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(Photo by Dan Klapheke, Illinois Valley News)

Oberon Fayland, 2016 graduate of Illinois Valley High School, giving his salutatorian speech at graduation Tuesday, June 7.

Fayland: Strong work ethic with engineering goals

Judy Hoyle
 IVN Contributing Writer

Illinois Valley High School (IVHS) Salutatorian Oberon Fayland is the son of "Sparrow" Hansbauer, a well-known Takilma artisan and musician.

Fayland reported that he plans to go into robotic engineering.

"It combines the things I'm interested in, computers and electronics; and I've always liked mechanical engineering," he said. "I'm planning on focusing on aerospace. There will be more widespread use of robotics in aerospace in the future. They can go where humans can't, and they also can analyze samples much more easily than we can."

College Dreams coordinator Monet Talty said, "I'm excited for him that he's going to Oregon Institute of Technology. It's a wonderful opportunity for him."

Talty praised Fayland for not being caught up in materialism like many of the students she works with. She is also very impressed by Fayland's work ethic. "He's been a very hardworking student. He took all the hardest classes. He reads voraciously. He's a good listener and he remembers," she said.

"He's a bright student with a great future ahead of him," Talty added. "He won one of the largest scholarships available to IVHS students, the Iva and Elmer Gilmore Scholarship, which is renewable, \$5,000 per year for 4 years."

Three Rivers School District board member Kate Dwyer considers Fayland part of her family.

"There's always extra kids around here," Dwyer said. "He's been a part of our clan and we've taken him a lot of places. His mom is very funny and musical and does gorgeous world class leatherwork."

Fayland said, "Kate and Mark Dwyer made sure I filled out scholarship applications and made sure I had a place to stay when my mother needed to go sell her leatherwork at fairs and festivals."

Perhaps the Dwyers can take some credit for this as Kate related, "Mark especially worked closely with him and gave him incentives to learn the habit of getting his grades up; like offering to buy him a new video game."

Fayland prefers reading to watching TV and enjoys playing video games and listening to music. He hopes to get a summer job to help earn money for college.

Fayland attended the Dome School his first 2 years and was home-schooled for second and third grade before attending Evergreen, Lorna Byrne and IVHS.

IVHS Spanish and language arts instructor Jaime Szijarto also praised Fayland. "I have no doubt that he will excel in college and beyond," she wrote. "He's one of the few students who have taken advantage of our school's 4-year Spanish language program. He is a skilled writer, creative thinker, stellar student and a superbly intelligent young man. He was even my assistant last year."

This year Fayland enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP) Spanish, plus read full novels, gave presentations and wrote formal essays, all in Spanish, his second language. Szijarto was impressed that he could converse fluently with native speakers.

Fayland's hard work and dedication has paid off. He kept his grades up while taking numerous AP classes and participating in other activities, including speech and debate and senior projects.

"It has been great watching him grow into the young man he is today," Szijarto wrote.

PATROL ...

Continued from A-7

*An abandoned camouflage tent, a raft, and water tubes were still at the Josephine County Camp for the second day, so the U.S. Forest Service will be notified to have the items removed. (Amazing they were still there after two days.)

*Everything was fine on the west side of the Eight Dollar Bridge River Access at 5:16 p.m.

Sunday, June 19

* A hellion was carrying a baseball bat and hitting garbage cans and mailboxes in the 1800 block of Lakeshore Drive at 10:12 a.m. He was cursing obscenities and saying that he hated everyone and is mad at everyone. He was walking down the middle of the street, making vehicles swerve to avoid hitting him. Michael Cheek, 28, was detained at the Josephine County Jail for disorderly conduct and two charges of criminal mischief. Another charge for possession of meth was added to his case after a deputy found meth shoved into the back paneling of his patrol car. (Now he has something to be mad about.)

*An SOS alarm was triggered by a kitchen motion detector in the 6100 block of Takilma Road at 10:18 a.m.

* The stereo was missing from a stolen vehicle that was recovered near the river at the end of Pine Cone Drive and Rockydale Road at 11:42 a.m.

*A big, bald, former Marine who is allegedly squatting in the 600 block of Pine Cone Drive made threats to neighbors last fall, but there have not been any problems since a gate was recently installed.

*A burglary occurred between June 1 and June 9 in the 4900 block of Laurel Avenue, and was reported on June 13.

*On the night of June 12, a 2016 Jeep was parked in the visitor parking lot in the 24500 block of Redwood Hwy. At 8 a.m. on June 13, the car owner noticed damage to the front driver-side bumper, and it appeared to have been kicked in.

*A domestic violence incident that occurred on June 11 at Briggs Creek and Illinois River Road was reported on June 18.

*A stalker in the 500 block of Beebe Drive is not taking the stalking order seriously, and the violations are being documented. Using the upper driveway against the order is a violation.

*At 2:48 p.m., a silver-colored Acura TL with no license plates was upside down with four flat tires near Indian Creek Road and Draper Valley Road.

*A blond lead-foot in a maroon-colored sedan sped past law enforcement at 2:49 p.m. in the 27900 block of Redwood Hwy., heading towards Cave Junction.

*The environmentally-conscious lady in the 100 block of Elwood Lane did not want the Pacific Power contract tree crews cutting on her property. She said they were killing the baby trees, and they needed to stop. The area manager for the vegetation maintenance department pulled the crew from the job, and as they were leaving, a pistol fired. The crew foreman did not actually see her shoot, but he and his crew did not stay around to confirm.

*Some chap was laying on the curb in the 200 block of S. Redwood Hwy. with his eyes closed at 4:20 p.m., and had reportedly been there all day. When fire and medical assistance arrived, he was snoring and too intoxicated to provide his date of birth. He declined assistance, and agreed to leave on foot.

*Investigation of some kind at 5:17 p.m. at Pine Cone Drive and Rockydale Road.

Outside the Valley

* Full moon fever hit early, with thirty-one log items