

Illinois Valley News

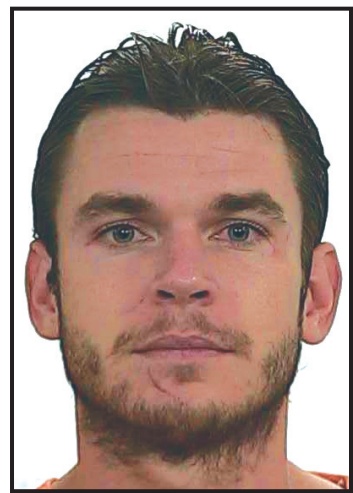
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Arrest made in McDonald shooting

According to a press release from Oregon State Police (OSP) an ongoing investigation by detectives from OSP criminal investigations division, with the assistance of Josephine County District Attorney's Office and Grants Pass Department of Public Safety, into the death of an adult male last Saturday south of Cave Junction led to an arrest of a 28-year old male. The suspect is being held in custody at Butte County, Calif. jail as a fugitive from justice pending extradition to Josephine County where a warrant for murder was issued.

See Arrest on A-9



Stranger Davis



This special swimming hole (like many others in the Valley) tends to get slimy in the late summer, as the temperatures rise and the water levels drop, making the algae increase.

(Photo by Laura Mancuso, Illinois Valley News)

As rumors fly, the water is fine

By
Annette McGee Rasch
IVN Senior Contributing Writer

There is a fast-moving rumor flying around the Illinois Valley that people are contracting hepatitis from swimming in the river, and like many rumors, this one is not true.

"We haven't had any recent reports of hepatitis," said Josephine County Public Health Department Nursing Supervisor Katie Evans-Hood. "And I've never heard of anyone contracting hepatitis from swimming in a river."

Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C are generally transferred through blood-to-blood contact and people tend to contract the

disease by sharing infected needles or from sexual activity with multiple partners, according to Evans-Hood. She added how Hepatitis A is almost always passed from fecal-to-oral routes, like from poor food handling sanitation, but also, from unsafe sex.

Additionally, the Center for Disease Control says Hepatitis B and C can be transmitted through tattooing or body piercing.

"In general, we're not seeing any unusual or contagious illnesses outbreaks in the Valley right now, just the normal summer illnesses," said Siskiyou Community Health Center Nurse Carolyn Hendricks.

Overall, with days of sustained high temperatures and

participation in summertime activities, more people are becoming dehydrated this year, Hendricks said.

"People forget that they need to drink more water during summer," Hendricks said. "By the time they're feeling poorly and come into the clinic, sometimes they can't put a finger on why they feel ill. But while talking to people we often discover they haven't kept up with enough of the right kinds of fluids."

"Also, some folks may be feeling a bit more itchy because of high pollen counts," Hendricks said. "And we're seeing more people with poison oak. And the varmints that fly around and sting you seem to be in great plentitude this summer. It's been a profusion. It's all the nature of what happens when it gets this hot."

See Water on A-9

Disc Golf tee's up for Forks

By
Judy Hoyle
IVN Contributing Writer

A new disc golf course and other significant improvements are being planned for the Illinois River Forks State Park.



(Photo by Judy Hoyle, Illinois Valley News)

Alan Eisner discussed the planned disc golf course at Forks State Park at the Cave Junction Farmers Market last week.

"This has been in the works since at least 2010," stated Carol Dickson, who, together with 27 others, is a member of the Ford Institute for Community Building (FICB) leadership program's third and final cohort for the Illinois Valley. "It's been a long process to get the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to sign off on it, but now we have a green light to raise funds for a 9-hole disc golf course on the NE corner of the park opposite all the current development."

"We plan to have an information kiosk and have all the holes marked with "par" information" she explained. "This is a continuation of all the efforts our community has put forth to save the park. Putting in the disc golf course will create an additional attraction. Some members of our community complain that there's nothing for kids to do. This is a great outdoor activity that's healthy, free and will help bring tourists into the park."

"There's disc golf clubs all over, including Grants Pass," Dickson explained. "It's another very positive step in the right direction."

Plans to help raise funds include soliciting donations at the Cave Junction Farmer's Market. An information booth there last Friday included a display created by IVHS student Paul Binker, who, along with Maureen Connolly and Alan Eisner, was there to promote the project.

In addition to the \$5,000 grant the FICB gives every project in matching funds, the group intends to raise \$6,200. The group will also sponsor the first hole themselves as a special memorial for cohort member Frank Sybrant, a Bishop of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, who died unexpectedly during his sleep.

"We're going to be asking for business sponsorship for the other eight holes," Dickson stated. "We'll need at least 8 yards of concrete for the tee pad, basket poles and securing the kiosk, so we're hoping a concrete company will reduce the cost for us. We'll also need metal poles, building materials and volunteers." Similar FICB projects have benefited from in-kind donations from local builders and building material businesses.

See Disc on A-9

It's the Berries

By
Judy Hoyle
IVN Contributing Writer

"Oregon's longest yard sale" will take place this weekend, August 15 through 17 along Redwood Highway from California to Grants Pass.

Participants will include Hiouchi Antiques and other locations in California and considerable numbers of families and organizations in the Illinois Valley.

Beginning at 9 a.m., Saturday-only venues include the Selma Community and Education Center and the Illinois Valley Fire District Yard Sale at the Selma Fire Station, with proceeds going to the I.V. Volunteer Firefighter Association. Items will include everything from decommissioned fire hoses to used firefighting equipment and personal goods donated by volunteers.

Individuals wishing to set up a yard sale display at the Selma Center may call 541- 597-4048 for information.

Kerby participants will include the Southern Oregon Guild's Artist Studio and Indoor Yard Sale on August 15 and 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the RCC Kerby campus; the Kerbyville Museum, Kerbyville Natural Farms and Yanase Jewelers.

Once again, the Western Star Order of the Eastern Star Social Club will sponsor "It's the Berries," scheduled for Saturday only at the RCC Kerby campus and parking lot, featuring at least two dozen booths. Booth space is available for \$20 with a \$5 refund if the space is cleaned up afterward. To sign up for a retail "non-yard sale" booth, call 541-592-6433.

Master Food Preparer Hazel Griffith will be baking up a storm with various combinations of blueberry, blackberry, marionberry and other fruit cobbles and pies.

Also on Saturday, inside the Belt Building, the American Legion will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs and bingo will start at 10 a.m. For further information, visit www.hwy199yardsale.blogspot.com.