Here, There & Everywhere

CAJUN CELEBRATION - Selma Community and Education Center will have a Caiun Mardi Gras music and dance celebration on Saturday, Feb. 21 from 8 to 11 p.m. There will be dance lessons from 6 to 8 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6 and 7 p.m.

PRESIDENTS DAY CELEBRATION - A free Presidents Day presentation, "The Riddle of Abraham Lincoln," with guest lecturer Tony Sternola, will be offered Saturday, Feb. 21 at 11 a.m. at the Illinois Valley Branch Library, 209 Palmer St., CJ. Sternola will also talk about Lincoln on Thursday, Feb. 19 at 3:30 p.m. at the Grants Pass Library.

BIG PAINTBALL GAME - There will be a paintball game Saturday, Feb. 21 at 9 a.m., on Hwy. 199 at the bottom of Hays Hill near mile post 16. Look for signs. Entry at the gate is \$20 including all day air. Paint will be available for purchase on site.

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL - Registration for the 2004 baseball season is continuing on Saturday, Feb. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Lorna Byrne Middle School in CJ. Birth certificate and proof of address are required to register.

KERBY WATER DISTRICT - There will be a monthly business meeting Thursday, Feb. 19 at 6 p.m. in the RCC Kerby Belt Bldg. for progress updates and a question/answer session.

LOVEJOY HOSPICE - The next "Beyond Loss" free grief support program will meet Wednesdays beginning Feb. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the hospice information center at Immanuel United Methodist Church, 200 W. Watkins St. in Cave Junction. Prior registration is required. Phone Barbara Knox at (888) 758-8569.

NOTEPAD - Cub Pack 79 will hold its annual Blue & Gold Dinner at I.V. High School on Thursday, Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. Selma resident Joyce Ogden is serving as cubmaster in the absence of Art Deuel. "Genius Kits" and "Fellers' Cake" contests will be part of the event... Line-dancing lessons will be offered at I.V. Senior Center. Phone 592-6888 for more information.

LAST WORDS - History repeats itself. That's the one thing wrong with history. (Anonymous)

Corrections

An article by Shane Welsh about proposed changes to IVCRT bylaws appearing in the Feb. 11 issue of "I.V. News" suggests incorrectly that the organization is using set criteria to qualify or select individuals nominated for the board of directors.

The areas listed as "criteria" are in fact areas of expertise or representation which the IVCRT board has decided are lacking in the board's current configuration.

Anyone who qualifies as a general member can be nominated for a position on the board.

In a page 1 story in the Feb. 11 issue by Michelle Binker, the telephone number for the Daniel 6 Ministries/Tiger Preservation Center (formerly Wildlife Endangered Animal Sanc-

tuary) was incorrect. The correct number is

(541) 592-6085. "Illinois Valley News"

regrets the errors.

Too often the strong, silent man is silent only because he does not know what to say, and is reputed strong because he had remained silent. - Winston Churchill -

Letters

(Continued from page 2)

riage than those "Bachelor and Bachelorette" shows.

It's not like there won't be any kids born if no one gets married, and it's certainly not likely that marriage alone will make the kids better off.

It made me sick to see a letter writer demean our traditional separation of church and state. I bet those people who want to tear down the wall between the two would change their tune when their own religion doesn't get established as the State Religion. That "freedom of religion" thing is meant to protect our right to worship or not as we see fit and to not have a religion imposed on us.

The issue of the 10 Commandments being on a plaque in Alabama illustrates this. The Baptists and evangelicals might want them in their courthouse, but the Church of Christ and others believe that the Commandments were given to the Jews as part of the Old Testament, and that the New Testament is the part of the Bible provided for Christians today. So if we ever do permanently enshrine the Commandments in a government building, does that mean that the Baptists will get the edge to become the State Religion, and all the Church of Christ Christians will just have to put up with it?

If anything will tear America down, it will be the fact that we're too preoccupied with irrelevant details to pay attention to the really big issues.

Oh sure, our president can outright lie to us, get our young men and women killed in an endless war so Halliburton can make a fat profit, and energy companies, and health care companies can charge Americans all they want without fear of reasonable regula-

But the news will be filled with quasi-religious issues like gay marriage and abortion. Whatever happened to that great old conservative idea of "getting government off people's backs?" I guess

that only counts for corporate people, not human people.

IVCRT for all From Robert Schumacher **IVCRT Vice Chairman Cave Junction**

In response to Jody McElroy's letter to the editor in the "Illinois Valley News" Feb. 11, in which she states, "Try joining the IVCRT and help take its control out of the hands of the environmentalists," may I say that the IVCRT welcomes the participation of General Members from the community whatever their point of view.

However, the IVCRT is not in the hands of any one group. The board, in fact, is composed of a diverse set of individuals, including members of People for the USA, who have learned to work together effectively to promote the interests of the valley.

This diversity is represented by the activities of the IVCRT, including assistance (both financial and technical) given to the employees of Rough & Ready Lumber Co. when it was exploring becoming an employee-owned business in order to keep the mill

IVCRT has also been assisting local contractors to prepare to compete for U.S. Forest Service and BLM contracts -- including \$250,000 in fuels reduction work from a national fire plan grant.

IVCRT's emphasis on economic development has led to creation of the Oregon Caves Outfitters, which just last season brought more than \$260,000 in payroll to valley residents besides the \$40,000 paid to local artists and vendors who supplied the kitchen.

IVCRT prides itself in being neutral ground



UPLIFTING EXPERIENCE - Illinois Valley Fire District Volunteer Capt. Ken Gavlik from Station 2/Selma demonstrates use of high-pressure air hoses for inflating portable air bags during a training session for volunteer firefighters on Tuesday night, Feb. 10. The bags are used to lift vehicles or other heavy objects weighing up to 13 tons. (Photo by Shane Welsh)

It is not so much our friends' help that helps us as the confident knowledge that they will help us. - Epicurus -

> You can't wait for inspiration. You have to go after it with a club. - Jack London -

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Seeking Local **Artists**

Our mission is to provide world-class hospitality to our guests using local resources. The Oregon Caves Outfitters is seeking appropriate, local consignment sales in the Gift Gallery at the Oregon Caves Chateau. Works from Illinois Valley artists will be selected via 4-person

Jury forms available at the IVCRT office.

Artist Jury Sunday February 29, 2004 Drop off 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Pick-up 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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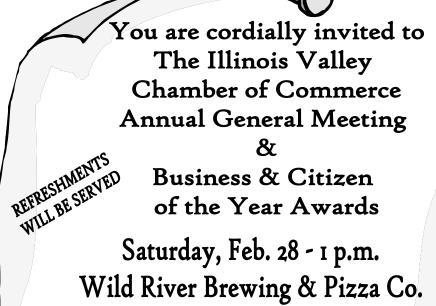
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in Cave Junction

The chamber has some exciting things planned for 2004!

We hope you will join us for this fun event!