



Lightning strikes Friday night, June 20 ignited some eight wildfires countywide, including the 40-acre Tennessee Mountain Fire and the 5-acre Sucker Creek Fire in Illinois Valley. Contract crews, Oregon Dept. of Forestry and U.S. Forest Service contained the blazes. (Photo by Dale Sandberg, Illinois Valley Fire District Media Dept.)

The volunteer crew from Illinois Valley High School: (from left) Mickey Bertram, Alex Bergman, Sarah Pittman, Nicole Farr, Aaron O'Grady, Tim Pope, Rhino Prince, Jer-rad Miller, Alex Miller, Kathryn Baker, Raesha Yeoman, Kelcie Yeoman, Larry Ragsdale, Doug Hoskins, Adam Brooks, Meiliang Pan, Delores Veader, Tiffany Wollerton, Kyle Burgess, Nathan Green and Forrest Roth. (Photo by Patty Dickens-Turk)



Cougar seniors clean up Selma picnic site

Early in June, the administration at Illinois Valley High School was notified by a concerned citizen that vandalism had occurred at Deer Creek Park on Senior Skip Day.

Cow Creek aid to SCHC aims at IVHS health

Siskiyou Center taking on school-based facilities

The Illinois Valley High School Health Center will benefit from a \$15,000 grant from the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation (CCUIF) to Siskiyou Community Health Center (SCHC).

The grant was awarded during a ceremony at Seven Feathers Casino in Canyonville on Tuesday, June 17. The money is slated for remodeling the School-Based Health Center (SBHC) at I.V. High School.

SCHC is assuming medical sponsorship of this SBHC at the request of Josephine County Public Health Dept., which has operated this center for more than 10 years.

SCHC was among 54 recipients of spring 2008 awards from CCUIF. The foundation makes grants for the benefit of the public to nonprofit agencies within Douglas, Jackson, Klamath, Coos, Josephine, Lane, and Deschutes counties. The foundation mission is to offer assistance in youth education, strengthening homes and families, youth programs, and in general add to the quality of life for communities.

While continuing to operate the SBHC at Lorna Byrne Middle School, SCHC is planning to open a brand-new SBHC at Evergreen Elementary School for the coming year. Monies for this proposed expansion come from a grant awarded by the Oregon State SBHC Program Office.

SCHC is currently the only provider of school-based health care in Josephine County. In particular, this expansion gives an unprecedented level of access to health care for the school-age children of the Illinois Valley, SCHC reported.

Tolle guilty in CJ fire fatality

Sentencing is pending for a Cave Junction man found guilty of arson and murder in the December 2005 death of a man found when emergency personnel arrived at his burning home on Caves Avenue.

The verdict against Benjamin A. Tolle, 31, was made Tuesday, June 17 in Josephine County Circuit Court. The victim was Curtis D. Willie, 28.

The accused was found the day after the fire driving the victim's car.

Some of the vandalism suggested that members of the 2008 senior class were involved. Principal JoAnn Bethany and Assistant Principal Patty Dickens-Turk approached the class with concerns about the impression the acts of a few would leave on the senior class as a whole.

Class members went into action. On May 30 the senior class paid for a bus and driver to take more than 20 volunteers to the park to clean up the mess. They were accompanied by a ranger from Bureau of Land Management.

When the students ar-

rived, there was only enough trash in the area to fill three garbage bags. The reason: The night before, five seniors, including the class president, Forrest Roth, had gone to the site. They worked many hours into the night.

They hauled away pickup trucks full of rubbish including mattresses and old chairs that had been dumped at the park months ago. They cleaned the fire pits, and painted over graffiti.

They left the area in better condition than it has been in many months, and long before Senior Skip Day.

Sponsored feature:

Selma Farmers Market sprouting well

In four years, the Selma Farmers Market at Selma Community Education Center (SCEC) has expanded from two vendors on the front porch to 20 vendors in a pole building.

"Customers will stop by after church, get something to eat, and visit. It is becoming a community event," said Linda Meier, a member of Selma Center's Board of Directors.



Tending to the wood-fired Cobb pizza oven.

Added Marcy Sowa, "The recent tomato scare makes people more aware of where their food is coming from. They note the seasonal reality of food, that it doesn't grow year-round."

Even though much of the local produce is not quite ready, there are plenty of other gourmet delights available. Try some Good Fortune take-n-bake cocoa chocolate chip and walnut cookie dough. Tracy Curtis sells scrumptious raspberry or peach cobbler, almond scones, and cinnamon rolls.

Earth Prayer Farms' organic sourdough bread is complemented by Linda's Gourmet & Exotic Berry Blue Jam. Other labels include Strawberry Daiquiri ice cream sauce, or Hot Pepper Rush and Hawaiian Hottie, her hot pepper jellies. For those on special diets, some products are made with Splenda.

"Ida" provides a variety of vegetarian egg-rolls, and there's always Cobb oven pizza.

Peruse the delightful photocards by Angelface, and the stunning gemstone and sterling silver jewelry by Dragonfly Creations.

Flying B Bar Ranch will have organic sheep and alpaca products to augment its current selection of gorgeous roses and fresh spinach.

Vern Nielson sells hand-carved wooden stools, cutting boards, coffee tables, and original walking sticks. Sew Biz offers fabric crafts such as quilts, aprons, bags and potholders.

Visit Ruth Overholser's herbal apothecary to purchase luxurious items such as Lady Thyme's comforting chamomile eye pillow. Other herbal remedies include slippery elm throat lozenges and ginger-eucalyptus salve.



A wide variety of goods is offered. (Photos by Zina Booth I.V. News)

Paul and Susan, from Chernay Gardens, sell fragrant rosemary, lavender and strawberry plants grown from heirloom seeds.

The Oregon State University Extension Master Gardener Plant Clinic will be on hand July 6 and 20, Aug. 3, 17 and 31, and Sept. 7 and 21 to answer questions on weeds and insects, and provide free water testing.

July 20 will feature a Cobb oven repair day: "Come join, we need worker bees."

Marcy Sowa, Jeanne Dillon, Betty Taylor, Ruth Overholser, Meier and Nielson are current volunteer farmers market managers.

The SCEC Board will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs and conducting membership drives for the Selma Center on the first and third Sundays through September.

SCEC membership fees are \$5 per person, \$10 per family, or \$50 lifetime dues. The center offers computers with Internet and wi-fi available for donations.

Once the site of Selma Elementary School, the gymnasium and basketball court, classrooms, children's room, and dining room are available for minimum hourly rentals for gatherings including birthday parties and wedding receptions. SCEC can easily accommodate 60 people.

Registered with the Farmers Market Association (FMA) of Oregon, SCEC provides a site for locally grown, produced, and crafted items.

"We encourage local gardeners who grow more produce than they can use, to bring it in and sell to neighbors," said Nielson.

The \$25 seasonal market membership dues pay for advertising and signage. Booth rentals are \$5 per day for members, or \$10 per day for occasional space rentals. Selma Farmers Market is open Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until Sept. 28 at 18255 Redwood Hwy. a short distance north of Ray's Food Place. For more information, phone 415-1000, or contact Meier at 597-2522.

~ Zina Booth

OSP seizes meth worth \$30k near Ashland

Oregon State Police arrested two California men when an Interstate 5 traffic stop south of Ashland led to the seizure of 1.5 pounds of crystal methamphetamine valued at \$30,000.

The suspects are identified as the driver, Miguel Ramirez-Velazquez, 27,

from Fontana, and his passenger, Emanuel Arias-Chavarin, 24, from Sunnyvale.

An OSP recruit trooper recently stopped a 2007 Chrysler sport utility vehicle displaying California license plates northbound on I-5 near milepost 18 for a traffic violation. Subsequent inquiry and

investigation during the stop led to the discovery of approximately 1.5 pounds of crystal methamphetamine in a hidden compartment.

An OSP trooper and drug dog assisted during the investigation.

Both men were taken into custody and lodged in Jackson County Jail for possession, distribution, and manufacture of a controlled substance/methamphetamine.



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