



Talent pool hallmark of Hobbins

By CHRIS HILL
Correspondent
Since moving to Illinois Valley in 1984, Cynthia Hobbins, this season's Cave Junction Swimming Pool manager, has been a splash hit.

"I've worn about every hat that they have here," said Hobbins. At one time or another she has been head guard, assistant manager, instructor and life guard.

Additionally, Hobbins has been on the CJ Pool Committee since 1984.

"The city was afraid they wouldn't have enough money to open the pool this year," she said. "It costs approximately \$40,000 to operate for the three or four months that it's open, and then there's maintenance that continues to go on in the winter months.

"At the door, we take in approximately \$18,000 to \$20,000; so the other half has to be donated," Hobbins explained.

"So the Pool Committee scraped up the money by asking businesses for donations," she noted. "We're doing very well at the door. We're averaging at least 70 users a day. My intent with the pool is to have a place that kids and adults can go to on hot summer days.

"Safety is the most important issue. It's a public business, and the community needs to support the pool and the staff to make it work well," she said.

For Hobbins, whose summers are consumed with her watery work, her busy life-style is not new.

Energy and longevity seem to run in her genes.

"My mother is 80 years old and has blessed me with the genes to always keep going. She has energy still at 80. She floated the Colorado River with us for a family reunion and her birthday. And, my dad is 81 and is

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

- *Fri., July 29: 100-61
- *Sat., July 30: 99-61
- *Sun., July 31: 95-60
- *Mon., Aug. 1: 91-56
- *Tues., Aug. 2: 93-60
- *Wed., Aug. 3: 100-55
- *Thurs., Aug. 4: 100-61

Weather Watch

Illinois Valley

Wednesday, August 10
Sunny to Partly Cloudy
High--92 Low--52

Thursday, August 11
Sunny & Clearer
High--91 Low--52

Friday, August 12
Sunny & Warm
High--90 Low--47

Saturday, August 13
Hot Day, Cool Night
High--90 Low--46

Sunday, August 14
Mostly Sunny
High--91 Low--47

Monday, August 15
Sun, Sun, Sun
High--93 Low--48

Tuesday, August 16
Sunny & Hot
High--96 Low--54



A major structure fire at It's A Burl in Kerby was handled by Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) last week. (Photos by Dale & Elaine Sandberg, IVFD photographers)



It's A Burl operating despite blaze

Despite a fire that leveled a workshop with some 1,000 square feet of space, It's A Burl in Kerby is open for business, as the owners' home and art gallery were saved by firefighters.

A general alarm was issued by Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) Tuesday night, at 10:24 p.m., and firefighters from five stations were on-scene until 2 a.m. the next day. Despite the massiveness of the blaze, it was knocked down fairly rapidly. Overhaul took longer.

The biggest loss seems to be 80 percent of the tools that were used in fashioning the art work from It's A Burl, said Joy Shinerock, who owns the business with her husband, Harvey.

She said that new tools are ordered. Additionally, employees are being asked for suggestions on features

to improve a new building to house a finishing room, and a wood-turning area. The new structure likely will be of concrete, she said, somewhat tongue-in-cheek.

Besides the fact that It's A Burl remains open for business, she also noted that their philosophy is to "rebuild and make it better."

She said that it's difficult to estimate the loss of some finished art work and raw material, but guessed at approximately \$8,000. However, she stressed, that's only a guess.

"We keep adding to the list of burned items," said Joy, "like on Monday we realized that our respirators were lost."

The structural loss was estimated at \$20,000 by IVFD Fire Marshal Jerry Schaeffer. He estimated the content loss, including tools, at \$30,000.

No cause has been determined for the fire. Schaeffer said that there are several possibilities, as chemicals and stains were in the structure, but that an exact cause likely never will be found.

An insurance investigator has been interviewing employees, Joy said.

Flames were visible from a considerable distance in the night sky Tuesday. An engine from Rural/Metro Fire Dept. initially responded to help fight the blaze, but was diverted en route to cover Station 2 in Selma.

In February 1995, the Shinerocks lost their home and business building at the same location to a Saturday morning fire. The shop that burned last week used one side of the structure damaged in that blaze.

Meanwhile, said Joy, "We're here, and we're in business."



CAVE JUNCTION STATION DEDICATED - A ribbon-cutting ceremony was conducted Saturday, Aug. 6 at the new CJ Fire Station, which has nearly 11,000 square feet of space. Larry Jones, chairman of the Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) Board of Directors, cut the ribbon with (from left) Lt. Will Sowell, Chief Harry Rich, and CJ Mayor Tony Paulson among those observing. Josephine County Commissioners Jim Riddle and Jim Raffenburg were among many attendees, as well as Dave Mathews, of American Medical Response; CJ Deputy Ray Webb, of the county sheriff's office; and Leonard Frick, former IVFD director. A new station in Selma was dedicated July 4, and a new O'Brien station will be dedicated Saturday, Aug. 20. The new stations replace outdated facilities. (Photo by 'Illinois Valley News')

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'Berry happy' festival set

A "berry good time" is planned Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 13-14, during the 24th annual Wild Blackberry Festival with booths and displays in and around Downtown Cave Junction.

A special berry-colored two-page presentation, including the schedule of events, is on pages 2 and 7 in this issue. The schedule in the "Noose" is co-sponsored by Home Valley Bank and First American Title.

Many businesses are offering blackberry food, drink and desserts, plus other special offerings with a blackberry touch.

Besides the special ads on pages 2 and 7, other organizations have their ads in other spots in this issue.

The festival is sponsored by the Blackberry Committee. For last-minute booth applications, go to Darn Near Everything, or phone Rachel Bennett at 592-2358.

Besides the weekend festival, the Second Friday Art Walk in Downtown CJ will be held Aug. 12.

Clinic groundbreaking celebration Thursday

Siskiyou Community Health Center (SCHC) will break ground for its new 10,000-square-foot medical clinic at 25647 Redwood Hwy. at the north end of Cave Junction on Thursday Aug. 11.

The formal celebration will be held at the building site from 10:30 a.m. to noon. A barbecue, compliments of Taylor's Sausage, will follow at Laurel Pines Golf Course in Cave Junction from noon to 2 p.m.

Both events are open to the public.

The official groundbreaking program will include recognition of individuals and organizations that have supported SCHC and the capital campaign. Paul Janke, administrator at Three Rivers Community Hospital (TRCH), will speak about he planned laboratory and X-ray facility that TRCH will operate in the new medical clinic.

Other local dignitaries will speak about the importance of SCHC in the community.

Local celebrity Agnes Pilgrim, the oldest living female descendent of the Takilma tribe, inhabitants of Southern Oregon for more than 20,000 years, will perform a traditional blessing ceremony for the new project. Ms. Pilgrim is a well-respected spiritual elder and healer of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz.

Members of the "Jefferson Baroque Orches-

tra" will entertain guests during the program at the building site. And the "Illinois Valley String Band," with Carol Valentine, will "keep things hoping" at the barbecue, hosted by Laurel Pines Golf Course.

The new building will replace the clinic's current facility and will allow SCHC to expand services and add family medicine-providers to meet the needs of the growing Illinois Valley community.

"We're really crammed into every little nook and cranny in the whole clinic," said Sheila Mason, Cave Junction office manager. "To actually meet the access needs for patients to get into the building and get seen, we need more rooms."

SCHC purchased the 7-acre site several years ago, and has been raising money to meet the \$2.5 million projected project cost. A Community Development Block Grant has been awarded the city of Cave Junction to help offset infrastructure costs such as water, sewer, and roads.

SCHC, through its Choose to Care Capital Campaign, is conducting a community fund-raising campaign, which has netted donations of \$392,000 from individuals and local businesses, and \$408,000 from private foundations. Ninety percent of Siskiyou's staff and board have donated money for the new clinic.

Wonder marijuana plants seized

Lawmen seized 350 growing marijuana plants on Newt Gulch Road in Wonder Thursday, Aug. 4, said Josephine Interagency Narcotics Team (JOINT).

Arrested were Medford resident Patrick W. Morrissey, 30; and Newt Gulch resident Robert L. Rogers, 44, Joint said.

Each was charged with manufacturing, possession and delivery of a controlled substance/marijuana. JOINT

was assisted by Josephine Marijuana Eradication Team.

Officers found that a two-story residence "was completely converted into an exclusive marijuana-growing operation."

Besides plants they found more than two pounds of processed marijuana bud, scales, packaging material, and \$474 cash.

The suspects cooperated with investigation, which is continuing, said JOINT.

Fire hazard levels continuing rise in Josephine, Jackson

Wildland fire danger levels on land protected by the Oregon Dept. of Forestry's (ODF) S.W. Oregon District and the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest rose as of Monday, Aug. 8.

The Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) climbed to "Level 3." The public (regulated use) fire level rose to "Extreme" (red).

All U.S. Forest Service-administered land was raised to "Very High" (yellow) fire danger level as of Saturday, Aug. 6.

Restrictions affect state, county, private, and Bureau of Land Management land in Jackson and Josephine counties.

For ODF, the following public (Regulated Use) fire

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