



Lorna Byrne Middle School students were recognized for their accomplishments in the Three Rivers School District annual mathematics contest involving a written test for eighth-graders. Myana Dhenin and Zach Kay, who each took second places, received pins as the top-scoring LBMS students. Joseph Schlabach and Jesse Orndoff were third and fourth respectively. Also honored were (front from left) Kristen Vidales, Si-

erra Heikka, Brian Foutch and Orndoff. (Center from left) Jamie Sowell, Cheyenne Johnson, Dhenin, Kay, Anastasia Greenberg, Daniel Gomez and Tyler Robbins. (Rear from left) Andrew McLaughlin, Zachary Silva, Schlabach, Devon Deenon and Shanine Fischle. (Not shown) Rose Summers, Thea Barker-Cortrecht, Dylan Barnick, Angelina Heath and Felisha Ripley. (Photo by *Illinois Valley News*)

State's homeland security group readies for disaster

Gov. Kulongoski has told Oregon's Homeland Security Council that, "We must make sure the lessons we have learned in the last few months are not lost."

He addressed the first meeting of the advisory council to lay out the scope of the mission. Established by the Oregon Legislature, it is charged with advising the governor on the state's emergency preparedness, plus response, and recovery capacities.

"You will be the instrument for my office to shape policy and advocate for disaster preparedness and recovery," said the governor. "In doing that, you will be moving Oregon forward and ensuring that when the unthinkable occurs, we'll be ready."

The council is scheduled to meet four times per year and convene five subcommit-

tees in the areas of prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery, and private/non-profit partnerships.

The council will work this year to help the governor develop a plan to strengthen emergency preparedness, response and recovery to present to the 2009 Legislature.

The governor also emphasized that the council should take a comprehensive approach to its work, looking not only at man-made disasters, but at all possible hazards that could affect Oregon.

"We must make sure the lessons we have learned in the last few months are not lost," he said, referring to the December storms. "It is our responsibility to do everything we can to prepare our communities for the consequences of crisis, whether by natural causes or man-made."

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Illinois Valley's Miranda Cleman led Cougar scorers with 10 points in a 48-30 loss to North Valley Tuesday night, Feb. 5 in Ken Mann Memorial Gym. That loss, and a 49-18 defeat vs. Phoenix Friday, Feb. 8, took the I.V. varsity girls team to 0-11 in the Skyline Conference. At NV Feb. 5, the Cougar boys varsity

team beat the Knights 42-39, as Roger Hults bagged a trey with less than a minute remaining. Will Crowl scored a game-high 16 points for I.V. The win took the Cougars to 5-5 in the Skyline; then a loss to Phoenix Feb. 5 in the Pirates' gym changed it to 5-6. (Photo by *Illinois Valley News*)

Good Grief aids youths

Lovejoy Hospice is offering Good Grief, a free six-week peer support group for children who have experienced the death of someone important in their lives.

The program will run from March 11 through April 15 Tuesday evenings at the hospice building at 939 S.E. Eighth St. in Grants Pass.

Parents learn new ways to support their grieving children and themselves. Lovejoy staff and volunteers guide the children in groups from preschool through high school in creative and engaging activities related to grieving.

Required preregistration can be accomplished by phoning 474-1193. Lovejoy community bereavement services are funded by donor support.

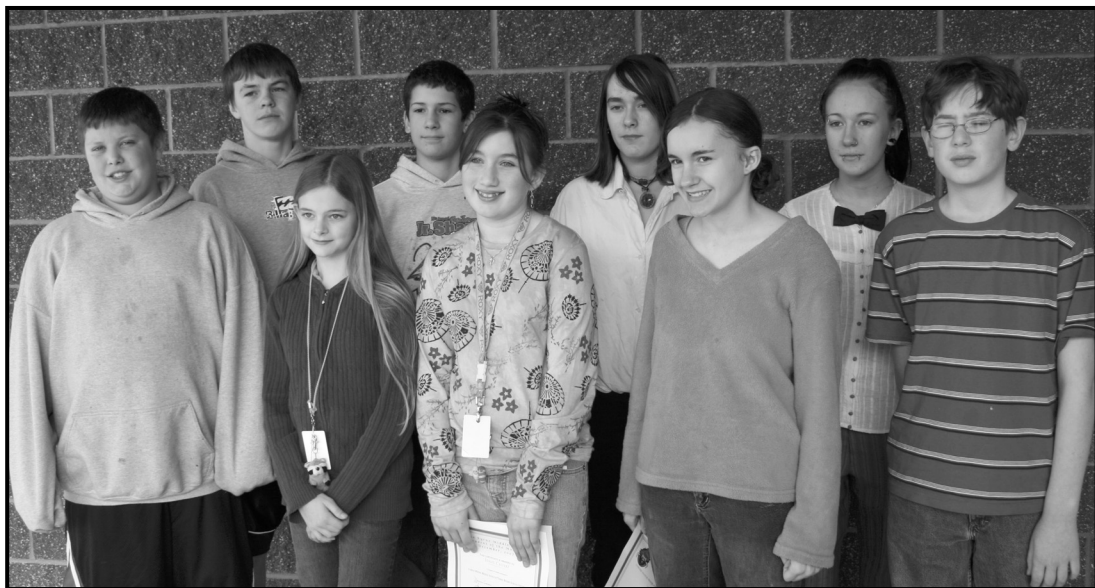
One monthly meet for CJ

Cave Junction City Council has decided to eliminate one regular meeting per month unless there are enough agenda items to warrant a second meeting.

This means that the council now will meet only on second Mondays at 7 p.m. in city hall unless otherwise announced.

Items for the council agenda are required to be submitted to the city by Monday the week before. The agenda and information will be available for councilors to review by Wednesdays, prior to meetings. This allows council members time to review materials and consult with staff.

Don't drink and drive



Students of the Month for December and January were honored at Lorna Byrne Middle School in Cave Junction for their special achievements. Honorees are (front from left) sixth-graders Tyler Bethke, Amanda Brooks, Idalis Calvert, Kim Rodriguez and Solomon

Zook; and (rear from left) eighth-graders Fred Hults, Daniel Gomez, Xenia Velasco and Anastasia Greenberg. (Not shown) seventh-graders Artesia Hubbard, Mathew Brock, Clarabelle Compton and Gabe Miller. (Photo by *Illinois Valley News*)

Bill would provide up to \$20k for veterans business recovery

A bill that would provide up to \$20,000 in interest-free, small business loans for military personnel returning from Iraq and Afghanistan passed its first legislative hurdle last week thanks in part to the lobbying efforts of America's leading small-business group, NFIB.

"This measure recognizes that when small-business owners choose to serve their country and are sent overseas, their businesses

can suffer," said Harlan Levy, NFIB/Oregon state director. "The state has an interest in helping these small businesses recover when these brave men and women return to Oregon."

If signed into law, House Bill 3625 would provide returning military personnel with up to \$20,000 in interest-free loans when their small businesses suffer a setback due to their deployment. NFIB coordinated its lobby-

ing with the Oregon Dept. of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA).

ODVA Director Jim Willis gave the rationale for HB 3625, stating, "It is clear that military service to one's state and nation should not result in the loss of one's civilian livelihood. The passage of this bill will provide the

loan funds necessary to repair and restart these veteran-owned small businesses."

HB 3625 passed the House Committee on Veterans Affairs Committee unanimously. It now moves to the Joint Committee on Ways & Means, then on to the House floor.

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I.V. Little League sign-up info on this page!

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