



A lighted metal gazebo was trashed by persons under cover of darkness. (IVN photo)

Cups -N- Cones, Hometowne Interiors hit by vandals in continuing problem citywide

Vandals have caused consternation, not to mention some \$400 damage, for Gary Braden's new business, Cups -N- Cones.

The ice cream store is located behind Braden's Subway restaurant in Downtown Cave Junction. (See ad on page 16).

He recently arrived at work, only to find that a 10-foot-tall decorative windmill at Cups -N- Cones had been trashed. He located it behind a nearby business, where the louts apparently dragged it.

Then Tuesday night, Aug. 7, vandals as yet unknown damaged the lighted metal gazebo at the new

business. They also ripped part of one top on an outside table.

Braden also noted that when he first opened the Cave Junction Subway, someone damaged three exterior lights and a solar panel atop the roof.

The continual problem with people damaging other's property in the city of Cave Junction has Braden and other merchants concerned. For example, he would like to add to the décor at Cups -N- Cones, but is reluctant to do so.

"If I add decorative plants and a five-hole miniature golf course, it'll just be

trashed," he lamented, "so why should I do it?"

Meanwhile, he will continue to operate his businesses while keeping an eye out for those whose morals and values he and others question.

Such is the case at the newly relocated Hometowne Interiors, now behind Bi-Rite Auto Parts. Semi-retired owner Al Hurt said Monday, Aug. 13 that vandals stole copper tubing.

It was cut from two heat pumps at the rear of the building. Hurt said that approximately 30 feet of tubing are missing. A loss estimate was unavailable.



ODF firefighter Adam Miller (above) was among those responding to the blaze. A bucket-bearing helicopter pulled water from nearby Illinois River to extinguish the wildfire. (Photos by Jennifer Newsted, *Illinois Valley News*)

World issues discussed in Atkinson's China, India trip

During a recent trip to India and China, Sen. Jason Atkinson (R-Central Point) was able to talk with the foreign ministers of both countries about issues of worldwide concern, namely Darfur, the environment and free elections.

During a meeting with Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister He Yafei, Atkinson challenged China's support of the military of Sudan. Atkinson is concerned that the military technologies China is selling to Sudan are being directly used to further genocide in Darfur.

"We had a candid conversation," Atkinson stated. "As China is preparing to host the Olympics next year, I told He Yafei that Ameri-

cans are gravely concerned with their support of Sudan."

Atkinson met with China's Assistant Foreign Minister in Beijing, and had meetings with other Chinese officials. Topics ranged from the environment, food poisoning, Tibet, and human rights.

"As a developing superpower, China has not changed its position on religious freedom, human rights, or due process," Atkinson noted. "The world demands China clean up its act."

The following week, Atkinson met with India's Foreign Secretary Shiv Shankar Menor. They discussed border disputes with China, India's election process and the developing middle class.

"India is the economy to watch," Atkinson noted. "India is modernizing, investing heavily in education, and focusing businesses from large public companies to local textile shops toward international trade."

Atkinson is a member of the inaugural class of the Aspen Institute-Rodel Fellowship in Public Leadership. It is an Aspen Institute program designed to bring together "the very best of the nation's emerging leaders" to discuss broad issues of democratic governance and effective public service.

The purpose of the seminar in China and India was to compare and contrast international issues of these two developing countries.

Atkinson was a 2006 candidate for governor in Oregon; he was elected to the Oregon Legislature in 1998. He has developed a reputation for his work on the environment, education policy, and government accountability.

He is a management consultant, motivational speaker and the author of *What We All Wish Politicians Understood*.



Westside Road blaze snuffed

Residents south of Cave Junction city limits were alarmed by the odor of smoke on Saturday, Aug. 11 that didn't come from the barbecues at the Blackberry Festival.

Oregon Dept. of Forestry (ODF) responded to a fire called in from the Grayback Mt. lookout tower at approximately 2 p.m. Four ODF engines units and a helicopter responded to contain the flames and keep them from spreading in under an hour.

Afterward, firefighters on the ground extinguished the flames within the fire lines. The blaze was located on property west of Anna's Attic and the Barn near Illinois River.

The fire burned a quarter acre of grass and brush. No cause has been identified, and no injuries were reported.

-Jennifer Newsted

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1st Illinois Valley Firefighters Association
GOLF TOURNAMENT
3-Person Scramble

Saturday, Sept. 15 at Laurel Pines/I.V. Golf Course
Registration Deadline: Friday, August 31
Contact Firefighter Joe Brown at (541) 659-8726

Sponsor donations are sought for prizes. Any item, gift certificate, or monetary donation will be greatly appreciated by the I.V. Volunteer Firefighters Association, a separate entity from the fire district.

Proceeds will be used for equipment the district can't afford, for training courses, and to support the valley community. Checks can be made out to 'I.V. Firefighters Association'.

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