

A graphic for Labor Day featuring the words "Labor Day" in a large, bold, black serif font with a white outline. The text is set against a background of horizontal gray stripes. To the left of the text is a circular arrangement of seven black five-pointed stars, similar to the stars on the US flag.

By PAT CRUZ

Many of us remember the “good old days” when our parents told us over and over, “If you don’t go to school, you will grow up to be a ditch digger.”

Anderson has been a fixture in Illinois Valley since he was 11. He attended classes in Kerby until that school closed and Evergreen Elementary School took its place. He later attended Illinois Valley High School. As a high school drop-out, Anderson learned his lesson the hard way.

"I have always been proud of being a ditch digger, but who knows what I could have done had I stayed in school," said Anderson. "One thing I do know, if I had completed my education and considered higher education -- running my own business would have been a whole lot easier."



Erica and Patrick Anderson with some of the school supplies students will have an opportunity to win at the Labor Day festival, September 2-4.

Being a kid who knew it all, Anderson attended few sessions of school, until he finally quit altogether. It wasn't until years later that he realized his mistake and took steps to get his high school equivalency diploma.

passion for ditch and dirt too...

In 1973, Anderson became a member of the city of Cave Junction's utility crew of two. When the city purchased its first backhoe, it became apparent that Anderson had a passion for the ditch and the dirt.

It was his passion, and the encouragement of his wife, Darlene, that has propelled him into the self-made success he is today.

"I want kids to learn from my experience," said Anderson. "It is my hope that by offering this once-a-year, free activity booth that encourages education, it might add just enough fun to keep the community kids excited about returning to school. "In addition to winning the free school supplies, we have added some special surprises to be offered throughout the three-day festival."

Knowing the difficulties he has faced, Anderson has made it one of his goals to always encourage education.

"It is people like David who keep small communities like ours alive and well," said Steve Lyons, Illinois Valley Lions club president and festival chairman. "Last year the David Anderson Excavating school supply booth was one of the most popular booths among the kids," Lyons noted. "Although sight and hearing are the main focus of the Lions Club, we encourage and support all positive efforts that focus on our kids."

"After all, they are our future. See you at the festival."

Illinois Valley Lions Club 2006-07 Officers

President	Steve Lyons
1st Vice President	David Anderson
2nd Vice President	Sam Michel
3rd Vice President	Dennis Reviea
Secretary	Carl Jacobson Jr.
Treasurer	Louis Spencer
Lion Tamer	Blake Peterson
Tail Twister	Vale Hatch

Board members: Jerry Sommers, Tom Lindewall, Marvin Haynie, Mike Perez, Lew Lyons, Dale Hatch

Helen Keller Benefactors: John LaRue, Don Sills.
(The I.V. Lions Club each year donates \$1,000 each on behalf
of two of its outstanding members in connection with its
sight-and-hearing fund.)

Labor Day Festival, 2006

Daily Events, all in Jubilee Park

7:00	Breakfast by Kerby Belt Masonic Lodge
8:00	Softball
10:00	I.V. Lions Train
11:00	Dunk Tank Beer Garden, Lion Burger, & Vendor Booths open
Noon	Bingo by American Legion Post 70 & Auxiliary
5:00	50/50 Drawing winners announced (must be present to win)

Saturday, September 2

10:00	Grand Opening — Dawna Crocker
Noon	Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest (12 & younger)
1-2:00	Talent Spotlight Hour: Wayne Whitfield, Dawna Crocker, Nancy Campbell, and Dave Saffer (last year's Adult Talent Show Winners)
3-4:00	Talent Show — Junior (12 & younger)
(Note: 4:30 to 6, time for band set-up)	
6-9:00	Music by "Valley All Stars"

Sunday, September 3

9-11:00 Music by "1st Love Gang" (Gospel)
 Noon Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest
 (12 & younger)
 3-4:00 Talent Show — Intermediates (13-18)
 (Note: 4:30 —6, time for band set-up)
 6-9:00 Music by "Deja Blues"

Monday, September 4

11:00	Parade in Downtown Cave Junction
1:30 -2:30	Music by "B Wishes"
3-4:00	Talent Show — Adults
5-5:30	Flora Bell the Clown
6:00	Drawing for Harley-Davidson