



Saturday, Sept. 3 through Monday, Sept. 5

# Illinois Valley Lions Labor Day Festival

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## Beard tapped to be parade's grand marshal

By CHRIS HILL  
Correspondent

He moved to Illinois Valley when he was 10; walked two miles to school every day; joined the U.S. Army and fought in World War II.

He's been married for 49 years, and he's lived in the valley now for 72 years.

He's Don Beard, chosen as grand marshal for the I.V. Lions Club Labor Day Parade in Downtown Cave Junction Monday, Sept. 5 beginning at 11 a.m.

Beard will be riding in the first car of the parade. He'll be busy throwing candy to parade-goers and waving at the crowd.

"I'm not sure what all my duties are supposed to be," said Beard. "But I know I'm supposed to do that," Beard said.

Beard admitted that he was surprised and honored when he received the call from Carl Jacobson, secretary of I.V. Lions Club, asking him to be grand marshal.

"Don has been in the valley for a long time," said

Jacobson. "We nominate people like him who've really been a part of the community.



DON BEARD

"Don will receive an appreciation plaque for being grand marshal. This is our way of honoring him as a person of the community," Jacobson added.

Beard admitted that this will be the first time in his seven decades in the valley that he's been in a parade. At his side will be his wife

of 49 years, Norma Jean.

Together they have four children, 11 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and a whole lot of memories.

"I moved here from California when I was 10," said Beard. "My dad had a shoe repair shop in Wasco, Calif., and he wanted to get us away from the city life, so he moved us up here and bought a little ranch up Chapman Creek Road.

"My sister and I walked two miles to the White School every day. We were lucky if we ever saw a car go by and could get a ride. I didn't happen to go to high school, because it wasn't required back in those days. I went into the service instead," Beard recalled.

"During World War II,"

he said, "I went to Europe. I was in anti-aircraft. First, we were set up in London, then we went over to France and a lot of our activity was in Belgium. Ninety-millimeter guns is what we were shooting," said Beard who left the service as a corporal.

After the service, Beard held various jobs including working in some of the saw mills around the valley.

"I also did some logging and built roads," he said. "I built about 50 miles of road around Galice. After that, my wife and I went to work for Columbia Helicopters for about six years. She was a ticket lady.

"One year I rented my water truck to them, then they started building their own, so I finally started driving their own truck. I also drove their fuel truck and whatever else they had," Beard said.

Since then, the Beards still haven't slowed down much. He is busy cutting firewood and delivering it to customers around the valley.

## Lyons, Gibson named Helen Keller Benefactors

By CHRIS HILL  
Correspondent

Members of the Illinois Lions Club work year-round conducting fund-raisers to support local causes, especially sight and hearing.

One of the I.V. Lions Clubs beneficiaries is the Oregon Sight and Hearing Foundation. It receives donations from various organizations including I.V. Lions. After enough money is accumulated, a patient in need is selected and then receives an expensive eye or ear operation for little or no cost.

"The foundation pays for specialized type operations like cornea transplants and stuff like that, which can cost anywhere from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per surgery," said Carl Jacobson, club secretary. "It's a good cause that we donate for.

"This year we made two \$1,000 donations in the names of a couple of our members to the Oregon Sight and Hearing Foundation in Salem. For every \$1,000 we donate, we receive a Helen Keller Benefactor Plaque with that member's name on it," said Jacobson.



LEW LYONS

Earlier this year, the club voted on two members they felt deserved to receive the plaques.

"This year it was Lew Lyons and John Gibson," said Jacobson. "John is the owner and manager of Redwood Select Market in Grants Pass, but he lives here in the valley."

Lyons, whose son, Steve, has been club president several times and is

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## They work hard, play hard; Lions 'very fun club,' says Pres. Steve Culver

By CHRIS HILL  
Correspondent

Many valley residents have better sight and hearing thanks to the hard work by members of the Illinois Valley Lions Club, a service group that has been in the valley 55 years.

The newer Cave Junction Lions Club, open to men and women, also contributes generously to the need for eye-glasses and hearing aids.

"Our main activities are sight and hearing, of course," said Steve Culver, in his second year as Illinois Valley Lions Club president.

"That's what we raise money for," he said. "That's

what Lions International is all about.

"We have a big raffle for the Harley motorcycle that's held during the Labor Day Festival at Jubilee Park. We try to make it a pretty nice function for everybody in the community. There are talent shows and entertainment the whole weekend.

"The I.V. Lions built the 'amphitheater' at the park about five years ago. That's where all the entertainment for the festival is being held," Culver said.

"We'll have a beer garden and all kinds of vendors that sell their items in booths. We also put on the Labor Day parade that goes

through town.

"And, this year we have Country singer Jessi Colter coming to be part of the entertainment on Monday. She was married to Waylon Jennings," Culver added.

The I.V. Lions start setting up for the festival the Tuesday before, and work all week setting up just for the three days of entertainment beginning Saturday, Sept. 3 and ending Monday, Sept. 5, Labor Day.

"There are some misconceptions that we put on the Labor Day Festival to pay for our dues, but that's not true," said Culver. "Every member pays for their own dues, and we

don't use any of the money to buy members eye-glasses or hearing aids. Every member who has glasses or hearing aids buys them themselves," Culver said.

And, that's not all that the members pay for out of their pockets.

"We're always on a membership drive," Culver said. "We have a lot of work to do in our club. We always have members going to a fair or festival to sell raffle tickets. Most of the people who go pay for their own gas and lodging.

"We even go as far as Redding to sell motorcycle tickets and as far north as Roseburg," Culver said.

He estimated that he puts in an average of 20 to 30 hours a month volunteering for the club. Some members put in even more time, he said.

However, 20 or 30

hours a month is a big chunk of time for Culver, considering that he puts in a full day as head cook and owner of McGrew's steak house and lounge in O'Brien. And, for the first time this year, Culver used

we were completely out of crab," he recalled. "We ran out of 1,000 pounds of crab. That was incredible. We'll probably do the crab feed every year," Culver said.

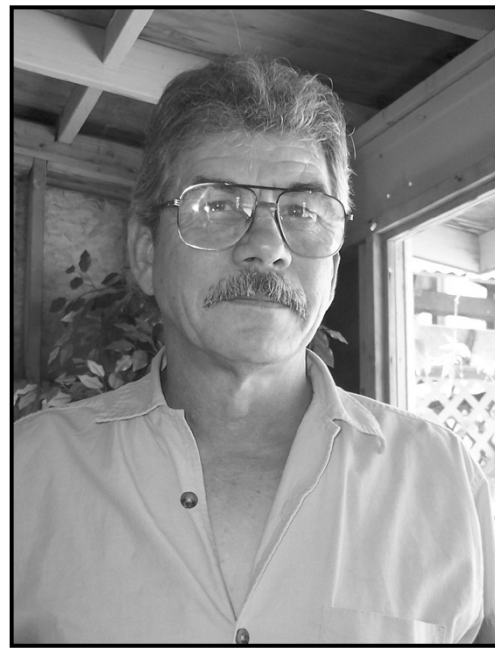
When they aren't busy selling raffle tickets, cooking crab and organizing fund-raising events, the Lions can be found every Tuesday night at 7 having their weekly meetings at the old bunkhouse for the former smokejumper base at the airport.

"On the second and fourth Tuesdays are dinners," Culver said. "The first and third we have business meetings where we talk finances and go over applications for sight and hearing.

"In the whole time I've been with the I.V. Lions Club," he noted, "we've only turned down two applicants out of hundreds of applicants, and it was because they were clearly well off and had more than enough money to buy their own glasses," Culver said.

Culver, who has been with the club for eight years, said he joined because he

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STEVE CULVER

his expertise to cook a feast of crab for the public at the Lions' headquarters at I.V. Airport.

"We had 1,000 pounds of crab and started at 1 o'clock, and by 3 o'clock

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**Schedule of Events (All in Jubilee Park unless noted)**  
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**Saturday, Sept. 3**  
 10 a.m. Grand Opening - Dawna Crocker  
 Noon Watermelon Seed-Spitting Contest (12 & younger)  
 1-2 p.m. Karaoke Hour  
 2-3 p.m. Talent Show (19 & younger)  
 4:30-8 p.m. Music by "Broadway Phil & The Shouters"  
**Sunday, Sept. 4**  
 9:30-11 a.m. Music by "The Hoskins Girls" (Gospel)  
 Noon Watermelon Seed-Spitting Contest (12 & younger)  
 2-3 p.m. Talent Show (Adults)  
 4:30-8 p.m. Music by "The Shadowz"  
**Monday, Sept. 5**  
 11 a.m. Parade in Downtown Cave Junction  
 1-2 p.m. Talent Spotlight Hour featuring Wayne Whitfield, Dawna Crocker, Sean Chorpensing & Nicole Navarro  
 2:15 p.m. "Flora Bell the Clown"  
 4-5 p.m. Jessi Colter, accompanied by local band, "Valley All-Stars"  
 6 p.m. Drawing for Harley Davidson  
**Daily Events Scheduled During the Festival**  
 7 a.m. Breakfast by Kerby Belt Lodge Masons  
 8 a.m. Softball (all day)  
 10 a.m. I.V. Lions Club Train  
 11 a.m. Dunk Tank, Beer Garden, Lion Burger & Vendor Booths open  
 Noon Bingo by American Legion Post 70  
 5 p.m. Drawing for 50/50 Winners. (Must be present to win).  
 Note: The 50/50 drawing on Labor Day, Sept. 5 will be at 5:45 p.m.  
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