

Here, There & Everywhere

SAFE HOUSE ‘TALK-ABOUT’ -- Are you curious about what the Illinois Valley Safe House Alliance (IVSHA) offers women and children. Answers will be available Thursday, May 12 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. during a “Talk-About Tour.” Attendees will be able to learn about the growing program offered by IVSHA and its staff, who are ready to work with survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. There will be a tour, time for questions, and light refreshments. Phone 592-4147 for more information.

SPAGHETTI-MANIA - Food and fun will be parts of a spaghetti feed “with all the trimmings” plus a silent auction at Illinois Valley Senior Center on Friday, May 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. The event is a fund-raiser for the center’s building expansion fund. Auction items include jewelry, gravel and custom wood products, a TV set, a just-tuned organ, haircuts and perms, plants, clothing, and more, said Laura Brown, chairman of the Ways & Means Committee. Check the ad in this issue.

VIKING ‘ART’ - The Second Friday Art Walk in Downtown CJ will be held May 13. A new participant will be the boys and girls basketball teams from Loma Byrne Middle School. They’ll have a bake sale in front of BeBe’s Art for everyone from 5 to 8 p.m.

PET PARADE EXTRAVAGANZA - The eighth annual I.V. Children’s Fair & Pet Parade will be held at Jubilee Park Saturday, May 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the parade will start at 11:30 a.m.; sign-ups will be from 10 to 11:15. There will be free food and beverages in the pavilion, plus free bike helmets. The community event is led by Siskiyou Community Health Center with help from several partners. I.V. Fire District will give away and install 12 children’s car seats. Other attractions will include face-painting, macaroni necklaces, fishing booth, seed planting and sensory tables. Photo I.D.’s will be available too. An ad in this issue has more details.

RECYCLE ROUND-UP - Tin cans and aluminum, cardboard and paperboard and certain plastic containers are among items that will be accepted during the Spring Recycle Round-Up (Can Slam) on Saturday, May 14. The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at I.V. Visitor Center. Glass will not be accepted, but numerous other recyclable items will be taken. For details, check the ad in this issue.

ALL-CONGREGATIONS SERVICE - Eric Jenkins, a missionary to Algeria, North Africa, will speak Sunday, May 15 at 6 p.m. during an All-Congregations Service. It will be held at Fountain of Life Assembly of God Church, 451 S. Junction Ave.

PREGNANCY PLACE - I.V. Pregnancy Center now is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. A few more volunteers are needed to reach the goal of being open 9-5 each weekday. Community support still is sought for an Adopt-A-Mom program. Participants can pray for their “adoptee” or perhaps provide a special gift for the mom to use with her baby. Phone 592-6058 for more information.

NOTEPAD - Plasma production is the theme for an American Red Cross blood drive Thursday, May 12 from 1 to 6 p.m. at I.V. Senior Center E. River Street. There is no upper age limit to donate. To schedule an appointment phone (800) 448-3543 ... **Winner-take-all bingo** will be held Saturday, May 14 at I.V. Senior Center, 520 E. River St., from 1 to 4 p.m. Three-game sheets will be available for 25-cents each, and the snack bar will be open. See the ad in this issue ... **Breast cancer survivor** Ethel Kessler will explain Monday, May 23 how her journey influenced her design of the USPS stamp that has raised more than \$45 million for research, during a free talk from noon to 1 p.m. at Smullin Health Education Center in Medford next to RVMC ... **T-shirt:** Fish tremble at the mention of my name ... **Another T:** One miracle from sainthood ... **One more T:** Smile: You’re in my reality TV show ... **Final T:** Walking soap opera... **Absolutely final T:** I march to a different accordion.

LAST WORDS - A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty. (Sir Winston Churchill)

IVFD board reviews new budget for fiscal 2005-06

A 2005-06 fiscal year budget of \$2,851,427 -- staying within the 3 percent annual rise allowed by law -- is proposed by Chief Harry Rich of Illinois Valley Rural Fire Protection District.

Rich presented the proposal to the district Budget Committee during its meeting Wednesday night, May 4 at district headquarters. Eight of the 10 members were present, and accepted it as presented except for changing the “uniforms/clothing” category to “uniforms” only.

The proposed, un-adopted budget is comprised of a \$2,783,519 general fund, and a reserve fund of \$67,908. The district’s permanent tax rate per \$1,000 assessed valuation is \$1.8701.

IVFD to the Rescue

Monday, May 2
*5 p.m., Medical assist (M.A.) all with American Medical Response (AMR), 24000 block Redwood Hwy.
*5:02 p.m., districtwide medical standby (DiMS), all for AMR
*10:35 p.m., open burn, Lakeshore Drive/Reeves Creek Road.

Tuesday, May 3
*12:15 p.m., structure fire, 200 block Iron Way (exterior wall involved).
*12:17 p.m., M.A., 9300 block Takilma Road.

Wednesday, May 4
*12:27 a.m., M.A., 3000 block Deer Creek Road.
*12:28 a.m., DiMS.
*7:50 p.m., DiMS.
*9:22 p.m., M.A., 100 block Elwood Lane.
*9:23 p.m., DiMS.

Thursday, Cinco de Mayo
*11:24 p.m., M.A., 32000 block Redwood Hwy.
*11:25 p.m., DiMS.

Friday, May 6
*4:31 a.m., M.A., 400 block Pinewood Way.
*4:33 a.m., DiMS.
*6:44 a.m., M.A., 8700 block Takilma Road.
*6:47 a.m., DiMS.

Saturday, May 7
*6:27 a.m., M.A., 500 block Schumacher Street.
*6:28 a.m., DiMS.
*9:24 p.m., M.A., 3000 block Caves Hwy.

Sunday, May 8
*9:25 p.m., DiMS.

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“The district can take pride in its economical use of its funds,” Rich told the Budget Committee, “but it continues to face challenges of facilities and apparatus that remain in dire need of replacement, refurbishing or renovation.

“We continue to search for programs, grants and other resources that will ensure stability within the organization for future growth in and out of the district,” the chief said.

The district board will consider the proposed budget during its meeting Thursday, May 12 at 7 p.m. at headquarters. Indications are that the board could set a public hearing for a month later to review the budget; then conduct another public hearing June 9 to consider adoption.

Lovejoy class for care-givers

A six-week workshop for family care-givers of older adults, sponsored by Lovejoy Hospice, will begin June 1.

Classes will be held Wednesdays from 2 to 4:30 p.m. at the Lovejoy facility at 939 Eighth St. in Grants Pass.

To defray costs, donations are suggested, but are not required, Lovejoy said. Respite care is available.

Class size is limited, and preregistration is required. Phone Carol Terry at 474-3110, Ext. 239.

Disaster prep recognized

A Certificate of Achievement/Coordination Award has been given the Josephine County Sheriff’s Office Dept. of Emergency Services for its disaster prevention work.

Sara Nicholson and Jennifer Rinell were cited “For their significant role in providing a forum for inter-agency coordination that is bringing together all partners to prepare, mitigate and respond to wildfire and other natural and human-caused hazards prevalent in our county.”

The award was presented last week during the annual Oregon Emergency Management Association conference in Canyonville.

“During the past several

years,” said Sheriff Dave Daniel, “our Dept. of Emergency Services has worked diligently to bring together first-responders within the county and in conjunction with other counties to talk about emergency planning.

“Emergency plans have been developed or updated to help ensure a smooth response during disaster,” said the sheriff.

“Equipment has been procured and placed strategically,” Daniel added, “and first-responders have been trained for its use.

“As a result,” he concluded, “the citizens of Josephine County will be better protected and will receive a higher level of service when a disaster occurs.”

Saturday, May 14, 1 to 4 p.m.
I.V. Senior Center - 520 E. River St.

3-game Sheet 25¢
Winner Take All Bingo

Snack Bar open from noon with:
Burgers,
Hot Dogs,
Pies & Cakes

Bridgeview Vineyards

May 4, 2005

To the Friends, Customers, and Employees of Bridgeview:

There have been some nasty rumors going around lately about Bridgeview and myself, claiming we have done bad environmental acts on Sucker Creek against the Clean Water Act. I’ve been accused of being an environmental criminal and an anti-American. Those are fighting words to me. Most of these nasty rumors are coming from members of the Siskiyou Regional Education Project. They believe in using the courts of the U.S. to the fullest, but if they don’t get the ruling they want then it is OK to cause civil disobedience. However, they do not think I should have my day in court. That sounds sort of un-American to me. They also believe in negative letter writing without trying to look at the facts. The people who have written this negative mail to the EPA are Gordon Lyford, Barry Snitkin, Tom Siewert, Geraldine Davidson, Kathleen Humphrey, and Debbie Lukas. I’m talking to my lawyer about filing a defamation of character and loss of business lawsuit against each of the aforementioned people. They like to file lawsuits against every U.S. agency (U.S. Forest Service and Fish and Wildlife) and we will see how they like answering for their own sins. Of course, apologizing is always a good step. Now to bring you up to speed on what Bridgeview has done.

Back in 1993-94 our neighbor across Sucker Creek built a dyke or rock wall to protect their property from the onrush of water during high water flooding. I did not object at that time. This dyke was about 150 feet long, 5 - 6 feet in height and about 8 feet wide, the width of a cat blade, for a total of about 1200cubic yards of material. In the flood of 1997 - 8, this dyke washed out and moved down river thereby plugging the main river channel, causing the creek to move South towards the vineyard and my home. In August of 1998 I rented a bridge, in order to be able to stay on high ground, and started unplugging the main streambed, which was also on high ground. Then Buzz and I were arrested for doing this. In 1999 I hired a criminal lawyer for Buzz from Grants Pass, but he was convicted, fined \$500, ordered to serve 50 hours of community service, and put on 3 years probation. Bridgeview paid his fine and paid his wages during the 50 hours, but I realized I had hired the wrong lawyer. I figured I needed to get a better attorney, so I hired a criminal lawyer from Portland. I was acquitted in 2001, as our activity was covered under the farm exemptions under the Fill and Removal law ORS 196.800 - 196.905. After I was acquitted, I petitioned the courts to have Buzz’ case reversed. When his case was reversed, he got back the \$500 fine and was taken off of probation, but he could not get back his 50 hours of humiliating work. After all of this, we at Bridgeview were still threatened that if we went near the river, we would again be arrested. Because of this I sued the DSL (Division of State Lands) and five state employees asking for \$3.6 million to cover the loss of 7 acres of land, 200, 2-3 foot diameter trees (that went down river and up against the bridge and weakened and undermined it), and my attorney fees. We also won that case in 2002 and were given an injunction against the DSL to keep them from interfering with Bridgeview’s attempt to protect our property from the river. The state is appealing this ruling and asked to stay the injunction in June 2002 (the in-water work period). The judge would not stay the injunction because when he held court in the riverbed on Bridgeview’s property on November 4, 2002, he stated, “You would have to be a blind man not to see the damage being done to the Bridgeview property”. The injunction was upheld, the stay denied, and so on November 5, 2002 we put in 6 hours of Cat work, all above the water table. After which the Cat crossed on the bridge. We then hand-carried two 20 foot long, 18 inch culverts and placed them in the waters of Sucker Creek. These culverts took 100% of the water in the creek at that time. We then worked 4 hours with a trac backhoe. This trac backhoe was kept on high ground (10 feet above the water), and placed large rip-rap on both sides of the culverts and then between and over them. My thinking was when the man upstairs started the rain (which he did 4 days later), the water would rise and take the line of least resistance and go back into its old channel. I am happy to say this is what did happen. During those 10 hours of work, the water behind the culverts was as clean as the water up river and it did not interfere with any fish. I hope you can see we took as many precautions as could possibly have been taken. Bridgeview did a good job and with our own monies. We did not ask for grants.

Because the DSL could not attack us with the injunction in place, they turned us in to the EPA for the work we did in the river in November 2002. The EPA hasn’t done anything about the rip-rap that was put in Deer Creek or the rip-rap that was put in upper Sucker Creek at the second bridge, even though these projects are well known to them. But they decided to sue Bridgeview. We feel that we will win, as there are also farm exemptions in the Clean Water Act and the fact that we were not in any time in the water. We feel the EPA does not have jurisdiction since we were not in the waters of the U.S. or waters of the state. The easy way would be to pay the \$25,000 fine, as it will cost us about \$150,000 in lawyer’s fees to fight. But I feel that if I cop a plea, which is what I would have to do to pay the fine, I could not sleep at night. This explains the background of where we are now. I am writing this letter to you so you will know the facts and don’t have to feel defensive or guilty by association.

Best Regards,
Bob Kerivan

P.S. Feel free to talk to me or ask questions any time.

(paid advertisement)

Spring Recycle Round-Up
(Can Slam)

Saturday, May 14

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. I.V. Visitor Center

* **TIN CANS & ALUMINUM:** *Labels ok*

* **CARDBOARD & PAPERBOARD**
Cereal-type boxes, fiber egg cartons, shoe boxes, 6 or 12 pack cartons, cardboard tubes
Remove waxed or foil-lining

* **PLASTIC BOTTLES #’s 1-7:** *Neck smaller than base. NO tubs, NO lids, NO motor oil containers. NO buckets, NO furniture*

* **MIXED WASTE PAPER:** *Junk mail, scrap paper, paper bags, paperback books & phone books*

Please rinse out all food & soap containers.
SORRY! NO glass this time.

Brought to you by IVCDO, Southern Oregon Sanitation, Sterling Bank,
I.V. Chamber of Commerce & I.V. Sierra Club. Info: 596-4440