

Making This Big World a Little Smaller

For the
Illinois Valley News

It might sound like an unachievable goal, but Randy and Teri Town are trying to change the world, one person at a time. In August 2013, the Towns welcomed two international exchange students; Mathurada “Palm” Khanadnid from Thailand, and Linh Le from Vietnam. “These girls were in our home for the school year, but they will be in our hearts for a lifetime. They are daughters to us”, says Teri Town. When asked how they became interested in becoming “Host Parents” the Towns explained that in August of 2012 they were searching for ways to make a difference in a young person’s life. They had looked at many different options, but none seemed to be the right fit. Then one day,

the Towns were looking through the newspaper and saw an advertisement soliciting “host parents” for exchange students. The idea sounded interesting, so they contacted ISE (International Student Exchange). Within a few weeks, they received their first two international “daughters”, Samantha “Sam” from Mexico and Monica from China.

When asked about their experience the Towns explained that hosting an exchange student allowed them to enjoy new cultures and customs right in their own home. Randy Town said, “While we do have many differences in foods, customs and culture, it is surprising how many similarities we have as well. Exchange students are typical teenagers; they love sports, shopping, movies and music.” Khanadnid was a member of both the IVHS Girls JV Basketball team and Girls Golf team; earning “Most Im-

proved Golfer” and “Scholar Athlete” awards. Le loves children and volunteered as a “Cougar Pal” at Head Start. Le was also an honor student and is an avid reader; reading more than 25 books since the first of this year. Both girls love shopping and talking with friends. The Towns have enjoyed sharing Oregon’s natural beauty with Khanadnid and Le. They have taken many family trips together, primarily to nearby sights, such as the Oregon Caves, Crater Lake, the Redwoods and the coast; Khanadnid and Le also accompanied the Towns on a mission trip to Guadalajara, Mexico this spring.

“Being a host family is wonderfully rewarding; It is a life changing experience that makes this big world a little smaller,” say the Towns. There are no real “out of pocket” expenses for host families other than providing basic room and board for the students. The

students have their own spending money and health insurance. “Our girls share a room with each other, but if you have children at home, students may share a room with your child (of the same sex),” explained the Towns. With the school year over now, they have just said good-bye to Khanadnid and Le. Will they host again? Yes, they will. “We have two new daughters arriving in August,” said the Towns, “Julia from Brazil and Andrea from Taiwan”. The Towns would love to see more families in the area become host families. For more information about hosting, contact Kari Bassett, ISE Area Representative, at 541-441-0966 or email: karilbrown@hotmail.com ISE’s website is: <http://www.iseusa.com>



Mathurada “Palm” Khanadnid (left) and Linh Le (right) at Crater Lake

Holmes ... Continued from A-3

He also taught math and science at La Center High School for 4 years before becoming an administrator.

In 2003 Holmes was named the Southwest Washington 2A Principal of the Year. In 2008 he was named Washington State 1A Boys State Cross Country Coach of the Year.

Prior to becoming an educator, he was an area franchisee for Domino’s Pizza with 5 locations in Eugene, Oregon. Holmes has a Masters of Education degree in Education Administration from Washington State University and a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Portland.

“We have family living in this area, so we have visited often. I’m excited for a chance to now become a part of this community.” Holmes stated in a recent press release. “I’m also looking forward to increasing the stakeholder involvement and quality communication across the district this coming year. With all of us working together as a staff, community and School Board, we can make the schools in Three Rivers School District something special. We want parents, students and community to be proud of our schools and give graduates every chance to be successful in their future.”

Lions classic car show roars into Cave Junction

By
Judy Hoyle
IVN Contributing Writer

The Cave Junction Lions’ 15th Annual Classic and Antique Car Show will be driving into C.J. for a full day of fun on June 28.

Festivities will start bright and early with breakfast served by the Masons Kerby Belt Lodge #18 between 7 and 11 a.m. while at the same time, car entrants will be rolling through the only gate access, located next to the pavilion. Competitors are welcomed to “just show up” and pay the entrance fee of \$30 to participate. The I.V. Lions will assist the C.J. Lions with parking competitors’ cars.

Visitors are asked to stay out of the park while the cars are getting placed, but are welcome to visit the vendor booths near the pavilion. In addition to car related booths, artisans and crafters will display their handiwork, including the Valley Girls with this year’s quilt to be raffled off in October. Raffle tickets will also be available for a cord of silver madrone, with the drawing to take place at the C.J. Lions’ annual turkey bingo event in November.

At 11 a.m. events really get rolling with live music by Two Foot Daddy playing golden oldies until the awards are

handed out at 3 p.m.

New this year, Valve Cover Races will also take place at 11a.m. Similar to a soap box derby, the valve covers are decorated and fitted with wheels, then are raced against each other two at a time. The 10 foot tall track was built by I.V. Lion Howard Hill and his team from Antique Alley; Ben, Jerry and Randy. Anyone can enter their “rig” for these races since the charge is only 25 cents per race.

Also beginning at 11 a.m., the Western Star, Order of the Eastern Star Social Club will start dishing up lunch featuring hamburgers and chicken breast sandwiches. Other food vendors will include “Off the Hook” and a frozen dessert vendor offering ice cream, smoothies and slushies.

Throughout the day, goods and services contributed by area businesses will be raffled off hourly with the winning tickets drawn from a spinning “squirrel cage.” There will also be a one-time drawing for the 50/50 funds at 3 p.m. All drawings require contestants be present to win.

The award ceremony will also take place at 3 p.m. offering 38 different awards, for everything from “People’s Choice” to “Best of Show.” All the trophies have been created by I.V. Trophy & Collectibles and sponsored by local businesses.

The I.V. Lions assisted with plan-

ning the event, finding sponsors and organizing the Parts Swap vendor booths. C.J. Lions Club president Harry Johnson states “On behalf of our entire club, I thank the I.V. Lions for pitching in and helping us make the car show a success. Their efforts are much appreciated.”

The Car Show is a fundraiser for C.J. Lions club programs. Johnson explains, “Our whole mission in the Valley is focused on sight and vision. This past year we distributed 50 pairs of glasses and 9 sets of hearing aids to people who could not otherwise afford them.”

The group also provides an annual scholarship for an IVHS graduating senior and assists with grad night expenses and helping to fund Boys and Girls Club activities. They contribute to Guide Dogs for the Blind and holiday meals for the needy.

Other fundraisers include bingo 3 times a year at the I.V. Senior Center on a Friday or Saturday night and a circus in the Valley every other year.

Beginning in July, Johnson will become treasurer of the organization and his wife, Cheryl, will be secretary. The new C.J. Lions president will be Nina Horsley, Mara Carnes will be vice president and Darryl Allen will become second VP. Other board members include Jim Fuller, Joe Malcolm and Cary Riley.

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