



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,
Publisher

A few months back I attended a Lorna Byrne Middle School girls' volleyball game. The kids were playing a well-funded St. Mary's team. What caught my attention was the fact that our kids were wearing basketball uniforms and the visitors were wearing real volleyball uniforms.

I later talked to some friends about this discrepancy and eventually made my way to LBMS Athletic Director Darrell Erb's office. I told him about an idea to get the kids some new uniforms.

At one point, Mr. Erb asked

me why I wanted to do this. My response was that our children feel better in real uniforms. When our children feel better, they hopefully will play better and the program will flourish. The cost to procure 25 home and 25 away uniforms, with warm up jackets, will near the \$3,500.00 mark. It is assumed that the uniforms will last 10 years or more.

All donations can be made here at the Illinois Valley News office or can be deposited at the South Valley Bank location here in Cave Junction. All donations, anonymous or otherwise, will be listed in the paper to recognize the donors' generosity.

Terry Frank has offered to be the second signer on the account for the new uniforms.

No money can be withdrawn without both of our signatures. The money will sit in the account until we reach our goal. At that time the money will be withdrawn and a check to the LBMS volleyball team will be cut. Any extra monies will be donated to other groups in the school system that needs help with funding.

I recognize that there are a lot of different groups that need help throughout the year with additional funding, but I think that helping out the middle school with a ten-year investment makes a lot of sense. Our kids deserve it.

Thanks for picking up this weeks paper, enjoy!—djm

Red Cross announces February blood drives

The American Red Cross has seven more blood drives planned for February in Josephine County.

The Cave Junction drive is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 24 from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Illinois Valley Senior Center on 520 East River St. The sponsor code is IVCOMM.

Interested donors will need to schedule an appointment before giving blood by calling 1-800-733-2767 or visiting www.redcrossblood.org. Sponsor codes for each location are provided as part of the registration process.

Grants Pass blood drive locations are as follows:

- Friday, February 11: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Cascade Room 2 and 3, Three Rivers Community Hospital. Sponsor code: 3Rivers

- Wednesday, February 16: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Student Center, Rogue Community College (RCC), 3345 Redwood Hwy. Sponsor code: RCCRWC

- Thursday, Feb. 17: 12 p.m. – 5 p.m., Basement/Fellowship Hall, Newman United Methodist Church, 132 NE 'B' St. Sponsor code: GRANTSPASS

- Wednesday, February 23, 1 p.m. – 6 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room, Seventh Day Adventist Church, 1360 NE 9th St. Sponsor code: GRANTSPASS

- Friday, February 25: 11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall, Calvary Lutheran Church, 909 NE "A" St. Sponsor code: GRANTSPASS

- Monday, February 28: 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. YMCA Conference Room, YMCA, 1000 Redwood Ave. Sponsor code: GRANTSPASS.

Obituaries

Eulalia Pauline Mommer

Eulalia Pauline Mommer, formerly of Checotah, OK, died on January 31, 2011 at age 87 in Macedon, New York. Eulalia was born in Hitchita, OK, and is survived by her husband Charles W. Mommer; sister Hattie Shields; children, Donna Lee Smith, Stanley Wayne (Mary Elizabeth) Halvorsen of Oregon, Rick B. (Mary Ann) Halvorsen; step-son Craig A. Mommer; six grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; great great-grandson; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held at Payne & Murphy Funeral Home in Macedon, N.Y., with a private Committal Service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Alzheimer's Association in her memory.

Letters to the Editor

Illinois Valley News welcomes Letters to the Editor. Please e-mail them to 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.

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

Feeling Egypt

These days I'm almost embarrassed to be considered an American. Not really, but you know what I mean. I don't know how things got this way. I also know there is a lot more to fixing things than just agreeing that something is very wrong and assigning elected officials, or should I say, store-bought officials, responsibility for fixing things while we go on busy with our lives. We are quick to assign blame and by God, people should be held accountable. Complacency allows evil to run amok. Religion wants to blame it on the "Devil". I've heard the devil is in the details. So often the details can be found in the mirror.

William Schneider

Cave Junction

Retirement Kudos

Thank you, to everyone who came to my retirement party, and to Jerry and Bertha Miller for giving me a great party. I'll miss all of you, but I'm having fun. Viv Morton

Cave Junction

Playground Equipment

So what's this I hear that the city has to pay for new playground equipment for Jubilee Park? We've been needing that for a long time. Over the years it's been "used and abused". It's not safe anymore for the kids. And that's due to the weather and "over-aged

adolescents" playing on them.

Copeland Sand & Gravel is donating the gravel and Rough and Ready is donating the wood chips. (Your family!)

Hey, Kurt Krauss, how come you're not donating the playground equipment? I can remember when there were times this town needed help and the Krausses were the first ones to be there. Your family is what kept this town going. Your great-grandfather helped keep this town from becoming a ghost town.

If we needed building material for whatever, your dad and Uncle had no problem donating it. You have anywhere between 50 to 100 people working for you. Your annual revenue is \$10 to \$20

million dollars. And you're making your hometown pay for playground equipment from you? Are you hurting for money? Is China charging you an arm and a leg for parts?

What happens if we can't come up with the money? Are you going to be the one to tell the kids "If the grownups don't pay, you can't play"!

You know how bad this town is hurting, so I'm asking you, Kurt, find it in your heart to donate the playground equipment. Do it for the kids. Thank you.

From Allison Ballard
Cave Junction

Here, There & Everywhere

As of January 21st, the Illinois Valley Garden Club will be back to meeting at the Kerby Belt Building. The Illinois Valley Garden Club meets the 3rd Friday of the month with coffee hour at 12:30pm and meeting at 1:00pm. The first meeting of 2011 will have Amelia Benson-Atkinson speak about "Pollinator in Your Garden". Horticulture/Show & Tell Table, Garden Beauty in Mid-Winter. You are invited to write out questions that you have on plants and gardening and place them on the table. For information call 541-592-4257

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Wild River Pizza – Open Mic. 6-8pm
Contact Todd Kaberline or Jim Nolan 541-646-0975 or 541-660-8572

FEBRUARY 12

Illinois Valley Youth Soccer Club – Spring sign-ups, now through February 12. Ap-

ply online at www.ivyouthsoccer.com. Late fees apply after Feb. 12. For questions call Annette at 541-659-9678

FEBRUARY 19

Illinois Valley Little League presents their 2nd Annual Chili Feed & Chili Cook-off contest. Evening entertainment, silent auction & live band. From 4-7pm at the County Building. \$5.00 per meal includes chili, corn bread, dessert & drink. To sign up for the cook-off call Shelly Davis at 541-415-1718 or Chasty Cavazos at 541-287-2113

FEBRUARY 11

Valentine Dinner/Fund Raiser at Bridgeview Church to benefit the Pregnancy Center. Starts at 6:30pm & the cost is \$10.00 per person, advance ticket purchase is preferred.

FEBRUARY 12

Jubilee Park Playground Renovation Fund-raiser – A group working to move and renovate the playground at Jubilee Park is currently in the midst of a fund-drive to support that effort. The Illinois Valley class of the Ford Family Foundation's Institute of Community Building will hold a fund-raising brunch from 8am to noon on Saturday, Feb. 12 at the Illinois Valley Senior Center, 520 River St. in Cave Junction. The menu will feature pancakes, biscuits and sausage gravy, eggs, Taylor's ham, cereal & fruit, juice & coffee. Suggested donation is \$5.00. For information about the fund raiser please contact Ann Padgett at 541-592-4678. Information on the park project will be available at the brunch.

FEBRUARY 12

Selma Community & Education Center is hosting a Sweethearts Soup Dinner & Dance. Only \$7.50 per person. Dinner at 6pm dance from 7-

9pm. Bring your spouse, bring a friend, bring yourself! For a wonderful evening of great homemade food & fantastic music, delicious soups, homemade bread, fresh salad, delightful dessert, hot music and a Silent Auction. This is a fundraiser to benefit the Selma Center's landscaping projects 18255 Redwood Hwy 541-415-1000.

FEBRUARY 24TH & 25TH

The Illinois Valley High School Performing Arts Department will present the Gilbert Sullivan Operetta, H.M.S. Pinafore on February 24th & 25th. The production will be held in the IVHS commons at 7pm. Tickets are \$3.00 or \$2.00 with a student/school staff. H.M.S. Pinafore, a comic operetta (a shorter, lighter opera) which examines romance and social classes onboard a fictional nineteenth-century British war ship. Lavish costumes and memorable characters make this period-piece one of theatre's most beloved works.

IVHS School Menu - Sponsored by 25647 Redwood Hwy. Cave Junction 541-592-4111	THURSDAY, FEB. 10 Pasta with marinara/meat sauce or bean & cheese burritos, chicken burger or cheese burger, cheese, bbq chicken or supreme pizza, Italian turkey & cheese spicy chicken wrap, or chef, anti pasta or garden salads	FRIDAY, FEB. 11 Nacho supreme, wiener wrap, corn dog, spicy chicken burger, cheeseburger, pepperoni, cheese, supreme or taco pizza; ham & cheese or turkey & cheese sandwich, turkey wrap; chef, garden or Mandarin chicken salad	
	MONDAY, FEB. 14 Beef soft tacos, chicken strips, spicy chicken burger, hamburger, pepperoni, cheese, vegetarian or sausage pizza; ham & cheese or turkey & cheese sandwich, turkey wrap; chef, garden or Mandarin chicken salad	TUESDAY, FEB. 15 Chicken fajitas, Rib-Que sandwich, chicken burger, cheeseburger, pepperoni, cheese or Hawaiian pizza; Italian or turkey & cheese sandwich, spicy chicken wrap; chef, antipasto or garden salad	WEDNESDAY, FEB. 16 Taco salad, teriyaki beef rice bowl, spicy chicken burger, hamburger, pepperoni, sausage, cheese or Italian griller pizza; veggie or turkey & cheese sandwich, turkey wrap; chef, garden or Mandarin chicken salad

Elementary School Lunch Menu Sponsored by 541-592-2413	THURSDAY, FEB. 10 Fruit & yogurt parfait w/ graham crackers, Turkey & cheese wrap, 3 cheese vegetable lasagna, totally teriyaki dippers w/ rice pilaf, cheesy burger on a multigrain bun.	FRIDAY, FEB. 11 Classic chef salad, very veggie sub sandwich, big cheesy potato bowl, cheesy breadsticks w/ marinara sauce, hot ham & cheese sandwich	
	MONDAY, FEB. 14 Hearty garden salad, super submarine sandwich, parmesan chicken & broccoli w/ pasta, baked cheese ravioli, cheesy burger on a multigrain bun	TUESDAY, FEB. 15 Black bean salad, totally turkey sandwich on whole wheat bread, big chicken taco tuesday, RibBQ sandwich, baked potato bar w/ assorted toppings	WEDNESDAY, FEB. 16 Minnie mouse salad, turkey & cream cheese pinwheels, sweet & sour chicken w/ pineapple brown rice, freshly baked cheese or pepperoni pizza, cheesy burger on a multigrain bun

EVENTS CALENDAR presents Blue Grass Music by Saturday, Feb 12th 5:00pm to 8:00pm Every Wed - Open Mic Night from 6-8pm with Jim Nolan	Key of THREE Friday, Feb 11th 5:30pm at Taylor's Country Store
To add an event to this calendar call 541-592-2541. IT'S ONLY \$5	

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