

## CJ deputy handling transients, break-ins

Problems with car break-ins, transients and speeding are being approached directly by the city of Cave Junction contract deputy, the city council was advised during its meeting on Monday night, April 26 in city hall.

Deputy John Auburn, in a report, said that he was "focusing a lot of my time on traffic enforcement" on E. River Street, particularly in the area of Illinois Valley High School, when not handling calls for service. Because of the enforcement, "I have noticed a considerable decrease in speeding problems in that area," he noted.

Auburn also reported, "There has been a large increase in the number of car break-ins within the city. I have been advised that it's one person committing these thefts. The person has an active arrest warrant.

"I have spoken to the other deputies working in the city at night," Auburn said, "and asked them to look for this person. I feel confident that when they take him into custody, the car break-ins will be dramatically reduced."

The deputy further reported that because of complaints about "a problem area (in the form of) a local hangout for transients" is being handled. He said that Lt. Lee Harman, officer-in-charge of the valley substation in CJ, contacted property owners about the matter.

Essentially, the "hangout" is at the rear of the building that houses the state liquor store and Blue Moon Café. "Owners of the property authorized that these people be 'trespassed'," said Auburn. "This is a positive step," he said, as "if the subjects return to the property after being warned, they can be criminally charged."

Auburn's report also included statistics for March. He reported that there were 322 calls or incidents, including 202 calls for service. He also listed:

Twenty arrests, four assaults, three alarms, five burglaries, 26 Community Oriented Policing contacts, seven criminal mischief cases, seven disturbances, two DUII arrests, 13 thefts, 35 traffic incidents including stops and contacts, five stolen vehicles, and 79 written reports.

## 'Helpful publications' available free from FCIC

A new package of free "helpful publications" on many aspects of modern living is available from the Federal Citizen Information Center (FCIC).

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Jo Sauer (Photo by Shane Welsh)

## Kerby painter Jo Sauer Artist of Month for IVFA

Jo Sauer of Kerby has been selected by the Illinois Valley Fine Artists (IVFA) Inc. as Featured Artist for April and May.

Sauer was born in Brownsville, Ore. and has lived in Illinois Valley since 1960. She grows hay on her farm in Kerby.

Sauer joined the I.V. Fine Artists group in 1970. She participated in painting classes with other artists while they were holding their meetings at the

county building in Cave Junction.

She enjoys painting in oils; working on landscapes, seascapes and animals.

Her paintings can be viewed through the end of May at Sterling Savings Bank in Downtown CJ.

I.V. Fine Artists Inc. meets in the RCC Kerby Belt Bldg. Mondays to critique and work on projects. For more information, phone 592-3949.

## Cost-cuts aimed toward wildfire safety standards

By MICHELLE BINKER Staff Writer

Reducing potential expenses are among proposed revisions to Article 76 of Josephine County Rural Land Development Code concerning wildfire safety standards.

They were reviewed during a meeting of the county planning commission recently in Anne Basker Auditorium in Grants Pass.

Don Rubenstein, lead consultant for the revision project, summarized for commissioners concerns which had been heard during the three community meetings in Wolf Creek, Williams, and Cave Junction regarding the proposed changes.

Among the concerns, Rubenstein identified the cost of complying with stringent construction standards and the cost of complying with accessibility standards as perhaps the most controversial results of the Article 76 revisions.

To these concerns, Rubenstein brought forward some proposals for the commission's consideration.

One eliminates costly or cumbersome construction requirements for cantilevered structures or decks, and would require that the underside be maintained free of combustible material. They would be exterior screened with a non-corrodible, non-flammable material.

Another proposal would attempt to mitigate the expense of having to pave the entire length of a hilly driveway by allowing a less-expensive alternative to asphalt or concrete paving. Structural firefighting equipment is not designed to gain traction on steep, unpaved roads, and the revised Article 76 requirements to address this issue seem to some prohibitively expensive.

Rubenstein would not elaborate on particulars of this proposal, saying only that he would like to "explore alternatives which would be practical, respectful" and accommodate needs of firefighters.

He said he would explain further during the commission's next hearing on this matter June 7.

staying healthy, getting a home loan, making a will, saving money, and investing," said FCIC. "Get help creating a financial plan, preventing dangerous drug interactions, buying drugs online, cop-

ing with menopause, and protecting yourself and your family with a disaster preparedness kit," it added.

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## Selmac upgrades seen aiding events

Capital improvements at Lake Selmac continue apace with the installation of a new, 200-amp electric power service.

Steve Schalk, head of park operations with the Josephine County Parks Dept., said the power upgrade will make the park more attractive to large groups and music events.

"Once they find out we have this kind of power service and so much room available, we'll have lots of groups who'll want to use the facility," he said.

While the power upgrade was planned for later this decade, Schalk said a community group which wanted to use the park for a music festival approached him with an offer to help procure funds and labor for the project.

"The Shining Stars really pushed this decision over the edge," Schalk said. "They, and the Iron Horse Rodeo group each kicked in \$500. And Josephine County is paying another \$500."

Both groups are planning music events with large sound stages

"Additionally, Kerby Electric donated the box and pole, and Pacific Power is donating the wire and the labor and equipment to pull it," he said.

Without such community involvement and donation, Schalk said, the project wouldn't have gotten off the ground.

"The parks budget is pretty slim. It's nice when the community can kick in," he noted.

With the many recreational and capital improvements at the park, Schalk expects Lake Selmac will attract many more groups

and visitors.

The park will host Cycle Oregon in September, and a bluegrass festival sponsored by the Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce is also tentatively scheduled to take place at the lake.

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