

Illinois Valley News

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WWII vet killed by hit-and-run

According to a press release from the Oregon State Police (OSP) Nov. 14, 2016, at approximately 7:15 p.m., troopers from the OSP Grants Pass Office were dispatched to a report of a hit-and-run crash in the area of Kerby Avenue and Schumacher Street in Cave Junction. Troopers were advised that a pedestrian had been struck by a dark colored vehicle which left the scene after the crash.

Responding troopers searched the area and located a vehicle of interest which matched the description from witnesses. The vehicle was seized as part of the ongoing investigation. The male victim was transported from the scene by AMR to Three Rivers Medical Center with critical injuries.

On Nov. 15, 2016, at approximately 1:30 a.m., OSP was notified that the male victim had died as a result of his injuries.

Troopers from the Grants Pass Patrol Office along with Detectives from the OSP Major Crimes Section in Central Point are continuing the investigation into the crash. As this is an active investigation, no further information is being released at this time.

OSP is asking anyone who may have witnessed this crash or who may have information related to the crash to contact Detective Brendan Quirke with the Oregon State Police Major Crimes Section at 541-776-6111.



(Courtesy photo for *The Illinois Valley News*)

Cave Junction resident Max Carter, 91, was killed by a driver who fled the scene Monday, Nov. 14. Police are looking for information regarding the driver of this vehicle.

City picks Gillette, Dalegowski and Dillinger

Jason McMillen

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The election is over for Cave Junction and the victors will move on to occupy their new positions working for the city. They will be sworn at the first meeting of January. Daniel Dalegowski, the victor of the mayoral position of Cave Junction, beat Don Moore with 62 percent (436 votes) against Moore's 34 percent (242 votes).

City Council Position 2 has Lindsey Gillette at 54 percent (311 votes) leading incumbent Margaret Miller with 44 percent (254 votes).

The closest race was for City Council Position 4 with Mark Dillinger leading with 51 percent (315 votes) and incumbent Councilor John Gardiner trailing with 48 percent (295 votes).

The unofficial results were last tallied Nov. 15 at 2 p.m. It was reported that some ballots are still out, and that the final outcome could change but according to sources at the city, any changes are unlikely at this point. The

election certification is set for Nov. 28.

Dalegowski has been on the council for 6 years but this will be his first time as the mayor. Daniel grew up in O'Brien but went to college at Portland State.

Around 2008 Dalegowski came back to town after living abroad while the housing bubble crisis was "wrapping up." It was at this time that he decided to get into politics. "A lot of the subdivisions were looking pretty ugly at the time and so I started to go to city council meetings to see what was going on and how those decisions got made," Dalegowski said, when asked about his motivations to get into local politics. Usually running for office in Cave Junction is about finding someone who's willing to run and the candidates more often than not run unopposed. This year was different, quite different, according to Dalegowski.

"I found it difficult in that we had to do campaigns. My opponent put significant resources, at least for Cave Junction, into his campaign and I felt like I had to do something similar to convince voters," Dalegowski stated, when asked about the cost of his campaign.

However, in hindsight, he said that spending the money out of pocket was worth it in the end because, "The amount of support I got from the community was really a positive aspect." In total, Dalegowski spent about \$1,000 on newspaper ads.

When asked about why he won over the opposition Dalegowski stated, "In the end it appears that I was just more popular with the voters and that probably was because a lot of people had some kind of previous negative experience or negative impression of my opponent." In other words, he suspected that a blank slate was better than a slate that was known to be unpopular. Dalegowski's first order of business after he is sworn in is to look for additional revenue sources so that he can increase funding for law enforcement. "If we can increase our ability to enforce law in the city then that has an immediate positive impact on existing businesses and folks who want to locate here potentially to do business and it helps with vagrant issues on the streets that are helping the town to be less desirable to tourists."

Lindsey Gillette, one of two victors for a

seat on the city council will be sworn in, like the other candidates, at the first city meeting in January. "I think it's important to participate in your local government. I also wanted to see more people like me but I couldn't think of a better person to do the job," she said, in response to her motivation for getting into local politics with a bit of a chuckle.

This will be Gillette's first time being in a governmental office and was the first time she had ever run for one. Gillette has been in area six years and previously was living in San Francisco. When asked about what she enjoys most about being involved in politics she responded, "I suppose it's feeling that I have power. To be a part of decision making." Gillette ran against the seasoned veteran Margaret Miller, who was holding the seat for many years prior to her opposition. When asked about what she had to say about her opponent Gillette said, "I hope she continues to remain involved in things that are going on in Cave Junction and making it a better place."

SEE RESULTS ON A-10

Lily Morgan and Dan DeYoung win handily

Annette McGee Rasch

IVN Senior Contributing Writer

With another election cycle in the books, two new commissioners have been elected to fill out Josephine County's three-person board. Lily Morgan and Dan DeYoung will join current Commissioner Simon Hare, who is serving out his second term.

After serving one term each: Commissioner Cheryl Walker chose not to run for re-election and Commissioner Keith Heck was voted out of office.

In the battle for Position 3 on the board, Morgan won by earning 21,881 votes, which is 61 percent of the vote; while her opponent, Bill Hunker, came away with 14,144 votes, or 39 percent.

"I just have a heart for the Illinois Valley," said Morgan, a Grants Pass native. "I've met so many awesome people there, it's been a privilege to spend so much time out there with you all. Now, I really look forward to representing you and working with you. I'm very grateful for the trust people have placed in me and I'll be attending a lot more meetings in the Illinois Valley."

Speaking to issues like public safety

and high poverty levels, Morgan said: "We're not going to give up. The I.V. is an important part of the county. From being safe, to building economy in the Valley, it's important for us to always remember the I.V. And now, it's my place to eliminate barriers to solutions - and the citizens of the Valley will be at the table as those solutions are developed."

Morgan also said she wants to form a cannabis advisory board for the sake of looking at the issues relating to that industry. "There are economic opportunities, but just as importantly, we have to be mindful of our resources and being good neighbors, we have to find a healthy balance to it all. We'll be also be looking for representatives from the I.V. to be a part of that."

Dan DeYoung captured Position 2 on the board with 19,259 votes, or 55 percent; while incumbent Keith Heck was edged out, earning only 15,324 votes; or 43 percent of the vote.

"I am glad that we won, I have looked forward to this for four years," said DeYoung, who had previously run for the board in 2013. "This time I won by a pretty good margin."

DeYoung vigorously opposed the now-defeated public safety levy and said

that, "Now, this is where all three of us commissioners will sit down and bring different ideas to the table and we'll go from there. We'll bring you ideas that could be done and then you can make your own decisions. There are so many different scenarios, one idea I heard was the idea of a taxing district in the I.V."

He also said, "There's a real push to get federal lands back under state control and that has real promise. And, maybe we'll see more use of natural resources from public lands." He added that, "It was real sad to hear about the closure of the mill. The I.V. certainly has issues that we have to address. All the same areas in our county have different issues, so we have to look at those issues, and start there, to find where our interests are the same. So now it's time to get out to CJ and have many meetings and sit down and look at the options to see what's best for you. I'm all for being more assessable to the public."

SEE JOCO ON A-10

Marijuana brings to light potential zoning changes

Anita R. Savio

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Marijuana land use in Rural Residential (RR) zones will face a number of clarifying zoning regulations if changes proposed by Planning Director Julie Schmelzer are accepted by the Board of County Commissioners. On Oct. 31 the Rural Land Planning Commission (RLPC) heard and discussed Schmelzer's proposals and then voted to forward them on to the Board, without taking a stand, either pro or con. The Board has scheduled the first of two required hearings on the proposals for Dec. 13.

Smelzer began the meeting of the RLPC by noting that the Board had held four town meetings on marijuana land use, and in addition had received many emails and calls with comments, including many complaints.

"The complaints have resulted in over 100 open violation files," she said.

Schmelzer noted that not all of the complaints are under the county's purview to address.

"We don't regulate marijuana. What we can regulate is the fence that may be associated with that marijuana, or the camp that may be associated with that marijuana."

Complaints about fences were "huge" according to Schmelzer. Other complaints included odor, raw sewage associated with campers, fears for safety because of menacing gun owners and dogs, water usage and concerns about unlicensed grows.

SEE ZONE ON A-8