

Walk a Mile in My Shoe

# Illinois Valley News

Wednesday, August 23, 2006, 1 Section, 16 Pages, Volume 69 No. 23 Cave Junction, Oregon 97523

illinois-valley-news.com

## City seeks mediation

With a 4-0 vote, the Cave Junction City Council has agreed to proceed with mediation in connection with a union grievance involving a dismissed employee.

Diane Swarts, who was the city's utility clerk, was terminated on June 30. She had been on the job for three years, said City Recorder Jim Polk.

After her dismissal, the Teamsters Union filed a wrongful termination grievance on her behalf. The council, with member Dan Fiske excused, voted Friday, Aug. 18 following an executive (closed to the public) session that lasted approximately an hour in city hall, Polk said.

Polk said that the union plan involves an effort to have Swarts reinstated to her previous job with back pay and benefits. Also, the subject would be removed from her personnel records.

Based on the council vote, the matter will be forwarded to Ken Jones, a Eugene attorney who deals in labor matters, Polk said. Mediation will be attempted before arbitration.

## Punks, thugs need to know crime bites

Notwithstanding McGruff the Crime Dog, what's needed to deter and decrease crime in and around Cave Junction is some teeth.

Particularly a good set of choppers in the form of a county jail with increased ability to accommodate law-breakers so that they can't commit crime while they serve time. Plus, they'd think twice about another offense if they knew they'd go to jail.

"Give me 50 beds and I'll clean up this town and area," said Cpl. Sean Rarey of Josephine County Sheriff's Office (JCSO). The jail is at a low capacity because of a lack of funds.

"About 99 percent of the crimes around here are committed by less than 1 percent of the population," said Rarey, officer-in-charge of JCSO's Illinois Valley Substation in Cave Junction.

Rarey and Deputy Cory Krauss, city of Cave Junction contract officer, spoke during a meeting of the Cave Junction Security Council in CJ City Hall on Monday night, Aug. 21. Approximately 30 persons attended.

Regarding the current lack-of-consequences situation, Rarey provided the following scenario:

He arrests a suspect for breaking into a car and stealing its stereo system. Because of the jail situation and the level of the crime, all he can do is cite the suspect into court.

The suspect, knowing this, laughs, balls up the citation and bounces it off Rarey's chest.

Subsequently, when the suspect does not show up for his court date, a warrant is issued. Rarey serves the warrant, and issues another citation. The suspect laughs,

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WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN a major wildfire was corralled quickly by Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) and Oregon Dept. of Forestry Saturday night, Aug. 19. Firefighters held it to approximately a half-acre of grass, brush and

trees. Some stayed on-scene through the night to ensure against rekindling. It was on Wild Park Lane off Hwy. 199 in the 20000 block. ODF is investigating the cause. (Photo by Dale & Elaine Sandberg/IVFD Media Dept.)



FLYING DOGS AND FRISBEES were the order of the day at Lake Selmac in Selma on Saturday, Aug. 19 with na-

tional champion canines showing their stuff. More photos and information on page 16. (Dale Sandberg photo)

## Pedal to the metal equals gulping gallons of gas

Rising gasoline prices are prompting many drivers to fill up on fuel-saving tips.

Fortunately, drivers can add miles to every gallon by following a few easy and inexpensive maintenance tips from the Car Care Council:

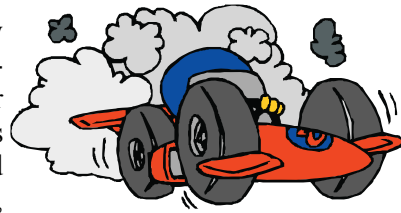
\*Vehicle gas caps -- Approximately 17 percent of vehicles on the road have gas caps that are either damaged, loose or missing altogether, causing 147 million gallons of gas to vaporize every year.

\*Underinflated tires -- When tires aren't inflated properly, it's like driving with the parking brake on and can cost a mile or two per gallon.

\*Worn spark plugs -- A

vehicle can have either four, six or eight spark plugs, which fire as many as 3 million times every 1,000 miles, resulting in a lot of heat, electrical and chemical erosion. A dirty spark plug causes misfiring, which wastes fuel.

\*Dirty air filters -- An air filter that's clogged with dirt, dust and bugs chokes off the air, wastes gas and causes an engine to lose power. Replacing a clogged air filter can improve gas mileage by as much as 10 percent, saving approximately 15-cents a gallon.



\*Don't be an aggressive driver -- Such driving can lower gas mileage by as much as 33 percent on highways and 5 percent on city streets resulting in wasting 7- to 49-cents per gallon.

\*Avoid excessive idling -- Sitting idle gets zero miles per gallon. Let the vehicle warm up for one to two minutes only.

\*Observe the speed limit -- Each mpg driven more than 60 will result in an additional 10-cents per gallon. To maintain constant speed on the highway, use cruise control.

\*Combining errands

into one trip saves gas and time. Several short trips taken from a cold start can use twice as much fuel as a longer multipurpose trip covering the same distance.

\*Avoid carrying unneeded heavy items in the truck. An extra 100 pounds can cut fuel efficiency by a percent or two.

As part of the "Be Car Care Aware" education campaign, the Car Care Council offers a free service interval schedule to help take the guesswork out of what vehicle systems need to be routinely inspected and when service or repair should be performed.

The schedule can be printed at [www.carcare.org](http://www.carcare.org). (NAPSA)



A REPORTED DISTURBANCE with a gunshot drew four law enforcement units and officers to 750 Caves Hwy. Friday evening, Aug. 18, said Oregon State Police. Levi D. Doney, 24 and Bernard B. Garcia, 50, both of the Caves Hwy. address, were charged with attempted first-degree assault, said OSP. Garcia also is charged with pointing a gun at a person. Indications

were that he held a handgun while striking Dominic J. Materazzi, 51; the weapon discharged, grazing Materazzi's skull, according to a report. OSP added that Doney struck the victim with a shovel. The incident, which actually occurred in the 5000 block of Caves Hwy., appears to be related to disputed ownership of a trailer. (Illinois Valley News' photo)

## California fires cause smoke here

A pall of smoke in the Smith River Canyon and Illinois Valley during the past several days apparently is from wildfires in Northern California, including one in neighboring Siskiyou County.

There is no fire in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness, despite several rumors, said U.S. Forest Service.

Four active fires in Northern California, as of Monday, Aug. 21, had burned 50,595 acres of wildland. Suppression costs so far are listed at \$46.6 million.

One fire resulted in two deaths, when a helicopter crashed into the Klamath River. The pilot and co-pilot were dead at the scene.

More than 1,500 personnel were fighting the blazes as of Monday, and 21 had suffered injuries.

Between July 23 and Aug. 16 a total of eight large fire incidents have occurred in the Northern California Region. Those large fires have burned more than 70,259 acres costing more than \$69,305,355 in suppression efforts.

## Drive sober

Labor Day weekend is second only to Memorial Day weekend in terms of the percentage of alcohol-related traffic fatalities across the state, noted Oregon State Police.

Law enforcement agencies in Oregon, in partnership with the Oregon Dept. of Transportation, are joining the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in its national impaired-driving enforce-

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## Weather Watch

### Illinois Valley

<b>Wednesday, August 23</b>	
<b>Mostly Sunny</b>	
High--90 Low--48	
<b>Thursday, August 24</b>	
<b>Sunny</b>	
High--91 Low--49	
<b>Friday, August 25</b>	
<b>Clear &amp; Hot</b>	
High--99 Low--50	
<b>Saturday, August 26</b>	
<b>Mostly Sunny</b>	
High--98 Low--51	
<b>Sunday, August 27</b>	
<b>Plenty of Sunshine</b>	
High--90 Low--49	
<b>Monday, August 28</b>	
<b>Partly Cloudy</b>	
High--89 Low--49	
<b>Tuesday, August 29</b>	
<b>Mostly Sunny</b>	
High--90 Low--48	

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

- \*Fri., Aug. 11: 87-56
- \*Sat., Aug. 12: 86-56
- \*Sun., Aug. 13: 99-58
- \*Mon., Aug. 14: 96-56
- \*Tue., Aug. 15: 87-53
- \*Wed., Aug. 16: 80-56
- \*Thurs., Aug. 17: 93-48

Following are the high-and-low temperatures, and rainfall, recorded in Cave Junction at Mountain Wind Farm.

- \*Fri., Aug. 11: 84-55
- \*Sat., Aug. 12: 86-52
- \*Sun., Aug. 13: 94-50
- \*Mon., Aug. 14: 93-48
- \*Tue., Aug. 15: 87-48
- \*Wed., Aug. 16: 76-52
- \*Thurs., Aug. 17: 88-43