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JoCo Commission OKs \$149,341 for patrol cars

Purchase of six vehicles for the Josephine County Sheriff's Office at a total cost of \$149,341.40 was approved 2-0 by county commissioners.

Commissioners Jim Riddle and Harold Haugen voted approval during their meeting in Grants Pass Monday, Nov. 8. Commissioner Jim Brock was absent.

The county will purchase four Ford Crown Victoria model police interceptors from Gresham Ford in Gresham for \$92,360 (\$23,090 each).

Two Chevrolet Tahoe special service vehicles will be purchased for \$56,981.40 (\$28,490.70 each) from Bruce Chevrolet in Hillsboro.

The "Crown Vics" will replace three other same-model vehicles and one Chevrolet Caprice police interceptor. The Tahoes will replace two Fords.

One of the Tahoes will be outfitted as a K-9 car. All vehicles will be equipped with special police equipment.

The Public Works Dept. recommended replacing the older vehicles because of their mileage in law enforcement work. Each of the vehicles has been driven an average of 91,580 miles.

The vehicles being replaced will be sold after police equipment is removed.

Valley tourism declines Funds for Visitor Center manager in question

By CHRISTINA HILL
Correspondent

During the summer months, Illinois Valley usually gets its share of tourists, but this year the numbers are down.

And some reasons are being cited.

"Through October we're at right about 18,000 people," said Dennis Strayer, site manager at Illinois River Valley Visitor Center on Caves Hwy.

Oregon Caves National Monument seen as major attraction in valley for visitors

between Caves and Junction avenues.

"We've been down several key months like May and June because gasoline prices were so high," he said.

"We had a nice September, but as soon as October started, weather took a toll, and gas prices did go back up, so we were down by about 120 people for October."

He said that approximately 22,000 persons went to the visitor center last year, indicating that it's doubtful that number will be reached by the end of 2004.

Strayer, who has worked at the visitor center

for nearly nine years, said that visitation literally changes year-to-year.

"Spring break seemed busy," said Strayer. "The weather started out nice, and then it began getting kind of rainy and cold."

"I've lived in the valley 19 years, and I have only seen two spring breaks that it hasn't snowed or rained or both, which is typical of spring-time here."

Still, he said, he was surprised by the low turnout during this year's warmer summer months.

"Usually when school is out, visitation takes off like a rocket, but this year was different," he said.

Most people who visited during May and June were local travelers; they weren't long-distance travelers, Strayer said.

"We usually have pretty good visitation during those months, but between gas prices and the weird weather, the combination probably took a toll," he said.

Despite the decline in the number of tourists who've gone to the visitor center so far this year, Strayer noted that the site has had much better days since it opened its doors more than a decade ago.

According to Dulcie Moore, manager of the

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Nov. 2 vote tallies listed

(Editor's Note: Figures in the following story are final, but unofficial).

Councilman Tony Paulson was elected mayor of Cave Junction, winning by seven votes against former Councilman Sandi Lund on Nov. 2.

Lund resigned a few weeks ago, and was not seeking the mayoral position, but her name was on the ballot because it was too late to remove it.

The vote was 225-218 to replace Mayor Ed Faircloth, who did not seek re-election.

Margaret A. Miller, running unopposed for council Position 2, received 328 votes. She was appointed to the council Nov. 8 to replace Lund, who had Position 4.

There were 66 write-in candidates, said City Recorder Jim Polk for Position 4. (Miller will take Paulson's council seat at the beginning of 2005.)

Russell Ehrman received seven votes; Cassandra Schrieber six; Tom Green three; and a number of others, two each.

Write-in results for the

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SHAVE-ATHON FOR PATRICK - To raise money for 5-year-old Patrick Cozad, who has liver cancer, a shave-athon was held Saturday, Nov. 6 at My Brother's Pub in Cave Junction. More than \$4,500 for medical expenses was raised by participants who got pledges and made donations for getting their heads shaved. Donating seven hours of time was Lisa DeRov from Northwest Hairlines in Cave Junction. Besides head shaving, she also provided \$5 haircuts for youth. Patrick, who lives in Grants Pass, is the grandson of Patsy Dashner, of Cave Junction. One participant, Ron Smith, had not had his hair or beard trimmed since 1993. His hairy donation was sent to Locks of Love, which makes wigs for ill children who have experienced severe hair loss. Honey Haney (bottom right) and Heidi Warner were among those who went bald. Haney works at My Brother's Pub. (Top and bottom right photos provided by Norm and Dixie Cegelnik)



RV FIRES - Illinois Valley firefighters responded Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 3 to a fire that totaled a small travel trailer (bottom photo) at 245 Udee Road in O'Brien. It was unoccupied and owned by Michael Fromherz. The loss was estimated at \$1,000. Firefighters also responded at 2:45 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9 (top photo) at 870 Eight Dollar Road. Occupant Thomas Frawley estimated the loss of his RV at \$15,000.



(Photos by Dale and Elaine Sandberg/
I.V. Fire District photographers)

Celebrate Veterans Day
A public ceremony will begin at
10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 11 at the
Cave Junction City Hall flagpole, sponsored by
Glenn Morrison American Legion Post 70

Closures set for Vets Day

Many Illinois Valley locations will be closed for Veterans Day on Thursday, Nov. 11.

There will be no public school classes. Banks, and city, county, state and federal offices will be closed.

Post offices will be closed, and there will be no mail deliveries. No reports of private business closures were received.

CJ Cares asks for turkey aid

"Plenty of good, hot food in a nice, warm eating area" is offered for the free Cave Junction Cares Thanksgiving feast.

It's for all persons in Illinois Valley who do not have others with whom to share their thankfulness.

Anyone can attend the free meal, which will be held Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 25 from noon to 2 p.m. at the Jubilee Park pavilion in Cave Junction on Junction Avenue at Watkins Street.

Volunteers and donations of all kinds will be "gladly accepted." Phone Lynn Boucher at 592-3594 or 592-6855 regarding donations and volunteering.

City takes aim at livestock

City of Cave Junction residents who have pot-bellied swine or pygmy goats as pets may have to say farewell to them.

The city says that these critters are livestock, not pets, and don't belong in the city limits.

The first reading of an ordinance to amend the municipal code to prohibit keeping of swine, ruminants and "pseudoruminants" was read before the city council Monday night, Nov. 8, in city hall. The code also prohibits keeping livestock and poultry.

The ordinance will come before the council again for a second reading on Monday, Nov. 22.

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, Nov. 10
Possible showers
High--55, Low--33.



Thursday, Nov. 11
Partly sunny
High--58, Low--33.



Friday, Nov. 12
Patchy clouds
High--56, Low--32.



Saturday, Nov. 13
Partly cloudy
High--53, Low--33.



Sunday, Nov. 14
Possible showers
High--49, Low--31.



Monday, Nov. 15
Partly sunny
High--50, Low--27.



Tuesday, Nov. 16
Sunny
High--51, Low--29.

