



# Illinois Valley News

Wednesday, July 13, 2005, 2 Sections, 14 Pages, Volume 68 No. 17 Cave Junction, Oregon 97523

## Sheriff links get outta jail situation to county board

Effective Monday, July 11, the capacity at the Josephine County Jail was lowered from 135 inmates to 125 inmates.

Sheriff Dave Daniel also announced that, "The jail has two vacancies, which we have been unable to fill because the Board of Commissioners refused to sign necessary personnel forms in a timely manner allowing the sheriff's office to fill those positions."

"We are currently releasing approximately 50 felons per month from the jail," said the sheriff.

"Lowering the cap will result in approximately 60 felons being released a month early," he said.

## JoCo section heads listed in new format

Effective Friday, July 1, the department organizational structure of Josephine County was changed, it was announced Tuesday, July 5 by county commissioners.

The following reflects the titles of the new departments and the names of those who will be administrative directors heading those departments.

\*Community Justice Dept., Marie Hill.

\*General Services Dept., Mark Sorensen.

\*Health Services Dept., Leslee O'Brien

\*Property Services Dept., Robert Weber.

Questions or comments may be directed to the commissioners' office.

**Remember: You want it in the 'Noose?' Our new deadline is 5 p.m. Thursdays, with late classifieds until noon Fridays with space available.**

## Weather Watch

### Illinois Valley

**Wednesday, July 13**

Sunny & Hot  
High--97, Low--57

**Thursday, July 14**

Lots o' Sun & Heat  
High--96, Low--55

**Friday, July 15**

Sunny  
High--93, Low--56

**Saturday, July 16**

Bright Sunshine  
High--93, Low54

**Sunday, July 17**

Sunny. Patchy clouds at night.  
High--92Low--52

**Monday, July 18**

Mostly Sunny  
High--91 Low--49

**Tuesday, July 19**

Sunny & Warmer  
High-94Low-58

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

\*Fri., July 1: 93-66

\*Sat. July 2: 93-55

\*Sun., July 3: 93-55

\*Mon., July 4: 98-57

\*Tues., July 5: 92-59

\*Wed., July 6: 83-59

\*Thurs., July 7: 80-50



**ART WALK ATTRACTIONS - The Second Friday Art Walk in Downtown Cave Junction was held July 8. Among participants were (counter-clockwise from top, left) Finny Caulfield, of Rising Sons, admiring glass etchings by Kaye Kinton; multimedia artist Carol Crawford**



**ford Myers at April's Aroma Home; Marian Chavez with her works at Special Productions; and Sparrow with her handcrafted jewelry at Jefferson State Financial Group. She also plays French tunes on accordion. The next Art Walk will be held Aug. 12.**

## Vandals hit pool; loss set at \$850

Hoodlums used a rock to break a glass door at Cave Junction Swimming Pool Sunday afternoon, July 10, resulting in a minimum loss of \$850, said manager Cynthia Hobbins.

The cost to repair the door and the cash register was estimated at \$500 by a city official. And the thieves took \$100 in petty cash, and at least \$250 worth of merchandise, Hobbins said.

She said that the break-in was spotted by a Josephine County Sheriff's Office deputy around 5:30 p.m., and that the officer found unmelted ice cream bars on the floor. "They must have just left," Hobbins said.

She speculated that the city might offer a reward of \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible. City Recorder Jim Polk said Monday, July 11 that the reward likely would be considered, but that nothing official had yet come from the mayor or city council.

Meanwhile, the pool is open Mondays through Fridays from 1 to 5 p.m. for open swimming; with adult lessons and water-aerobics from noon to 1.

However, Hobbins noted that the break-in, vandalism and burglary are disheartening.

"After all that we've gone through to get the pool open, this is discouraging," she said. The pool telephone number is 592-3990.

**(Editor's Note: The Cave Junction City Council meeting scheduled for Monday night, July 11, was canceled due to lack of a quorum. A special meeting is tentatively planned for Monday, July 18 in city hall beginning at 7 p.m.)**

## Brit bikes due

Approximately 300 members of a Norton motorcycle group from British Columbia are anticipated at Lake Selmac this week.

As a fund-raiser, breakfast will be provided Friday and Saturday, July 15-16 by Illinois Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association.

## Masked thugs rob GP tavern

Two armed men forced patrons to lie on the floor, and took cash from Mario's/Purple Parrot on Rogue River Hwy., said Grants Pass Dept. of Public Safety (GPDPS).

The hold-up occurred Wednesday, July 6 at approximately 12:35 a.m. The suspects are two men, both about 5-8 to 6-0, with average builds.

Both suspects were armed with black handguns, said GPDPS.

One man was wearing a white tank top, white jean-type pants, tennis shoes, and a dark ski mask. The other suspect was wearing dark pants, dark shirt, and a dark ski mask.

The suspects ordered  
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## Venerable Holland Store a community mainstay

By **CHRISTINA HILL**  
Correspondent

Nestled at the base of a Y-shaped fork between Althouse Creek Road and Old Brown Town Road, sits the Holland Store.

It began in the 1890s, and has been passed through the hands of several owners.

That is, up until two decades ago, when George and Jody McElroy, husband and wife of 25 years and counting, purchased the store and have called it their home since.

"There's a three-bedroom, two-bath home which is attached to the store, so it's pretty easy to walk through the door and go to work," Jody said with a laugh.

On June 7, the McElroys celebrated 20

years of being in business.

"We bought the store in 1985 and had a lot of work to do before it was up and running again," said Jody.



**JODY & GEORGE McELROY (Photo by Christina Hill)**

"It had been shut down for a few years and needed a lot of clean-up work."

The original store build-

ing burnt in the 1930s and was rebuilt in 1936. According to Jody, the store and a hotel that used to sit next to it were the center of a large

she recalled.

Perhaps it was the history behind the old hard wood floors and the charming covered front porch that attracted her husband, but as for Jody, when she first laid eyes on it, she had a hard time seeing past the dilapidated, old building, she said.

"My husband instantly fell in love with the place, and I hated it," she said. "It was horrible. It was in really bad condition. And, the first few years here were tough."

"All my relatives still lived in the Vacaville (California) area, and it was a complete culture shock to me. Then after about three or four years, the place grew on me. George

took to it right away. It's like he was born to be here, but now I could never leave  
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## 'Stable Schools Plan' OK'd by House; sent to Senate

By **Oregon School Boards Association**

Predictability and stability in K-12 funding are the hallmarks of a proposal (HB 2450) approved recently by the House and advanced to the Senate.

The "Stable Schools Plan," chiefly sponsored by House Speaker Karen Minnis (R-Wood Village), was approved on a 33-26 party-line vote.

The proposal would

dedicate 51 percent of state personal income taxes to K-12 schools beginning with the 2007-09 biennium, and guarantee at least a 9-percent biennial growth in the State School Fund.

Two-thirds of the excess personal income tax collections, beyond the amount necessary to fund the 9 percent State School Fund (SSF) growth guarantee, would be deposited in the Education Stability Fund

(ESF), and the other one-third into a new Successful Schools Fund.

The ESF would be tapped to maintain 9 percent biennial growth in the SSF in times declining income tax revenue brought on by economic recession. The SSF would provide resources to schools struggling to raise student achievement to state standards or to implement to replicate innovative pro-

## 'The Club' offers cornucopia of activities for valley youth

As summer makes its way into July, something is happening in Jubilee Park.

It happened once before, for six years, and then it was gone. But it's back and having a blast.

It's the Illinois Valley Unit of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Rogue Valley. The club has been at Evergreen Elementary School and Lorna Byrne Middle School

during the last three years, but has moved back to its old stomping grounds at Jubilee Park.

"It's great to be back in the park," said Scott Thornhill, unit director of the I.V. Boys & Girls Club. "We had been down here (Jubilee Park) for so many years, and thought it would be a good change and opportunity to go into the schools for the

summer.

"The facilities were great, but we just did not get the number of kids we did at the park. After asking the members and kids around town, the feeling was that although the school is nice, they were there for nine months, and they didn't want to spend summer there too.

"Moving back to the

park had its reservations, but the feeling with the staff and the organization was positive, and with great support from the mayor and the city council, the club board and executive, we decided to do it," Thornhill said.

This summer is loaded with guest speakers, field trips, teen-age-only activities, fine arts, and character  
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