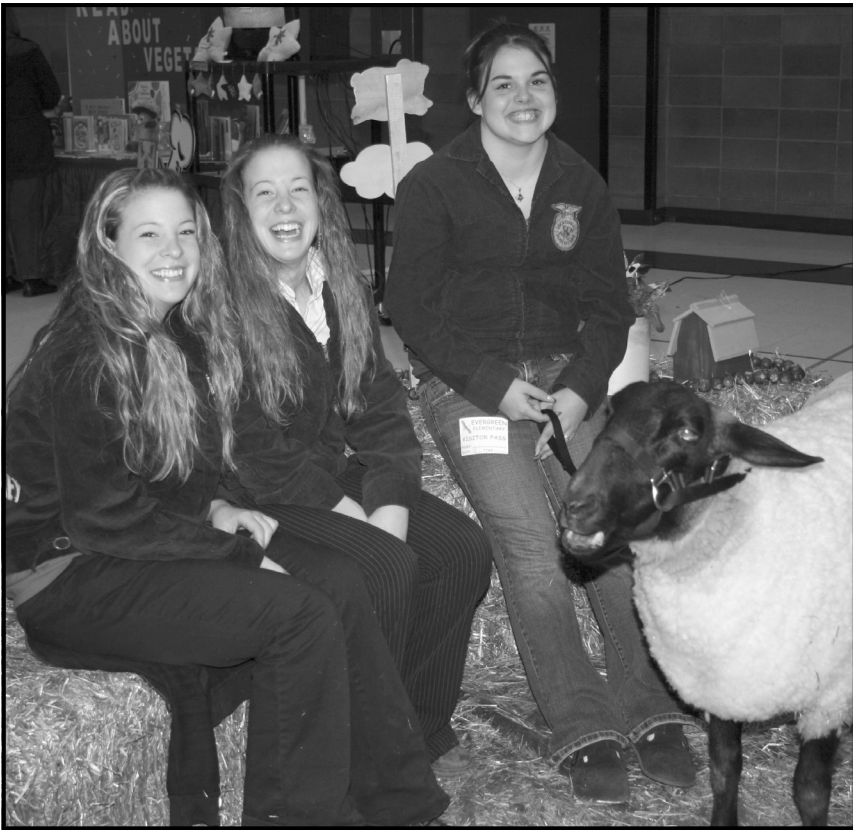




Farm to Market was the theme for a special four-hour program presented by Sodexho at Evergreen Elementary School. The food service company provided four A-Z fruit and salad bars and one with bread and meat to educate students about

good nutrition and healthy living. The program included displays and short talks in the gym, as well as live animals brought by FFA students from Illinois Valley High School. (Photos by *Illinois Valley News*)

JoCo will celebrate Building Safety Week May 5 to 11

“Building Safety Where You Live, Work and Play” is the theme for a special observance in Josephine County. “When you enter a house or building, most likely you’re not thinking about whether it is properly constructed and safe,” said Robert Rice, Josephine County building official. “Fortunately,” he said, your local safety experts think about building safety and fire prevention every day. To help raise awareness of building safety, Josephine County Building Safety is celebrating Building Safety Week from May 5 through 11. “Across the nation, communities will promote the use and understanding of building safety and fire prevention codes to protect lives and property. The important work

we do is often not noticed until a catastrophic tragedy. “When building safety and fire prevention experts inspect buildings during and after construction, we help to ensure that the places where you live, learn, work and play are safe,” said Rice. He continued, “Building safety and fire prevention codes address all aspects of construction, such as structural soundness of buildings, reliability of fire prevention and suppression systems, plumbing and mechanical systems, and energy efficiency and sustainability. “Ensuring safe buildings requires the participation of building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, builders, engineers, and others in the construction industry, as well as property owners.

“Public safety is our number one concern,” said Rice. “During Building Safety Week and all year long, building safety and fire prevention officials are here to help protect you and your community.” The Southern Oregon Chapter of the International Code Council (SOC-ICC) represents 15 jurisdictions from the region including Josephine County Building Safety. The group actively pursues uniform consistency among member jurisdictions. “Our goal,” said Rice, “is to assist the citizens of each of our communities in the fair and reasonable application of the state’s minimum building codes to ensure safe buildings. “SOC-ICC will have a booth at the Josephine County Home Builders Home

Show in May and encourage visitors to stop by the booth for additional information and to discuss any coming projects they might be considering or any questions they might have.” Building Safety Week, first observed in 1980, is sponsored by the International Code Council, a membership organization dedicated to building safety and fire prevention, of which Josephine County Building Safety is an active member. The International Code Council develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools. The state of Oregon uses the International Codes as model codes for commercial buildings, residential, fire, mechanical among others.

Commissioner candidates provide platform statements

Candidates for the Josephine County Board of Commissioners have been asked by *Illinois Valley News* to provide campaign statements in advance of a forum Monday, April 28 and the May 20 primary election. Following (in alphabetical order) are some of those which have been received.

Rowdy Bates/ Position 2
I want to establish a county government environment that fosters teamwork, and I want to protect the rights of property owners. I will work to improve the efficiency of our county government, and I support our sheriff as our number one priority. We must restore open communication between commissioners; work to resolve constituent issues prior to litigation; and work to improve a climate of teamwork between county departments. As your commissioner I will be responsible and utilize sound leadership skills. I joined the U.S. Navy under the Advanced Technical Field, and supervised all welding, plumbing and pipefitting aboard the USS *Fulton*, a submarine tender which had a crew of more than 1,000. I was the ship fire marshal, and led the ship’s elite fire-fighting team known as “The Flying Squad.” In Groton, Conn., I super-

vised the structural repair shop. It performed all structural manufacturing and repair for all 27 nuclear submarines stationed in Connecticut. I have managed and supervised all Laidlaw school bus operations in Josephine County and portions of Jackson County. In Junction City, I supervised all school bus repair. Excellent leadership and distinctive goals are my agenda. My wife, Susan, and I have five children, and have lived in Josephine County for the past five years.

Jack Brown/Position 3
Jack Brown said that he understands our business climate; that we need to free our businessmen from regulations hindering job creation. He knows we need adequate law enforcement, real tax reform (tax reduction) and election reform. He knows that our children need quality education, and that we must protect our environment -- including people. He has seen the economy as an employee and an employer, including working for Rough & Ready Lumber Co., and a decade as a saw filer at Spalding & Son. In 1979 he began a sideline called Auto Doc (a mobile auto repair business), which grew into a full-time business the following year. He has been active in two

organizations especially dedicated to a more-informed electorate: The John Birch Society, which he served as a chapter leader for two different local chapters; and Oregon Citizens Alliance. Brown has been strongly supportive of pro-life activities, as well as activities defending our 2nd Amendment Rights in Josephine County, and he has spoken out against the abuse of our rights by government agencies such as LCDC, OSHA and EPA. For the past eight years, he has been involved in the Constitution Party of the State of Oregon. His platform and philosophy are the same as the day he entered the struggle in 1976. Brown said that he is still defending our God-given, Constitutionally guaranteed rights and fighting for the restoration of the republican form of government given us by our Founding Fathers.

Sandy Cassenelli/ Position 2
Gone are the days when the people of Josephine County will vote for property tax increases, special levies, taxing districts or a sales tax. What voters know, and elected officials have yet to learn, is: Josephine County cannot be taxed into prosperity. Instead of trying to squeeze every last dime out of the citizenry, we need a government that spends dramatically less money and

lives within a budget. Of major concern is the lack of accountability for money that’s already being collected. (Just try getting a detailed itemization of expenditures from a department). This lack of full, public, fiscal disclosure is responsible for much of the county’s mismanagement of funds. Couple that with poor decisions made by the board of commissioners (caving to the union’s strike, “giving away” the Dimmick property; approving pay raises, etc.) and it’s little wonder why the electorate doesn’t trust government. Now is the time for those in the courthouse to cut back salaries, benefits, vacation and sick time. (A reduction of the employees’ work week, with managers picking up the slack, has also been suggested.) We cannot continue to support elected officials and county employees to a standard of living which far exceeds that of the citizenry. Finally, the establishment of a county manager, not subject to the election process, would be a huge disaster. Just look at the city of GP’s mess under its administrative system. We don’t need a new government structure. We need people of integrity elected to the positions we already have.

(Continued on page 12)

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