



NEVA HOLT GRAVES

Paintings by ‘Neva’ focus of Sterling Bank display

By DOROTHEA HOVER-KRAMER
Multitalented Neva Holt Graves is the artist selected from Illinois Valley Fine Artists for June and July.

Her large oil paintings are displayed at Sterling Savings Bank in Cave Junction.

Graves has lived in our area for more than 30 years and is a well-known visual artist using many media -- oil, water color, pastels, acrylics -- and displaying at many local events.

She was born in Needles, Calif., and studied art at Pasadena City College. She was a member of San Gabriel Art Society 50 years ago.

She took many art classes with fine teachers along the way. More recently she studied art history at Rogue Community College.

She headed a business, Mother Neva’s Art Gallery in Medford, in 1975-76, and was a judge at the Grants Pass and Douglas County fairs several years ago.

Besides working with visual arts, Graves has studied herbs for more than 40 years and grows more than 30 types of healing plants.

She also practices lay-

ing-on-of-hands healing and reflexology. She has raised three daughters and three sons, and teaches her many grandchildren approaches to staying in optimal health.

“I want to express beauty,” she said as the reason for her generous output of paintings. Often, she writes poems to accompany her pieces as well.

Throughout, she seeks to bring the reality of spirit to awareness and to increase the sense of subtle energies around us.

“We all need beauty in our lives, so I must paint to try to say something that will lift the heart,” she said.

Graves has been an active member of Illinois Valley Fine Artists. Inc. for 25 years.

The group meets Mondays (except holidays) at the RCC Kerby Belt Bldg. from 10 a.m. to approximately 2 p.m. The group also sponsors art workshops periodically and exhibits at the Art Walk in Cave Junction.

The meetings are open to anyone who wishes to paint or participate in some form of artwork. “The coffee is always on.” For further information phone Sandy Miller at 592-3949.

Doing business with ODOT RCC forum topic June 28

Rogue Community College’s Small Business Development Center is co-hosting a free forum Tuesday, June 28 on conducting business with the Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) from 1 to 4 p.m.

“Doing Business with ODOT” will be co-hosted by the Government Contracts Administration Program (GCAP), and is designed for business owners and managers.

Topics will include an introduction by the manager

of ODOT’s Emerging Small Business program, finding contracting opportunities, the on-line Oregon Procurement Information Network, and navigating ODOT’s Website.

The forum is offered free-of-charge through the Emerging Small Business program.

Phone 956-7494 to reserve a space. The session will be held at the Small Business Development Center, 214 S.W. Fourth St., Grants Pass.

Are you ready for fire season?

By ILLINOIS VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT

Are you prepared for fire season? Are your roof and gutters clean?

Have you cleaned leaf and pine needles from around your home and decks?

Have you cleared a defensible space 100 feet around your home?

Do you have your trees limbed up at least 12 feet, and removed ground fuels that may lead fire to your trees and home?



EVERGREEN RETIREMENT - Among the many well-wishers Friday, June 17 for ‘Corky’ Quen, who retired after 24 years with Evergreen Federal Bank, was her mother, Beatrice Yogan, of Cave Junction. Quen, who retired as manager of the Illinois Valley branch in CJ, was given a trip to the Bahamas by Evergreen.

I.V. deputy staffing doubtful

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“This board of commissioners is absolutely dedicated to law enforcement support,” said Commissioner Jim Raffenburg. “This year we provided the sheriff’s office with \$700,000 of new money and saved them another half a million by being very, very frugal in the way we’ve allocated money in the budget this year.

“We went through the budget line-by-line starting in February to make sure we have as efficient and lean a budget as we could have. That’s what we did coming in cold. Next year we’ll do even better.”

Although the commissioners said they provided Daniel approximately \$1.2 million this year, Daniel said that money’s already gone.

“The officers got raises, which they sorely deserved with the cost of living and all,” he said. “The budget for this year went up \$1.2 million and what that does is keep me from losing more people,” Daniel explained.

According to Daniel, when PERS and other benefits are added, it would cost an extra \$90,000 to \$100,000 for a full-time officer at the I.V. Substation.

During the past few months, a feud has been escalating between the sheriff and the commissioners.

Currently, the sheriff has a pending lawsuit against the board of commissioners.

“We don’t understand what the motivation is from the sheriff’s office,” said Raffenburg. “In the ‘04 to ‘05 budget, the previous board of commissioners approved a budget for two lieutenants and eight sergeants, and there was no provision in last year’s budget for an undersheriff.

“We didn’t change anything. The sheriff wanted to hire an undersheriff, so to keep within the budget we had to set an order that sets the number of physical job positions for non-union deputies in the sheriff’s office. It’s the sheriff’s sole

discretion who to hire and how to administer them. We don’t tell him how to manage his officers.

“They need to work within the budget that the previous board set for them,” Raffenburg added.

Daniel has protested this by saying, “My belief is that they only have budget authority. The law basically says that they can determine the number of employees for every department.

“The law doesn’t say what job duty or rank, and to add insult to injury the commissioners added a special order that tells me I can only have one lieutenant, one undersheriff and eight sergeants.

“I’ve never had anyone interfere with running my office before. I’ve spent 6 1/2 years as sheriff in this office, and I have another 18 months to go. I’ve been in law enforcement 32 years at different agencies.

“I know better how to run this office than three guys who have just come in off the street.”

Lovejoy sets session on directives

On Tuesday, June 28, Lovejoy Hospice will present a program on the Oregon Advance Directive Law open free of charge to everyone in the community.

The program will be held at the Lovejoy Hospice office conference room, 939 S.E. Eighth St., Grants Pass, from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Raymond Meagher and Nancy Livingood, social workers, will be program facilitators. The program will describe the benefits and procedure for the Oregon Advance Directive Law and the steps to understanding and filling out the form.

Phone 474-1193 to register or for more information.

Linda Sallman
128 S. Redwood Hwy.
Cave Junction OR 97523

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FREE!

Concerts in the Park

Thursday, June 23, 6:30 p.m.
Jubilee Park

'Tequila Monsters'
Rock 'n' Roll
Thursday, June 30
'Valley Country Band'

Sponsored by
Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce

Forgiveness is the final form of love.
- Reinhold Niebuhr -

A Military Salute

Honoring the valley’s on-duty armed services personnel coming in the June 29 issue.

Deadline: 5 p.m., Thursday, June 23

Bring us a photo of your loved one serving the USA.

Please list name, rank, branch & assignment location.

Forest Edge Farm

If you missed our hat collection on the Art & Garden Tour, call and come by for a private showing... and meet the llamas as well.

Joyce & Harry Abrams
592-6078

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