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Shortly before midnight on Saturday, Sept. 27 and turning 45 the next day, 44-year-old Cave Junction resident Richard Lee Maude was extricated from his vehicle by Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) firefighters after he struck a tree at Robinson Corner and Holland Loop. 'Heavy ex-

trication' took more than an hour, as Maude's legs were pinned in his vehicle. He was taken to Three Rivers Community Hospital in Grants Pass by American Medical Response. Among his injuries, he suffered a broken jaw. (Photo by Dale & Elaine Sandberg, IVFD Media Dept.)

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Fund matters pending for nation, county

Heavy finance is in the news this week, as the House of Representatives on Monday, Sept. 29 defeated a proposal for a \$700 billion financial bail-out of Wall Street with a 228-205 vote.

And a plan to help rural counties with their budgets was voted down on Friday, Sept. 26. Oregon legislators have been working to extend the timber payments, the loss of which will drastically affect services.

Said Gov. Kulongoski, "This program is the lifeline for many of our communities. We have a plan to transition away from our dependence on these payments, but Congress and the president need to give us time and the resources to make this transition a smooth one."

"The Senate bill would have done that, but the outcome in the House puts us back to square one."

Josephine County, for example, already has closed its public library system. And without the federal funds, amounting to some \$12 million to \$15 million per year, the sheriff's office will be reduced to a handful of officers.

Both measures were backed by the Senate, but rejected by the House.

Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD), Rural/Metro Fire Dept., and Oregon Dept. of Forestry responded to a semi-truck fire on Hay's Hill Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 24. The rig, carrying a load of wood chips, is believed to be owned by Snoozie Shavings, of Crescent City, Calif. The driver was unidentified, and no injuries were reported. The tractor was destroyed and traffic was hampered for a time. (Photo by Dale & Elaine Sandberg, IVFD Media Dept.)



IVN photo

Tina Palmer was honored for Pregnancy Center work.

Pregnancy site adds RN; ultrasound unit

Palmer gains national recognition

Awarding a national citation and announcing the addition of a registered nurse were among highlights of a fund-raising banquet held by Pregnancy Center of Illinois Valley.

Some 150 persons attended the gathering Saturday evening, Sept. 27 at Illinois Valley Senior Center. A standing ovation was given for Mary Lefner, pregnancy center executive director, for her leadership. The Selma resident continues to work to provide expanded programs.

Also honored with a standing ovation was Cave Junction resident Tina Louise Palmer. Under a recognition program of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services she received the President's Exemplary Volunteer recognition for her lifetime achievement as a Pregnancy Center Volunteer.

Noted Lefner, "A Client Advocate III, Tina began volunteering at the center in 2001 as an assistant in the Bridges to Motherhood parenting program. She quickly began connecting with the young women who were facing unexpected pregnancies, providing peer counseling and sharing her own experiences as a teen mother."

"Tina's unique ability to encourage and teach vulnerable women is amazing -- she is not afraid to share her own past struggles with addictions to show her clients that hope and recovery are truly possible."

"In addition to her work with the Bridges to Motherhood group," Lefner continued, "Tina provides pregnancy peer counseling services one day a week, works with the childbirth instructor (Continued on page 8)

Oregon in pandemic flu plan

A \$1.5 million federal grant to prepare a demonstration project in case of a major epidemic of influenza will be received by the Oregon Public Health Division.

The project will be one of three that will serve as models for programs nationwide. The two others are Multnomah Health Dept. (\$1,034,066) and Lane County Public Health (\$260,371).

The funding is part of \$24 million made available for 62 projects through the federal Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Division of State & Local Readiness, Coordinating Office for Terrorism Preparedness & Emergency Response.

Traffic light at 199/River St. grass-roots campaign goal

Using Robbie Robinson and Cori Allen for inspiration, a Cave Junction mom has formed a crosswalk safety group to obtain traffic control for children crossing the busy intersection of Hwy. 199 and River Street in Cave Junction.

Patty Schalk, with daughter-in-law Jessica Welcome, have formed the Crosswalk Safety Committee and are working with Oregon Dept. of Transportation, and are looking for more community members to join.

ODOT, she said, is cooperating and has ideas including a traffic light system that would be in operation only at specific times, as when students from area schools have to cross the intersection.

Schalk considers Robinson and Allen her heroes because of their personal, heartfelt achievements to improve traffic safety.

"Robbie put his life on the line, literally, for the

safety of our children, as well as for the safety of drivers," said Schalk. Robinson and his wife, Joan, who operated Robbie's Automotive at the intersection, shepherded school children across the street for several years.

"Cori campaigned to make the highway safer for everyone, and she did it, making it safer for drivers and children," noted Schalk. After the death of her son near milepost 23 of 199, she worked with ODOT, resulting in guardrails to prevent the same type of crash in which her son died.

"Robbie and Joan both cared for the safety of the children enough to be the crossing guard standing in the middle of the crosswalk to stop traffic," recalled Schalk.

"One incident, that I personally know of, left Robbie dodging from a speeding car while standing guard in the crosswalk, the crosswalk our

kids use. What an awesome sacrifice.

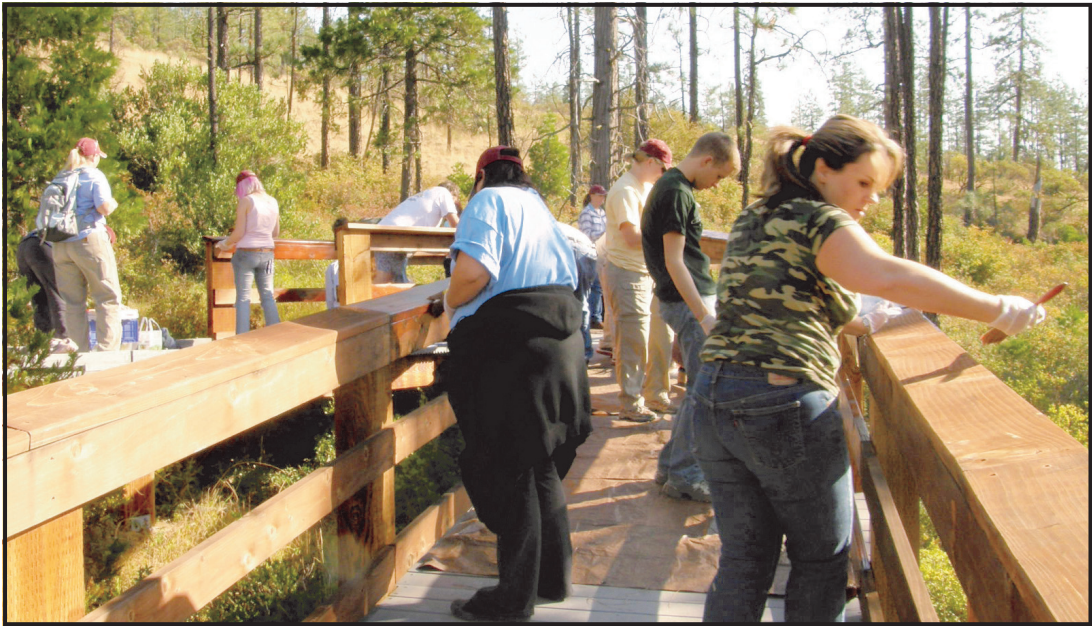
"Cori & Darrel Allen are unseen heroes, also. They lost their son, Joshua, in a mid-day accident when his truck went over an embankment. Because of their loss, we have all gained. They took it upon themselves to see what they could do to prevent this from happening to anyone else."

"Thanks to their efforts we are all driving safer on Redwood Hwy. because of the new guardrails."

Schalk said that the Crosswalk Safety Committee has been established in foresight, not hindsight.

"Thank God that the children have been safe," she said. "You see, I too, have a son, Joshua (meaning Jesus) and it is his son, Hezekiah (meaning strength of God) who is the reason for the Crosswalk Safety Committee."

(Related letter with additional details, page 2)



The Eight Dollar Mountain botanical site between Kerby and Selma was the focus of a Bureau of Land Management project on Saturday, Sept. 27. Some 54 volunteers converged to work on a one-mile hiking trail and apply stain to the handrail on the boardwalk which leads to a *Darlingtonia* fen. The effort was in recognition of National Public Lands Day. (Photos by Linda Corey-Woodward)



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