



Heather Rhodes and her daughter Misty at the front counter. ('I.V. News' photo)

Got the munchies? Visit Munchie’s

Open every day, Munchie’s in Cave Junction offers not only munchable items including hot mini-donuts made when ordered, but a selection of espresso, smoothies and ice cream.

The business also has hot dogs and chicken strips, blended coffee beverages, nachos, popcorn, soft drinks -- and an item growing in popularity -- Tasty Texas Tacos.

And let’s not forget Ha-waiian shaved ice with 31 flavors. The super-size concoctions are relatives to sno-cones, but the latter are made with crushed ice.

Munchie’s, according to owners “Dusty” Rhodes and his daughter, Heather Rhodes, is primarily a coffee shop. The business, open since April, is next door to the Goodwill store and across Redwood Hwy. from CJ Video Mart/Radio Shack.

Munchie’s is open Mondays through Fridays from 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

There is limited street parking, but a parking lot is behind the store.

Besides its munchable munchies, Munchie’s has two video games and nine arcade pinball machines, most of them of the classic variety. There’s also a computerized rifle game with plenty of fast action.

Additionally, the store has a selection of DVD

movies with low-cost rental fees. They are of some vintage, with topics including Biblical, adventure, comedy and horror. Plus there’s an assortment of games.

There’s also a practical joke counter with products including fake parking violations, and birthday candles that keep relighting. The counter is operated by Misty, the Rhodes’ 10-year-old granddaughter and daughter, respectively.

Regarding the store, “It’s all a work in progress,” said “Dusty,” who’s especially pleased at his daughter’s expertise as a barista. She’s been to three barista schools and uses the Italian method, he said. As well, their espresso machine is from Italy.

At the front of the store is a coffee bean roaster, “our crown jewel,” notes “Dusty.” They also grind their own beans, and prepare espresso with state-of-the-art precision, adding, “If you don’t like your espresso drink, you get it free.” They also sell espresso beans by the pound.

With 10 ice cream flavors in cup or cone; 16 es-

presso flavors, plus lattes, mochas, cappucinos and breves; and eight flavors of smoothies, Munchie’s has a good range at competitive prices.

Other popular snacks include 20 Below Hot Chocolate, and Kidz Kreamz.

The Rhodes, who came to Illinois Valley in 2002 from Houston, Texas, provide punch cards to customers. They can gain credit toward DVD rentals or food products for every \$10 spent.

“Dusty” and Heather are full of pride for Misty. A fifth-grader at Evergreen Elementary School, she’s a young entrepreneur. Misty has her own debit card through SOFCU Community Credit Union, and has purchased a pinball machine and a candy machine for the store, which provide her some income.

She also has three off-site candy machines, and she is the recipient of all the tips left at the store.

Munchie’s is thus a family affair.

“We work to provide good service, and generous portions at reasonable prices,” Rhodes said.

Tagging suspect identified

In connection with graffiti “tagging” consisting of “PURE 23” spray-painted at seven city of Grants Pass locations, a 23-year-old Medford resident has been identified.

Grants Pass Dept. of Public Safety (GPDPS) added that the suspect is Richard Lafayette Hawkins. The following charges have been referred to the Josephine County D.A. for prosecution:

Seven counts each of third-degree criminal mischief, and unlawful applying of graffiti; three counts of second-degree criminal mischief; and one count of first-degree criminal mis-

chief.

The tagging, with an estimated \$2,500 in damage, was discovered May 5. The seven locations included one historical site, said GPDPS.

A reward was offered to identify a suspect, and a lengthy investigation was conducted by GP’s Youth Crime Task Force. Hawkins was interviewed and found to be the responsible person, said GPDPS.

The agency said that it appreciates merchants and others in the community for their time and patience. “Zero tolerance” for this “type of criminal activity” is the policy of GPDPS.



Donna Devine surveys part of her domain. (Photo by 'Illinois Valley News')

Weeping Spruce offers good scents

Donna Devine believes that essential oils make good scents, and that certain herbs have medicinal qualities for a number of infirmities.

She ought to know. A nearly 30-year resident of Illinois Valley, Devine is a master herbalist and a master aroma therapist. As well, she is working toward her bachelor of science degree in nutrition.

That’s why she’s opened Weeping Spruce Herb Farm -- “a health store and more” -- at 27893 Redwood Hwy. It’s the former site of the white tiger park.

Other than Tuesdays, when the business is open from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed Wednesdays.

Her long-term plan, in connection with her herb farm in O’Brien, is to make the 4-acre property, a short distance south of Downtown Cave Junction, somewhat of a mecca for cancer patients, of whom she knows many. She wants to line up fellow nutritionists and aroma therapists “to provide the best perspective on treatments.”

Massage therapists also would be welcome, she said.

Her new store dovetails with the need for a retail outlet, which she sees as an

important aspect. She’s helped in the store by Janna Carter.

Devine has a vision for turning the former white tiger park, which was a petting zoo and café prior to that, into a central site for a farmers market. Additionally, she can see herb gardens on the property. Maybe a greenhouse too.

“It’s my aim to establish a central location to help people work toward healthy lifestyles,” she said. “And there’s plenty of room for vendors.”

A longtime wine and beer maker, she’s always had an interest in crafting high-quality items.

“I think there is a great need in this valley to help people find healthy options,” she said. Her position “is not antimedicine,” she stresses, but providing complimentary approaches that can help.

She is also quick to note, “I’m not promoting that you can always help with herbs; there are serious medical conditions that need” the medical profession. But help through other avenues, such as herbs, can sometimes aid with cancer, heart disease and diabetes.

Additionally, she points to the physiological and psy-

chological helps available via aroma therapy. For example: lavender as a sedative in a bath or breathed, helping relieve stress. And marjoram and clary sage for their soothing qualities; with the former known to help reduce blood pressure, said Devine.

Scented oils, she noted, have analgesic qualities, and some, like camomile, can reduce inflammation.

With her extensive background, Devine is offering consultations for complimentary or alternative approaches. For a \$35 fee she will compile a case history “involving a lot of paperwork,” and develop a program. Plus, those obtaining products from her will get them at a discount.

Follow-up work would incur an additional charge.

Weeping Spruce carries some gift items, and a lot of Carlson products “because they test them daily” for purity. There’s also soap, tinctures, herbs, teas and supplements. Plus books candles, crystals and T-shirts.

Shoppers will find much to view. Messages can be left at 596-2729.

“We’re looking forward to people finding out about us,” she said, “and we want to meet everyone.”

We need experienced local leadership
to serve us in Salem.

We can all stand
behind Ron.



“I’VE KNOWN
RON MAURER
AND HAVE
ADMIRIED HIS
LEADERSHIP
ABILITY
FOR YEARS.”

“Ron spearheads the next generation of community leaders needed to address the issues we all agree are important to Josephine County, such as quality-of-life for young and old alike.

His concern for community is exemplified in the countless hours he spends serving as chairman of the Three Rivers Community Hospital Foundation Board.

Please join me in voting for Ron this November!”

– BRADY ADAMS, Former Oregon State Senator and Community Leader

Ron ★★★★★★
MAURER
★★★★★ FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Let us know your thoughts online at www.ron-maurer.com or call for a yard sign at 660-4085.

Paid for by the Committee to elect Ron Maurer State Rep-District 3. Kathy Luther, Treasurer.

Continually strive to improve yourself.
- Anthony J. D’Angelo -

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

*Fri., Sept.1: 97-49
*Sat., Sept. 2: 94-58
*Sun., Sept.3: 93-52
*Mon., Sept.4: 94-51
*Tue., Sept.5: 97-51
*Wed., Sept.6: 90-52
*Thurs., Sept.7: 91-53

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

*Fri., Sept.1: 96-41
*Sat., Sept. 2: 95-44
*Sun., Sept.3: 96-42
*Mon., Sept.4: 94-43
*Tue., Sept.5: 96-44
*Wed., Sept.6: 89-46
*Thurs., Sept.7: 90-47

Weather Watch

Illinois Valley

Wednesday, Sept. 13
Sunny
High--85 Low--46 ☀

Thursday, Sept. 14
Partly Cloudy
High--74 Low--44 ☁

Friday, Sept. 15
Mostly Cloudy, showers possible
High--70 Low--43 ☁

Saturday, Sept. 16
Cloudy & Mild
High--71 Low--44 ☁

Sunday, Sept. 17
Mostly Sunny
High--80 Low--41 ☀

Monday, Sept. 18
Partly Cloudy
High--79 Low--39 ☁

Tuesday, Sept. 19
Mostly Sunny
High--80 Low--41 ☀

MUNCHIE'Z
Coffee Roaster & Snack Store

Blended Iced Coffee

\$1.99

(with this coupon)

144N Redwood Hwy
(next door to Goodwill)
Parking Behind Store

Coupon

Donna Devine
Master Herbalist ~ Registered Aroma Therapist

Weeping Spruce Herb Farm
Health Store & More!

10% OFF
(selected items)

Come see us at our new location!

11-5 daily, Closed Wed.
596-2729
27893 Redwood Hwy. (old white tiger park)