



## Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,  
Publisher

know of a number of survivors and one of those survivors, in particular, happens to be very near and dear to my heart.

Early detection is the key in beating this cancer. No health insurance? There are groups that give vouchers to women without insurance to get free mammograms. There really is no excuse to not get checked out.

Okay now on to a less (or depending on who you are maybe more) stressful topic. The recent cold snap has the sugar content in local grapes heading backwards. Hopefully, with the upcoming warmer weather, we will see grapes being picked for crush. According to folks in the know, one of our other local crops in the area has had some similar issues with the weather.

As I was walking into the stadium for this past Friday night's football game, I heard the announcer say the national anthem was going to be played by the IVHS band. I was like, "What? We have a band? Cool." They will also be playing at the remaining home game, which also happens to be homecoming on Friday, Nov. 5.

I also learned last week that we have a "Math-lete" team that competed Tuesday at SOU and that the mountain bike team was up on Page Mountain cleaning trails. I thought that was kinda cool.

I also attended a meeting for SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) at Evergreen Elementary School last week. Program coordinator Willa Gustavson does a fantastic job

and it was fun to see. A special thanks to Principal Dave Valenzuela for providing the space at his school. And thanks to all the volunteers. This truly couldn't happen without you.

Don't forget the candidate forum this Thursday at the county building at 102 S. Redwood Hwy. in Cave Junction. Sheriff Gil Gilbertson and Don Allaire will face off at 6 p.m. Commissioner Dave Toler, Simon Hare, and write-in candidate Mark Seligman will tell us why they deserve our votes starting at 7 p.m. Ballots are to be in the mail Oct. 15, so keep your eyes open for them.

Thanks for picking up the paper this week, enjoy!  
-- djm

# Letters to the Editor

*Illinois Valley News* welcomes Letters to the Editor. Please e-mail them to [dan@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto:dan@illinois-valley-news.com).

**POLICY ON LETTERS:** 'Illinois Valley News' encourages letters to the editor provided they are legible and not libelous or scurrilous. All letters must be signed, including name, address and telephone number. The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity. The 'News' reserves the right to edit letters. Letters are used at the discretion of the publisher.

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**(Editor's Note: Views and commentary, including statements made as fact, are strictly those of the letter-writers.)**

### Mr. Smith, Please Call

I suspect that the public has grown weary of our series of letters-to-the-editor initiated by the former environmental executive director, Donald Smith, but it's necessary to clear up one last, especially inaccurate, suggestion he makes.

Though we at Rough & Ready are pleased to have recently bought our first BLM timber sale in 12 years, Mr. Smith is right that there were several BLM offerings that we did not purchase, but again, this issue is much more complex than he presumes.

No matter how desperate Rough & Ready, and Swanson in Glendale, might be for local logs off the federal forests, it would be foolish to buy timber sales that would cause us to lose money. We need logs that fit our mills, at a price that would provide even the smallest profit.

Hypothetically, if the BLM offers timber at \$1,000 and Rough & Ready's break-even on

those logs is \$500, we're not going to purchase the sale. And if the average log diameter being offered is five-to-six inches and our mills can use a 12-20" second-growth log, again we can't buy the sale. A baker isn't going to buy chaff instead of wheat when the customer wants a loaf of bread.

The BLM has an obligation to sell wood that fits the local manufacturing capacity and supports surrounding communities. For many years their program has been stymied by litigation, but a recent recognition of a crisis in forest health has highlighted the need for forest management and maintenance of the existing manufacturing infrastructure that assists restoration efforts. We hope that the unifying goal of a healthy, vibrant forest, along with the public's urgent need for a strong economy, will enable the BLM to achieve the full scope of their responsibilities.

If Mr. Smith has further questions about how we run our business, I invite him to call me.

**Jennifer Krauss Phillippi**  
Cave Junction

### If I Were Sheriff

If I were Sheriff of Josephine County Oregon. I WOULD:

Return to the Constitution and Common Law, an age old derivation of God's Law. DO NO HARM. DO NOT HARM ANOTHER. DO NOT HARM ANOTHER'S PROPERTY. DO NOT INFRINGE UPON ANOTHER'S RIGHTS.

Lift the UNLAWFUL CORPORATE BAN on living, breathing, flesh-and-blood, sentient, natural men and women travelers using their automobiles for non commercial purposes in doing daily errands, duties, etc for that has never been the intent of the States Police Powers dealing with

licensing commerce.

Not enforce municipal ordinances that have no other real purpose other than to generate revenue. The people would no longer be "customers" now depicted in the parking lot sign at Cave Junction City Hall.

Do away with Bogus, Corporate money making programs such as the WAR ON DRUGS.

NO LONGER, suck off the teat of the Federal Government by accepting grants and gifts with STRINGS ATTACHED, thereby compromising Josephine County Law Enforcement.

Get rid of every thug now wearing a uniform. Those who've consistently used unnecessary force upon people just because they can.

Remove top heavy, high-paying specialists positions, retrain all presently employed deputies from "specialists" to "generalists" and return them to the Street, where True Crime is faced and dealt with.

Would People of Josephine County Oregon be FREER knowing they are not being targeted for "VICTIMLESS CRIMES?" THAT'S A NO BRAINER.

Let's hear it from the People of Josephine County. Does such REVOLUTIONARY form of Law Enforcement INTEREST you?

**Raymond Ronald Karczewski**  
Cave Junction

### Get Up and Vote

OK people, it's that time of the year again. Those of you that know what I'm talking about. It's time to vote.

Here in Oregon we vote in the privacy of our home and all you have to do is either take it to the city hall in Cave Junction or mail it to the county clerks office in Grants Pass. It's that simple.

If you vote you have every right to complain, but if you don't vote then you are actually stealing from the rest of us that do vote.

I have heard more peo-

ple in town here say "Oh, I'm not registered to vote," but you live here. That's part of the problem with the way America thinks today. They have their hands out or all the free giveaways and usually are the ones who complain the loudest.

Trying to get people to volunteer to do anything, it doesn't matter if it's school or a cause, people just don't see to care or take pride in what or who they are, just as long as I can let somebody else do it for me.

So much for the soap opera. But if nothing else maybe this will help motivate you to get up and vote. One can make a difference in who wins or loses.

**Carl Jacobson**  
Cave Junction

### Another CJ Fan

As a long-time fellow resident of our great valley, I wholeheartedly agree with last week's letter under the headline "Tour of Cave Junction."

I wouldn't live anywhere else, and wouldn't want to see it change. I love our community.

Addressing the marijuana issue, it seems to me it is farming after a fashion. Why not allow for people to make an honest living at it? There is a great sense of pride being able to support your family. It makes sense that it would increase revenue for our local businesses and the eradication of meth and the cartels too. To me, there is a certain logic to treating it with the same laws tobacco and alcohol fall under.

We are blessed to live in the State of Jefferson!

**Mike Hobson**  
Cave Junction

### Keep the tax cuts

The issue of repealing the Bush tax cuts for those making over \$200,000 a year (\$250,000 for couples) has been put on the back burner for now, but will come up again for Congressional consideration after the November elections.

Many have argued that increasing taxes on the top two percent of all earners will hurt small businesses. But, according to the Small Business Administration, more than 97 percent of small business owners earn too little to be affected by the proposed tax increase.

That leaves only three percent of owners, and most of those are partners in law firms, high-powered consultants, etc. These are not mom and pop businesses. In addition, according to economist Roberton Williams, with the Tax Policy Center in Washington, raising their top income tax level from 35 percent to 39.6 percent would probably have little impact on hiring. The decision to hire a new worker depends far more on demand for a business' products than on taxes.

It's even possible that not raising taxes on the top two percent would hurt small businesses in the long run. Keeping all the Bush

cuts, as proposed by Republicans, would contribute \$3.7 trillion to the budget deficit over the next ten years. This could result in higher interest rates, making it harder and more expensive for small businesses to borrow.

On the other hand, repealing the tax cuts for the top two percent of all earners would bring in \$700 billion over the next ten years.

Nobel prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz also points out that tax cuts for the very wealthy do very little to stimulate the economy, because those in the highest income brackets tend to save rather than spend their extra income.

It is good economic policy to keep the tax cuts for the middle class and 97 percent of small businesses. But they should be repealed for the very wealthy.

**Anita R. Savio**  
O'Brien

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# Here, There & Everywhere

**SCC BOOKS** - Selma Community Center received a grant from the Four Way Community Foundation for new shelving in the center's library. Join the renovation celebration from 1 to 3 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 15, at 18259 Redwood Hwy. in Selma. Refreshments will be available.

**FIRE CHILI** - A chili feed fund-raiser is being held from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 16 at Country Folks Restaurant, 181010 Redwood Hwy. in Selma. The fund-raiser is hosted by Illinois Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association in an attempt to raise \$3,000 for a life-saving equipment matching grant.

Support your local firefighters.

**HORSIN' AROUND** - Back Country Horsemen, Sourdough Chapter, present a free seminar at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 16, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, East River Street at Lewis Court, Cave Junction. The program will cover preventing equine legal issues, resolving disputes and equine legal contract. The public is welcome and refreshments will be available. For information, contact Dick Butler at 541-597-4383.

**CELEBRATE CHILDREN** - Danny O'Flaherty returns for his annual musical performance beginning at 6:30 p.m.

on Friday, Oct. 22, at the Selma Community Center, 18259 Redwood Hwy. Doors open at 6 p.m. with homemade soups and bread available for purchase.

**FREE DUDS** - Clean clothing will be given away on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Takilma Bible Church, 10343 Takilma Rd.

**TOM & MOM** - Every fall all those kittens that were born in the spring are now having their own litters. That's why SNYP and veterinary offices have joined together to save lives by offering discounted spay/neuter certificates. During October a cat spay or neuter is only \$25. For more information visit

[www.spayneuter.org](http://www.spayneuter.org) or phone 541-858-3325.

**GIVE BLOOD** - The American Red Cross is asking eligible donors to make blood donation a priority on their to-do list. The need for blood is constant. If you want to join the cause, you can find a drive near you and make an appointment by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or by visiting [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

**WISE WORDS** - "If it's very painful for you to criticize your friends - you're safe in doing it. But if you take the slightest pleasure in it, that's the time to hold your tongue." (Alice Duer Miller)

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