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50¢

A salute to military personnel from Illinois Valley on page 8.

\$8 closure extended to July 31

After a 3 1/2-month closure of Eight Dollar Road leading to contested salvage logging from the 2002 Biscuit Fire, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) extended the closure, raising the ire of organizers who had planned a gathering.

Laurel Sutherland, of the Oxygen Collective, said, "For weeks, forest advocates from across Oregon have been planning a state-wide convergence at the green bridge over the Illinois River on the first day it became legally accessible (June 30 under the original closure order)."

On Wednesday, June 29, USFS announced the extension of three closure orders along Eight Dollar Road and in the Fiddler Fire Salvage Timber Sale. New orders now are in place to extend the closures through July 31, with the road and area opening to the public on Aug. 1, said USFS.

Sutherland said that a planned July 1 "Back to the Wall" event prompted organizers to apply for a permit to escort media representatives into units of the logged area.

He claimed that District Ranger Pam Bode, "whose discretion it is to issue the permits, acknowledged the request was reasonable; indicated she would grant it; and then at the last minute arbitrarily denied any access to the area for media or the public."

USFS said, "Safety for the general public, timber operators and forest service employees is the primary reason for closing" the road and timber site.

"Safety concerns caused the initial closure of these areas in mid-March," the agency added.

Use fs.fed.us/r6/rogue-siskiyou/ for details.

Weather Watch

Illinois Valley

Wednesday, July 6
Mostly Sunny
High--90, Low--56



Thursday, July 7
Sunny, some clouds
High--89, Low--56



Friday, July 8
Partly sunny
High--82, Low--53



Saturday, July 9
Sun and Clouds
High--82, Low--49



Sunday, July 10
Partly sunny
High--86 Low--559



Monday, July 11
Partly sunny
High--92 Low--59



Tuesday, July 12
Cloudy, showers possible
High-94 Low-59



Here are the high-and-low temperatures recorded in O'Brien by Cheryl & Harry Johnson:

*Tues., June 28: 83-57

*Wed., June 29: 91-54

*Thurs., June 30, 100-55



Photos by Dale & Elaine Sandberg, Illinois Valley Fire District photographers



CRASH HALTS TRAFFIC - The traffic flow on Hwy. 199 near Patton Bar Road was hampered for approximately two hours Sunday afternoon, July 3, due to a four-vehicle collision. Five persons were injured, one seriously, some 4 miles south of Cave Junction. Zachary Pendergrass, 19, of Grants Pass, was northbound and swerved to avoid a pickup truck that had stopped to turn right, said Oregon State Police (OSP). His compact car struck a southbound motorhome driven by Terrel Nelson, 71, of Utah. His rig crossed the center line and collided nearly head-on with the pickup driven by Justin Roberts. He then collided with another northbound pickup, driven by Sunny Valley resident Edward Bower, 53. Roberts was taken by Mercy Flights helicopter from the scene and was in stable condition. Pendergrass, Bower and his wife Barbara, and Misty Johnson, of Grants Pass, were treated and released.



SELMA STATION SPECTACULAR -- Lynn Johnson, (top) cuts the ribbon to officially open Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) Station 2 in Selma Monday, July 4, as family and friends look on with Chief Harry Rich. The station was dedicated to the late firefighter, Kent Johnson, who was Lynn's husband and a member of the IVFD 'Hall of Flame.' A large crowd attended the ceremony. (Photos by Dale & Elaine Sandberg, IVFD photographers.)



MASSIVE MEDIEVAL MELEE -- Lake Selmac was the location for a gathering sponsored by the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), Kingdom of An Tir, Principality of the Summits, Saturday and Sunday, July 2-3. The gathering included a rapier melee, a youth chivalry tournament, and a missile tournament. A medieval air prevailed through the weekend. (Photo by Dale Sandberg)

City's deputy pact gains tentative OK

Josephine County Sheriff Dave Daniel stuck to his guns in a workshop with the Cave Junction City Council, and council consensus was achieved regarding a pending law enforcement contract.

Daniel, the county's senior law enforcement officer, indicated near the end of the 80-minute-long gathering that his office would continue the 40-hours-per-week coverage in the city based on the council's unofficial and conditional indications that they would likely OK the contract during the July 11 council session.

The current contract expired after June 30. Changes in the pending pact, mutually agreed upon during the workshop, are designed to give the council more, but limited, control with the city deputy. And a method of improved communication will be incorporated so that the council and deputy will be able to more

effectively work together.

Daniel began the workshop by notifying the council vocally and in writing that he was not pleased with comments they made during the Monday, June 27 council meet.

The council and mayor, who all attended the workshop Friday, July 1 in city hall, voted 3-2 June 27 in favor of delaying approval of a new three-year agreement.

The proposed contract has a total price of \$286,000 -- payable quarterly and cancelable with 30-day written notice. The city contract officer would devote approximately 40 hours per week in city limits.

Approval was deferred during the June 27 council meeting because of council and mayor concerns expressed about the perceived number of hours the city is receiving, and what it would receive.

(Continued on page 3)

Sheriff urges coverage on 24/7 basis because of massive CJ growth

Meeting in a workshop with the Cave Junction City Council in city hall Friday, July 1, Josephine County Sheriff Dave Daniel distributed a letter that read:

"I am disappointed in statements made to the press and citizens. After reading the 'I.V. News' it appears that the majority of your last council meeting was spent bashing the sheriff and the sheriff's office.

"A single phone call would have had me at the last meeting to address your concerns and comments. I'm here now to address some misconceptions brought up at your last meeting.

"The first official correspondence we received is a letter from the mayor dated May 6, 2005. On July 26, 2004 my office sent an estimated cost breakdown through FY 06/07 that is relatively close to the update you received June 15, 2005, so the increases should not be a surprise.

"For the past three years Lt. Lee Harman has been the I.V. Substation commander. He has spent approximately 20 hours a week answering calls for service inside the city limits. The city does not pay a dime for (that) service.

"That protection ended (Thursday, June 30) when Harman retired. The board of county commissioners

has passed an order that forbids me from replacing Harman. This is the loss of the 20 hours a week, not the contract deputy.

"It is very unfortunate that some individuals assumed this was the contract deputy.

"In 2004 more than 1,700 hours were spent responding to incidents ranging from littering to thefts. These hours do not include normal patrol time, which equates to another 856 hours for a total of 2,568 hours within the city limits.

"Considering that there are 2,080 work hours in a year, if no one is sick or takes vacation, the citizens of Cave Junction received an additional 488 hours in addition to what the contract amount was. My office has provided good service to the citizens!

"This mayor and council need to be reminded that you contract for 40 hours a week of police protection. There are 168 hours in a week, so you're getting an officer one-fourth of a week.

"That officer cannot be everywhere for everyone.

"When you become an incorporated city, the mayor and council take on the responsibility of providing protection to the residents. I've told you before that this

(Continued on page 3)



FAIR ENOUGH - A 'Country Fair,' sponsored by Illinois Valley Family Coalition, was held Saturday, July 2, on the Sterling Savings Bank parking lot in Cave Junction. Among the attractions were two alpacas.