



Firefighters Kathy Pangburn and Kamron Ismaili & his wife, Kris



Deputy Chief Jeff Gavlik and Lt. Gerry Bjornstad



Battalion Chief Kris Sherman and Firefighter/student intern Joe Brown

ILLINOIS VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT (IVFD) honored its own Saturday night, March 3 at I.V. High School. Selected as 2006 Outstanding Firefighters were Kathy Pangburn, Station 1, and Kamron Ismaili, Station 6. Lt. Gerry Bjornstad, Station 1, was recognized as Officer of the Year, and received the Training Attendance plaque with both awards presented by Deputy Chief Jeff Gavlik. Dick Miller, Station 3, received the Support Member of the Year citation. He is a retired firefighter from California. Joe Brown, Station 1, a firefighter/student intern, was given the Maintenance Award by Battalion Chief Kris Sherman. A Rural/Metro Fire Dept. engine and crew attended the ceremony to cover IVFD, and had to respond to an alarm shortly after the event began. (Photos by Dale & Elaine Sandberg/IVFD Media Dept.)



Dick Miller, support/prevention volunteer

Agricultural degrees cover wide range

What does a degree from Oregon State University's (OSU) College of Agricultural Sciences get you? It could be a career in production agriculture, but it could just as likely be a career in banking, law, or real estate. With classes at OSU in Corvallis, the possibilities are far greater than what the average Oregonian might expect.

"Oregon agriculture is extremely diverse and the opportunities afforded by OSU's College of Agricultural Sciences reflect that diversity," said Katy Coba, director of the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture. "Our industry has grown complex. The image of a farmer in bib overalls is outdated, to say the least."

"The education gained by ag students these days is a definite asset to what Oregon agriculture has become. In many ways, our producers and processors have become cutting edge. Without

the influx of graduates from the college, I'm not sure we could keep up," she said.

While the college is very much in the business of helping farmers and ranchers be better farmers and ranchers, it is not confined to production agriculture. In fact, only approximately 10 percent of OSU's graduates from the College of Agricultural Sciences actually go back to the farm.

"Some people see the term agricultural sciences and they think farming and ranching - and that's about it," said the school's dean, Thayne Dutson. "But we have so much science in our college that students who get degrees can go a lot of different directions."

Students can choose majors including Agriculture Education, Agricultural and Resource Economics, Animal Sciences, Bioengineering, Botany and Plant Pathology, Chemistry, Crop and Soil Science, Environ-

mental and Molecular Toxicology, Fisheries and Wildlife, Food Science and Technology, Horticulture, Microbiology, Rangeland Resources, and Statistics.

There are also programs in Bioresource Research, Entomology, Environmental Sciences, Genetics, and Natural Resources.

Obtaining a degree in one of these specialized areas may often result in a career that seems to be unconnected to agriculture -- until you look closer at the linkage.

"Animal Sciences is our largest degree program," said Dutson. "You might think graduates go back and run a ranch or dairy. But there are a myriad of careers stemming from that degree, including banking and real estate, that are associated with animal industries."



THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY of 'Illinois Valley News' as a full-size newspaper was celebrated Friday evening, March 2 as the publication hosted an Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce mixer. Attendees enjoyed refreshments by Kate Dwyer Catering, which included a birthday cake depicting a mock newspaper page, complete with a traffic accident. (From left) staff members Jan Rodriguez, Virginia Gilliam (who retired a few years ago after a 43-year career with 'I.V. News'), Bob Rodriguez, Zina Booth, Josiah Dean and Michelle Binker. (Photo by Mike Rodriguez)

Two held in disturbance with gunfire

Nine police units responded to a disturbance involving gunfire and at least 15 people fighting in the city of Grants Pass, said the city Dept. of Public Safety (GPDPS).

The incident was reported at 1:37 a.m. on Tuesday, March 6 in the 200 block of S.W. Central Ave.

Arrested were Clint Coda Palomino, 18, a city resident; and Kenneth M. Trujillo, 21, of rural Grants Pass, said GPDPS.

Palomino was charged with unlawful use of a weapon, and carrying a concealed weapon. Trujillo was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm, and under a warrant for second-degree burglary. Both were taken to county jail.

A call was received at 1:37 a.m. of a disturbance with shots being fired. Officers from GPDPS, Josephine County Sheriff's Office and Oregon State Police responded.

"Upon officers arrival, there were 15 to 20 people observed, some of them fleeing on foot and some in vehicles," said Det. Sgt. Rob Gunderson.

"Even with the officers presence," he said, "some people were still fighting, and officers had to physically separate several. There were numerous witnesses."

He added that more officers, including detectives, were called out. Investigation indicates that there had been an earlier disturbance to which officers had responded, and that the later situation, involving two people fighting, is related.

Palomino at one point in the second incident fired a handgun into the air, said Gunderson.

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HEAVY SNOWFALL is only a memory this week, but the recent storms that deposited piles of water crystals were captured in this amusing view at Cave Junction DQ. (Photo provided courtesy of Oregon Mountain Real Estate)

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