

Thieves roam free in CJ

Jason McMillen
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In the last two weeks NAPA, I.V. Building Supply, Speedy Mart, and Ray's Food Place were all the victims of burglary or attempted burglary. The latter of the three were all on the same day and probably by the same group of people. So far, one suspect has been apprehended and a few others have allegedly been identified by police.

NAPA's store manager, Ryan Barr, said that the suspect involved in their burglary only stole a few minor items after cutting a lock to gain entry at around 2:40 a.m. The total value of the stolen property was said to be of no "significant amount." However, the suspect stole spare keys for delivery vehicles but luckily none of them were stolen.

The suspect was, according to Barr, caught within 24 hours and Sheriff Daniel reported that his name is Damien Attwood, 18.

Within the last 365 days NAPA reportedly has had two attempted break-in's with the first burglar throwing rocks at the glass door in an attempt to shatter it and gain entry while the second would-be burglar used a palate in the same fashion and with the same intent. In both cases the burglars failed to gain entry and since those incidents NAPA has installed security doors over the glass.

"It's certainly unfortunate, there's always that bit of anxiety. Ultimately it's not if, it's when," Barr concluded.

According to Randy Town, store manager of I.V. Building Supply, the group of burglars were wearing masks and were caught on video coming into the yard where they broke in through the side glass door, smashed a knife display case then took the knives and made their escape. In total, the burglars made away with over \$2,000 worth of knives.

This is the second time that I.V. Building supply has had their knife display stolen over the course of a year and it is very likely that it was the same group of individuals who stole them last time. "There's a couple groups in town and they repeatedly do it," Town claimed before continuing, "It's like a spiritual disease we have here... With the way the system is they have no room to hold individuals and if they do arrest them they're out within two days."

Jimmy Sue, owner of the Speedy Mart in Cave Junction, said that in their case two propane tanks were stolen and were estimated to be worth \$40. The burglars also broke two locks, one of which was the store's door but despite breaking it they did not gain entry. In total, and according to Sue's memory, the Speedy Mart has been the victim of criminal intent three to four times in the last 365 days.

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Soup for the Souls to help fight abuse

Judy Hoyle
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In commemoration of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the 11th annual Soup for the Souls is set to take place April 8.

The event is sponsored by I.V. Safe House Alliance and all proceeds go toward assisting survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

The doors will open 5 p.m. at Lorna Byrne Middle School (LBMS), a new venue for the popular fundraiser.

The event enjoys significant support from the community due to the importance of the Alliance's mission, made ever more difficult due to inadequate funding for public safety in the county.

Some of the restaurants which will be donating soup include McGrew's, Taylor's, Kate's Bar and Grill and Wild River Brewing and Pizza Company.

Staff members of the I.V. Family Coalition will also be cooking up a storm at the LBMS commercial kitchen.

Guests are welcome to enjoy unlimited soup and bread and the \$15 price

of admission includes the opportunity to take home a handcrafted or vintage bowl as a memento.

Sarah Muniz's art students at IVHS will be creating some of the bowls and well-known Grants Pass potter Gwen Childs has also donated some unique pieces.

In addition, Evergreen Elementary second grade students have decorated special art bowls as a community service project of the Illinois River Valley Arts Council.

The Alliance is still accepting donations of bowls as well as items to be included in the various themed gift baskets and vacation packages to be auctioned.

Gift basket themes include Family Movie Night, Barbeque, Healthy Start, offering exercise equipment and videos, Tea Time and Vintage Game Night.

Travel packages include a day at the coast with dinner at Spinner's Restaurant.

Auction items in the past have included home, garden and vehicle maintenance goods and services.

SEE SOUP ON A-5

Wideload



(Photo by Dale Sandberg, IVFD Media Dept)

Paul Weller moves the old saw room from Rough and Ready Lumber Mill to its new home on Lake Shore Drive in Selma Sunday, March 26.

Library seeks funding

Anita R. Savio
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You can't please everyone, especially when it comes to taxes. But Josephine Community Libraries, Inc., (JCLI) the nonprofit organization that provides library services to county residents, is doing its best to "split the baby."

After two failed ballot measures to establish a county-wide library tax district, a measure on the 2017 May ballot will ask residents of non-contiguous areas of the county to approve the district for those areas alone. Included will be the entire city of Grants Pass, as well as the precincts containing Cave Junction, Kerby, Williams, Wolf Creek, and Grave Creek. These are all precincts that voted in 2014 to approve a library district.

The proposed district will institute a tax of 39 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value, but only for those who own property within the district. This tax rate cannot be increased without voter approval.

A district differs from a levy in that its funds can only be used for district purposes, and cannot be touched by the county commissioners for any other purpose.

JCLI Director Kate Lasky explained that, with passage of the measure, the Illinois Valley Library Branch, among others, will see an increase in hours from the 16 it

presently offers.

"We will be able to provide more after school hours for students," she added. "And we'll have fun items that engage students in reading."

But there will be much for adults as well.

"The library collection will be renewed and expanded. Currently the hard cover book collection is outdated, with not enough new materials, especially in nonfiction. And in fiction, there are not enough circulating copies. We'll also greatly expand the E-book collection and customize it to our community's needs."

Lasky added that the branch will be brought into the 21st century, with more areas for people to access Wi-Fi and more computer work stations with up-to-date software that better handles all websites.

But what about those who live outside the district and want to use the library? There will be two options. One is to pay an annual fee for a library card. The amount of that fee will be determined by a library board, elected by district voters. Lasky noted that other library districts tend to base their library card fees on what the average household would have paid in taxes if it had been part of the district.

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Ideas abound for Parks and Rec

By Laura Mancuso
IVN Staff

With visions abounding more than 30 people showed up to participate in the Park and Recreation Plan meeting March 21 at the Illinois Valley Senior Center. The purpose of the meeting was to give the community an opportunity to voice their ideas about what is desired in the Cave Junction City Parks in order to create a Park Plan that will enable the city to become more competitive for grants.

This meeting was coordinated by Roger Brandt, president of the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization's Board of Directors and hosted by students and members of the Community Service Center (CSC) at the University of Oregon (U of O).

According to Brandt when it comes to creating a Park Plan it is important to "give the reins to a third party to take ideas and treat them equally" thus ensuring that grantors looking at the plan and proposals will be assured this is not

just one person's ideas and that the whole community is behind it.

"There is a lot of competition for grant money," said Brandt, and explained that the U of O will be coordinating the Park Plan process until June and that they have done 30 or more plans statewide. This group knows how to conduct a plan so that when the document comes out it will get results for the community.

CSC will create a Park Plan document for the city that will be usable to other agencies that clearly lists what the community would like to see at their city parks and how they can achieve it.

The three recreation areas open for discussion were the Cave Junction City Pool, Jubilee Park and Old Stage Park.

The participants at the meeting were broken off into groups to brainstorm about each of the park areas.

Some of the ideas discussed about the Cave Junction City Pool area (currently closed and located on East River St.) included building

a larger pool for high school swim teams and senior water aerobics, an activity schedule, adding a locker room with showers and a sauna, building a covered bicycle parking area and adding a recreation room for youth.

Regarding Old Stage Park, the 40 acres located at S. Old Stage Road next to the East Fork of the Illinois River, participants envisioned an inviting entrance with a parking lot; restrooms; trash cans; lighting; drinking fountains; RV camp with a host; trails for walking, mountain biking, fitness and horseback riding; large group gathering place with a picnic table; and much more. The main concern about Old Stage Park was brought up by John Gardiner, a river basin management and restoration consultant, who suggested "zoning for a flood plan" and then to specify usage for different zones in the park.

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