



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,
Publisher

If it seems like I have been running a lot of fire photos lately, you're not wrong.

The reason is threefold. For one thing, Dale Sandberg of the Illinois Valley Fire District has taken some amazing shots. Secondly, we have had a lot of fires. Lastly, I feel it's important to keep constant reminders that we live in an area that is either raining or on fire.

We're in the heart of fire season

and with the lack of snowpack from this past winter, this will be a long, dry and hopefully not to smokey summer.

As most of you are reading this, the Fourth of July will be over and it may be too late to give extra caution this year when it comes to fireworks safety. So, I hope you were all as careful as possible.

I hear so many rumors about the recent structure fires and some are just completely out of this world. Apparently, some newspapers are just as bad when it comes to rumormongering.

Just last, week the Grants Pass Daily Courier ran an article about the Meriwether Print Shop fire that stated that Meriwether was going to set up temporary shop here at the Illinois Valley News office. Where did that come from?

My point, I suppose, is that if you don't know something for sure, don't repeat it. Go to the source and verify.

Have a fantastic and safe Fourth of July!

Thank you for picking up this week's paper. ~ djm

Obituaries

Helen E. Versteeg, age 94, of Cave Junction, died Monday, June 24, 2013 at her home.

A funeral service will be at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, July 13, 2013 at Illinois Valley Funeral Directors (chapel) with Walt Freeman conducting. Private interment will be at Laurel Cemetery. Hull & Hull Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Remembrances may be made to Illinois Valley High School Scholarship Fund, PO Box 2086, Cave Junction, Oregon 97523 or the American Red Cross, Southern Oregon Chapter, 60 Hawthorne Street, Medford, Oregon 97504.

Helen was born December 2, 1918 in Forest Grove, Oregon to William & Minnie Haage. After graduating from Forest Grove High School she attended Pacific University, Oregon State College and the University of Oregon where she received her Bachelor's of Arts degree in Nursing. In 1943 she married Charles Versteeg Sr and in 1948 moved to Cave Junction.

Helen was a member of Eastern Star; Illinois Valley Garden Club; and served on the Josephine County School Board (now Three Rivers).

She especially loved to play bridge.

Survivors include five children; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr Charles Versteeg Sr in 2002.

Donald Gene "Don" Bray, age 76, of Grants Pass, died Saturday, June 22, 2013 at Rogue Regional Medical Center.

A graveside service will be at 10:30 a.m., Monday, July 1, 2013 at Wilderville Cemetery with Pastors Matt Heverly and

Dick Boden officiating. Hull & Hull Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Remembrances may be made to Gospel Rescue Mission, PO Box 190, Grants Pass, Oregon 97528.

Please sign the family guest book at www.since1928hull.com.

Don was born December 4, 1936 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to Verle & Helen (Holden) Bray. In 1954 he graduated from East Bakersfield High School. On July 29, 1955 in Eugene, Oregon he married Grace Parrett and they moved to Bakersfield, California. While in Bakersfield, he worked for Bell Telephone Company and Bankers Life of California. In 1961 they moved to Sacramento where he worked for Farmers Insurance. After moving to Auburn, California he worked for Auburn Lumber Company. He returned to Sacramento and worked for Hostess Cakes for eight years. He then attended Sacramento State University where he received a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Corrections and while attending school he worked for New York Life Insurance and owned and operated a Mexican import business selling imports at fairs in Oregon, California and Washington. He also worked for the California Youth Authority. In 1974 he moved to Grants Pass where he was the only adult parole and probation officer in Josephine County. In 1983 he moved to Hawaii and lived there a short time before returning to Grants Pass. He then opened construction cost estimating schools in Federal Way, Washington, Portland, Oregon, and Laurel, Maryland. He returned to work for Josephine County as a parole and probation officer retiring in 1999.

Don was a member of Toastmasters and attended Edgewater Christian Fellowship and a men's Bible study.

His hobbies included horseback riding, shooting guns, and

swimming.

Don is survived by his wife, Grace Bray of Grants Pass, Oregon; a daughter, Kelly Breuninger of Arroyo Grande, California; a son, Donald "Scott" Bray of Hillsboro, Oregon; a sister, Susan Napier of Santa Barbara, California, two half sisters, Theresa Butterworth of Burbank, California, and Tracy Bray of Goleta, California; a half-brother, Rob Bray of Berkeley, California; and seven grandchildren.

Former Grants Pass and Cave Junction resident Gordon "Digger" Sallee, 56, of Gold Hill died Friday June 7, 2013 at Providence Medford Medical Center.

A memorial celebration potluck will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday July 6, 2013 at

Whitehorse Park, 7613 Lower River Rd., Grants Pass.

Grants Pass Funeral Alternatives is in charge of arrangements.

Log onto www.diggersallee.com to sign the guestbook or for more information.

He was born October 4, 1956. He served his country in the U.S. Army and was employed with Grayback Forestry.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; sons, Duane and Cody; daughters, Jennifer, Heather and Sarah; and six grandchildren.

See page 12 for Jim Rich

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

WWW.SINCE1928HULL.COM 541-592-4110

Float Fly comes to Selmac

23rd Annual Float Fly Grants Pass, OR - Rogue Valley Flyers announce their always popular Float Fly at Lake Selmac in Selma. This year's event will be on Saturday and Sunday, July 13 & 14. Radio Control pilots from throughout the state will launch a bevy of float-planes from the beautiful blue waters of Lake Selmac. The public is invited to enjoy the fun. While there is no admission, the club will be grateful for the donation of a canned good that will

be delivered to the Josephine County Food Bank. Visitors should also be aware that Josephine County Parks have a day use fee of \$4.00 per vehicle. Flying will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue as long as winds and weather permit. Bring a picnic, lawn chairs, sunscreen and prepare to look up. This year's event is sanctioned by the national organization for radio control, the Academy of Model Aeronautics. Additional information may be found on the club's web site: www.roguevalleyflyers.com.

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Concerts in the Park

Thursday Evenings Summer 2013

6:30 - 8:30
Jubilee Park
Cave Junction
Free admission

Bring your lawn chairs or blanket
Refreshments for sale by IV Little League

July 11th ~ Sequoia
July 18th ~ John, Dave & "J"
July 25th ~ I.V. String Band
August 1st ~ Oregon Little Big Band
August 8th ~ Eastfork






Save the date

July 5

The Illinois Valley Safe House Alliance board is holding a fundraiser on Friday, July 5 and Saturday, July 6,

shifts are from 10am to 2pm and 2pm to 6pm on both days. We're bagging at Shop Smart, way fun! Call Chris (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only) at 541.592.2515 to reserve your spot to help bag groceries and support services here in the valley.

July 12

Petals N Thyme Flower Shop is hosting a chamber mixer from 5-7 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP at 541-592-3326.

July 13

Pregnancy Center of the Illinois Valley is hosting an Ice Cream

Social & Live Auction Saturday, July 13 at 2 p.m. at Community Bible Church Gym, 113 S. Caves Avenue, Cave Junction

Tickets: \$3.00 per person, all you can eat ice cream Live Auction: Lots of Auction items

THE NEW J. I.

406 S Redwood Hwy - Cave Junction, OR
541-592-3016

Bar

DJ NIGHT

FRIDAY, JULY 5

**ILLIES
LIVE BAND**

SATURDAY, JULY 6

DAILY BURGER SPECIALS!

LostForestRecordings.com would like to thank Frontier Communications for going out of their way to help us bring the music from *Reggae in the Trees* to the world.

"Will, Andy, Don and Eben were fantastic in their help and understanding of how important music is to our community and how sharing ourselves with the world is such an asset to, not only our part of Oregon, but America itself."



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News, Classified and Display Ads, Announcements and Letters
5 P.M. FRIDAYS