# 10 minutes with...



### Don Fulk

President of Illinois Valley Senior Center Age: 75 Lived in Illinois Valley: His entire life

**How long have you been president of the senior center?** About a month. We had some resignations. It's a volunteer charitable organization and I have time to be involved. I've been a member of the senior center since they built the new building. I helped build the parking lot.

**How many members are there in the senior center?** Our membership is about 400.

Is Bingo on Wednesday nights your biggest money maker for the center?

No, it's probably the I.V. Senior Center Thrift Store.

What are some of your hobbies? Golf and fishing.

**What do you like about living in the Illinois Valley?** I've visited a lot of places in the world and this is the best place I know. It has changed a lot.

Do you think the valley has changed for the better or worse?

I guess that's a matter of personal opinion.

What kind of work did you do before you retired? I was the supervisor for the Oregon Dept. of Transportation. I spent 32 years at the department in different capacities.

## Do other community groups use the facilities here for gatherings?

Yes, we're booked up. We're also in the process of applying for some grant money to build an additional building so we have more storage and meeting rooms.

**Does the senior center have any big upcoming events?** We have the Halloween party coming up and a bazaar this fall. We have a calendar available with our events and we're pretty well booked.

#### Do you have any advice for seniors that aren't yet involved with the center?

There is so much talent in this Illinois Valley that is not being used. I've written a story for our newsletter to try to get people more involved.

## Singing Loom ...

(Continued from page 1) Art not only can thrive here -- evidenced by the number of artists in the valley and their prolific collective of creations -- it can also help boost valley tourism, she added.

However, many of the sculptors, carvers, painters and others are isolated here, living and working in areas where the people can't, or don't choose to, go. Thus, residents and tourists see an artist's finished product on display or for sale, but don't know or understand the creative process it underwent.

Not taking advantage of that would definitely be a missed opportunity, Goines said.

Ultimately, Goines, who said she has 25 years of experience in weaving, hopes her studio will help bring knowledge of textile arts to the community.

"It wasn't too long ago people had to make their own clothing," Goines said. "That's gone now."

And she's confident the forming art collective will add culture to the valley as well.

"It's just really good for the health of our community," she said.

One of Goines' primary goals is to work with area schools.

Weaving uses and improves concentration, hand manipulation and

## IVCRT ...

#### (Continued from page 1)

Ackerman also noted that IVCRT has "been quite supportive of the education and preservation goals for the monument. It recently co-sponsored a natural history event and has expressed keen interest in working with projects to restore the cave and the National Landmark Chateau."

The contract includes a

math concepts, skills that could greatly benefit young children, she said.

"It's added so much to my life," said Goines, a self-taught weaver.

She remembered her mother taking a weaving class while Goines was in high school, which was what sparked her own interest. A number of her ancestors also excelled in various textile arts.

Although there are many different types of weaving, Goines said the fundamentals of four harness weaving can be taught through card weaving.

In this method, a deck of square cards acts as a loom. Each card has four holes for the thread to go through. One end is connected to a solid object, such as a wall or tree, and the other is connected to a belt worn by the weaver, which is a back strap weaving method. The weaver turns the cards in different sequences to create the patterned fabric.

But the process is more complex than it might initially appear. Before starting any design, Goines first plots the design on graph paper, so she knows the path of every thread in the pattern.

The second step is using a "warping board" to measure out the thread that is needed. The third step is to thread the cards



**Libby Goines** 

and adjust the tension of the thread.

Although the process is so detail-oriented and calculated, the possibilities for patterns and creativity are endless. With practice, weavers begin to develop their own style, Goines said, noting she is attracted to designs of geometric shapes.

It takes much experimenting, she said, to see what colors blend well. To save money, Goines said she mostly uses mill ends. So she often doesn't know exactly what color shades she'll have to work with until she receives the thread. Buying thread at Goodwill and I.V. Senior Thrift Store also saves her money, she said.

"You don't have to

spend a lot of money (on weaving)," she said.

Goines and Dawson also hope to eventually offer various workshops in their studios.

During Art Walk on Friday, Oct. 10 Shen Goines will be the featured musician, and "Miguelo" will be the featured artist at Singing Loom. And Goines will provide card weaving and loom demonstrations.

Dawson will demonstrate "expressive brush techniques" during Art Walk.

For more information about the studio vacancy, weaving lessons and other information phone Goines at 592-2423. For more information about her studio and future events, phone Dawson at 596-2023.

BIG BASH With beer and wine tasting, auction and mixing to benefit I.V. Chamber of Commerce. Friday, Nov. 7 - 6 p.m. Be there!



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What is your favorite flavor of ice cream? Cold (laughs). Probably chocolate.

- Interview by Steve Fairchild

(Editor's note: Here is a list of events happening in October at the I.V. Senior Center: bingo, casino excursion, card games, porcelain doll making class, oil painting for fun, game night, book discussion group, beading class, pool tournaments, driving safety program and craft classes).

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percentage of return to NPS. One percent of gross sales will be used by NPS for projects "that stabilize or rehabilitate historic facilities."

"Oregon Caves Outfitters is truly a community affair," said Phillips. "Numerous volunteers help with opening and closing each season. The fact that the concession is managed by a local organization and staffed entirely by local people is becoming a source of community pride, important in a community that has undergone stresses."

Added Dorinda Sherman, an employee of Outfitters, "It improves our social and economic development locally, and provides stimulus to those seeking harmony in Nature."

Proceeds from the concession operations are used by IVCRT to fund community projects and partially cover operational expenses for IVCRT.



Shed a light on crime. Sign up for the I.V. Citizens Patrol. Make a difference in your community. For more information phone 592-9296.