates for two seats on the JoCo Board of Commissioners.

Registered voters are urged to review the "Voters' Pamphlet," which was sent last week.

County schools chief resigns

Dave Burgess, superintendent of Three Rivers Community School District, will leave at the end of June, at least partially because he feels that Oregon is neglecting its commitment to education.

Burgess has served two years. When hired, he indicated a long-term commitment. But he said he doesn't like the political climate around Oregon education, and noted

the defeat of Measure 30. It would have maintained funding for public schools.

For the fiscal 2004-05 budget, that will run from July 1 to June 30, he will have to reduce the district's \$38 million budget by nearly \$4 million.

Burgess is to become superintendent of schools in Lake Stevens, Wash. He came from there when he was deputy superintendent.

'Swing into Spring' home, yard and garden presentation to inspire and perspire. For all the 'honey-do's' that are lurking about. See pages 6 and 7.