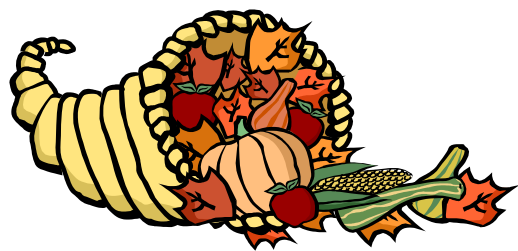


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Happy Thanksgiving



HUMMINGBIRD BLAZE - Nineteen Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) firefighters and nine fire units responded to an alarm at 283 Hummingbird Road off Holland Loop Thursday, Nov. 18 at approximately 6 p.m. Described as a 'huge fire,' the blaze destroyed a 24-by-36-foot barn and another 24-by-24-foot outbuilding. Neither building was served by electricity, and both had metal roofs. A tack room full of saddles was destroyed. I.V. firefighters prevented the blaze from reaching other buildings, including an adjacent garage. Radiant heat started a fire on the garage, but it was extinguished. A 1940 restored vehicle inside the garage also was saved. Several five-gallon propane bottles added to the fire as the pressure valves release. Cause of the fire is under investigation. (Photos by Dale and Elaine Sandberg/IVFD photographers)



Flu clinic Nov. 30 in CJ

A flu immunization clinic will be held in Cave Junction Tuesday, Nov. 30 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Josephine County Bldg. across from SOFCU.

Injections will be provided by the Josephine County Public Health Dept., which said that it has been successful in obtaining more vaccine.

The health department said that persons must be in one of the following high-risk groups to receive a flu shot:

*Children 6-23 months old; or children 2-18 years old on long-term aspirin therapy.

*Those 65 and older.

*Persons 2-64 years old with chronic illnesses such as asthma; heart, lung or kidney disease; or metabolic disease such as diabetes, anemia and other blood disorders.

*Women who will be pregnant during flu season.

*Residents of assisted living or long-term care sites.

*Health-care workers with direct-care responsibilities.

*Care-providers for those younger than 6 months.

Those eligible should bring the following:

*Those with Medicare must bring their claim ID.

*Those under the Oregon Health Plan must bring their current ID sheet.

*Those with Blue Cross must bring their insurance card.

*Those without any of the preceding will pay \$20 by cash or check at the time of the shot, said the health department.

Large fire results in brief meeting for IVFD board

A 16-minute meeting, the shortest on record, was held Thursday night, Nov. 18 by directors of Illinois Valley Fire District in the administrative center.

Other than a few routine matters and miscellaneous nonurgent reports, the board was unable to deal with other agenda items.

This was due to a large structure fire on Hummingbird Road that kept Chief Harry Rich, Deputy Chief Jeff Gavlik and other staff and volunteer firefighters unavailable for the meeting. They were to be involved in most other items. Without their participation, such items could not be addressed.

The five-member board and administrative secretary outnumbered the audience 6-1. The next board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 8, a one-time departure from the normal Thursday date because of a schedule conflict by Gavlik.

O'Brien Country Store owners look back at 22 years

By CHRISTINA HILL
Correspondent

Driving down Hwy. 199 at the south end of Illinois Valley, it's hard to miss the antique police car and bright red caboose alongside O'Brien Country Store.

Gary Moore, co-owner of O'Brien Country Store with Ethel, his wife of 43 years, has added those and other well-recognized trademarks during their 22 years of being in business.

In addition, a giant red-eyed fly replica sits atop the restrooms on the property, and is the object of considerable comment from visitors.

"The police car is a 1951 restored Plymouth,

and I put it out there to make people slow down, but I guess it's more of a tourist attraction," said Moore.

"A lot of people stop to take their picture next to it," he said.

He bought the caboose around 1991 as surplus equipment from Union Pacific Railroad, and had it trucked aboard a flatbed truck from Grants Pass. It's currently used by Moore as an office, but someone is interested in perhaps using it for a business. It has been used as a video rental store.

In tongue-in-cheek fashion, Moore for years had two penny parking meters in front of the store for many

years. He enjoyed overhearing tourists argue with each other about whether they were just for fun or if they'd get a parking ticket if they didn't get rid of the red flag.

He eventually removed the meters because of their increased antique value.

Moore began working at the age of 15. His dedication to working hard is only enhanced by the degrees he holds, one of which is an MBA from Washington University at St. Louis, Mo.

He purchased the store after retiring from his previous job as the director of sales for Purina.

There have been many changes at the business in

"Downtown O'Brien" under the Moores.

"In 1991, we built the new post office," he said. Of course, we don't run it; the U.S. Postal Service runs it, but they lease the building from us.

"The original post office, which was inside the store, started in 1928. It was moved here from the former Illinois Valley town of Waldo," Moore said.

Additionally, Moore said, the gasoline pumps originally were in front of the store.

"We pulled up all the old tanks and updated them

(Continued on page 5)

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, Nov. 24

Partly sunny

High--53, Low--35.



Thursday, Nov. 25

Overcast, rain possible

High--52, Low--32.



Friday, Nov. 26

Possible showers

High--46, Low--26.



Saturday, Nov. 27

Rain likely

High--63, Low--36.



Sunday, Nov. 28

Variable cloudiness

High--43, Low--23.



Monday, Nov. 29

Partly sunny

High--46, Low--23.



Tuesday, Nov. 30

Mostly cloudy

High--42, Low--42.



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- ~ Propane, propane tanks & accessories.
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Thank you for your business,
Jeff & Karen Stiles

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