

Back Street Body Piercing opens

By Darcy Wallace
IVN Staff Writer

After a February break-in at Cave Junction's Back Street Salon, local residents Tyler Schaffer and Rebecca Saavedra successfully launched their new body piercing shop, a first for Cave Junction.

Schaffer and Saavedra said they opened Back Street Body Piercing on Tuesday, April 19 after recovering equipment stolen in the break-in and getting finances in order.

Both said they took classes in Grants Pass and studied additionally on their own, hoping to set themselves apart from other body piercing shops with professionalism and positive attitudes.

"It's so important for us to be as professional as possible," Saavedra said. "We want to teach people and educate them on what we're doing. When people come into the room I want to make them comfortable."

Saavedra and Schaffer said they are finishing room decorations and will encourage customers to bring their own music when they get a piercing to help ease any stress. The walls are painted a dark blue to help create a sense of calm.

"I don't want you to feel like you're in a doctor's office," Schaffer said.

Schaffer said he worked previously in California and more recently in construction. But the physical work took a toll on his back

and he wanted to pursue something more artistic and creative.

Saavedra, who was studying in Grants Pass, said she encouraged Schaffer to study the body piercing industry along with her. Both got their licenses, and were nearly ready to begin booking appointments until the break-in set things back.

"It's really amazing how we were able to recover," Schaffer said. "It made me sick for three days...at first I thought maybe I should just look for a job. Then I thought no way; I've worked way too hard for this to give up now."

A stolen laptop contained paperwork they had to recover, plus sterilization equipment. Now that the piercing part of the salon is in business, Schaffer and Saavedra said they are considering bringing a tattoo artist in the future.

"I've always found body piercing fascinating," Saavedra said. "I didn't realize what a huge industry it actually is. It's not for everybody: you have to be really involved with your clients."

Both said they also took classes in CPR and pathogenics to help them be as prepared as possible.

"It's really satisfying," Schaffer said. "I want people to realize [body piercing] is not just a trend. For us, it's a thing of beauty. When people come in they have different reactions... but everybody leaves with a smile on their face."

Illinois Valley High School Principal's Students of the month

Theresa Frederick is a Freshman at IVHS. She is the daughter of Michael and Jennifer Frederick. She is a member of the volleyball, basketball and track teams. Theresa earned a varsity letter for basketball and the Scholar Athlete Award. She is involved in the SMILE club. After high school Theresa would like to attend Oregon State University to pursue a degree in Marine Biology.

Tyler Clark is a Sophomore at IVHS. He is the son of Tyler Clark. He is currently the Vice President of the Boys and Girls Torch Club, which is a community service club that cleans up around and out of town. Tyler has been awarded the Cougar Pride Award for having and keeping a 3.8 GPA. His plans for the future are to become a firefighter with Oregon Department of Forestry. Tyler is currently working at Shop Smart.

Lander Nordal is a freshman at IVHS. He is the son of Ginger and James Nordal. Lander is currently the Freshman Student Representative. He is a member of the SMILE club, soccer, cross country, basketball and baseball teams. Lander has earned varsity letters in soccer and cross country. After completion of high school Lander will attend either Oregon State University or Oregon Institute of Technology and major in automotive engineering.

Rebecca Gogulski is a junior at IVHS. She is the daughter of Carl Gogulski. Rebecca is a member of the ECMC Scholarship Program. She is on the honor roll and has received awards for good attendance. After she graduates, Rebecca will attend Rogue Community college to pursue a nursing degree.

Lindsey Aria is the Daughter of Phil and Darlene Aria. She is a senior at IVHS. Lindsey is a member of 4-H, softball and soccer teams. She has been the Class Representative her Sophomore and Senior years. In 2010 Lindsey won Grand Champion for swine at the Josephine County Fair. She has also received the PRIDE Award. After graduation Lindsey plans to attend college to become a massage therapist.



(Photo by Dan Mancuso, Illinois Valley News)

JOCO Sheriff's Department Sergeant Selig leaves the Bigfoot Cavern in Kerby Thursday, April 21. The officers were there to serve a search warrant on an alleged sexual assault incident. No further information was available on the investigation at deadline.

A Walk Out of Darkness

The Safe House Alliance will be sponsoring a candlelight vigil to remember those who have lost their lives and to honor those who have survived a sexual assault.

There will be a display of shoes that have been created by survivors of sexual assault or by someone whose life has been impacted by sexual assault.

In addition to the shoe display, there will be an open mike for anyone who wishes to – read a poem, sing a song, say a few words of remembrance, or to talk about their own walk out of darkness.

Please join us on Friday, April 29th at 6PM at the Safe House Alliance to say- "We have survived"

Call 592-2515 for more information

The Safe House Alliance Candlelight Vigil
103 S. Kerby St.
Cave Junction, Oregon (Next to DMV)

EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, April 30th
5:00pm to 8:00pm
Every Wed - Open Mic Night
from 6-8pm with Jim Nolan

Tim & Michelle
Friday, April 29th
5:30pm at Taylor's Country Store

To add an event to this calendar call 541-592-2541
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