



(Photo courtesy of Tssa Ruberio for the Illinois Valley News)

OCTOBER BLUES

The Blue City Diesel above shows the plants trichomes which is where THC levels are made. According to Leafly.com Trichomes exist in many shapes and sizes, but there are three that appear most often on cannabis plants.

Bulbous trichomes are the smallest of the bunch, and they appear on the surface of the entire plant. Bulbous trichomes are as small as 10-15 micrometers, which is tiny enough to only be comprised of a handful of cells.

Capitate sessile trichomes are slightly larger and contain both a head and a stalk. These trichomes are quite a bit more abundant than their bulbous brethren, but cannot hold a candle to the bountifulness and size of the third trichome variety.

Capitate-stalked trichomes range from anywhere between 50-100 micrometers wide, meaning they're much larger and can actually be seen by the naked eye. Their structure consists of a stalk comprised of epidermal and hypodermic cells that build up to a basal cell which attaches to a large gland head. This gland head, held together by a waxy cuticle layer, serves as the epicenter for cannabinoid and terpenoid synthesis.

(The plant on the right is a Blueberry Cookies.)



(Photo courtesy of Scott Thoms for the Illinois Valley News)

RCC tenants criticize college's belt-tightening

Kerby campus going on market; advisory panel formed about RCC's role in Illinois Valley

Iris Chinook

IVN contributing writer

Rogue Community College (RCC) is putting its only Illinois Valley property on the market, a move that RCC says is necessary to avoid laying off staff.

On Aug. 20, RCC President Cathy Kemper-Pelle sent out an email informing employees that the college had decided to place two buildings on the market. RCC is choosing this course of action hoping to avoid having to lay off staff.

RCC Public Relations representative Grant Walker wrote in a statement, "Based on the impact of COVID-19 on student enrollments, tuition, and state reimbursements, revenue is down significantly for RCC and will remain down perhaps through the next biennium. As stewards of public resources, RCC



(Photo by Laura Mancuso for the Illinois Valley News)

The Rogue Community College extension building in Kerby - the Belt Building - as seen Monday, Oct. 19. RCC is selling the building, but rules say it must still function as a Masonic lodge and educational center.

must make difficult decisions about how to balance its budget in these very difficult times. RCC recently had both a space utilization study and a facilities condition study done for all buildings in the RCC district. Based on that data, we are reducing our physical footprint in both Josephine and Jackson counties as more

RCC services go online."

Going on the chopping block are the Illinois Valley landmark Kerby Belt Building and the old City Hall in downtown Grants Pass, home to the college's Small Business Development Center.

SEE RCC ON A-9

Former city pool now filled in with dirt

Iris Chinook

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The Cave Junction Pool has long been a source of contention. After the problematic property languished for years - amid questions posed to the city of what to do with the pool and facilities - fittingly, it was found out that it belongs to Josephine County. The deed for the pool was transferred June 3 and two weeks ago the county finished filling in the pool with dirt.

"After receiving the pool property back from Cave Junction, we decided to ward off any potential safety issues with the pool before the winter rains start. We basically took a jackhammer and made Swiss cheese out of the bottom of the pool and filled it with dirt and rock so it will drain," Josephine County Facilities Manager Ryan Johnson said in an interview.

In 1979, the pool was purchased with funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and their guidelines were adopted by the State of Oregon Department of Parks (SODP).

SEE POOL ON A-10

City forms debt fund for golf course

Laura Mancuso

IVN staff

The Cave Junction City Council held a meeting over Zoom Oct. 12. Mayor Meadow Martell brought the meeting to order with all councilors present: Dan Bosch, Tina Casey Jones, Jean Ann Miles and Mark Dillinger.

City recorder Rebecca Patton presented Resolution 913- regarding the Illinois Valley Golf Course which

is now owned by the city. The city is creating a golf course debt service fund totaling \$600,000 and will be making monthly payments to Washington Federal Bank. Councilor Bosch agreed this is the most cost effective way to deal with the city's effluent issue.

Councilor Dillinger asked about the process of leasing out the golf course and wondered if the city can afford the loan payments. Patton said the money was

budgeted prior to the golf course purchase, but that bulk water revenue will pay for the loan and by taking out the loan this "frees up money for capital improvement projects." There has been no formal discussion of who would lease the golf course at this point.

Martell said they haven't actively looked for someone to lease the golf course yet, but "would entertain credible proposals if they were presented." The resolution for

creating a debt service passed 5-0.

Jim Polk from the Rotary Club of the Illinois Valley was present to ask if the city would waive a banner fee for the adopt-a-road program to go across the highway. During discussion from council it was brought up that the city should not waive the fee due to all the labor and paperwork that has to be done.

SEE CITY ON A-10

State expands mask rules again

SALEM (AP) — As the total number of COVID-19 cases in Oregon nears 40,000 people, health officials announced Monday that face-covering requirements are once again being expanded to include all private and public work spaces, outdoor markets and colleges.

The Oregon Health Authority reported 266 new and presumptive COVID-19 cases Monday and eight deaths. The numbers bring the state's case tally to 39,794. The death toll is 627.

Currently, Oregonians are required to wear masks at indoor public spaces and outside when they cannot maintain 6 feet of space between others.

SEE MASK ON A-9