

Here, There, & Everywhere

BATTER UP! - The “last chance” to sign up for this year’s Illinois Valley Little League season is offered on Saturday and Sunday, March 8 and 9. Registrations will be taken at Jubilee Park from noon to 3 p.m.

FOOD DRIVE - The Curves site in Cave Junction will conduct its third annual community food drive through March. All donated nonperishable food will be used to help people in Illinois Valley; and a food bank wish list will be available. Last year, the Curves effort resulted in 1.5 tons of food being collected. The new goal is 2 tons. Donations can be brought to Western Plaza by True Value. Women who bring a sack of groceries and \$30 can join Curves (saving \$119). The monthly fee will still apply.

FOR WWII VETS - Cave Junction resident Celia Letis will visit the National WWII Museum in New Orleans. Veterans or those who have information on loved ones who were in the war can fill out a Roll of Honor form, and Letis will take them to the museum. Forms are available from a basket at the senior center.

LABOR DAY THEME - Illinois Valley Lions Club has announced the theme for the annual Labor Day Parade. It is, “Illinois Valley -- We Grow Trees & Champion Athletes.” The parade, part of I.V. Lions events including the three-day festival in Jubilee Park, will be held Sept. 1. The 2008 Harley Davidson motorcycle that will be raffled is displayed at Taylor’s Country Store, and tickets are available there or from Steve Lyons at the Century 21 Harris & Taylor office in Cave Junction.

‘CHILL PILL’ - Handling anger as a parent is the theme of a free program on Thursday, March 13 at the I.V. Safe House Alliance building next to the DMV office in Cave Junction. The “After the Violence” presentation is titled *Keep Your Cool/Take a Chill Pill*, and will begin at 4 p.m. Child-care and transportation are available with advance notice by phoning 592-2515. For the complete series of programs, phone the same telephone number.

IT’S CLASSIFIED - Gov. Kulongoski has proclaimed Classified Employees Week through Friday, March 7. Classified workers are those employees other than teachers. Their jobs include being secretaries, instructional aides, custodians, food service workers and many others. “They are a vital component of Oregon’s public education system,” said the governor.

MOON ECLIPSED - A hoped-for April 26 planting of a new Moon Tree at Illinois Valley Airport has been canceled, said Roger Brandt, secretary of the Siskiyou Smoke-jumper Base Museum Project. Essentially, a lack of cooperation and response from Josephine County’s manager of airports and the county commissioners were cited.

NOTEPAD - I.V. Little League will announce team rosters Saturday, March 15 at 5:30 p.m. at Evergreen Elementary School ... **Northwest Hairlines** will host an I.V. Chamber mixer on Friday, March 14 ... **Winter Gala**, held by Illinois River Valley Arts Council on Sunday, Feb. 24, raised more than \$3,500 to benefit Second Friday Art Walk and Learning Through Arts ... **I.V. Senior Center** announced winners of its recent Texas Hold ’Em Tournament. The winner (the only woman entrant) was Lori Baker. Second and third places went to Lloyd Putney and Rod Walker ... **“Conflict & Compromise in History”** was the theme for History Day competition at Lorna Byrne Middle School on Tuesday, March 4 ... **A spaghetti feed** to benefit Jacqui Van Tassel, rescheduled because the previous one was “rained out,” will be held Saturday, March 15 in the county building in CJ. Vendors can phone 592-4103 ... **Wilderville resident** Maxie Graziano has been appointed to serve as a certified ombudsman for five elder-care sites in the county. The appointment was made by the Oregon state Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman ... **Food preservation** is the topic of a class Saturday, March 15 at Jackson County Extension Center. Phone 776-7371 for details ... **T-shirts:** *Ask me about my ability to annoy complete strangers. *Blondes have more fun, but brunettes can read. *Born Free. Taxed to Death. * Change is good. You go first.

LAST WORDS - Be bold, and mighty powers will come to your aid. (Basil King)

Raffenburg lauded for ‘standing up for the people’

An explanation of who is paying for Commissioner Jim Raffenburg’s investigative lobbying trip to Washington, D.C. for county funds arose during the Josephine County Board of Commissioners meeting Wednesday morning, Feb. 27.

Held in Anne G. Basker Auditorium in Grants Pass, approximately 20 persons attended. Raffenburg was challenged and chastised by a Grants Pass resident, Rycke Brown. She said that because Raffenburg plans to use money withheld from his salary by the county, that he did not take the pay cut he promised during his campaign for office.

Therefore, said Brown, “He has called himself a big, fat liar.”

Raffenburg is this week attending a legislative meeting of the National Associa-

tion of Counties (NAACO) in the U.S. capital to help ensure that the county’s financial interests are protected. While there he also intends to lobby on behalf of the county and others which are under the Oregon & California Railroad (Safety Net funding) Act. Without the funding, Josephine County faces a lack of some \$12 million per year for operations.

Raffenburg explained Wednesday, and in an earlier statement, that he discovered after taking office that under Oregon law he could not take a pay cut.

“That left me with a moral dilemma,” he said. What he worked out was for the county to “hold 10 percent of (his) wages in the county treasury. This was the only way possible for me to keep my campaign promise.

“My intention was to let

the money build up and take a lump sum payout when I left office. I would then donate that money either back to county government or to local organizations that benefit our youth or elderly.

“I have never planned, nor will I ever use this money for personal benefit.”

He then explained that because of “a pattern of poor financial decisions by my fellow commissioners which has damaged my faith in their judgment, I no longer wish to leave my back wages to the county treasury.

“I believe,” he continued, “that there is no higher or better use for this money, at this time, than to use it to protect the financial interest of the people of Josephine County. That is why I decided to receive those wages now, instead of later when I leave office.

“After taxes, after this trip (to the NAACO conference) is paid for, I anticipate there will be approximately \$5,000 remaining, which I will now donate to community organizations.”

Raffenburg was applauded by several in the audience for his “standing up for the people” intentions.

During a previous meeting commission Chairman Dave Toler and Commissioner Dwight Ellis voted against the county paying for the trip to Washington, D.C.

In connection with the county policy regarding travel, a demand was made for Toler to explain comments he made during a recent radio interview. The demand was posed by Paul Walter, of NewsWith-Views.com.

Walter said that Toler’s statement about the policy being “a matter of interpretation” made him “sound like Bill Clinton.”

“So how is Raffenburg wrong?” said Walter. “If it’s a matter of interpretation, how is it wrong?”

“It was a bad decision,” said Toler.

“So you are saying,” replied Walter, “that he is wrong and you are right?”

There was no response, and the meeting continued.

County commissioners OK jail nursing fund in 2-1 vote

A proposal to provide \$10,000 in a compensation fund for after-hours medical aid at the county jail was approved 2-1 during a meeting of the Josephine County Board of Commissioners.

The board OK’d the plan Wednesday, Feb. 27 during its morning meeting in Anne G. Basker Auditorium in Grants Pass. The proposal was made by Belle Shepherd, director of the Josephine County Public Health Dept.

Shepherd explained that the money involves a transfer from existing funds. It is needed, she said, in connection with her negotiations with AFSCME Council 75, Local 3694.

She added that the contract revision will result in

cost savings. A full-time person, she said, would cost \$30,000; but the \$10,000 will cover the extra hours medical care provided at the jail by current medical personnel.

“They’re on-call 24/7,” she told the board.

Commissioner Jim Raffenburg said that the change is “not comprehensive, but piecemeal.” He said he feels that such a move should be incorporated when a full contract is negotiated.

“It’s not personal,” he told Shepherd, but a problem he sees with the county’s organizational structure.

Commissioner Dwight Ellis moved for approval; Chairman Dave Toler seconded; and the vote was 2-1 with Raffenburg opposed.

Advertising brings benefits galore!

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, March 5
Sunny
High--61 Low--27

Thursday, March 6
Cloudy with sunshine
High--62 Low--30

Friday, March 7
Cloudy with evening rain
High--58 Low--35

Saturday, March 8
Rain
High--55 Low--39

Sunday, March 9
Rain
High--55 Low--40

Monday, March 10
Cloudy and warmer
High--67 Low--41

Tuesday, March 11
Cloudy
High--66 Low--36

Following are the high-and-low temperatures, and rainfall, recorded in O’Brien by Cheryl & Harry Johnson.

*Fri.,	Feb. 22	48	31	.12
*Sat.,	Feb. 23	39	31	.05
*Sun.,	Feb. 24	47	37	.79
*Mon.,	Feb. 25	56	37	.00
*Tue.,	Feb. 26	59	34	.00
*Wed.,	Feb. 27	63	36	.00
*Thurs.,	Feb. 28	64	33	.00

Following are the high-and-low temperatures, and rainfall, recorded in Cave Junction at Illinois River Farm.

*Fri.,	Feb. 22	50	29	.07
*Sat.,	Feb. 23	42	29	.04
*Sun.,	Feb. 24	50	36	.37
*Mon.,	Feb. 25	57	35	.02
*Tue.,	Feb. 26	58	34	.00
*Wed.,	Feb. 27	64	36	.01
*Thurs.,	Feb. 28	65	32	.00

Say you saw it in the
Illinois Valley News

Taco Tuesday
Tacos only \$1
Pool Tournament!
starting at 7 p.m.
Headers Tavern Selma 592-4100

It's RAINING BARGAINS
at the I.V. Senior Center
Thrift Store
Great Deals for Everyone!
Next to Dairy Queen

In Celebration of National Women's History Month
Women's Café
Singing ~ Dancing ~ Poetry
Writers ~ Artists ~ Healers ~ Musicians
Saturday, March 8
5 to 7 p.m. - Art Show 7 to 10 p.m. - Performances
Admission: sliding scale \$8 - \$15
Serving: Quiche, Salads, Sweets, Beverages
Everyone welcome!
(please no young children)
Info: 592-2866
Takilma Community Building

Soup & Pie Lunch
Saturday, March 8, 11-1
\$5 (includes soup refills)
Lots of Choices
Take-out available
Immanuel United Methodist Church
200 West Watkins

SPECIAL OFFER
FEDERAL TAX REBATE
\$5000*
YOU MUST FILE A FEDERAL RETURN IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE FEDERAL REBATE
CROCKER FINANCIAL SERVICES
103 B N. Redwood Hwy.
Cave Junction OR 97523
TELE: 541-592-3667
HOURS:
MONDAYS-FRIDAYS,
10 A.M. - 6 P.M.
SATURDAYS, 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.
*For clients with no withholding that otherwise are not required to file.

HARRY MACKIN is
• **KNOWLEDGEABLE**
Bachelors Degree in Engineering
Masters Degree in Business Administration
• **A LEADER**
Captain in the US Marine Corps -Vietnam Veteran
Former President and Member of the Chamber of Commerce
Former President and Member of the Boys and Girls Club Board
Former President and Member of the Rogue Gateway Rotary
• **EXPERIENCED**
Former Vice President of Hart Insurance
Former Chair and Member of the Josephine County School Board
Served on the Josephine County Compensation Committee
Founder of the Real Library Committee
Co-Chair of the Committee for Law Enforcement
• **FAMILY**
Married for 39 years to Susan
Two Children and Five Grandchildren
RESTORE CONFIDENCE!
ELECT HARRY MACKIN
County Commissioner
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Harry Mackin, PO Box 1327, Grants Pass, 97528