

In the Service

U.S. Army Sgt. Keith Lamar Dillard, son of Selma residents William and Sandra Dillard, recently returned for a "short" two-week visit with his family from duty -- being deployed twice to the Middle East.



SGT. KEITH DILLARD

Dillard, brother of Jessica, Brandy, Donny, Chelsea and Billy Dillard, served one year in Egypt with his unit, Delta Company/186th Infantry Division during 2002. His duty was with the Multinational Peacekeeping Force and Observers.

His first duty station, for four years, was at the Merlin Armory in Josephine County. He then moved to Denver, where he is posted at Buckley Air Force Base with his company, the 169th Fires Brigade. He is currently serving one year in Iraq, attached to the 25th Infantry Division.

His current duty in Mosul is working with Force Protection and Radio and Communications. Included was combat training in Grafenwohr, Germany; Honolulu and Kuwait. Dillard has earned numerous citations, including an Army Achievement Medal for Operation Enduring Freedom.

During 2004-2006 he completed a field artillery survey course at Fort Sill, Okla., and a communications course at Fort Gordon, Ga.

As a senior student at Illinois Valley High School, Dillard graduated with his Class of 2001. His life goals were inspired there by the former U.S. Air Force Jr. ROTC program during his freshman, sophomore and junior years.

He joined the Army National Guard when he turned 17 in 2000. He then graduated from basic training in Fort Benning, Ga., with Unit Bravo 2-58 as a mortar specialist. During his boot camp training, 9-11 claimed many American lives -- and famous singer Lee Greenwood performed his patriotic song, "God Bless the U.S.A." to the soldiers at Dillard's base.

This touched his heart and he related to his family "that he felt more compelled to serve his country and proud to be an American, that day, than any other time of his life." Soon after, he was deployed to the Sinai Peninsula between the borders of Israel and Egypt.

Dillard has re-enlisted for another six years in the military. His current rank is E-5. He will continue to serve his six months left overseas, then move back to Colorado or change his duty station to Hawaii.

But wherever he moves, he plans to eventually retire from the service, and then pursue a career in criminal justice.

The ultimate lesson all of us have to learn is unconditional love, which includes not only others, but ourselves as well.

-Elizabeth Kubler-Ross-

Governor seeks 'fairness, certainty' for dealing with Measure 37 claims

Gov. Kulongoski has called on the Legislature to address the thousands of claims filed at the state and local levels under Measure 37, and work on short- and long-term solutions to "restore fairness, certainty and predictability for land owners, their neighbors and Oregon's communities."

The work would be conducted with the newly announced Joint Special Committee on Land Use Fairness. Under the voter-approved measure, governments must pay owners -- or forego enforcement -- when certain land-use restrictions reduce property value.

The volume of claims filed during the final weeks of last year is causing a backlog for land owners, the governor said in a letter to Senate President Peter Courtney and House Speaker Jeff Merkley.

The governor pointed out that half the 6,491 claims filed with the state and Oregon's cities and counties were filed during the final weeks of 2006. He said that his committed goal is to ensure that small land owners are "moved to the front of the line."

The governor underscored that the state is committed to implementing Measure 37 with due diligence, noting that, "We estimate that fewer than a thousand of these claims came from property owners asking to build a home on land they bought for that purpose years ago."

"Their requests represent the reasons that voters supported Measure 37 in 2004. And, we would like to

continue to process these requests as quickly as possible."

The governor also raised concerns about the time constraints provided

Josephine County among entities handling large numbers of claims

under the measure. They require state and local governments to process and

adjudicate all claims filed within 180 days, either approving the claims or paying compensation.

This timeline in conjunction with the magnitude of claims and limited resources has created greater challenges for state and local entities to provide fair responses to land owners and Oregon's communities, Kulongoski said.

(Illinois Valley News' covered the county situation in its Dec. 27, 2006 issue.)

LCDC adopts new methods for addressing M37 issues

New administrative rules regarding Measure 37 claims were adopted Thursday, Jan. 25 during a regular meeting in Salem of the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC).

Measure 37 is the property rights initiative that voters approved in the November 2004 election.

The new rules (Oregon Administrative Rules 660-041), which were adopted after a public hearing, will cause three results:

*Make permanent the temporary Measure 37 rules that LCDC adopted in November '06. Those rules clarify the requirements for submittal of Measure 37 claims to the state after Dec. 4, '06, where the claim is based on existing or new Dept. of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) land-use regulations.

*Require local governments to notify DLCD of pending and adopted permits or other authorizations to allow a use based on a Measure 37 waiver.

*Clarify that the local government and the state must modify, remove, or not apply ("waive") applicable local and state land-use regulations before a land owner may lawfully obtain a local permit or other authorization to proceed with a use authorized under a Measure 37 waiver, for claims based on existing statewide land-use planning statutes, goals and rules.

"These new rules will clarify procedures for Measure 37 claims and assure consistent implementation of the measure statewide," said Lane Shetterly, DLCD director.

For more information on the new Measure 37 rules, contact Bob Rindy, DLCD policy analyst, at (503) 373-0050, Ext. 229, or via email at bob.rindy@state.or.us.

Final city plan still pending

Cave Junction's Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) was to meet Wednesday night, Jan. 31 to discuss a draft outline of the comprehensive plan and not a final draft comprehensive plan as "Illinois Valley News" indicated last week.

This draft, said Alec Miller, of Craig A. Stone & Associates, an urban planning firm based in Medford, will incorporate the comments received from CAC members and the information that they've given the company during work sessions to date.

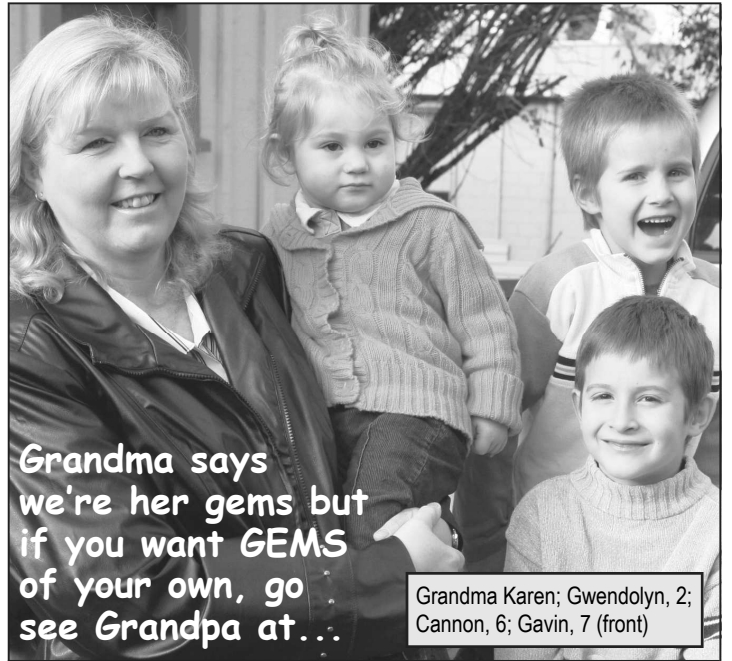
Following the final CAC meeting the 31st, the firm will continue to take comments and suggestions from CAC and provide members with drafts as they

become available.

During February, Stone & Associates will present updated preliminary drafts to the city council so that it can provide input on the content and direction of the plan. Following a presentation to the council, the firm will undertake to prepare final drafts of the comprehensive plan in coordination with the Oregon Dept. of Land Conservation and Development. That will take a couple of months, Miller said.

CAC and the council will be provided drafts and have opportunity to comment during this period.

Public hearings will be scheduled for consideration of the proposed comprehensive plan text amendments by the city council.



Grandma says we're her gems but if you want GEMS of your own, go see Grandpa at...

Grandma Karen; Gwendolyn, 2; Cannon, 6; Gavin, 7 (front)



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The trouble with most people is that they think with their hopes or fears or wishes rather than with their minds.
- Nancy Astor -

Bad night at Hay's Hill with four wrecks in single hour

Hay's Hill and its environs kept emergency personnel busy Friday evening, Jan. 26, as four motor vehicle crashes occurred, roughly between 6 and 7 p.m.

The first wreck on Redwood Hwy. was reported at 5:54 p.m., when two vehicles collided near the top of Hay's Hill, said Oregon State Police.

An SUV driven by Selma resident Joan Cermak, 63, was passing another vehicle, said OSP, when her vehicle began to fish-tail. It spun and struck the other car, resulting in both hitting an embankment.

No injuries were reported. Cermak was cited on a charge of failure to maintain lane, said OSP.

Not long after that crash, another occurred a bit farther south on the road. OSP said that Cave Junction resident Justin Spliethof, 25, slowed because of the other crash.

A car behind his pickup truck didn't stop in time,

and hit the rear of the pickup. The car, registered to Oregon Dept. of Transportation, was driven by CJ resident Gail Boatman, 44.

At 6:58 p.m. another collision was reported, this one on Hay's Hill Cut-off Road, where traffic had been diverted because of the other two crashes.

Robert Mark, 49, of CJ, told OSP that a vehicle entered the highway from the bypass in front of him. He said that he became disoriented, and turned onto the road, colliding with another car. No injuries were reported, and no citations were issued.

The final Hay's Hill wreck of the evening also was reported at 6:58 p.m. on the bypass. A tractor-trailer rig lost traction and slid, striking the side of van.

No injuries were noted, and no citations issued. The big rig was driven by Corey Burr, 24, of Crescent City, Calif.

Illinois Valley High School

21st Century After School Classes & Programs



New classes starting Monday, February 5th.

Classes are **FREE** and open to all IVHS students and parents.

Parents of children at Evergreen or Lorna Byrne, and the staff at all three schools are welcome to attend also.

Classes run from February 5 through March 8.

For more information or to register for classes call:

Jen Marsden (592-2451) or
Deb Murphy (592-2866).

Country Breakfast
I.V. Senior Center
520 E. River St.
Saturday, Feb. 3
8 to 11 a.m.

* Biscuits & Gravy * Pancakes
* Eggs * Bacon * Sausage
* Coffee, Milk, Juice

Adults - \$5
Children 12
& under - \$2.50



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Scrap-booking & Card Making 3:45-5:45	Weight Training 3:45-5:45	Swing Dance 3:45-5:45	Weight Training 3:45-5:45
Figure Sculpture 3:45-5:45	Genealogy 3:45-5:45	American Sign Language 3:45-5:45	Bead Weaving 3:45-5:45
Juggling 3:45-5:45	Mountain Biking 3:45-5:45	Beginning Guitar Group 1: 3:45-4:40 Group 2: 4:50-5:45	Mountain Biking 3:45-5:45
Welding - Open Lab 3:45-5:45	Knitting 3:45-5:45	Scrabble, Chess & other Games 3:45-5:45	Poi Spinning 3:45-5:45