

# Residents hot regarding county fire rating order

(Continued from page 1)

House of Representatives on a 52-0 vote. It allows the state to assess suppression costs of up to \$100,000 for fires originating on properties classified as high-risk.

"There is no common sense in how they rated people's properties," Kleve said.

Jim Raffenburg, chairman of the county board of commissioners, was among those who received a letter. However, traffic congestion kept him from the July 18 meeting.

Raffenburg later said that implementation of SB 360 represents a "massive

unfunded mandate on citizens." He stated that the potential state fine of \$100,000 is "quite a figure to throw at people."

The new regulations require driveway "fuel breaks," as well as 30-to-50-foot breaks around homes. Kleve said that such regulations wouldn't work for her property, as adjoining lots are within the state-mandated perimeter.

"The fire breaks they would have us build are unrealistic," Kleve said. "There's no way we could comply."

Although finding fault

with how citizens were notified about the regulations, Kleve said she understands why they were put into place.

"The intentions are good," she said. "The rationale behind this is good. But it was poorly implemented."

"There has got to be a better way."

Kleve continued that one point of contention is that the burden is entirely on property owners to demonstrate that their lots have been misclassified.

"We've been found guilty, and have to prove ourselves innocent," she said.

During the July 18

meeting, citizens also expressed concerns about properties bordering federal lands and riparian areas, as well as the potential for increased home owner's insurance rates.

Due to the overflow crowd, the public hearing will be rescheduled. No date was set as of press time.

Raffenburg said he hopes that state officials will be mindful of the strong reaction they received when informing citizens of the new regulations.

"I hope the dissatisfaction got their attention," he said.

**Spc. Michael Murray,**  
**Welcome back**  
**from Iraq.**  
**Enjoy your time home.**  
**Thanks for serving our**  
**country!**  
**Love,**  
**Mom, Dad,**  
**& Barbara**



## Tales from the Police Blotter

**(Editor's Note: Factual information for 'Blotter' is provided by official law enforcement agencies. All persons listed are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Charges can be amended or dismissed.)**  
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**Thursday, July 12**

\*A summer school student was threatening her son on a bus, a mother reported. She seemed satisfied that school officials were handling the situation.

\*On Holland Loop, a 73-year-old man, thought to be missing, was home, and had been for several days, he said.

\*For two consecutive nights, vandals struck a vacant home on S. Kerby Avenue, breaking light bulbs, discharging a fire extinguisher and scattering the contents of a shed everywhere.

\*In Selma an Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) firefighter provided information about a pickup truck being driven at a high rate of speed around 3 p.m.

\*Having hitch-hiked to Oregon Caves National Monument, a woman complained of an abscessed tooth. Then she was said to be wandering around, acting strangely and refusing to leave. Park employees later said that they probably resolved the matter.

\*Tools and a chainsaw were reported stolen from an Ollis Road resident sometime during the past several months.

\*On Norman Road a man reported having been assaulted by his brother, who was off his meds and had been drinking and needed to be removed. The complainants were advised of options.

\*Eric R. Phlaum, 45, was cited on a charge of expired tags (for his vehicle) and warned for failure to carry proof of insurance on Redwood Hwy. near Laurel Road.

\*Cited on a charge of speeding (72 in a 45 mph zone) on Redwood Hwy. at Lakeshore Drive was Zachary Wayne Fortun, 21. He also was cited for lack of a valid operator's permit and warned for failure to carry

proof of insurance.

**Friday, July 13**

\*A woman who, to the call-taker, sounded "highly confused," reported several hundred dead bodies, "and seven babies" were inside a building festooned with satellite dishes on Caves Hwy. at Junction Avenue.

\*The mother of the preceding caller phoned to say that her daughter was high on drugs and had not slept in two days. She said that the woman was going through dumpsters in Downtown Cave Junction looking for bodies.

\*At 3 a.m. vandals struck a vacant residence on S. Kerby Avenue, breaking a window and prying off a sprinkler control box. The caller said that the door had been kicked in the day before.

\*A man apparently threw his wife's cell phone out their car window rather than allow her to phone 911 during an argument. The woman was advised of her options.

\*In the 33000 block of Redwood Hwy a man reported receiving threatening telephone messages.

\*A red purse with personal stuff was found near milepost 41 of Redwood Hwy.

\*Kandi Lee Fisher-Yaws, 19, was federally cited on a charge of minor in possession of alcohol at Store Gulch on Illinois River Road. Charges against a 33-year-old woman of providing alcohol to minors were referred to the county D.A.

\*A newly installed alarm system was sounding off at Evergreen Elementary School at 6:18 p.m.

\*Several intoxicated persons and minors were ejected from the forest after they were contacted near Store Gulch at 7:50 p.m. Jess E. Whorley, 22, was described as intoxicated and belligerent, and he was federally cited on a charge of disorderly conduct.

\*A woman in a small, gray sedan was seen loitering near an IVFD station in O'Brien "for more than an hour," a complainant said at 9:30 p.m.

\*Loud and obnoxious

persons were horsing around at Evergreen Elementary School around 11:30 p.m. a caller said.

**Saturday, July 14**

\*Party-goers who converged on a residence on Gamay Drive were said by a neighbor at 12:30 a.m. to be speed racing and burning out (in their cars), besides yelling, screaming, pushing and shoving. One person apparently ran as a deputy arrived. Some adults contacted said that they'd shut down the party for the night.

\*Persons leaving a bar at 1:59 a.m. were engaged in a fist-fight on a parking lot, a manager advised. Some 40 persons were estimated to be involved, but they dispersed when told law enforcement had been notified.

\*Christopher Scott Vinas, 23, contacted on Illinois River Road at 6:30 p.m., was cited on a charge of open container in a vehicle

\*A large, loud party was occurring in a day-use-only beach along Illinois River Road at 9:30 p.m., a caller complained.

**Sunday, July 15**

\*Jacob Tyler Box, 19; Robert C. Box, 48; and Kristina A. Tavarez, 18, each were cited on a charge of being on a closed road in the 1500 block of Illinois River Road at 2:42 p.m.

\*Lee Ray Lewis, 57, was cited on a charge of fourth-degree domestic assault and menacing and lodged in Josephine County Jail.

**Monday, July 16**

\*"Kids" were observed throwing items into vehicles between Carlos' Restaurante and Sterling Savings Bank around 1 a.m.

\*Someone smashed the rear window of a minivan on Wildpark Lane, causing \$500 damage, a caller said.

\*Randall L. Smith, 39, received multiple traffic citations after he was stopped on Crooks Creek Road at 2:52 p.m.

\*A man complained that he'd been grabbed from behind and punched several times in an unprovoked attack at a friend's house on Kirkham Road.

\*A sprinkler and hose were reported stolen from a

rental property on S. Junction Avenue. The caller retrieved her property.

\*One in a series of such events, someone threw an egg at a residence on W. River Street.

\*The driver and passenger of a dark sedan, which had been pursued by CHP because it was being driven too fast, abandoned the vehicle just across the Oregon/California border in the 38000 block of Redwood Hwy. Apprehended, the passenger stated that he was a hitch-hiker in a car with a "crazy person." The driver was being sought.

\*An OSP officer requested backup during a contact with multiple persons in the 200 block of S. Redwood Hwy. at 10 p.m.

**Tuesday, July 17**

\*Six vagrants were reported congregating and drinking alcohol near the wrecked Pizza Pit building at 9:30 a.m.

\*Found sleeping behind Selma First Baptist Church in a van stolen from Redwood Christian Church was John Luis Clark, 32. He was cited on charges of second-degree burglary, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, and first-degree criminal mischief. He was lodged in county jail.

\*Doors of the wrecked Pizza Pit were pried open, and speakers and a DVD player were removed, the owner said.

\*A Naue Way resident reported that squatters had been camping for the past two weeks on nearby BLM property.

\*A verbal argument between family members at a White Schoolhouse Road residence became a shoving match, but no one wanted to pursue charges.

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