

Blotter ..

(Continued from page 6)

*Harassment again was reported on Rockydale Road, and one person was said to have stated she would kick the complainant's butt.

*Michael E. Tyler, 40, was arrested on Illinois River Road under two warrants charging probation violation.

*Assistance was provided a California man who was worried about his brother in Selma.

Sunday, May 16

*Possible trespassing was checked at six past midnight in the 1600 block of Reeves Creek Road.

*Two people had a disturbance somewhere in Downtown CJ at 35 past midnight.

*Intoxicated people and reported domestic violence were parts of a situation on Hogue Drive at 3:10 a.m., but no one wanted to press charges.

*Criminal mischief in the form of "spinning doughnuts" at Creekside RV Park on Reeves Creek Road was reported.

*First-degree burglary and theft were logged in the 700 block of Reeves Creek Road.

*Damage to a wall was estimated at \$200 at the Junction Inn after a guest left the premises.

*On Illinois River Road, Ocean F. Clark, 21, was cited on a federal charge for possession of marijuana.

*A highly intoxicated man, who gave a false name, wanted to report that someone started a fire behind his house and wouldn't put it out in the 9000 block of Takilma Road.

*A resident in the 9000 block of Takilma Road said that someone set a wood pile on fire about 100 yards from his house.

*A disturbance in Selma actually turned out to be a man not taking heart medication.

*"Misdiagnosing" was said to be the cause of a 911 hang-up call from S. Junction Avenue.

*People were warned on Illinois River Road about letting children ride motorcycles without wearing helmets.

*At McCaleb Ranch out Illinois River Road, Joshua D. Miller, 18, was cited on a charge of DWI.

*On N. Old Stage Road a woman was taken for help under a voluntary mental hold after saying that she took a bottle of pills.

*In CJ a boy, 12, was counseled about not contacting his mother as to his whereabouts after he didn't come home as expected.

*The rear window of a vehicle behind Kerbyville Museum was shot out, a man reported.

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(Top, from left) Holly Hicker, Tina Haemmerlein and Lydia Beeman. (Bottom, from left) Shannon Hill, Timothy Phlaum and Kenny Krska. (Photos provided)

Legion Auxiliary lists 'Poppy' winners

Illinois Valley student winners in the 2004 Poppy Poster contest sponsored by Glenn Morrison American Legion Auxiliary Unit 70 are announced.

- ***
- Class 1, 4th/5th grades.**
 *1st - Kenny Krska, The Christian Academy.
 *2nd - Lucas Harris, The Christian Academy.
 *3rd - Kierra Pevez, The Christian Academy.
- Class 2, 6th/7th grades**
 *1st - Timothy Phlaum, home-schooled.
 *2nd - Amy Hart, Lorna Byrne Middle

- School (LBMS).
 *3rd - Paige Ragsdale, LBMS.
- Class 3, 8th/9th grades**
 *1st - Lydia Beeman, Illinois Valley High School (IVHS).
- Class 4, 10th-12th grades**
 *1st - Holly Hicker, IVHS.
- Class 5**
 *1st - Shannon Hill, IVHS.
 *2nd - David West, IVHS.
 *3rd - Adam Crutchfield, IVHS.
- First-place winners received \$15 cash, a rib-

bon, a medal "and the honor that their posters are going to the American Legion Oregon State Dept. level with the hopes that one will go on to the national level," said Tina Haemmerlein, Unit 70 Auxiliary Poppy chairman.

"We are so pleased and proud," she said, "that we had so many excellent, creative posters entered by our inspiring Illinois Valley youth.

"It is not an easy task with the guidelines set for the posters, and we appreciate all who entered."

Air tanker for fires topic of debate

By MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Whether a contracted air tanker will be allowed to fly out of Medford this summer to support Oregon Dept. of Forestry (ODF) crews battling wildfires remains up in the air.

The problem, explained Jeff Schwanke, forester in charge of ODF's Southwest Oregon District, is that it's unclear whether the use will be permitted, a decision that may require approval by the National Transportation Safety Board, or NTSB.

"We have yet to determine if we can even fly it down here," Schwanke said of the DC-6B tanker scheduled to be flown from Alaska in mid-to-late-July.

"We're trying to get a clear understanding of that now," he added. "That may have to come from (the NTSB)."

As the result of an NTSB report expressing concerns about the safety of the aging tanker fleet contracted by the U.S. For-

est Service, the agency has terminated contracts for 33 of the tankers. Between 1994 and 2002, three tankers crashed, killing seven crew members. The average age of the tankers is 48.

To offset the grounding, forest service and Dept. of Interior officials said they plan to rely more on helicopters and military C-130s to fight fires on national forest land.

ODF firefighters protect private, county, state and U.S. Bureau of Land Management lands.

In addition to waiting for NTSB to give the go-ahead on allowing the DC-6B to be flown to Medford, the state agency is also waiting for clarification of where it can be used, Schwanke said.

"We still may have a ship but we don't have an answer yet if we can use it," Schwanke said.

However, Anne Jeffery, a spokesman for the National Interagency Fire Center in Idaho, said that from the center's perspective, it appears ODF has the clearance to use the craft.

"Where ODF has the responsibility for fire protection, the assumption now is that it's OK, as long as it has jurisdictional control," she said. She added that the center is waiting for a response from its legal counsel on that assumption.

That jurisdictional control includes federal land beyond BLM if a

wildfire on that land is threatening land ODF has the responsibility to protect, Schwanke said.

If the DC-6B tanker doesn't come through this year, the agency will rely on helicopters, although there will likely be a lot of competition for them, he said.

While the fate of the air tanker remains yet to be seen, the local ODF district will have a full complement of firefighters and engines on the ground, he said.

Last month, the Oregon Legislative Emergency Board earmarked \$500,000 to pay for the ODF air tanker, as well as helicopters to be deployed for the coming fire season. This will mark the second year the ODF air tanker, which is subcontracted from a Canadian firm, has been approved by the state board.

Plans viewed for \$35 mil Medford Airport revision

By MEDFORD 'MAIL TRIBUNE'

Jackson County has narrowed its search for a new \$35 million terminal design to three proposals that would at least triple the size of the existing facility to support up to a million passengers a year, compared to nearly 500,000 passengers now.

Airport Director Bern Case said the Airport Advisory Committee anticipates recommending one of the three designs sometime this month, then go before the county commissioners for final approval.

Case said all three development teams, which would undertake every aspect of the project from planning to construction, presented impressive plans for the new terminal, and they all came in under the \$35 million budget.

The three teams seeking the contract are Layton Construction Inc. in Utah and the architectural firm CSHQA in Boise, Idaho; the Boldt Co. of Wisconsin and the architectural firm

Mead and Hunt of Madison, Wis.; and PCL Construction Services Inc. of Bellevue, Wash., and Adroit Construction of Ashland, which will work with the architectural firm URS Corp. of Seattle.

Jackson County originally received six proposals for the approximately 100,000-square-foot terminal, which is roughly 25 percent larger than the new downtown Medford library.

Once commissioners make a decision, Case said construction could begin within 90 days. The terminal will be built on the short-term parking area.

But before it is built, construction crews will expand the parking area, roadways and utilities. Once the new terminal is operational, the old one will be razed, making room for aircraft parking.

The entire project could take up to five years to complete because the airport also has plans to build a new bomb-resistant tower.

GP man found shot to death

A Grants Pass man died from what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound, said Josephine County Sheriff's Office (JCSO).

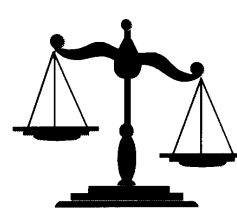
At approximately 2:42 p.m. on Monday, May 31, deputies responded to a Grants Pass residence

where James William Joy, 70, was found deceased.

Due to the nature of the incident, investigators from the JCSO Major Crime Unit were called to investigate.

Preliminary investigation doesn't suggest foul play, said JCSO.

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- Franklin P. Jones -




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