

Illinois Valley News

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Car show, country fair, alumni gathering offer fun-filled weekend

An action-packed schedule for this coming weekend is on tap with a celebration of valley high school alumni, plus a classic car show, and a country fair.

*Reunion '07, sponsored by the Association of IVHS Alumni and Friends and KUHS (Kerby Union High School) Alumni Inc., will include events valley-wide Friday through Sunday, June 29 through July 1.

*Cave Junction Lions Club will stage a car cruise, barbecue and dance with

live music Friday, June 29 on the Sterling Savings Bank parking lot in Downtown Cave Junction from 6 to 10 p.m.; and the free ninth annual antique and classic car show Saturday, June 30 in Jubilee Park.

The show-and-shine will be available from noon to 4 p.m., with awards given at 3 p.m.

*Illinois Valley Country Fair, sponsored by I.V. Family Coalition, will be held Saturday the 30th on the parking lots at Sterling Sav-

ings Bank and the county building in Downtown CJ.

The fair, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., will include arts and crafts, food and music, animal exhibits, and a farmers market. There is no admission charge.

Breakfasts open to the public will be held at the car show Saturday from 7 to 11 a.m.; and the alumni gathering from 8 a.m. to noon on Sunday, July 1, both in Jubilee Park.

The car show (see ad on page 3) also will have a hot

dog and hamburger lunch available. The IVHS/KUHS alumni gathering schedule is in an ad on page 7.

Information about the I.V. Wrestling Club's poker tournament also is listed.

Besides those events, a reunion of former students with current and former staff members of Community Christian Academy is planned for Saturday at Community Bible Church.

The program, with games and a potluck, is to run from 2 to around 6 p.m.

Contact Kim (Hooley) Brouhard at 218-1421 or kbrouhard@charter.net.

On Saturday, the IVHS/KUHS reunion will include a tournament at I.V. Golf Course; a guided tour of Kerbyville Museum; and a dance at Junction Inn.

The annual meeting of KUHS Inc. will be held at 10 a.m. Sunday, July 1 at the Jubilee Park pavilion.

This year's reunion is for the classes of 1952, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92 and '97. Various

lunches and dinners at private homes, valley restaurants and other locations are planned.

In conjunction with the CJ Lions car show, the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation mobile health screening unit will be at the park. Free preventive health screenings will be offered.

Those who want a diabetes screening should consume nothing other than water and black coffee for at least three hours prior to the test.

IVFD gains good mark for structural protection

Good protection for structural fires is provided by Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD), but more stations, equipment and personnel are recommended.

So states Chicago-based ISO (Insurance Services Office Inc.) in a report to IVFD Chief Harry Rich and city of Cave Junction Mayor Tony Paulson.

The good news is that the city again received a Class 5 rating from ISO, IVFD directors were told by Fire Marshal Jerry Schaeffer. It's the same rating held previously, with indications that fire insurance rates could be affected positively.

Schaeffer said that he had hoped for a Class 3 rating for the city, but that "overall it's not a bad rating." ISO is the leading supplier of statistical, underwriting and actuarial information for the property/

casualty industry.

The rating is based on IVFD's ability to pump 3,500 gallons of water per minute.

Most insurers use ISO's Public Protection Classification survey data "for underwriting and calculating premiums for residential, com-

mercial and industrial properties," the company said.

*The district should have an aerial ladder truck.

*More locations, not including swimming pools, are needed that have 30,000 gallons of water available.

*There should be a fully equipped reserve pumper

Insurance service organization says the fire district should have 15 stations and an aerial ladder truck

stationed in city limits.

*More personnel are needed districtwide.

*Additional pre-fire training for firefighters should be scheduled.

In receiving the ISO recommendations, directors took no action. Indications are that the chief, who was vacationing and absent from the meeting, would review the report, and that his recommendations could be

stationed in city limits.

*More personnel are needed districtwide.

*Additional pre-fire training for firefighters should be scheduled.

In receiving the ISO recommendations, directors took no action. Indications are that the chief, who was vacationing and absent from the meeting, would review the report, and that his recommendations could be

forthcoming.

In another matter, district directors approved 4-0 annexation of four properties. Director Dusty Fields was absent from the meeting.

The annexations were recommended for acceptance by Schaeffer based on the cooperation of owners for access and other criteria. The properties are on Dick George Road, Hays Cut-Off, Deer Creek Road, and Westside Road.

In other matters, the board of directors:

*Were told by Deputy Chief Jeff Gavlik that IVFD was part of a task force assembled to help Medford Fire Dept. with a recent Poplar Square fire that destroyed five businesses.

*Heard from Gavlik that IVFD staff and volunteers as of approximately mid-June had responded to 42 alarms, the majority of them medical calls.



Handgun marksmen hope 'X' marks spot

By SCOTT JORGENSEN
IVN Staff Writer

The odor of gunpowder lingers in the air, as blasts echo off the hillsides and metallic pings ring out.

Walker Mountain stands tall in the background, providing perfect scenery for members of the International Handgun Metallic Silhouette Association (IHMSA) during their annual shooting competition.

For most of last week, approximately 23 IHMSA members converged on the 320-acre Josephine County Sportsman Park in Merlin to gauge their marksmanship skills. They came from Washington, California, Oregon, Arizona, Idaho and Indiana.

The rules for target shooting are simple, according to Steve Ware, Josephine County Sportsman's Association Public Relations director.

"If you hit it and knock it over, you get an X," Ware said. "The guy with the most Xs wins."

Participants are given 30 seconds of preparation time, then have two minutes to fire five shots. They compete according to categories based on gun type and skill level. Ware said that the ultimate goal of the event is to have fun.

"A lot of good-natured and jovial heckling goes on," Ware said. "Sometimes, we're better hecklers than shooters."

Competitive shooting is an easy hobby to get into, Ware said, and is also fairly inexpensive.

"You can buy a decent air pistol for \$150, or spend thousands on a custom gun," he said.

IHMSA originated in Tucson, Ariz. during 1976 when a group of handgunners gathered to share their hobby. The object of the sport is to knock down metallic silhouettes of chickens, pigs, turkeys and rams, at distances ranging from 50 to 200 feet.

(Continued on page 3)



SCORES OF MOTORCYCLISTS converged at Lake Selmac for the 15th annual Iron Horse Bike Rally, from Friday through Sunday, June 22 through 24. The Seattle Cosacks Motorcycle Stunt Team performed for appreciative audiences. The visitors were in evidence throughout the valley. (Photos by Michelle Binker, I.V. News)

County board shoots down airports advisory group

By SCOTT JORGENSEN
IVN Staff Writer

During 2006, the Josephine County Board of Commissioners (BOC) abolished the separate advisory boards for the Grants Pass and Illinois Valley airports, citing an overall lack of productivity.

The BOC then decided to form the Josephine County Airport Commission for both airports, and charged its members with finding ways to utilize the facilities to attract investment and economic development to the region.

But history repeated itself, and during its weekly business session on Wednesday, June 20 in Grants Pass, the BOC voted 3-0 to dissolve the airports commission.

During that meeting, Commissioner Dwight Ellis said that the BOC had good reason for dissolving the advisory boards last year.

"It didn't seem to be working or going any-

where," he said.

Ellis said that the new commission's meetings had been marred by arguing and that they were essentially a waste of time.

"In my mind, they accomplished very little," he said.

BOC Chairman Jim Raffenburg said that the airports could be a source of clean, light industry and job creation. None of that has happened yet, Raffenburg said, and the airport commission wasn't accomplishing any of its goals. As such, he indicated, the BOC was taking the right action by voting to disband that body.

"There are a lot of things that need to be done," Raffenburg said. "We can get those things done faster by putting these changes in place," he said, indicating that county officials Marie Hill and Alex Grossi will take the reins.

Raffenburg acknowledged that dissension "has been a problem with the

airports for a long time." In a Friday, June 22 telephone interview, Raffenburg said that trend has continued.

"It was having a negative effect on the airports' operations, in my opinion," Raffenburg said.

Luz Moore, a real estate broker with Century 21 Harris & Taylor, was one of the airport commission's five members. She said that the BOC made the right decision about the commission.

"I agree that it should be abolished," Moore said. "We were not doing anything."

Moore said that her involvement in the commission centered on her desire to bring family wage jobs to the Illinois Valley.

"We do want economic development where people don't have to go to Grants Pass to find work," she said.

But irresolvable personality conflicts complicated such efforts, much to Moore's disappointment.

"Some commission

members came in with their personal agendas and vendettas, so they lost focus on what we were supposed to do for the airport," she said.

She added that there were other reasons why the commission had become irrelevant. County officials have been working to streamline government operations and budgets in light of the potential loss of federal funding.

As part of that process, Airports Manager Alex Grossi is now under the supervision of county Chief Operating Officer Marie Hill. Also, any tenants wanting to lease airport property can contact Hill directly.

Despite the difficulties with the airport commission, Moore said that she expects an announcement to be made soon regarding a leasing contract.

"We do know that there's already a prospective tenant at the airport," Moore said. "We're waiting for the final license to come out."



JUNIOR GOLF lessons are under way at Illinois Valley Golf Course. The inexpensive training is for youth ages 5 through 15. For more information phone 592-3151. (Photo by Scott Jorgensen, Illinois Valley News)