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Dutch Bros. sets sights on CJ

By Darcy Wallace
IVN Staff Writer

Illinois Valley residents craving another dose of caffeine might get their fix this summer.

According to city recorder Ryan Nolan, the Grants Pass coffee chain applied for a major zoning clearance permit in February 2010 from the City of Cave Junction for a coffee stand at 115 North

Redwood Highway.

Nolan said the city of CJ approved the application, and that the company still had to obtain permits from Josephine County.

But so far, it looks like the project will move forward and the new coffee stand is projected to open this summer. ROBCO Inc., a contracting company in Grants Pass, took on the project.

ROBCO contractor Byron Robertson said the company is moving to finalize the county permit and start preliminary work, possibly as early as next week.

Dutch Bros. representative Alan Harper said he was excited for a new coffee stand in Cave Junction to further expand in Southern Oregon.

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Clowning around



(Photo by Dan Mancuso, *Illinois Valley News*)

Lions, Tigers and Clowns were in town Monday, May 23 as the Cave Junction Lions Club sponsored the Culpepper & Merriweather Circus.

New faces chosen for Three Rivers in special election

Preliminary results for the May 17 special election for Three Rivers School District and Illinois Valley fire personnel are showing big changes for the school board.

According to unofficial results from Josephine County, Ron Crum defeated incumbent Dave Strahan for the Three Rivers Director position in Zone 4. Crum took 48 percent of the vote compared to 37 percent for Strahan. Margaret Duncan was third with almost 14 percent of the vote.

For Three Rivers Zone 2, another incumbent Jim Weaver was turned out by Jadd Horban, who had about 55 percent of the vote to Weaver's 44 percent.

Illinois Valley Fire District elections were not as close: James Minervini won Position 1 as the only candidate. Jerry Lamb won Position 4 with 78.58 percent of the vote, with Richard Bouchard in second with 20.68 percent.

For Position 5, Edwin 'Bob' Butler took 72.56 percent compared to Bill Waggoner, who had 26.54 percent of the vote.

The Kerby Water District also held elections for three Commissioner positions. Gail Lebowitz won as the only Position 1 candidate; Position 4 also had one candidate submission, with Geraldine McLean the winner.

Commissioner Position 5 had no candidate filed, and 17 write-in votes submitted. The results of that position are not confirmed as of Thursday, May 19.

Airport Board discusses needs for future manager

By Darcy Wallace
IVN Staff Writer

In an ever-growing to-do list, the I.V. Airport Board meeting Monday, May 23, focused on the need for a new airport manager following Alex Grossi's recent resignation to oversee Grants Pass and Illinois Valley airports.

On Monday, board members shared their ideas on what the I.V. Airport needs from an airport manager, and whether they could play a role in advising the hiring process. Board chair Dave Bassett discussed a brief history of past airport managers and their approaches, both good and bad, to the two airports.

Board members made a motion Monday with a request to participate in the selection process for a new airport manager. According to Josephine County commissioner Sandi Cassanelli, 13 people had applied so far for the full-time position.

With the position open once again, Bassett and other board members stressed the need for expertise not only in logistics and aviation, but for skills in marketing for the best interests of the I.V. Airport as

well.

Board members said some responsibilities of a successful airport manager would include having good relationships with airport tenants, overseeing upkeep and maintenance and communication with the Federal Airline Administration (FAA).

In recent years, several board members brought up how communication problems between the I.V. advisory board, the airport manager and the FAA reflected a lack of transparency and ability to stay informed.

"The good thing about the planning process is, when you get to the end, everybody knows about everything," Bassett said. "The whole purpose is to keep people informed."

There was also discussion Monday about whether one or two managers would be needed to best oversee the two airports. As the position was advertised full-time, most agreed one would be best due to funding and concerns about competing interests.

In other agenda items, board members further discussed actions to take on the noxious weed Yellow Tuft Alyssum that has spread at the I.V. Airport and

nearby areas. Residents Gordon Lyford and Suzanne Vautier informed the board about their work monitoring and trying to stop the spread.

Board members passed a motion to prioritize the fence project, due to concerns that Good Earth Organics was on airport property that could interfere with the fence location.

Gary Buck and Roger Brandt also updated the board on the historic Smokejumper Base. According to Buck, the annual Smokejumper Reunion is coming up June 10-12, with a work party June 13-17.

Brandt hopes to have 24 historical photos hung up in local Valley restaurants, and said he was working on a website for future marketing purposes.

Also planned for the Valley this summer is the Moontree celebration, fly-in and run in honor of the Apollo 14 moon mission, involving the ceremonial planting of the moon tree. Despite some road blocks, Brandt said this would be the year to smooth things out for future events.

"The [Moontree celebration] isn't going to be a one-time event," Brandt said. "I think it's going to be a legacy here."

New flower baskets adorn Valley streets

By Darcy Wallace
IVN Staff Writer

As part of an effort to clean up and revitalize the downtown areas of the Illinois Valley, local volunteers, the I.V. Chamber of Commerce and city employees teamed up to hang flower baskets in front of downtown businesses.

On Friday morning, May 20, residents put up flower baskets in Cave Junction to bring a fresher and more inviting look to the businesses on the main street. Business owners in Selma and Kerby also coordinated on their own to hang flower baskets in front of their stores.

According to Ann Padgett, co-owner of Harmony Gardens with her husband Ron, Dylan's Nursery built the flower baskets of Wave Petunia, which she says are especially suited to handle hot weather and high winds.

Padgett, chairperson for the CJ flower basket project, said local landscaper Joe Jackson volunteered for the important role of watering the flower baskets every day.

"These kinds of things have to be community efforts," Padgett said. "It's not about improving the look of any one individual, but rather the downtown as a whole."

City employee Doug Garman brought a lift to attach the baskets to high fixtures throughout downtown.

Padgett said she hopes to get in contact with O'Brien business owners soon to find out if they want to get their own flower baskets in the area.