



**CITY POOLING ITS RESOURCES** - The city of Cave Junction has drained the swimming pool on E. River Street as part of maintenance preparations for this

year's season. The city took over the pool from Josephine County last year. Plans are to open the pool for the summer season in June. (Michelle Binker photo)

## Can Slam wham bam, man

Nearly 100 carloads of recyclable materials made their way to the Spring Recycle Round-up, held Saturday, April 24 at Illinois Valley Visitor Center.

Approximately four tons of metal, cardboard, paper and plastic were collected, said Gordon Lyford, co-coordinator.

The event was co-sponsored by I.V. Community Response Team, Southern Oregon Sanitation, Sterling Savings Bank, I.V. Chamber of Commerce and I.V. Sierra Club.

## Another meth lab in GP

A Grants Pass couple have been charged with manufacture, possession and delivery of methamphetamine following a search of their apartment Tuesday, April 13.

Acting on developed information that a methamphetamine lab was present at a residence in GP, Josephine Interagency Narcotics Team (JOINT) detectives and police officers from the Grants Pass Dept. of Public Safety (GPDPS) secured a warrant to search the home of Dennis and Cynthia Prior at 601 N.E. Eighth St.

Dennis Prior was arrested on charges of manufacturing, possession, and delivery of a controlled substance, possession of

precursor materials, and MCS within 1,000 feet of a school.

The residence is located 670 feet from Grants Pass High School.

Detectives located and seized precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of meth, such as iodine, red phosphorus, pseudoephedrine and various solvents. In addition, several grams of finished methamphetamine product and evidence, including packaging material, of the sale of meth were located.

A detective also located slightly less than \$400 in counterfeit U.S. currency. The sheriff's office is working with federal officials regarding this matter.

## Clubs & Groups

### Forestry Action Committee

There will be an FAC meeting to discuss project updates at 1 p.m. on Thursday, May 6 in the lower compound of the Illinois Valley Ranger Station at 26568 Redwood Hwy.

Meetings are held quarterly. Anyone can attend. Phone 592-4098 for more information.

### IVHS Booster Club

Illinois Valley High School Principal Joann Bethany drew the names of winners of the Booster Club Great Gravel Raffle on April 15.

The winning tickets belonged to Brett Davis and Cal Messerli.

The club appreciates all who participated, especially "our very generous sponsors," Q Bar X Ranch and Barlow Rock, "who made it all possible."

## Law enforcement among top priorities for Ellis, Raffenburg as commissioners

Two candidates for Positions 1 and 2 on the Josephine County Board of Commissioners said, "It's time for change in leadership."

Dwight Ellis, seeking Position 1; and Jim Raffenburg, vying for Position 2, spoke during a meeting of Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce directors in Wild River Brewing & Pizza Co.

They are among candidates on the Tuesday, May 18 vote-by-mail primary election ballot.

Both indicated they feel that taxpayers are not getting their money's worth from current office holders. They said they will be available to the public; that responses to questions and comments will be expedited; and that there should be a review of all county job descriptions. In addition,

they feel that there should be a full-blown audit every two years.

Ellis, executive director of the Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce for the past 24 years, said his goal is to "maximize the impact of current taxpayer dollars to provide actual services."

He said that because O&C funding will end in the not-too-distant future, the county must take steps to be ready. He said that the county does not have checks and balances in place either.

Ellis, who flew 82 combat missions during the Vietnam War and who has taken the GP Chamber from 80 to 900 members, said that "public safety is number one above everything else." He believes in funding for the sheriff's office, with an eye toward increased efficiency, and that the jail operation needs to be remedied so that full capacity can be handled.

Raffenburg, a contractor and county reserve deputy, said he believes in long-term planning, and that he will fund law enforcement.

He, like Ellis, pointed

to his successes in the private sector, which would result in an improved county government if he is allowed to implement them by being elected, he said.

In addition, he is chairman of the county's rural planning commission.

"I will lead by example and actually be a working manager," said Raffenburg. "I will work the hours necessary, and find new solutions for old problems."

Like Ellis, he said that a county commissioner should devote himself full time, and that he "will rebuild trust in county government."

Raffenburg and Ellis said that county salaries need some examination, indicating that it seems some are out of line with the economy, and that some are not equitable.

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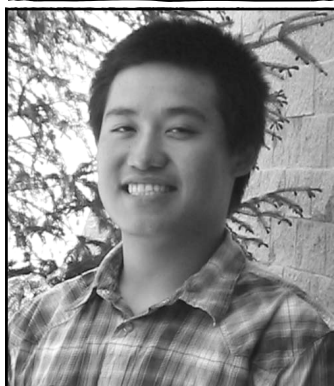
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## I.V. High Achiever



Liang Lee

Liang Lee, a senior at Illinois Valley High School, is Josephine County Board of Commissioners Student of the Month for February.

He is the son of Miguel and Hsiang Vasquez. His family originated from Taiwan. He has been in the United States for five years. Lee has maintained a 3.77 grade-point average.

Lee is the senior class secretary. He is a member of the IVHS Chapter of National Honor Society and the baseball team. He also played on the basketball team. He enjoys fishing in his free time.

Lee plans to attend college, enter the police academy and become a narcotics officer.

**VOTE!**



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