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City touches on marijuana code issues

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The Cave Junction City Council met Monday, Nov. 14 to discuss, among other things, the city’s bulk water sales, marijuana business policy and amending city code to remove restrictions on security patrols. Due to the absence of Mayor Carl Jacobson and Councilor Margaret Miller, the council declined to take action on any of these issues. The only items that were brought to a vote were one regarding the city’s notary policy and fee schedule, and another approving a letter to the Bureau of Land Management in support of the Rough and Ready and Baldface Creeks Mineral Withdrawal Area.

The council was scheduled to discuss amending city code to make it easier for patrol groups, specifically CJ Patrol, to operate within the city. Currently, city code states that all security patrol groups, including those that do not receive compensation, must have a valid business license. CJ Patrol is in compliance with state regulations regarding security patrols, but briefly suspended operations when they discovered they were in violation of city code. At a previous meeting, the council removed language from the city code to allow CJ Patrol to get back on the street, but sought advice from city legal counsel on how to best move forward to protect the city from liability. Councilor Dan Bosch expressed concern with amending the city code, but asked that the issue be tabled until the entire council was present.

“I don’t think any action should be taken tonight due to the number of people present,” he said.

SEE CITY ON A-10

No bail, stay in jail!



(Photo by Dan Mancuso, Illinois Valley News)

Anthony Roberts’ widow Jenessa (left) along with friends and family before a bail hearing for Kyle Forester and Renee Edrington. Forester and Edrington are accused of the July 27, shooting death of Roberts. By law, prosecutors must prove they have enough evidence to convict beyond a reasonable doubt or the defendants may be granted bail. After hearing from the state and both defense attorneys, Judge Wolkie ruled that no bail will be issued. The full story will run in the Nov. 30, edition of the *Illinois Valley News*.

Jack Sauer: ‘True pioneer son of the Valley’

Judy Hoyle
IVN Contributing Writer

Hundreds filed into the I.V. High School cafetorium Nov. 19 to pay their final respects at Jack L. Sauer’s memorial service.

Sauer was short in stature, but was a fearless, bigger than life character that many praised for his honesty and dependability.

Sauer, born Oct. 1, 1929, had just celebrated his 87th birthday a few weeks before his death Oct. 23. He lived his entire life at the family’s Kerby homestead.

His was the third generation at Sauer’s Flat. The family’s history here stretches back to the late 1800s.

He left behind his wife, Josephine “Jo” (Wooddy) Sauer, sons Nick and Gary, his brother Larry, six grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. His death occurred exactly one week before his and Jo’s 56th wedding anniversary.

The memorial service was officiated by pastor Monty Pope. The service began and ended with solos by Duaine George, accompanied by Brent Norton on guitar.

Photos in a slide show of Sauer’s life showed him with family members and friends. Others included hunting and camping trips, as well as Sauer at the wheel of his tractor, on horseback or driving heavy equipment.

His son Nick gave a moving eulogy of this “true pioneer son of the Valley” who made his living at the hard, uncertain work of logging and ranching, with Jo at his side.

He fondly remembered Jack urging him on with the often repeated phrase, “Get up there and get ‘er done or I’m going to kick your ass ‘til your nose bleeds.”

Nick expressed gratitude that they had taken an Alaskan cruise this summer. He was also grateful they had just thrown a big birthday party for Jack with over 40 friends in attendance, and that Jack had died doing what he loved.

He said Jack had passed out last month, falling and breaking his arm, but he was determined to go hunting on horseback as he had done for many years.

Family members asked him to wait until the river level subsided, but his reply was, “Either go with me or I’ll go alone.”

His granddaughter in-law rode along with him, but when they went around a tree that had fallen across the river, the horses plunged into an obscured hole in the riverbed. Jack was unseated, the heavy cast on his arm kept him from staying afloat and he drowned.

Nick related many highlights and setbacks in the family’s life, including the December flood in 1964 that saturated the earth and delayed planting in the spring. He told how Jack would range cattle in the mountains and was often gone a week at a time.

Nick touched briefly on the loss of his brother Brad, who was killed in a car crash in 1995 and how he himself lost a leg in a work accident.

He ended by saying, “Dad, I’ll always admire, respect and love you.”

Nick’s brother Gary called Jack “the greatest man I ever met.”

Hailey, Jack’s great-granddaughter by marriage said, “I’ll miss him more than anything, he was a wonderful man.” She added that she named her own son after Jack.

Jack’s grandson in-law related how he had slept on rocks and snow with Jack and said, “He was the toughest man I ever met in my life and I loved him.”

Many rose to praise Jack and his family, often telling funny or touching stories.

Patrick Earl said Jack gave him his first job and stated “There’s no harder working family than the Sauers. They’re good people.”

Lee Mickey said, “I’ve never known a world without this man. My grandpa died in 1975 and Jack took his place.”

Mickey remembered Jack’s advice to him was, “You just do what you think is right.”

When Mickey was injured and in the hospital, Jack went to see him and when he was leaving, “I told him to have a good day and he said, ‘Hey, aren’t they all?’”

Turning to those assembled at the memorial Mickey said, “No matter what goes wrong, they’re all good days.”

One man said what he would miss about Jack was his tremendous store of knowledge about the Valley.

Another related the story of learning that Jack had lassoed a bear. He said Jack was, “One of the best neighbors you could ever have.”

Dale Michaels who had repainted Jack’s tractor said, “I’ll miss him coming out to the shop just to BS us when he didn’t have anything better to do.”

A family member who took the Alaskan cruise with Jack and Jo was amazed at how many people were greeting Jack by name within a few days and added, “He was an easy guy to know.”

S. Oregon pot growers having to torch moldy marijuana

Damian Mann,
(Medford) Mail Tribune

WHITE CITY, Ore. (AP) — Huge piles of moldy marijuana in Southern Oregon are going up in smoke this fall after record rains in October took a toll on many crops.

“At first I was freaking out about how much we are losing,” said Brent Kenyon, a cannabis activist who helped craft the state’s rules on pot. “But I’ve heard a lot of really sad stories from people who lost a majority of their crops.”

Kenyon estimates about 20 percent or more of his crop will be burned at his farm near White City, reports the (Medford) *Mail Tribune* (<http://bit.ly/2gdAJE7>).

Overall, this will be a tough year for growers, who faced an onslaught of russet mites in the summer and then mold in the fall, Kenyon said. The mold destroys the marijuana flowers and spreads quickly, particularly after heavy rains.

Jackson County has one-third of all commercial marijuana grow sites in the state, according to the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

Kenyon has held several bonfires using moldy marijuana stacked about 10 feet high. He likens his losses to the pears that drop on the ground in orchards throughout the valley.

“We had an acceptable loss given the

circumstances,” he said.

To combat these problems, Kenyon said he expects many growers turned to pesticides or fungicides, but the amount being used could likely exceed the limits allowed under state testing rules.

“I’m expecting an 80-percent fail rate as they test for pesticides,” he said.

Kenyon said the new testing requirements are so vigorous they’re picking up on chemicals used to spray telephone poles that drift into nearby gardens.

Kenyon, who owns The Wharf restaurant in Medford and runs various marijuana-related businesses including a consulting firm, Kenyon and Associates, said he will be pushing for higher thresholds for pesticides at the state level. “You can buy table grapes in the store that have more pesticides than cannabis,” he said.

Kenyon said the state should move quickly to allow marijuana to be sold with higher levels of pesticides but require a label that would alert the consumer until new limits can be established. He said Colorado took a similar approach.

If the state doesn’t ease up on the testing requirements, Kenyon said he fears more marijuana will be sold on the black market.

The OLCC has had anecdotal information that mold has been a problem this year, but so far there is no clear answer as to how much of

the retail marijuana crop was lost.

“I’ve heard lots of reports about mold and pot this year,” said Rob Patridge, chairman of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

Patridge said he’s aware of a push in the marijuana industry to increase pesticide limits, but he said that will have to be worked out in the Legislature.

Anthony Smith, owner of Kenevir Research Lab in Central Point and the only licensed marijuana testing facility in Jackson County, said he’s seen only about a 10 percent testing failure rate, or slightly more, as growers adjust to new requirements that test for 60 pesticide or fungicide substances in marijuana. Prior to Oct. 1, the state required testing for only a couple dozen substances.

However, when Smith begins testing oils extracted from cannabis in the near future, he’s anticipating a higher failure rate of 60 to 80 percent. The same extraction process that concentrates the active ingredient in marijuana also concentrates the pesticides, he said.

“The biggest public health threat in cannabis right now is pesticides in concentrates,” he said.

One substance in particular he’s seeing a lot of is myclobutanil, a fungicide in a popular product known as Eagle 20, which is applied to edible agricultural products including grapes, apples and spinach.

Smith said growers are going through a

period where they will have to adjust from an industry that had little regulation to one that is highly regulated.

At the same time, he said the state should remove some of the substances from the testing protocol because they are rarely found in the samples.

“It just makes the list more technical to accomplish,” he said. “There are some pesticides on the list that we don’t see, and it makes the testing more expensive and slower.”

But Smith said he doesn’t think his lab is backlogged considering the amount of work that goes into each sample.

“We’ve gone from an unregulated testing industry that was offering 24-hour turnaround and \$100 testing,” Smith said. “The growers are not super happy that the turnaround is three weeks, but I do not consider that a backlog.”

Despite Kenyon’s losses, he’s still got a lot of marijuana that is being dried and manicured, while any marijuana with mold is culled.

“Our priority is to have the cleanest medicine,” he said.

One of the workers, Andy Corda, 28, a migrant worker from Transylvania in Romania, said he enjoyed the work, while showing a marijuana flower with mold that he tossed into a plastic bin.

“To be honest, it is the dream,” he said.